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A Message from the Dean



Welcome to the first issue of the SBT Newsletter. I hope that you will find this newsletter informative and put you in closer touch with the School of Business & Technology (SBT). As you will discover, many exciting and interesting events are taking place on campus and I want to take this opportunity to share some of these activities with you.

Since assuming the position of Dean of the School of Business and Technology at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside in July 2006, I have spent a considerable amount of time listening to the needs and concerns of the faculty, chairs, directors, and staff. I have also met with many community business leaders to learn their views on the School and how best we can help them succeed, and to assist in the economic development of the region. From these interactions has emerged a strategic plan for the SBT that is comprehensive and motivating. I also have been impressed by the professionalism and dedication of the faculty and staff, and of the quality and work ethic of our undergraduate and graduate students.

Although new to UW-Parkside, I am not new to serving as a college administrator, having served for a number of years as dean and department chair in the College of Business & Technology at Western Illinois University. Also while at Western, I taught graduate and undergraduate courses in financial management, investments, and personal financial planning.

The SBT operates under a policy of continuous improvement. Essentially, this means that we are never satisfied with the status quo. While we have a strong and vibrant school, we are always looking for ways to improve our programs and services. We continuously seek new opportunities that will provide the quality education that our graduates need to prepare for the marketplace challenges of the 21st century.

It has been a busy year and while some changes have already taken place, more are expected in the future. I welcome your thoughts or opinions and encourage you to send them to me at ebeid@uwp.edu. Through the help and support of everyone involved, the School will attain its next level of academic excellence.

Fred Ebeid, Dean
School of Business & Technology

AACSB International Accreditation Reaffirmed

The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International Board of Directors reaffirmed UW-Parkside School of Business & Technology's business accreditation in December 2006. AACSB International accredited institutions confirm their commitment to quality and continuous improvement through a rigorous and comprehensive peer review. As of June 2007, less than one-third of business programs in the U.S. and fewer than 10 percent globally met the rigorous standards of quality set by AACSB International.



Maintenance of accreditation, which must be completed every five years, speaks highly of the faculty and staff in the School of Business & Technology and the excellent work they do in teaching, research, and service. It is also recognition that our students are receiving a high quality management education, which will help prepare them to effectively compete in the global marketplace.

In Memoriam: Dr. Jayavel Sounderpandian

The University of Wisconsin-Parkside and School of Business & Technology (SBT) lost an exceptional educator and a good friend with the death of Professor Jayavel Sounderpandian. Jay passed away April 9th at the age of 58. A SBT scholarship has been established in his memory.

During his 24 years at Parkside, Professor Sounderpandian taught quantitative methods and operations management. His research focused on supply chain management, individual and group decision making, medical decision making, and risk analysis. Jay also served as Interim Dean of the School of Business and Technology during the 2005-2006 academic year.

UW-Parkside graduates at Modine Manufacturing along with the company honored the late Professor Sounderpandian with a contribution to the *Jay Sounderpandian Memorial Scholarship Fund*. The Modine employees, all of whom are currently enrolled or have graduated from UW-Parkside's Master of Business Administration program, turned their sorrow into positive action. "All of us are very fond of this special professor and remorseful of his passing," said Modine Regional Sales Manager Tom Savas. "We truly learned something from him, respected his teaching skills, and admired him as a person."

Others wishing to donate to the *Jay Sounderpandian Memorial Scholarship Fund* may send their contributions to UW-Parkside Benevolent Foundation, 900 Wood Road, Kenosha, WI 53141.



Jayavel Sounderpandian

The SEG Center



School of Business & Technology

The Solutions for Economic Growth (SEG) Center was created to provide project-based learning opportunities for School of Business & Technology students and to consult with businesses and organizations needing assistance in solving operational problems. All projects undertaken by the students are completed under the guidance and supervision of a SBT faculty member. Tom Witt has been serving as the interim director of the Center since July 2007.

