

Saint Joseph's University Awarded New Alpha Iota Delta Chapter

by Madjid Tavana, La Salle University

Alpha Iota Delta, the national honor society for Decision Sciences and Information Systems sponsored by the Decision Sciences Institute (DSI), awarded a chapter to Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia's Jesuit University, during the November 2005 DSI Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

The Alpha Mu chapter at Saint Joseph's is affiliated with the Department of Decision & System Sciences (DSS) of the E.K. Haub School of Business and is sponsored financially by Smart & Associates, LLP. The DSS Department offers Saint Joseph's undergraduate business students a DSS concentration and a Business Intelligence minor. For graduate students, the department offers a DSS concentration for MBA students, as well as a Master of Science degree program.

The goals of the Alpha Mu chapter, according to Professor Ruben A. Mendoza, academic advisor, are to recognize academic achievement, provide

opportunities for students to develop a social network of professional contacts, and further the use and application of DSS tools and methodologies in business. Professor Mendoza stated that, in addition to recognition for outstanding academic performance, the organization "provides an opportunity for students to develop the leadership skills employers are so interested in." Students build their leadership skills by planning and executing chapter activities and by communicating with industry professionals about these activities.

Joseph DiAngelo, dean of the Haub School of Business, calls the Alpha Mu chapter "an extraordinary opportunity" for DSS department students. "[Alpha Iota Delta] membership helps our students separate themselves from other qualified job applicants," DiAngelo said, "and raises the profile of our school with area and national employers." The Haub School is accredited by

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is a professor of management information systems and the Lindback Distinguished Chair of Information Systems at La Salle University, where he also served as the chairman of the Management Department, director of the Center for Technology and Management, and the executive director of the E-Commerce Institute. Dr. Tavana has been a Faculty Fellow in Aeronautics and Space Research at NASA's Kennedy Space Center, developing Group Decision Support Systems for the Space Shuttle Program. In 2005, he was awarded the prestigious Space Act Award by NASA. He holds an MBA, PMIS, and Ph.D. in management information systems and received his post-doctoral diploma in strategic information systems from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He has published in such journals as *Decision Sciences*, *Interfaces*, *Information & Management*, *Computers & Operations Research*, *Journal of the Operational Research Society*, *Advances in Engineering Software*, among others. He is a vice president of Alpha Iota Delta.

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Gathered at the 2005 DSI Annual Meeting: Greg Ulferts, AID Executive Director (left); Matt Gantner, President, Alpha Mu Chapter; Jennifer Craver, Secretary; Ron Klimberg, Haub School of Business, Saint Joseph's University; and Stephen Lunce, AID President.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

CAROL LATTA, Executive Director, Decision Sciences Institute



Elliot Bendoly and F. Robert Jacobs announce the publication of *Strategic ERP Extension and Use* (Stanford Press, 2005). This text provides practitioners and researchers with a window into the strategic extension and the use of modern enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems, focusing on current use of ERP system implementation as well as outlooks for future developments for operations and strategic managers. With contributions and real-world case studies by established experts in the field at such institutions as MIT, Accenture Institute for High Performance Business, and the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University, this volume clarifies the existing capabilities of ERP systems and the potential for extensions of these capabilities in support of resource management strategies. **Elliot Bendoly** is a faculty member in Decision and Information Analysis at Emory University's Goizueta Business School. He received his PhD in the fields of operations management and decision sciences from Indiana University in 2001. Dr. Bendoly's research interests include alignment of operational strategies, policies, and IT capabilities in extended-enterprise planning and interactions between resource allocation decisions and organizational behavioral dynamics. **F. Robert Jacobs** is a professor of operations management at the Kelley School of Business, Indiana University. He is the author of nine books and over 50 research articles on topics that include enterprise resource planning, inventory control, the design of manufacturing facilities, cellular manufacturing and the scheduling of manufacturing operations. He is also a past president and Fellow of DSI.



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Jagan Iyengar, University System of North Carolina-NCCU, recently received a research award from NASA for his work on Intelligent Software Agent Technology Applications in Formulating a Deep Space Exploration. He also presented his research papers in the area of Agent-Human Interface Design Considerations at a NASA Research Workshop in April 2005.

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Larry Mallak and David Lyth, Western Michigan University, are co-directors of WMU's engineering management degree programs, which have been singled out as being among the nation's best by the American Society for Engineering Management. In 2004, WMU's master's program in engineering management was named as one of the top three such programs in the U.S., and the program finished as the first runner-up in 2005. Meanwhile, the WMU undergraduate program in engineering management technology has again earned an ASEM top-five designation. WMU is the only school with top-ranked programs at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. Both Mallak and Lyth are faculty members in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering.



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the AACSB in both business and accounting, recognition which only 9 percent of U.S. business schools achieve, and hosts a bronze award-winning chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, the AACSB national honor society.

The purpose of Alpha Iota Delta is threefold:

To confer distinction to students in the decision sciences and information systems disciplines for academic excellence;

To promote the infusion of the functional and behavioral areas of business with the tools, concepts, and methodologies of the decision sciences and information systems; and

To promote interest in the disciplines of decision sciences and information systems.

Currently, Alpha Iota Delta has 41 chapters at universities across the U.S. and Canada, with a total membership in excess of 3,000. ■

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Questions about the position may be directed to the current Marketing Director, Terry Williams, Western Washington University, at (360) 650-4896 or terrell.williams@wwu.edu. All interested parties should submit the following to Carol Latta, Executive Director, Decision Sciences Institute, 35 Broad Street, Atlanta, GA 30303:

1. Curriculum vita
2. Statement of activities and service provided to the Institute
3. Statement of interest and availability to serve a three-year term
4. Statement of qualifications and experience related to the position
5. Description of institutional commitment for the support of the director's job functions for a three year period. ■