

Co-op/Internship Program Opportunities

Shea Lowe, marketing specialist for the Center for TSM is working on a new initiative to help students find a co-op/internship that will provide work-related experience while pursuing a degree. The co-op/internship program is designed to help students gain an understanding of the real world of work and how it relates to what they have learned in the classroom. This valuable work experience assists students in making the transition into a complex work environment. This will assist students pursuing a bachelor's in TSM to meet their degree requirement for internship or co-op.

Shea is currently researching information technology/telecomm companies and contacting them about the opportunities they have available for a TSM student. While developing this list

of potential contacts around the United States, she is in the process of customizing and developing a webpage that will be strictly devoted to our students, alumni and corporate partners. This webpage will consist of a student center, an alumni center and a corporate center. Here students and alumni will be able to find available internships and how and when to apply for them. The corporate center will allow access to resources such as brochures and student resumes for those companies interested in hiring a TSM student. If you would like more information on our co-op/internship program, please contact Shea at shea.lowe@murraystate.edu.

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The Center for **Telecommunications Systems Management** Spring 2003

News from the Director



The 2002-2003 academic year has been a fantastic one for the Center. The national conference April 3-5 was a highlight with over 130 professionals in attendance. This event was closely followed by the annual economic development conference. There will likely be a national Telecommunications Education Association formed that will be affiliated with the United States Telecommunications Association as a result of the national conference.

The graduate program is being revised by a faculty committee and a totally new look will be ready sometime next year. This revision will take into account what industry is looking for in graduate education and will focus on telecommunications systems project management.

TSM will start producing some short courses this summer for a variety of professionals. Networking, wireless and security courses are being developed for industry, but we

are also producing some practical help for mayors and judge executives, school superintendents and their technology coordinators.

For the first time this June, TSM will have a booth at Supercomm in Atlanta. This is the largest trade show for telecommunications in the industry. We expect to receive a lot of looks from the industry for just being present. We are developing a database of corporations in the telecommunications field with which our program maintains collaborative relationships.

If you have ideas about improving the program, contact us at the center.

Phil Sparks
Director, TSM





The Center for Telecommunications Systems Management

SPRING
2003

National Telecommunications Information Technology Conference

Murray State University's nationally recognized "Program of Distinction" in Telecommunications Systems Management brought its second annual Telecommunications/Information Technology Conference to the Executive Inn in Louisville, Ky., on April 3-5, 2003. This unique national conference addressed many current issues impacting the future of telecommunications and information technology.

During the three-day event national experts discussed important issues and innovations in business and corporate security, wireless technology, and the future role of telecommunications in telephone and other expanding technology-based enterprises. The opening keynote speaker was Dr. Eileen Preisser, congressional fellow and special assistant for Homeland Defense and National Security. She addressed *Creating a Collaborative Engagement Center (TOC) for Safety and Security Operations at the State Level*. Dr. James Gantt, deputy director, Computational and Informational Sciences Directorate, United State Army, was the Friday evening banquet speaker on *The Use of Telecommunications in a Military Environment, What we Learned in Afghanistan* as well as addressing issues relating to the then current war situation in Iraq. Dick Anderson, president of customer markets, BellSouth Corporation, opened the Friday sessions addressing *The Future of Telecommunications Policy*. Both Gantt and Anderson are graduates of Murray State University.

Friday afternoon's discussion focused on the role of information technology in Kentucky's statewide "New Economy" initiatives with presentations by Dr. William Brundage, Kentucky's commissioner for the new economy and Dr. Linda Johnson, president, Center for Information Technology Enterprise, Inc. They addressed *The Role of Telecommunications in Building a State's Economy - A Report from Kentucky*.

Dr. Samuel Postlethwait, professor emeritus, Purdue University, provided a unique look at education today as opposed to when he began his distinguished career by enlightening and entertaining conference goers with his topic

If I Were a Professor Again. He noted that while methods and technology are quick to change, many times people are not.

