



# *SOM eLearning Newsletter*

School of Management • The University of Texas at Dallas



Get the semester started off right with all of the news, events and announcements for your Fall 2009 online courses from the SOM eLearning Team.

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## SOM eLearning Newsletter Issue # 6, Fall 2009

### Contacts

Online Course Registration/Advising  
[gmbaadvising@utdallas.edu](http://gmbaadvising@utdallas.edu)

Online Course Support  
<http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp>

GMBA Program Contact  
George Barnes  
Director  
[gbarnes@utdallas.edu](mailto:gbarnes@utdallas.edu)

AIM Program Contact  
Amy Troutman  
Assistant Director  
[amybass@utdallas.edu](mailto:amybass@utdallas.edu)

SOM eLearning Contact  
Darren Crone, Ed.D.  
Manager  
[darren.crone@utdallas.edu](mailto:darren.crone@utdallas.edu)

UTD Help Desk  
<http://www.utdallas.edu/ir/helpdesk/>

UTD eLearning Support  
<http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp>

UT TeleCampus Tech Support  
[Help Desk](#)

UT TeleCampus  
Student Services Support  
[TeleCampus@utsystem.edu](mailto:TeleCampus@utsystem.edu)

## Welcome to the Fall 2009 Semester!

You will notice that your courses are now located on eLearning instead of WebCT. This affects you in essentially one way: you will now have to go to a different website to access your courses (<https://elearning.utdallas.edu>). The reason for this change is that we have substantially upgraded our servers and software. We rebranded the tool because WebCT is no longer in existence (it was bought by Blackboard - another course management system, quite some time ago). Your courses will look the same and all of the buttons will be in the same place, so please don't stress about having to learn a new system. As always, please contact the 24 hour helpdesk (<http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp> or 1-866-588-3192) with any questions or issues.

Last semester we presented you with a survey on our proctored exam procedures. Unfortunately we did not receive much of a response, so I cannot provide a meaningful summary to you. As the on-campus proctored exam option (at the School of Management) is a relatively new service that we are providing, we are looking for ways to improve the experience. We instituted this because we found that some students were being charged excessive fees at proctoring centers and wanted to provide a viable alternative to students in the DFW area (which make up about 64% of our online student population). We would like to hear from you to see how we are doing. Is this something that you would like to continue? If so, what works and what can improve? If you have feedback on the remote proctoring experience, we would like to hear from you as well. Please take a moment to complete this short survey:

**[\\*\\*Proctored Exam Survey\\*\\*](#)**

I wish you the best in Fall 2009 and beyond!

-Darren Crone, Ed.D., SOM eLearning Manager

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## News from Global MBA Online (GMBA)

News from Global MBA Online (GMBA)

As the GMBA program completes its 10th academic year, the following data is provided by the program director from reports to the Dean each semester.

UTD Records Office  
[records@utdallas.edu](mailto:records@utdallas.edu)

UTD Bursar  
[bursarsoffice@utdallas.edu](mailto:bursarsoffice@utdallas.edu)

SOM Advising Office Mailing  
Address:

The University of Texas at Dallas  
School of Management - Advising  
Office  
P.O. Box 830688, SM 20  
Richardson, TX 75083-0688  
Tel: (972) 883-2750  
Fax: (972) 883-6425

	Fall 08	Spring 09	Summer 09
Total students coded online MBA (1)	293	281	248
Online MBA graduating	32	23	26
Average credit hours	5.5	5.7	5.4
Location: DFW	67%	68%	64%
Rest if Texas	23%	23%	27%
USA/Overseas	10%	9%	9%
Core course offerings	10	10	11
Elective offerings (2)	16	22	24

- equal number of on campus MBA/MS/MA students take online courses as many Areas have cut back on campus sections, particularly during the summer term
- includes AIM MS online courses that usually attract a small number of MBA students

*-George Barnes, Global MBA Online Program Director*

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## Helpful Links

[Global MBA Online Program](#)

[Accounting and Information  
Management Online Program](#)

[SOM eLearning Blog](#)

[UTD Distance Learning](#)

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

[Getting Started with eLearning](#)

[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 - Orion](#)

[Financial Aid](#)

[UT TeleCampus](#)

[UTTC Tech Support Page](#)

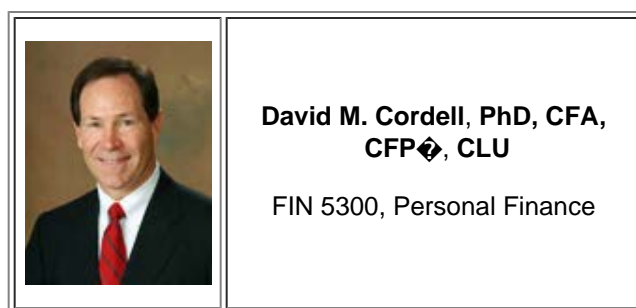
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[Comments and Feedback](#)

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[SOM eLearning Team  
School of Management  
University of Texas at Dallas](#)

## Meet Our Faculty



**David M. Cordell, PhD, CFA, CFP®, CLU**, is Director of the Master of Science in Finance Program and Clinical Professor of Finance at The University of Texas at Dallas. He specializes in the fields of investments and personal financial planning.

