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Razor's Edge

Operations Management

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2009

## Razor's Edge, August 24, 2009-October 15, 2009

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. College of Engineering

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# THE RAZOR'S EDGE

TERM I 2009

8/24/09 - 10/15/09

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

### Membership Has Its Privileges

It's not just for alumni...anyone can join! The Arkansas Alumni Association is a not-for-profit organization that seeks to connect alumni, friends, and students to the University of Arkansas.

Beginning with its founding in 1878, the Association has played a significant role in campus growth, marshalling financial support, establishing scholarships, providing inclusive alumni programs and encompassing students as future alumni. Traditional fixtures such as Homecoming, the UA Foundation, the Annual Fund, the University Ring and privately funded scholarships originated with the Association.

The Association is governed by a 33-member Board of Directors, which sets alumni policies and programming. In addition, the Association reports to, and is a part of, the UA's Division of University Advancement.

Members of the Alumni Association receive a diverse benefit package including ARKANSAS magazine and

### Website Information

Announcing our new website. With this comprehensive and user-friendly site, there will be no need to go back and forth between the Operations Management website and the main University of Arkansas website.

The new MSOM site brings everything together in one convenient site just for our

@Arkansas monthly e-newsletter. Additional benefits are:

- \* The Arkansas Alumni Association invites members and their guests to gather at the Janelle Y. Hembree Alumni House 2½ hours prior to every home (Fayetteville) football game kickoff to mingle with friends, enjoy the entertainment, beverages and barbeque and, of course, cheer on the Hogs.
- \* Members of the Association can apply for HPER Building privileges by purchasing a HPER membership.
- \* The resources of the Mullins Library are available to active members of the Arkansas Alumni Association.
- \* Members earn a 10% discount on UA Bookstore and Razorback Shop merchandise. This offer is only valid at store locations not for online purchases; be sure to have your member ID card at time of purchase.
- \* Take advantage of the

students. It easily relays all a prospective student may want to know about applying to and getting started in the program. And it puts all information, schedules, links and documents for our current students at their fingertips. The new website is found at:

[www.msom.uark.edu](http://www.msom.uark.edu).

Alumni members only rate of \$39.90 for a subscription to *Hawgs Illustrated*. You can purchase an annual subscription or use your membership to purchase a gift subscription for your favorite Hawg fan for \$10 less than the standard annual subscription price!

- \* 15% Discount on regular and everyday value priced merchandise at BrooksBrothers.com, Brooks Brothers Retail and Factory stores.
- \* Alumni members can save 10% on all of their packaging needs at [www.MovingDayBoxes.com](http://www.MovingDayBoxes.com).
- \* The Arkansas Alumni Association has made arrangements to offer its members discounts with Avis, Alamo, Hertz and Thrifty. Four national car-rental companies offering discounts to Arkansas Alumni Members.

For more information, check out [www.arkansasalumni.org](http://www.arkansasalumni.org).

See the home page for:

- Link to ISIS
- Link to Blackboard
- Link to UARK email
- News and upcoming events
- Student Handbook
- Link to UA Financial Aid Office
- Syllabi

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 9/30/09: Term II Registration Begins
- 10/5/09: Last Day to Withdraw from Term I
- 10/21/09: Term II Classes Begin
- 10/26/09: Last Day to Add a Term II Course

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*Congratulations Summer Fayetteville Graduates!*



*Walter Green*

*Liz Simmons*

*Brian Porbeck*

*Abdullah Al-Shanbri*

*Mark Mobley*

*Vidya Ammaiyappan*



*Carrie Jones*

*Scotty Lewis*

*Chebea Warzecha*

*Charles Jeffers*

*Student Spotlight: Shari Tumlin*



Shari is starting her fourth term and seeking a Business Management focus area with the intent of graduating in late 2010. She decided to come back to college to learn something new. Shari holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Oklahoma and a Master's degree in Human Services from East Central State University. After graduation she worked with people in hospitals and insurance companies as a therapist and

coordinator. After 18 years in that profession, she wanted a change.

Shari and her husband moved to Arkansas eight years ago from Dallas. She went to work for J.B. Hunt Transport as a fleet manager. She moved to a safety instructor for several years and two weeks before starting OMGT classes she became a safety supervisor.

One of Shari's hobbies is fishing. However, she's not sure if she spends more time feeding the fish than she does catching them, but she does have fun. One of her goals is to learn fly fishing and to try her hand at feeding trout!

Shari and her husband have two dogs, two cats, two

outside cats who have adopted them and a group of deer who come by almost every night. One of the deer has actually come up to her and eaten out of her hand, which he says was an incredible experience.

