



Executive Council Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2008

Announcements

Tom Scannell made a presentation on the West Michigan Supply Chain Council. The Council will be hosting a number of events in the near future:

- Energy and Metals Commodities – 2009 Outlook, Budgeting for the Bounces
Matt Kail, Business Development Manager, Magic Steel
Tim Radbourne, Radbourne Consulting
Thursday October 23, 2008, 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Western Michigan University – Downtown Grand Rapids Campus
Registration: \$65.00 <http://www.rightplace.org/events/>
- New Millennium Talent-Scape – Gaining and Maintaining SCM Talent
Kevin Douglas, College Talent Acquisition Manager, Alticor
SCM Manager, Alticor
Alison Brown, Chief Enhancement Officer, Encompass (Tentative)
Thursday November 20, 2008, 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Western Michigan University – Downtown Grand Rapids Campus
Registration: \$65.00 <http://www.rightplace.org/events/>
- Sixth Annual Midwest Supply Chain Management Conference
Wednesday March 18, 2009, 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Steelcase Learning Center

Tom Scannell also presented his research project through the CAPS organization of the Institute for Supply Management. He is working on the project, *Accelerating Innovation Through Effective Supplier Collaboration*, with Robert M. Monczka, Phillip L. Carter and Joseph R. Carter.

Extracurricular education: ISM students have had the opportunity to participate the ROTC Leadership Reaction course August 28 and Whirlpool's Negotiating Training Sept. 26 & 27. Students will have an opportunity to participate in Kellogg's Project Management training November 7.

Congratulations to Kristy Sabatos on the birth of Claire Sabatos June 16.
Congratulations to Marie-Laure Bougnol-Potter on the birth of Matthieu Potter on Aug. 15.



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Marie-Laure Bougnol-Potter will be leaving WMU for Jacksonville University in January. The decrease in flights from Kalamazoo has made it increasingly difficult for her husband, Shane Potter, to work for a company with a main office in Oxford, Miss. and major client in Jacksonville, Florida. We wish her well and thank her for her support of the ISM program.

Tom Carey will be stepping down in August 2009 as chair of the management department after seven years of service. Steve Newell will be stepping down in August 2009 as chair of the marketing department after two years of service. We thank them for their service and support of the ISM program.

The team of Andrea Blankers and Richard Wentworth placed second in the 2nd International ERPsim competition. The ISM team was the only undergraduate team in the competition.

As part of the university-wide assessment program, an external assessment of the ISM program was provided by M. A. Venkataramanan, Ph.D., Glaubinger Professor of Operations and Decision Technologies and Chair, Kelley School of Business Undergraduate Program, Indiana University, Bloomington. The assessment report provided a good review of the ISM program. Notable among the gaps noted was the absence of a service operations course.

An online assessment survey will be circulated to Executive Council members. This survey will ask members to evaluate how well recent graduates meet the program goals for knowledge, skills and attitudes. This information will provide useful data for the university-wide assessment program.

Bret Wagner will have a sabbatical in Spring 2009. Part of this sabbatical will be spent as a visiting professor at the University of Applied Sciences, Wiesbaden, where he will complete a research project on cutting stock problems and begin a project on multiple product scheduling, in addition to working on a project with SAP and teaching with the SAP/ERP simulation.

The development of the ISM procurement wiki (a collaborative website where executive council members can contribute state-of-the-art knowledge on procurement topics) has been delayed due to changing software and hosting systems. The wiki will be presented at the Feb. 4 meeting.

The APICS golf outing will be held Saturday, April 18. Plans are underway to increase the networking opportunities at this event.



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Culture

The importance of culture in the development of the ISM program was discussed. The ISM program has a strong culture of using the executive council as a major sounding board and source of improvement ideas. The high level of internship participation can be attributed to the culture that has developed among ISM students. The importance of information technology is a newer development in the ISM culture. Future efforts will be devoted to developing the culture of study abroad participation and leadership development while maintaining current performance in other areas.

