As we are ending Spring 2006 and starting the Summer 2006 semester, we would like to congratulate the new GMBA graduates and welcome all new online students! In this issue of the newsletter, we are glad to share with you some exciting news and updates.

- The Newly Renovated "Home" of GMBA
- Financial Times' Top 25 distance MBA Providers
- WebCT Campus Edition 6
- Summer 2006 Course Offerings
- TxDLA 06 Conference at San Antonio
- Elluminate Web Conferencing Tool and Survey
- Important Reminders!

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The Newly Renovated "Home" of GMBA

Global MBA Online launched its newly renovated web site in February this year. Many should have already seen our new site. There are quite a few new content pages available. We hope this updated site will provide visitors and students more helpful information and a more convenient navigation structure. We would be happy to hear from you and welcome any suggestions and comments about our new web site. Please email us at: gmbasupport@utdallas.edu.

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Financial Times' Top 25 Distance MBA Providers

The UTD School of Management (SOM) has recently been listed as one of the top 25 distance learning MBA providers in the world by the Financial Times. As a leader in the development of Internet-based distance learning in graduate management education, UTD SOM will continue its effort in providing quality online education to the students. GMBA, along with a few other online programs at SOM will keep expanding and improving our online alternatives to traditional classroom learning.

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WebCT Campus Edition 6

UTD is upgrading its WebCT system from Campus Edition 4 to Campus Edition 6 starting from Summer 2006 semester. All Global MBA Online and Accounting Online program courses will be offered on this new system from Summer 2006. This new version of WebCT has some major differences from the old version. It supports more innovative and dynamic approaches to teaching and learning. Please see this Student Guide to WebCT CE6 provided by UTD Information Resources. A student tutorial will be available while logging in to the WebCT CE6 server. For a quick orientation, please see WebCT CE6 Student Orientation.

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Summer 06 Online Courses and New Course Profile

In the coming Summer 2006 semester, The Global MBA Online program will be offering 7 core courses and 6 electives. The Accounting Online program is also offering 7 online courses. Please see the Course Offering page for the complete course list. If you haven't registered yet, please send your course registration request to: gmbaadvising@utdallas.edu.

Profile of a New Online Course:

MIS 6308.0G1 Systems Analysis and Project Management

MIS 6308 is intended as a strong introduction to the analysis, design and management of software-based business systems. Prerequisite: MIS 6326 or consent of the instructor.

About the instructor: Dr. Dave Heroy has more than 30 years of experience in the computer/software industry as a programmer-analyst, development manager, consultant, senior systems architect and entrepreneur. His Ph.D. was in Physics but he has had a lifetime of starting and managing businesses and creating and integrating a wide variety of software systems. He was most recently employed by KPMG as a Senior Architect in the eCommerce and Supply Chain practices. He has taught at UTD for five years.

TxDLA 2006 Conference at San Antonio

The 9th annual conference of Texas Distance Learning Association (TxDLA) - "The Future's so Bright" took place during March 6 - 8, 2006 in San Antonio River Walk. GMBA Staff attended this year's conference as in the past few years and delivered two presentations: "Creating Interactive Multimedia Lecture with Camtasia" - which provides hands-on instructions on turning a standard PowerPoint file into a Flash-Based multimedia presentation. And "Teleconferencing and Online Group Presentation: Using a Synchronous Tool Asynchronously" - which demonstrates how an online course uses teleconferencing for group presentations without requiring all students to be present. This year's conference was a great success and GMBA staff found it a valuable experience in learning the current information on the field and interacting with other distance learning professionals at this conference.

Elluminate Web Conferencing Tool and Survey

We started to use the new Elluminate Live web conference tool in this Spring 2006 semester. Please see Elluminate information in the last issue of our newsletter. From Summer 06 semester, we will make a practice conference session available on the course site for anybody to use to become familiar with this tool. We would also like to remind students that a microphone is required to participate in a web conference.

Elluminate has been used by some online courses for class conferences and student group meetings on group projects during this Spring semester. We would like to get some feedback from our initial
user group. If you used the web conference tool and haven't taken this short survey yet, please take a few minutes to submit your feedback:

Elluminate Satisfaction Survey

For any questions or comments regarding using Elluminate and the survey, please email gmbasupport@utdallas.edu or call 972-883-5964.

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Important Reminders

Online Teaching Award Nomination Reminder: If you haven't submitted your nomination for Spring 2006 semester, you still have the opportunity to acknowledge a professor who has done an excellent job in teaching an online course in this Spring.

Please submit your nomination at:

http://som.utdallas.edu/training/award.htm

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 the 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. Please see UTD Course Schedule.

Graduation application: The deadline for graduation application for Summer 2006 is Mon. May 22. 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 the NetID Page for password updating.

Summer 2006 term course starting dates: 12 week courses and 1st 6-week courses start on May 15, 8-week courses start on May 30 and 2nd 6-week courses start on June 21. Courses will be released for student access on or right before these dates. Please check out the Getting Started Information page for course access instructions and other information. An email reminder will also be sent out to all registered students right before the semester starts.

Fall 2006 course schedule and academic calendar is also available. Please see UTD Course Schedule.

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[check webtrends link]