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Operations Management

2009

Razor's Edge, October 21, 2009-December 16, 2009

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. College of Engineering

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THE RAZOR'S EDGE

TERM II 2009

10/21/09 - 12/16/09

Hog Auction Provides Alternative For Textbook Purchasing



Buying books on eBay and Amazon.com has taken a rise within the last couple of years. Students will buy books from miles away, from India to Canada, just to get low prices.

What many students are unaware of, however, is that they can buy books online without having to wait weeks for them to arrive. Three years ago, the UA campus bookstore started a Web site called Hog Auction as a way for students to buy and sell textbooks online.

"There is only so much we can do to reduce the price of textbooks," said Ali Sadeghi, manager of the UA

Bookstore. "We try to reduce margins as much as we can and maximize used books.

"We thought this would be a good way to help students reduce the cost of their education," he said.

Hog Auction is set up in a way that all the textbook options are uploaded on the site. A student who is interested in Hog Auction needs to register on the Web site, but after that, they are free to buy and sell books.

"This is recommended, especially if the buyback price is too low or the book is not being bought back at all," Sadeghi said. "Also, this is strictly between the buyer and the seller.

"Before you put your books up for sale, you should check the wholesale price," he said. "This way, you won't be selling a book at a price much higher or much lower than it is worth."

Although this website has been up for a couple of years, many students remain unaware of it. Right now, Hog Auction has 38 registered users. Sadeghi said he hopes that more students register soon to use this Web site.

With high tuition, overpriced books and a failing economy, saving on books is essential for many students, and Sadeghi said he hopes Hog Auction can be a solution for many.

Hog Auction allows students from all 7 OMGT sites to buy/sell/trade books. Check it out & register today at: <http://bookstore.uark.edu/auction>.

Please note that OMGT is not listed as a separate department—when you search for or list books, do so under Department of Industrial Engineering.

Remember, you'll need to keep your books as you work through the program and begin to prepare for the

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 10/21/09: Term II Classes Begin
- 10/26/09: Last Day to Add a Course
- 11/26/09-11/27/09: Thanksgiving Holiday (University closed)
- 12/2/09: Last Day to Withdraw from Term II
- 12/7/09: Term III Registration Begins

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Oral Comprehensive Exams

Congratulations to the students who passed the oral comprehensive exam on October __!

Gayathiri Pathmanapan
Aska Rafiqi
Sant Satsangi
Stacey Williamson
Jeff Amrine
Sheldon Cordeiro
Maria King
Brad Cullipher

Edesiri Onoge
Chris Reinhardt
Aparna Terdalkar
Sara Yell
Ato Bhavnani
Jack King
Sandy Hancock
Jennifer Ford

Other News &



Have you moved? Be sure to update me if your mailing or email addresses have changed.

Congratulations to Jack King! He has accepted an offer to become the Vice President for South American operations for Zia Venture. He will be establishing new gold projects in Guyana and attributes his success to what he has learned through the OMGT program.

Congratulations!

The University will be closed from 12/24/09 until 1/4/10. Term III classes begin 1/11/10. *Enjoy your break!*

Student Spotlight: Steven Stoiber



Steven Stoiber is a new Foreign Service Officer with the Department of State. In June 2009 he and his family were posted to Bangkok, Thailand, where they will serve for the next three years. He is a May graduate of the UofA MSOM Program.

Steven is a retired U.S. Army Warrant Officer. Nineteen of his twenty-one years of Army service were spent overseas in countries such as Germany, Egypt, Pakistan, Lebanon, India and Zimbabwe. After retirement Steven completed two BS degrees in Liberal Arts and in Business Administration. Upon completion of these degrees he was employed by the Joint Special Operations University as a course director for the "Combating Terrorist Networks Seminar".

During this time he and a colleague at the Joint Special Operations University discussed the Master's Degree opportunities accessible to them at the Air Force Special Operations Education Center of Hurlburt Field, Florida. After careful review of all available curriculums, he decided the UofA's was the most challenging *and* had the best mascot. Yes, the final decision on going with UofA was the Razorback!

While deeply immersed in the MSOM Program, Steven was notified by the Department of State that he had been selected to become a Foreign Service Officer, and further, that he had only a few months in which to move from Florida to Washington, DC to begin training. As a consequence he had to transition from taking live classes with the MSOM Program to the remote courses in order to complete his degree.

The State Department allowed Steven to stay in Washington through March 2009 in order to complete his MSOM requirements then in April sent him off to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia to work

at the American Embassy until June 2009, at which time they brought him back to the USA to out-process, pack-out and move to Bangkok, Thailand with his family.