Employers have an important role to play in developing the program culture among students. Employers are encouraged to ask students about study abroad participation and leadership activities as part of their normal interviewing process.

Program Metrics

The enrollment decline experienced from 2001 to 2004 has clearly been reversed. Fall 2008 enrollment is 229, near the previous record of 239 in 2000. Outreach efforts like area high school visits and APICS student chapter tables at BronoBash and Business Bash will be continued.

GPA performance of seniors has not improved. Given the increase in enrollments, it is a positive sign that the GPA of seniors has not decreased.

While study abroad participation is far from the goal of 100% participation in semester programs, the ISM program leads the college of business in study abroad participation even though only 5% of business students are ISM majors.

International Experience

Participation in semester-long programs is growing. Continued growth in participation will result from initiatives to:

- Add to the current list of identified programs (programs that meet the needs of ISM students)
- Simplifying and standardizing course transfers
- Adding to the current financial aid opportunities
- Continuing to increase awareness of study abroad opportunities
- Developing Best Practices to standardize student advising

Opportunities for international internships will be discussed at the Feb. 5 meeting.



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Curriculum Changes

Numerous changes to the ISM program curriculum have been processed through the Policy Council (department chairs, undergraduate and graduate program directors and the dean), Undergraduate Programs Council and management department. These changes are scheduled for discussion and, hopefully, approval by the college curriculum committee Oct. 15.

The primary effect of these changes will change be to renumber some courses to suggest better sequencing for students and create a 6 credit hour elective that can be satisfied by taking two courses relevant to the students career interests or completing a minor in accounting, computer information systems, economics, finance or international management.

MGMT 4800 will become MGMT 2800, and will have an important role in transmitting the ISM program culture to new majors.

MGMT 4810 will become MGMT 3810, and has been transformed into a consulting project course that will use Value Stream Mapping tools provided in a booklet co-branded with John Deere. Sime Curkovic described typical projects performed by students in the course, and asked for council members, especially those located in the Kalamazoo area, to help provide project opportunities.

Southeast Michigan ISM Alumni Chapter

The development of a Southeast Michigan ISM Alumni Chapter was discussed with Hardy Figureoa, WMU Associate Director of Regional and Constituent Outreach & Membership.

Business Relations in Japan and Thailand

Thaweephan “Duke” Leingpibul provided a review of the itinerary and marketing efforts for the short-term study abroad trip to Japan and Thailand he will be conducting in May 2009. Faculty in the ISM program have led short-term study trips overseas each year since 2005, and this has helped build the culture for studying abroad in the program.

ISM Career Search Code of Conduct

A revision to the career search code of conduct presented at the February 2008 meeting as discussed. This code of conduct will be posted on the ISM web site and circulated to students via the e-mail list.



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The concept of an employer career search code of conduct was discussed briefly. Items to include in the code of conduct include:

- Timing of visits and offers
- Providing applicants with a single point of contact
- Honoring all accepted offers.

Employers who agree to comply with this code would be designated as Corporate Partners and would have a special presence on the ISM web site.



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Next EC Meeting: February 4, 2009

Future Program Dates:

Fall 2009

ISM Executive Council:	Wednesday, Sept. 30, 9 am – 2:00 pm
ISM Career Night:	Wednesday, Sept. 30, 6 pm – 10 pm
Career Day:	Thursday, Oct. 1, 10 am – 3 pm
ISM Networking Dinner:	Thursday, Oct. 1, 6 pm – 9 pm

Spring 2010

ISM Executive Council:	Wednesday, Feb. 3, 9 am – 2:00 pm
ISM Career Night:	Wednesday, Feb. 3, 6 pm – 10 pm
Career Fair:	Thursday, Feb. 4, 10 am – 3 pm
ISM Networking Dinner:	Thursday, Feb. 4, 6 pm – 9 pm