During the course of this past year student projects received recognition statewide, including presentations at the Board of Regents meeting held on campus, UW-Parkside Student Showcase, UW-System Posters in the Capitol Rotunda held in Madison, and Undergraduate Research Symposium held at UW-Stout. A total of 35 projects were completed involving approximately 112 students, who were supervised by 10 faculty members.

New Global Education Center

The Global Education Center was created this past year in the School of Business & Technology with a vision toward further internationalization of the School's curriculum, faculty, and students. Forging partnership agreements with foreign universities to create opportunities for student and faculty exchanges, research collaboration for faculty, internship opportunities for students, and developing student study/travel abroad programs, are the main areas of focus. Professor Jamie Wang is the director of the Center.

We have also expanded global opportunities for SBT faculty and students this past year by developing a joint travel/study program to China with UW-Whitewater and by creating a short-term faculty exchange agreement with Fachhochschule Wolfenbuettel, UW-Parkside's sister campus in Germany. Professor Ubaldo Quevedo (UW-Parkside, Computer Science) and Professor Friedhelm Seutter (Wolfenbuettel, Computer Science) took part in the exchange during the spring 2007.

In fall 2006, students and faculty got a first-hand view of Germany's state of information technology from Professor Reza Asghari of the University of Applied Sciences in Wolfenbuettel. Professor Asghari, who teaches and conducts research in the emerging field of information technology law, spent a day on campus where he discussed European information technology issues based on his research into the societal impact of computers.



Reza Asghari



Peter Knight

New Faculty in the SBT

The School of Business & Technology will be welcoming two new faculty members this fall. Peter C. Knight, a Ph.D. Candidate in Marketing, will be joining the Department of Business as a Lecturer in Marketing. Peter has extensive sales, marketing, and market research experience with companies such as Nabisco Brands, A.C. Nielsen and Motorola. He has also worked as a consultant and manufacturer's agent with a client base that included many of Canada's largest retailers, as well as retailers in six US states. Peter has taught a wide variety of both undergraduate and graduate level courses in marketing and electronic commerce as Complementary Faculty in both traditional and online environments. His most recent position was at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada.



Abey Kuruvilla

Dr. Abey Kuruvilla also will be joining the Department of Business as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Operations Management. Abey holds a Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Louisville, which he received in 2005. During the past two years, he has taught graduate and undergraduate classes in operations management and quantitative methods at Oakland University, Lawrence Technological University, and Davenport University, the latter two as an adjunct faculty member. Abey has also served as a consultant to an international E-commerce company and as an assistant project manager for a medical service agency.

New Academic Programs and Certificates

This past year the Computer Science and Business departments examined the undergraduate curriculum with an eye toward updating course offerings, providing new minors and certificate opportunities, and further infusing global topics into the coursework. The reviews are appropriate to make sure the curriculum keeps pace with the changes that are taking place in the business and computer science environments. The results have been positive as new courses have been introduced, course titles have been updated, the business minor has been realigned to match the MBA foundation requirements, a new computer science minor in Web Development was created, and new certificate programs in Project Management, Entrepreneurship, and Cyber Security were developed.

Additionally, the admission requirements for the MBA program were changed, new graduate courses were developed, titles of several courses changed, and course offerings scheduled to allow for full-time attendance. Students who enter with an appropriate business background can complete the program with two or three semesters of full-time attendance. Applicants that enter the program from other disciplines can complete the program with four or five semesters of full-time course work. The modification of the business minor and active promotion of the program should lead to MBA program expansion in the coming years from UW-Parkside non-business undergraduate majors.

Several new Internet courses were developed for the new Certificate in Project Management. Under a grant received by Professor Suresh Chalasani from UW Learning Innovations, two new Internet courses were developed and offered for the certificate during the 2007 spring semester. Two additional courses are targeted for development and scheduled to be offered in the 2007-2008 academic year.

SBT Advisory Board

During the past year, the School of Business and Technology Advisory Board has been revitalized and expanded in membership, scope, and responsibilities to capitalize on the strengths of the regional business community. The Board now consists of 30 members, of which six are new and 24 are continuing.