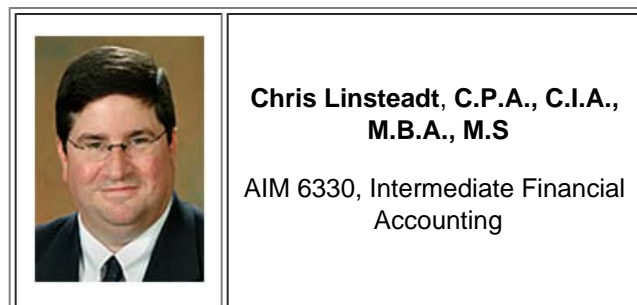
Dr. Cordell holds a BA in liberal arts, an MBA, and a PhD in financial management and investments, all from The University of Texas at Austin. He has earned three professional designations: Chartered Financial Analyst, Certified Financial Planner®, and Chartered Life Underwriter.

For five years prior to joining the UTD faculty, Dr. Cordell was a professor at Texas Tech University, where he received the Outstanding Financial Planning Professor Award in 2007. Before Texas Tech Dr. Cordell was a finance professor at The American College in Bryn Mawr, PA, for eleven years. He had previously maintained a financial planning practice in Houston, Texas, after working as a pension sales manager for Aetna. His six years of industry experience followed six years as a professor at Louisiana State University and the University of Houston-Clear Lake, teaching courses in investments and financial management.

Dr. Cordell's consulting experience has included financial planning, corporate finance, business valuation, and bank management. He has worked with both large and small corporations as well as government at the federal and state levels. He also has taught extensively in continuing education programs for bankers, financial planners, and managers.

August 2009  
Editor: Rita Cubie

In addition to writing numerous academic and practitioner articles in finance, banking, and investments, Dr. Cordell is author/coauthor of five textbooks and is a contributing editor of the *Journal of Financial Planning*.



**Chris Linsteadt, C.P.A., C.I.A., M.B.A., M.S** will be teaching AIM 6330, Intermediate Financial Accounting. He serves as assistant director of the School of Management's Internal Auditing Education Partnership Program, which recently was named one of the four best programs worldwide by the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA). He has been teaching at UT Dallas since 2005. "I enjoy helping students achieve their goals of obtaining their accounting degree, passing the [certified public accountant] exam and being successful in their career," says Linsteadt, who holds an MBA and a master's degree in accounting, both from UT Dallas.

Notable among his past posts is his work as a risk analyst helping the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation weather the storms of the 1980s banking and savings-and-loan crises. In 2003, he and internal auditing program director Mark Salamasick co-wrote *Auditing Vendor Relationships*, part of the IIA Handbook series.

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## Meet Our Students



The eLearning Team invites you to meet our students by viewing a different profile each newsletter. This summer's featured student is Biji Jacob.

- **Name: Biji Jacob**
- **What degree are you seeking?**  
Global MBA concentrating on International Management and Marketing
- **Where do you work?**  
Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics
- **What is your position?**  
Technical Support Specialist II

- **How long have you been there?**  
6 years in July
- **What do you want to do after you finish your degree?**  
Begin to work with the global geographical expansion of our business.
- **How many online courses have you taken?**  
12 as of spring 2009
- **Why did you decide to take online courses?**  
I used to be a Field Technical Support Specialist and was on the road every week and needed a program that did not require going to physical classes.
- **How is the online experience different from the traditional classroom?**  
It is more flexible to your schedule and helps you determine your own pace at going through the material even though there are assignment deadlines.
- **What makes an online course effective?**  
The course work is designed to fit into your schedule, allowing one to keep a busy schedule in check.
- **Who was your favorite professor and why?**  
Choosing one is difficult since I have had the opportunity to have some really gifted professors and feel they have all helped me learn a great deal.
- **Is there any advice you can give to other online students?**  
Don't forget to log in to your courses even though you are keeping up with the course work.
- **Do you have any additional comments?**  
Congratulations to all students in online programs for making the decision to obtain higher education to better your opportunities in the workforce and also better yourself.

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## Important Reminders

- **Online Teaching Award Nomination**  
If you haven't submitted your nomination for the Summer 2009 semester, you still have the opportunity to acknowledge a professor who has done an excellent job in teaching an online course. Please submit your [Teaching Award Nomination!](#)
- **UTD SOM in Second Life**  
[http://slurl.com/secondlife/UTD SOM/141/70/2](http://slurl.com/secondlife/UTD%20SOM/141/70/2)  
  
For more information about the UTD SOM island, please visit:  
<http://som.utdallas.edu/somResources/eLearning/faculty/secondLife.php>
- **Join Our Facebook Group: UTD SOM Online Students**  
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.
- **SOM eLearning Blog**  
For the most up to date eLearning information visit our blog at

<http://gmba.wordpress.com/>  
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