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## Razor's Edge: Remote Student Segment, May 17, 2010 - July 8, 2010

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. College of Engineering

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## Important *Term I* Registration Items

With Fall registration right around the corner, make note of the following:

- Effective this Fall, some graduate courses will have additional undergraduate and graduate course prerequisite requirements, as indicated in the right column in the chart below. The “Course Overview Chart” on the Forms & Documents page of the MSOM website lists all MSOM courses and provides this information as well as course formats and Focus Area Designations.

### MSOM Graduate Course with Prerequisite Requirements

OMGT NBR	TITLE	Format	Prerequisite requirement	***Added prereqs effective Fall 2010 ***
4613	PRODUCTION & INVENTORY CONTROL	VIDEO	OMGT 4333	OMGT 5003
4873	PRINCIPLES OF OPERATIONS RESEARCH	VIDEO	OMGT 4333	
5013	SUPPLY CHAIN MGMT FOR OM	VIDEO		OMGT 4333, OMGT 5003
5123	FINANCE FOR OM	VIDEO		OMGT 4323
5223	SAFETY & HEALTH STANDARDS RE-SEARCH	INDEPENDENT	OMGT 4303	
5373	QUALITY MANAGEMENT	VIDEO	OMGT 4333	
5433	COST ESTIMATION MODELS	VIDEO		OMGT 4323, OMGT 4333
5463	ECONOMIC DECISION-MAKING	INTERNET		OMGT 4323
5503	MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT	INTERNET	OMGT 4333	
5823	COMPUTER APPLICATIONS	INTERNET	OMGT 4853	

- Employer tuition reimbursement letters (required annually) are due at Term 1 registration. The letter must be on company letterhead and define the company’s tuition reimbursement benefit, as well as verify the student’s eligibility for this benefit.

### *New Course: Decision Support Applications Development*

In upcoming term I, this new course will teach students to develop custom solutions to challenging operations management problems utilizing Microsoft Excel and Visual Basic for Applications. Emphasis will be placed on computing productivity in a spreadsheet-based setting to develop practical, useful decision support applications for operations management.

Major topics covered are:

- VBA Programming
- Program control/user interface design
- Custom Functions

- Structured programming
- Arrays
- Object Oriented Design /User-defined variable types
- Databases and SQL

Prerequisites include OMGT 4853 and strong spreadsheet skills. Dr. Scott Mason is the instructor. (See bio on page 4.)

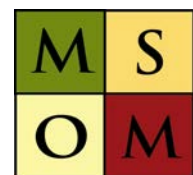
This course counts toward both the business and industrial management Focus Area designations. Initially coded as OMGT 577D, it will later be changed to OMGT 5833.

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 7/8/10: Term IV Classes End
- 8/2/10: Term I Registration Begins
- 8/23/10: Term I Classes Begin
- 9/6/10: Labor Day
- 10/4/10: Last Day to Drop a Course

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Introducing a new way to order transcripts: The Registrar's office recently implemented the website called: [www.iwantmytranscript.com](http://www.iwantmytranscript.com). It provides the option to "hold for posting degree" which postpones the order until the degree is confirmed and recorded on the transcript.

### *Student Spotlight: Entrepreneur Brian Beasley*

This past year has been both a busy and exciting one for Brian Beasley. He started his own business and got married, all while working full-time and aggressively forging through the MSOM program. He will complete his MSOM degree next term with a Business Management focus area.

Brian received his undergraduate education from the University of Arkansas. In 2004, he graduated with a double major in Marketing and Finance from the Sam Walton College of Business. After graduation Brian moved to Little Rock and entered law school. "Law school was a great experience, but it was apparent that my future was not in the practice of law. I just lacked a passion for the profession," Brian said.

After almost one-year in Little Rock he moved to Fort Smith and went to work for USA Truck as a management trainee. "The management trainee program at USA Truck was a great experience. The company is really committed to developing its people. I consider the experience as valuable as my formal education." For the last three years Brian has worked in the Safety Depart-

ment as a Safety Supervisor. His primary responsibilities include managing various aspects of Department of Transportation (DOT) compliance and implementing or altering safety processes based on statistical analysis. "I really enjoy my job. It allows me interact with a diverse group of people while also exercising the analytical side of my personality. I love finding solutions to complex problems."

It was this desire to find solutions that lead Brian to create a system for managing DOT compliance in accordance with a new Government mandated program called Comprehensive Safety Analysis (CSA) 2010. The goal of CSA 2010 is to develop and implement more effective and efficient ways for the Federal Motor Safety Carrier Administration (FMCSA) to reduce CMV crashes, fatalities, and injuries. "CSA 2010 is really all about using data to identify high risk motor carriers and drivers," Brian explained. "My application allows motor carriers to take control of their data and use it to proactively manage their drivers, which is the best way to improve their safety performance."