The continued support for the School from board members throughout the region has offered invaluable insight into the best practices for dealing with the changes that are occurring within the business environment. Board meetings were held on October 23, 2006, January 29, 2007, and April 30, 2007. Comments received from those in attendance expressed strong satisfaction with the direction and work of the Advisory Board and felt the meetings were highly productive and successful. Early dividend returns included scholarship creations, identification of sources for student internships, SEG Center projects, and permanent employment opportunities for our students.

The Board will next meet on October 22, 2007.



SBT Advisory Board meeting

Special Events



Michael Falbo

Two *Executive-in-Residence* programs were conducted during this past academic year. Michael Falbo, chairman, Associated Community Development and Edward Lonergan, CEO, JohnsonDiversey, were featured. During the events executives spoke with students about their business philosophies, companies, and careers. Attendance at the programs held on November 16, 2006 and April 3, 2007, respectively, was strong and the responses received from faculty and students were uniformly positive. Steven Bierman, the president of CNH Capital, has agreed to serve as our next Executive-in-Residence. The fall semester date for the program is November 6, 2007.



Edward Lonergan

A *Business Etiquette Dinner* was held at the Marriott Hotel in Racine on March 23, 2007. Arranged and led by accounting professor Rizvana Zameeruddinant, approximately 75 students and guests were in attendance. An informative program was presented and well received by those participating in this very successful and entertaining event.

Career Connection, led by Tom Witt, lecturer in management information systems, and several SBT students, was held on campus April 5, 2007. More than 39 companies were represented and many students participated in this highly successful event. Comments received from both employers and students were glowing.

The Computer Science Department and the WSPE-SE Chapter of the National Society of Professional Engineers co-sponsored the 2007 MATHCOUNTS Program on February 10, 2007. T-shirts were provided to all participants by the SBT.

Student Awards and Recognition

Milena Nikodijevic is the first UW-Parkside student recipient of an internship from the *Treasury Management Association of Chicago (TMAC)*, a regional Chicago-based organization of financial professionals, that sponsors the working scholarship. Marketing Professor Michael T. Manion was instrumental in obtaining this ongoing \$2,500 TMAC award, which will be available each semester to a deserving student.



Milena Nikodijevic

University of Wisconsin-Parkside student Laura Eide was named the recipient of a \$2,000 Roger Buchholz Memorial Scholarship. A senior business management major from New Berlin concentrating in accounting, Eide received the scholarship in April 2007 from *Financial Executives International (FEI)*, the preeminent association for Chief Financial Officers and other senior finance executives.



Laura Eide

For the second consecutive year, a University of Wisconsin-Parkside student received the scholarship awarded by the Wisconsin Chapter of the Society for Information Management (SIM Wisconsin). Recent graduate Sabha Museteif was awarded the scholarship that is given to recognize the most outstanding college student in the Greater Milwaukee area in the field of Information Technology.

Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society



Fifteen students and one honoree were inducted into the UW-Parkside Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society on May 4, 2007. Established in 1919, Beta Gamma Sigma is the only scholastic honor society recognized by AACSB International. AACSB includes in its membership collegiate schools of business that meet the high standards required for accreditation with respect to curricula, facilities, teaching, research, and service. The purpose of the Society is to encourage and reward scholarship and accomplishment in the field of business studies. Juniors and seniors whose academic rank are in the upper 10 percent of their class may be inducted into the Society; master degree candidates who have completed at least 50 percent of their degree program and are in the upper 20 percent of their class may be granted membership.

The student inductees included the following seniors: Carrie A. Anderson, Joel Kennedy, Amanda Haman, Kelly Hansen, Jake Nikolai, Daniel C. Stanley, Adam E. VanDommelen, and Dawn K. Werner. The juniors were Susan M. Brey, Michael A. Ciskowski, Michelle L. Guthrie, Amber L. Milligan, Adam R. Ritzman, Joseph Schantz, and Christine A. Tielens.