Shari hopes the MSOM degree will open more doors of opportunity. She says that coming back to school has been a challenge because it is such a different style of learning (Blackboard!) than she has ever experienced before. But coming back to school has been exciting and she is considering pursuing a doctorate after graduation next year. She is blessed to have a husband who has encouraged her and family and friends who have also been very supportive.

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](mailto:omgtfay@uark.edu) to share with your OMGT classmates!

## Other News & Announcements

Interested in a student loan?  
Contact the Financial Aid office at 479-575-3806.

**WOW!!!!!!!!!!!!** 100 Fayetteville students enrolled in almost 150 seats for Term I courses! I know many of you have been spreading the word about our program. Come by my office for posters, brochures, schedules, etc. to post at work or share with your colleagues. Thank you for your help in recruiting! Remember you'll get your choice of an OMGT t-shirt, tote bag or other gift for every applicant you refer!

To encourage students to keep their textbooks as they work through the program and prepare for the comprehensive exam, we will no longer rent books. Books are available for purchase online through MBS or the on campus at the bookstore.



This year marks the 35th anniversary of the founding of the OMGT program - now the largest graduate program at the U of A.

## Looking For Resume/Job Interview Help?

Open to students, faculty/staff, alumni and employers, the Career Development Center can help you do everything from make sense of your employment options to negotiate a job offer. Resume critique services as well as mock interviews are available.

Career Services counselors will help students create quality resumes, steer them toward job openings and help with interviewing skills.

Informative workshops covering topics such as Diversity in the Workplace, Creating Your Personal Branding Statement, Wal-Mart: Committed to Developing Leaders in Our Communities and How to Find a Federal Job are sponsored throughout the year.

For more information on the services offered contact the Career Development Center at 575-2805 or <http://career.uark.edu/>.

*Note that nearly all your professors have extensive experi-*

*ence in the corporate sector. Be sure to get their input on interview skills, resume construction and career advancement.*

Looking for ways to improve your job skills but just don't have the time to make an appointment? Check out these online presentations from the Career Development Center...

- ⇒ Personal Branding Statement
- ⇒ How to Apply for a Federal Job
- ⇒ Video Gaming Presentation
- ⇒ Interview Success
- ⇒ Negotiating Job Offers
- ⇒ Networking at Conferences
- ⇒ Applying to Graduate and Professional Schools Presentation
- ⇒ The Dreaded Telephone Interview
- ⇒ Job Search Strategies
- ⇒ Making Good Career Decisions

### **UPCOMING JOB FAIRS & WORKSHOPS:**

**Sept. 14:**  
**Resume Review and Prep for Career Fairs**  
(Union, Connections Lounge, TBA)

**Sept. 15:**  
**Walton College of Business Career Fair**  
(Willard Walker Hall, 1st & 2nd floors, 11am-3pm)

**Sept. 16:**  
**Fall 2009 All Majors Career Fair**  
(Union, Ballroom and 5th Floor, 10am-2pm)

**Fall 2009 Graduate School Fair**  
(Union, Ballroom and 5th Floor, 10am-2pm)

**Sept. 22:**  
**Fall 2009 Engineering EX-PO**  
(Bell Engineering Center, 2pm-6pm)



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**We're on the Web!**  
[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 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: Leonard Nethercutt*

Leonard Nethercutt has been teaching as a distance learning instructor for the University of Arkansas for more than 10 years, but also teaches live OMGT courses at the Little Rock Air Force Base site. In addition to our Accounting and Statistics undergraduate courses, he frequently teaches 5003 Introduction to Operations Management and 4873 Principles of Operations Research.

His assigned classes generally include Finance, Economics, quantitative methods and analysis, cost estimation, project analysis,

and cost analysis. His education includes a BS in Accounting and MBA from UALR (Arkansas-Little Rock) and he also completed coursework toward a PhD in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance and minor in Economics from the University of Memphis. His dissertation is still in progress however, he has been published twice in academic journals due to his dissertation efforts.

His business background and experience includes several closely held business ventures



that run the gamut from management consulting services, multi-state retail operations in partnership with major oil companies, and wholesale petroleum distributor. He is from Mayflower, AR and is married with one daughter. He and his family enjoy activities with horses, golf, snow skiing, and fishing.

**MSOM vs. MBA: HOW THEY DIFFER**

While our degree focuses on management skills for individuals who manage work processes, projects and people at various levels of any kind of organization, the MBA tends to deal more with high-finance, starting or acquiring companies, floating stock issues, and other matters of interest to top management or to entrepreneurs. There are always going to be more general management jobs than CEO-level positions. So while our degree will always be more practical and marketable for those wishing to advance in management, it compares particularly well now given the current financial crisis.