The conference provided the opportunity to interact with academic and corporate leaders from across the country as they addressed many of the most pressing technology-based issues impacting our global economy. In addition to two special seminars on *Terrorism and the National Information Infrastructure* by James H. Graham, University of Louisville, and *Current Evaluation and Future of Wireless Networks and Technology* by Mike Hegeman of EDS and Abdul Yarali of Murray State University, there were 12 break out Group Sessions available to attendees during the conference covering telecommunications policy issues, on-line teaching, e-commerce, telecommunications role in economic development, network security, and the integration of geographic information systems (GIS) and information technology. These break out sessions featured papers prepared by attendees from across the country, from industry, government, academe and students. Richard A. Thompson, University of Pittsburgh, was recognized for best conference paper *Telecommunications - A Discipline of Our Own* and the best student paper was presented by Xiaofei Wang, Indiana University, *Digital Transition: Current Issue Analysis from the Consumers' Standpoint*.

Corporate sponsors BellSouth, EDS, Gateway, Cisco and the Titan Corporation were represented at the conference and had an opportunity to interact with participants and to present the latest products and services available from their companies. The Telecommunications Systems Management program appreciates the support and guidance provided by these corporations.



West Kentucky Regional Economic Development Conference

The Center for Telecommunication Systems Management and the West Kentucky Corporation jointly sponsored the third annual West Kentucky Regional Economic Development Conference. This year's conference was held on Tuesday, April 15 in the Murray Room of the Regional Special Events Center (RSEC) on the Murray State University Campus. Steve Zea and Michael Ramage served as hosts.

The program this year was on the topic of Digital Communities. The Digital Community Concept will become a factor for every county and city government and will be a

key link to economic development. Participants were presented an opportunity to develop an understanding and knowledge of the present digital opportunities available to integrate into their communities and the additional opportunities coming in the future.

The meeting featured Dr. Bill Brundage, commissioner of the new economy, and Dr. Linda Johnson, president, CITE, Inc., who gave an update of the state of state in regards to the new economy initiatives. Panel discussions included digital integration into business, local government, healthcare and education.

TSM Faculty Spotlight

The Center for Telecommunications Systems Management is proud to spotlight two outstanding faculty members, Dr. David Bowles, economics and finance, and Dr. Abdul Yarali, industrial and engineering technology.



A native of Charleston, W. Va., David Bowles graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a B.A. degree in political economy and from Duke University with M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in economics.

Following graduation, Bowles taught economics at the University of Notre Dame and Clemson University. He has worked as a financial economist and international economist at the Bank of Montreal in Toronto, Canada. He spent 15 years at BellSouth Corporation as an economist and corporate financial planner. Just before coming to Murray State, Bowles was senior manager in KPMG's Economic Consulting Services practice.

Bowles teaches microeconomics and telecommunications economics, and conducts research in these areas using general equilibrium planning models. As a diversion he enjoys tennis, golf, biking, swimming and hiking.

Abdul Yarali obtained his Ph.D. in electrical engineering (EE) in 1995 from Virginia Polytechnic and State University at Blacksburg, Va. His master's and B.S. degrees are in EE from George Washington University



(Washington, D.C.) and University of Florida (Gainesville, Fla.) respectively. Yarali has extensive experience in wireless telecommunication engineering design, deployment and optimization in cellular and PCS systems in TDMA, CDMA and GSM. From December of 1995 to the present, he has been working as technical advisor

and engineering director in wireless technology. As such, Yarali has led research teams working on location completing numerous contracts for leading telecommunications companies in the U.S. such as AT&T, Nortel, Motorola and Sprint PCS.

Yarali has been author of several technical papers and abstracts and received a certificate award from ASME for the best paper among 500 papers presented by scientists from all over the world at the IEEE conference in 1991. He has received an outstanding professor and researcher recognition from INS in 1997. He joined the IET-TSM program at MSU in March 2003 for teaching in wireless technology, and his area of interest is wireless system integration of second generation (2G), 3G and 4G for high speed data services.