Brian developed his CSA 2010 application on the Intuit QuickBase platform and has worked closely with the Intuit Corporation to market the product. Brian credits the MSOM program for helping him reach his goals. "I would recommend the MSOM program to anyone. Not only has the program provided me with the skills and credibility needed to launch my own business, but it has strengthened my work ethic and resolve. You really do not know what you are capable of until you push yourself." You can learn more about Brian's new business at:

[www.saferoadsystems.com](http://www.saferoadsystems.com).



Brian and his wife Ashley will be celebrating their first anniversary this August. He enjoys hunting and other outdoor activities.



**Congratulations Spring 2010 Graduates!**



- Shaun Clark, Arkansas State University*
- Katia Andrikut, Excelsior College*
- Michael Blinzler, Missouri Southern State University*
- Jennifer Congdon, Excelsior College*
- Andrew Cortesio, University of Iowa*
- Timothy Cukr, Wayne State University*
- Mathias Fridgen, Geneva College*
- Gregory Logue, North Kansas University, et. al.*
- John McNatt, Embry Riddle*
- John Pauley, Western Illinois University, et. al.*
- Heather Raper, John Brown University*
- Demetrius Roberts, Park University*
- Harold Shray, Henderson State University*

*Warm congratulations for your vision, hard work, and dedication in earning this most challenging and valuable degree. Here's wishing all the best in your career and future endeavors.*

Commencement-May 8, 2010 ~ *It was a lovely day here in Fayetteville for commencement ceremonies on May 8, 2010. We were delighted to see so many of our students on graduation day, and we especially enjoyed having the opportunity to visit with their families and friends at our luncheon in the Bell Engineering Center.*



*John Pauley with his proud family*



*MSOM graduate Harold Shray & Julie Watson*



*Sayali Kulkarni's family traveled from India to help her celebrate*



*Site Coordinators Suzanne Kenner (Camden/Blytheville), April Martin (Fayetteville), Julie Watson (remote) & Admin Support Supervisor Shadaya Litt*





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**We're on the Web!**  
**New homepage:**  
[www.MSOM.uark.edu](http://www.MSOM.uark.edu)

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## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

The **Operations Management Master of Science** program at the University of Arkansas focuses on the essential concepts, methods and tools needed to successfully manage work processes, projects and people in a wide spectrum of organizations, including business/industry, military, government and non-profit. Geared toward the working student who typically holds a professional or management position in an organizational setting, the program offers courses in five 8-week terms per year. Distance courses are available online, in DVD/CD, and independent study formats.

The Operations Management curriculum emphasizes practical knowledge in such areas as project planning, quality management, economic decision-making, supply chain management, human behavior analysis, operations research, and many other areas of importance to today's manager. In addition to taking a core of four required courses, students are able to select from over 20 courses to make up the ten required to complete the degree. Through course selection students can also specialize in focus areas such as **Industrial Management**, **Business Management**, **Human Resource Management**, or **Health & Safety Management**. The University of Arkansas is accredited as a graduate degree granting institution by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

### Meet Your Professor: Dr. Scott J. Mason

The MSOM Program is very fortunate to have Dr. Scott Mason teaching a new course in fall Term I, entitled "Decision Support Applications Development." Drawing on his industry experience and current consulting projects, Dr. Mason will be educating students in both the theoretical and practical aspects of operations management. Dr. Mason is the Fluor Endowed Chair in Supply Chain Optimization and Logistics and a Professor of Industrial Engineering at Clemson University. Prior to joining Clemson, Dr. Mason spent 10 years in the Department of Industrial Engineering at the University of Arkansas.

Dr. Mason received his Ph. D. in Industrial Engineering from Arizona State University after earning Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. His areas of focus include operations planning, scheduling, and control of capital project supply chains and large-scale systems modeling, optimization, and algorithms, with domain expertise in semiconductor manufacturing. He is an Associate Editor for IEEE Transactions on Electronics Packaging Manufacturing, a senior member of the Institute for Industrial Engineers, and a member of INFORMS.

Dr. Mason has numerous teaching, research, and service awards, including Faculty Member of the Year. For his efforts, he was selected the Outstanding Advisor in the College of Engineering at Arkansas and was awarded a Faculty Gold Medal at the university level for his commitment to student-focused research.

In addition, Dr. Mason is active in a number of industrial engineering professional societies and served as both a Technical Vice President of Networking and General Co-Chair of the Industrial Engineering Research Conference.

He is married to the former Andrea Lynn Scott of Desoto, Texas; they are raising three children: Matthew (10), Rebecca (8), and Jessica (7)

