Welcome to another new semester of online learning! To all Summer 2004 new students, we welcome you to the GMBA program and wish you a successful learning experience at UTD. In this 9th issue (Summer 2004) of the GMBA Online Newsletter, information is provided on the following topics:

- MBA Curriculum Change
- Important Reminders
- Online Teaching Award Nomination
- Proctored Exam Procedure
- TxDLA Conference

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MBA Curriculum Change

Effective Fall, 2004, the MBA degree will move from 48 hours to 53 hours, consisting of 29 hours of core courses (up from 27) and 24 hours of electives (up from 21). Students admitted prior to Fall, 2004, are grandfathered. However, the online program will phase out its support of the old curriculum and phase in the new curriculum during the 2004-2005 academic year. If you still need to take one of the old courses, the Advising Office will work with you to find a substitute.

Following are the changes to the core curriculum:

- **Strategy** one 3-credit course replaces two 2-credit courses; The new course BPS 6301 Strategic Management will be offered online Spring 2005 (the old core course BPS 6201 will be offered in Fall 2004, and may continue to be an elective in the future)

- **Accounting** two 2-credit courses (AIM 6201, AIM 6202), Financial and Managerial, replace one 3-credit course; however, the 3-credit course will continue to be offered to the UT-System TeleCampus, meaning grandfathered online MBA students who have not yet taken accounting can take the old curriculum course online as AIM 6305

- **Economics** core course (MECO 6201) becomes 3 credits (MECO 6303) instead of 2 credits, but for online students there is no change since the only online economics that had been offered (MAS 6V07) was a 3-credit course offered through the TeleCampus

- **Operations research/management** one new 3-credit course (OPRE 6303), utilizing old core OPRE 6260 (about 2/3rds of content) and old core OPRE 6201 (about 1/3rd of content just for the tools) will be offered for the first time online Fall 2004

- **MIS** a 2-credit course is being added to the core curriculum: MIS 6204 will first be offered in Spring 2005 but is not a core requirement for grandfathered students

- **Statistics** still a 3-credit core requirement but under new course number and name: OPRE 6301 Quantitative Introduction to Risk and Uncertainty in Business (old STAT 5311).
Several electives are changing from 2-credit courses to 3-credit courses. See GMBA Curriculum page for more information. Please contact Ms. Manana Argvliani in SOM Advising Office (gmbaadvising@utdallas.edu) if you have any special needs during the transition of the core curriculum.

Important Reminders

Academic Calendar: Please keep in mind that our program follows the exact same academic calendar of the university. All deadlines apply to online students. It's important that you follow the schedule to pay fees, drop/add classes, etc.

Course Registration: Priority is given to GMBA students for core course registration. GMBA students should register for classes during early registration period. Registration request from graduate students with other majors will be processed when regular registration starts. Please send your registration request to gmbaadvising@utdallas.edu.

Graduation application: The deadline for graduation application is May 18 for Summer 2004 and August 26 for Fall 2004. Please email the GMBA Advisor at gmbaadvising@utdallas.edu if you are graduating. Please also see the Graduation Web Site for more information.

Updating Password: Please make sure you have a valid UTD NetID account and update your account password periodically (6-12 months) so that you can access UTD WebCT courses without any interruption. Please see GMBA FAQ - Password. You can go to NetID Page for password updating.

Summer term course starting dates: 12-week full term courses starting on May 14 and 8-week courses starting on May 28. Courses will be released for student access on or right before these dates. Please check out Getting Started Information page on course access instructions and other information. An email reminder will also be sent out to the registered students right before the semester starts.

Online Teaching Award Nomination

Each year the School of Management honors faculty members who did an outstanding job in teaching. Starting with the 2001-2002 academic year, a teaching award was added to recognize the effectiveness of teaching in the Global MBA Online Program. The teaching award nomination is based primarily on student nominations of one outstanding instructor for an online course (or courses) taught in the Fall and Spring semesters each academic year.

If you've taken online courses in Fall 2003 and/or Spring 2004 semester and haven't submitted your nomination, we strongly encourage you to take the opportunity to submit your Online Teaching Award Nomination for 2004 academic year.
Some online courses require a proctored final exam. Students who arrange a proctored exam using a testing service are required to follow procedures to make a request and submit an exam form to GMBA office. See the [Proctored Exam Information](http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/newsletters/2004summer.htm) page. In recent semesters an increasing number of students have used testing services for finals. In the Spring 2004 semester, we handled over 110 requests. One situation we ran into is that quite a number of students did not follow the required deadline to make proctored exam arrangements. While we have been trying to accommodate all students, it is difficult to handle late requests while maintaining our normal work schedule. For the coming semesters, we ask all students who need to use testing services to strictly follow the proctored exam scheduling deadlines posted in each course syllabus. If a student fails to submit his/her exam form on time, he/she will have to come to campus to attend the scheduled class exam session or seek approval from the course instructor for any special arrangements.

### TxDLA Conference

The [Texas Distance Learning Association](http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/newsletters/2004summer.htm) is one of the nation's largest organizations of distance learning professionals. This year's [TxDLA Conference](http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/newsletters/2004summer.htm) was held on Galveston island March 29 - April 1. The GMBA Online program staff attended the conference. We showcased our GMBA Online program and made a presentation on best practices for new technology adoption for online learning program. The conference provided us a good opportunity to interact and share valuable research, resources and knowledge with other distance education professionals.