SC Adds Two New Master’s Programs

Southwestern College launched two new online master’s programs Sept. 25: a master of science in information security management and a master of science in security administration.

“Southwestern College was one of the first colleges in the Midwest to launch a bachelor’s degree in security management in 2003, and we’ve built on that successful model to create a 36-hour graduate degree that studies information security, personnel and physical plant security, counterterrorism, and disaster/contingency planning,” said Jeni McRay, director of graduate academic administration.

The master of science in information security management is designed for mid- to upper-level managers and covers topics essential to information security, such as cryptography, computer forensics, and disaster preparedness.

The master of science in security administration is designed for those who want to design, implement, and energize ministries promoting spiritual maturity in youth and young adults.

— Steve Rankin
professor of religious studies

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The master of science in security administration includes courses on information security, personnel and physical plant security, counterterrorism, disaster/contingency planning, and emergency management capabilities for those involved in homeland security, emergency management or any other facet of government, military, public, or private security.

“Southwestern College was one of the first colleges in the Midwest to launch a bachelor’s degree in security management in 2003, and we’ve built on that successful model to create a 36-hour graduate degree that studies best practices in a broad scope of homeland security areas,” said Jeni McRay, director of graduate academic programs.

“The MSSA delves into managerial and legal issues encountered with homeland security, emergency management, terrorism and other threat assessments, and organizational security investigations.”

New Faculty Bring Cosmopolitan Scope

New Southwestern College faculty for 2006-07 include (from left) Jean-Gabriel Jolivet, Daniel Stevens, Crystal Peng, Ed Loeb, Nili Luo, David Hofmeister, and Stacy Sparks.

David Hofmeister
director of teacher education

He has taught at Pensacola Junior College, Louisiana State University, and Southeastern Louisiana University. He has published articles on taxation and engaged in several conference presentations.

Stacy Sparks
assistant professor of journalism

Sparks has taught at Dodge City Community College for 13 years, and at St. Mary of the Plains College. Sparks won several awards and recognitions for her photography and is current president of the Kansas Associated Collegiate Press.

Crystal Peng
assistant professor of computer science

Peng graduated from Wayne State University. Her research interests include artificial intelligence and algorithm design and analysis.

Ed Loeb
assistant professor of mathematics

Loeb received his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Nebraska. He has facilitated workshops in mathematics and a summer course for minority and low income students.

Daniel Stevens
assistant professor of music

He has been a professional violist with the Tulsa Philharmonic/Opera and the recipient of the Purdue Research Foundation research grant.

New faculty members at Southwestern College bring a wide range of talent from all over the world to join the full-time campus teaching personnel.

Eugene Wang
assistant professor of business

Wang holds a Ph.D. in economics from Purdue University. He has taught at Pensacola Junior College, Louisiana State University, and Southeastern Louisiana University. He has published articles on taxation and engaged in several conference presentations.

Nili Luo
professor of early childhood

Luo has over 10 years of teaching experience in China and the U.S. Her research interests are aimed at studying the effects of U.S. adoption on Chinese children.

Center for Belarusian Studies Garners Wide Attention

The first center in the United States devoted to Belarusian studies has been established at Southwestern College thanks to the support of David H. Swartz, a 1964 SC graduate and the first U.S. ambassador to Belarus.

David Swartz (right) presents Dima Andy Sheppard a check representing initial funding of a center for Belarusian studies at Southwestern College.

Announcement of the center earned Southwestern wide recognition, with press interest generated by Associated Press coverage.

SC academic vice president Andy Sheppard says that this center will fit in with the mission of Southwestern College.

“I find you very round and very full and very lucky and a strong credit to family,”

author Gus Lee told SC students at Matriculation Convocation for the fall semester. The assessment, once made of Lee himself by a Chinese uncle, was part of a talk that urged students to find themselves in stories of courage and character.

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David Swartz became president of the European Humanities University Foundation, Inc., a group he founded to support the European Humanities University in Minsk, Belarus. The university was forced into exile in 2004, however, and the foundation dissolved. That prompted Swartz to provide initial funding for the new center at SC.

Swartz hopes that by working with Southwestern College and creating this center, he may promote the revival of the Belarusian nation through higher education. According to Swartz, approximately 800,000 people in the United States and Canada have Belarusian heritage. Southwestern has enrolled several students from Belarus following the exile of the university, and during the 2006 academic year hosted a visiting scholar from the Eastern European country.

Kiev, Rotterdam, London, Moscow, and Calgary.

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