Steven continues to use all the elements he has learned from the MSOM program on a daily basis and credits this program with making him a better manager. The education gained from UofA allows him to address problems and embrace technological innovations more quickly and efficiently than his peers.

Steven was not able to make it back to the UofA for the commencement ceremony in May 2009, but that did not stop the UofA from recognizing him and his achievements in completing the MSOM half a world away. During the Embassy's annual awards ceremony, Steven was recognized by the U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia, Mark C. Minton, for his completion of the MSOM Program.

Keep us posted! Have you gotten married, had a baby, received a promotion, run a marathon, caught a BIG fish, etc...? Email your news, announcements and pictures to omgtfay@uark.edu to share with your OMGT classmates!

Curriculum Review Meeting

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT



Dr. Charles Wilson (HFF), Mickey Yeager (LRAFB), Nancy Sloan (Fay), Eddie Robinson (LRAFB), Scott Carmichael (NSAM), Jane Cromhout (Alumni)



Right: Rick Teague (Fay) and Cliff Sandsmark (Fay) pose with the custom book used for OMGT 5143 Contemporary Issues in Human Resource Management. The book was put together by Sandsmark.



Right: Jeff Bean (Fay), Eddie Robinson (LRAFB), and Dr. Charles Wilson (HFF) discuss main concepts that should be covered in OMGT 5133 Operations Management in the Service Sector.



Dr. Kim Needy (Fay), Mickey Yeager (LRAFB), Dr. Don King (Fay)

OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT - 35 YEARS STRONG!

THEN...



1974



- Available at only 3 locations: Little Rock AFB, Blytheville AFB, Naval Air Station Memphis (not yet offered to students in Fayetteville area)
- 18 courses
- First year's enrollment = 1090
- Tuition = \$65/hour
- 68 graduates in first complete year



NOW

twitter

2009



- 6 sites: Little Rock AFB, Hurlburt Field, FL, Naval Support Academy Mid-South, Fayetteville, Blytheville, Camden, Remote (coast to coast & abroad)
- 23 graduate & 4 undergrad courses
- 08-09 enrollment = 2570
- Tuition = \$240/hr since 2002—Best UA graduate program value
- 08-09 graduates = 200
- Total grads since 1974 = 4153





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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 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 live evening classes that meet in five 8-week terms per year. Courses are also available in DVD/CD, online 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.

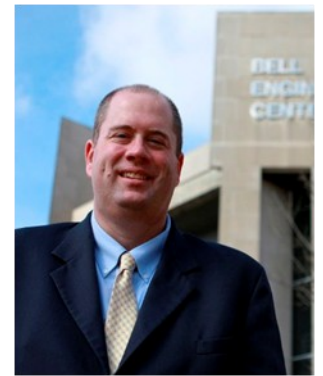
Meet Your Professor: Dr. Richard Cassady

Dr. Cassady enrolled at Virginia Tech in the fall of 1988, and stayed for eight years, earning three degrees in industrial and systems engineering along the way. He is passionately devoted to Virginia Tech and its athletic teams, the Hokies. His wife, Wendy, is a speech-language pathologist, and she owns and operates Wendy Cassady Speech Pathology, Inc. in Springdale. They have two great boys, James Bryant (7) and Banes Ramey (3).

Dr. Cassady started teaching (ten undergraduate courses to be exact!) while he was a Ph.D. student. After finishing his Ph.D., he and Wendy moved to Starkville, Mississippi, so that he could begin his career at MSU. They spent four great years there and made several dear friends.

Dr. Cassady says it was the perfect place to begin his career, and is very thankful to the people at MSU for giving him that opportunity.

In 2000, he says he found his dream job when he joined the Industrial Engineering faculty at the U of A. He says it is a great place to work; and it was the perfect fit for him professionally. During 2006 and 2007, he had the honor of holding the John L. Imhoff Chair, an endowed chair that rotates among Industrial Engineering faculty every two years. In 2006, he led an effort in the College of Engineering to develop a proposal for a first-year program for engineering students at the U of A. In October 2006, the College of Engineering faculty voted to create this program,



the Freshman Engineering Program, and in November of the same year, he was appointed to be the first Director of this program. Dr. Cassady was promoted to full professor with tenure in August of 2008.

This is Dr. Cassady's first year teaching in the OMGT program. He is teaching OMGT 4873 Principles of Operations Research.



Even our endearing Razorback is taking precautions for avoiding the swine flu...! We have students all over the United States and abroad, with varied risk of exposure. Take heed.

During this susceptible time of the year, take action to avoid this serious illness, such as keeping a hand sanitizer nearby.

This bronze statue tribute to our mighty UofA mascot is located at the University House on Maple Street.