



SOM eLearning Newsletter

School of Management - The University of Texas at Dallas



Welcome to the very first issue of SOM eLearning newsletter! Happy New Year to everyone! The Spring 2008 semester will start in just a few days. Here we would like to continue our news and updates on online learning at the UTD School of Management.

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SOM eLearning Newsletter
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SOM eLearning Team Announced

In November, the School of Management announced the creation of the eLearning Team under Darren Crone, Manager. This move separates the instructional designers from the Global MBA Online (GMBA) program director in recognition of the eLearning Team's contributions more broadly to the School of Management. This move will be transparent to students. George Barnes will continue as the academic director of GMBA, and the program will continue to be the principle customer of the eLearning Team. In recognition of this transition, this newsletter is the first from the eLearning Team and replaces the GMBA newsletters that have been published each semester for the past 5 years. The eLearning newsletter will keep you up to date on online learning news and information at the School of Management. If you have any comments or suggestions, please email the [SOM eLearning Team](#).

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Spring 2008 Courses and Professor Profiles

In the Spring 2008 semester, the Global MBA Online program will offer 9 core courses and 8 electives. The AIM MS program is also offering 11 online courses. Please see the [Spring 2008 Course Offerings](#) page for the complete course list and also the textbook list.

The GMBA program has been adding new sections of core courses in order to be able to offer these core courses year-round. In the Spring 2008 semester, a new section has been developed for OB 6301 by Dr. Tracy Rockett and for OPRE 6301 by Dr. Shun-Chen Niu. They will be alternating with Dr. Laurie Ziegler and Dr. John Wiorkowski to offer the courses. Below are the profiles for these two instructors.

Tracy Rockett

Dr. Tracy Rockett is a lecturer in Organizations, Strategy, and International Management. She earned her Ph.D. in International Management, with a specialization in Organizational Behavior, from the University of Texas at Dallas. She spent a year at Southern Methodist University as a post-doctoral fellow before returning to UTD to teach. She has earned awards for her outstanding teaching at both the

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Helpful Links

[Global MBA Online Program](#)

[Accounting and Information
Management Online Courses](#)

[SOM eLearning Blog](#)

[UTD eLearning](#)

[UTD Distance Learning](#)

[Information Page for Registered Online
Course Students](#)

[Getting Started with WebCT](#)

[Textbook Ordering - MBA Direct](#)

[Textbook Ordering - Off-Campus Books](#)

[Proctored Exam Info Site](#)

[Academic Calendar](#)

[Graduate Catalog](#)

[Schedule of Classes](#)

[Galaxy Login](#)

[Access Your Records - SIS](#)

[Financial Aid](#)

[UT TeleCampus](#)

[UTTC Tech Support Page](#)

[Comments and Feedback](#)

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graduate and undergraduate levels. Her current research focuses on familiarity in groups, social networks, and the effects of conflict on team processes and performance.

Shun-Chen Niu

Dr. Shun-Chen Niu is a Professor of Operations Management and Information Systems in the School of Management at the University of Texas at Dallas. He received a Ph.D. degree in Operations Research in 1977 from the University of California at Berkeley. He also has a Bachelor's degree in Physics in 1973 from the National Taiwan University, Taiwan.

His research interests are in the general area of stochastic models in Operations Research. He has done work in queueing theory, reliability theory, and stochastic scheduling, although queueing theory has been his primary interest. More recently, he has also conducted research on stochastic models of new-product diffusion.

Professor Niu has taught a variety of courses in the School, including Operations Research, Applied Statistics, Applied Probability and Stochastic Processes, Stochastic Models in Operations Research, Systems Simulation, and Dynamic Programming.

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"UTD SOM Online Students" Group in Facebook

The eLearning Team has created a group in Facebook called "[UTD SOM Online Students](#)". This group is intended for UT Dallas students (past and present) who are taking or have taken online courses through the UTD School of Management online programs. We're hoping our online students and alumni will use this group to network, socialize, post job postings, get to know each other, whatever! This is your space to take advantage of.

If you have a Facebook account, you can use the link above to login to see the group page. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can use the ◆Sign up◆ button and follow the instructions to create your account, then join the group. As always, if you have any questions, please email the [SOM eLearning Team](#).

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Virtual Welcome Session in Second Life

We'll again host a virtual welcome session at the UTD SOM island in [Second Life](#) at the start of the new semester. The online program directors, a couple of online professors and the staff of the eLearning Team will be joining in the session. You're all invited to this welcome session which will take place on **Friday January 11, 2008, 12:00 noon Central Time** in the virtual SOM building in Second Life.

To visit the UTD SOM virtual island and attend the welcome session, you must first create a free account at the [Second Life](#) web site (click on the ◆Join Now◆ button) and download the client software to your computer. After you login to Second Life, click the Map button and search for ◆UTD SOM◆ to visit our island. You may also use this direct slurl: [http://slurl.com/secondlife/UTD SOM/141/70/22/](http://slurl.com/secondlife/UTD%20SOM/141/70/22/) to get there after you have set up your Second Life account and installed the

client.

For more information about the UTD SOM island, please visit: <http://som.utdallas.edu/secondlife>. You will also receive a separate email providing you the information about this virtual session.

So please come to join us and "tour your school" and "meet" eLearning staff, online faculty members and your fellow students! If you have any questions, please email [SOM eLearning Team](#).

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New MBG Graduates and Course Registration

At the end of the Fall 2007 semester, we had another 23 students graduate from the GMBA program. Congratulations to these new graduates!

Here are a couple of important notes about online course registration for GMBA Online students. During early registration, online core MBA courses are only available to Global MBA Online students. All other students are placed on a waiting list until the 4th business day of regular registration. To make sure you don't miss out on getting the core courses you need, you should register by the early registration deadline if possible. If you are not able to make your payment by the early registration payment deadline, then at the latest, register by the **3rd day** of regular registration. You will be able to find the deadlines for registration and payment on the [Academic Calendar](#). Also, for MBG students, when you email the course registration request, please put 'MBA Registration' in the subject line. This will allow the online graduate advisor to filter the emails and process the requests for MBG students in a timely fashion. Please email the [online graduate advisor](#) if you have any questions.

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Important Reminders

Online Teaching Award Nomination Reminder: If you haven't submitted your nomination for Fall 2007 semester, you still have the opportunity to acknowledge a professor who has done an excellent job in teaching an online course in the Fall semester. Please submit your [Teaching Award Nomination](#)!

Please note all important reminders and announcements will be posted on the [SOM eLearning Blog Site](#). Please bookmark this web site and check this site regularly for all reminders, news and updates.

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[check webtrends link]