Robert Toeppe, president of Wisconsin Plating Works of Racine, Inc., was inducted as the Chapter Honoree. Wisconsin Plating received the 2006 *Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year Award* for "Employee and Environmental Stewardship" from Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce. The firm was noted for its reputation of quality workmanship and reliable service through the dedication of its employees.



Robert Toeppe

Faculty and Staff in the News

Dr. Chi-Wing (Robert) Fok, associate professor of finance, was granted tenure in 2007. Professor Fok earned his Ph.D. in Finance from the University of Alabama in 1992 and held faculty positions at Feng Chia University (Taiwan), National Chung Cheng University (Taiwan), and Shippensburg University (Pennsylvania) before joining UW-Parkside in 2004. Robert's teaching interests are corporate finance and financial institutions. He has also published articles and presented at academic conferences on financial topics, including initial public offerings, international markets, efficiency of financial institutions, and banking relationship.



Robert Fok

Dr. Suresh Chalasani, associate professor of management information systems, is serving as co-editor for a special issue of the *IEEE Systems Journal* on "RFID Technology: Opportunities and Challenges." Suresh is also on the editorial board of the *International Journal of Biomedical Engineering and Technology*, where he is co-editing a special issue on "Nanotechnology for Medical and Surgical Applications." His educational background includes a Ph.D. in Computer Engineering from the University of Southern California (1991). Professor Chalasani's current research interests include systems engineering and its applications; advanced technologies, such as the Radio Frequency identification; healthcare management; and healthcare information systems. His teaching interests include management information systems, bioinformatics, healthcare management, and information technology.



Suresh Chalasani



Debra Dawdy

Debra Dawdy, academic department associate in the Department of Business, completed a Master in Management degree from the University of Phoenix in June 2007. Since July 2007, Debra has also been serving as interim academic advisor in the department. She joined UW-Parkside in 1998.

Connie Wheeler, academic department associate in the Department of Computer Science, completed a Master of Science in Management degree from Cardinal Stritch University in May 2007. Connie joined the department at UW-Parkside in 2001.



Connie Wheeler

Online MBA Consortium Degree Program Class Offerings to Expand

The online University of Wisconsin MBA Consortium degree program will be expanding its class offerings during 2007-2008. Because of increased demand for this high quality program, the four partner business schools, UW-Eau Claire, UW-La Crosse, UW-Oshkosh, and UW-Parkside, will begin offering all the core classes each semester. This increase in class offerings will not only allow more students to enter the program, but also permit greater student flexibility in the timing of their selected course schedule.



The 30-credit Consortium MBA program is designed for businesspeople, engineers, health care providers, and others interested in progressing in their careers. Upon completion of the MBA Foundation course requirements students can complete the program within two years. Each of the participating four business schools is accredited by AACSB International, providing students who complete the graduate program with assurance of a professional degree of recognized quality. Professor Karen Crooker, the interim MBA director, is the current UW-Parkside contact for this program.

For more information about the program, visit <http://www.wisconsinonlinemba.org/about/>.

Friends of the SBT

A new scholarship will be offered to UW-Parkside students during the 2007-2008 academic year. Southport Bank President Karl Ostby applied his signature to the agreement in January 2007. The \$1,000 annual award is entitled, *The Southport Bank Scholarship in Business*.

John and Jean Schoenwaelder have established a \$1,000 scholarship beginning with the 2007-2008 academic year. Entitled, *John and Jean Schoenwaelder Real Estate Ltd., Scholarship*, the annual award will be given to an undergraduate student with a major in the School of Business & Technology. The scholarship is intended for full-time students who are disadvantaged and demonstrate financial need.

A CS 2100 Endowment agreement in the amount of \$103,000 was signed in August 2007 by Richard C. Gorton, an alumnus of UW-Parkside, and is intended for funding enhancements in the Computer Science department. The funds that are annually generated by the three-year pledge may be utilized for scholarships, software and hardware needs, research funds, or other needs as determined by the faculty of the department.



John and Jean Schoenwaelder