



UHV NAMES AWARD-WINNING BUSINESS PROFESSOR AS NEW SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DEAN

The next dean of the University of Houston-Victoria School of Business Administration will be a highly regarded economics and international business professor with extensive administrative experience and impressive teaching and research credentials.

Farhang Niroomand (Knee-roo-mand) is a professor at the University of Southern Mississippi and previously was associate dean and graduate program director for the university's internationally accredited College of Business and chairman of the college's Department of Economics and International Business. Niroomand replaces Charles Bullock, who accepted a position in June as vice chancellor of academic affairs at Chapman University College in Orange, Calif.

Interim Dean Jifu Wang will return to his position as chairman of the SoBA Management and Marketing Department when Niroomand begins on July 1, said Suzanne LaBrecque, UHV provost and vice president for academic affairs.

"We are really excited that Dr. Niroomand has agreed to join the leadership at UHV," she said. "Our business school is poised for the next level of excellence, and we believe Dr. Niroomand brings the experience and the drive needed to lead us there."

In November, Niroomand received the Award for Excellence in Trade Education from the Mississippi World Trade Center for his global business and international trade contributions to the state's business community. He was appointed to the Mississippi District Export Council in 2006 and is the executive secretary-treasurer for Omicron Delta Epsilon, the international honor society in economics. Niroomand has been selected for inclusion in the 2008-2009 Princeton Premier Registry.

"I am extremely honored to join the team at UHV," Niroomand said. "I am particularly excited by the tremendous potential the School of Business Administration possesses. SoBA is one of only approximately 560 business schools in the world that are accredited by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. AACSB standards require high academic and professional qualifications for the faculty and the achievement of rigorous learning goals for students both at the graduate and undergraduate levels."

Niroomand, 55, earned his doctorate in international economics from Michigan State University in East Lansing, and has taught undergraduate and graduate classes in international trade and finance at Michigan State, the University of Connecticut and Southern Miss. His peers at Southern Miss have recognized his work in the classroom as outstanding by giving him the Excellence in Teaching Award in 1987 and 1994. He also has received the Louis K. Brandt Faculty Research Award and the BellSouth Outstanding Faculty Award.

He has published extensively in professional and academic journals, including Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economics Letters, Review of World Economics, Applied Economics and many others. He is a past editor of the Journal of Current Research in Global Business.

Niroomand will move to Victoria with his wife, Farnaz Zand, an assistant professor of computer science at Southern Miss.

"We are delighted to be coming to Victoria," Niroomand said. "The School of Business Administration has so much to be proud of, from the AACSB accreditation, which is the result of the efforts of the faculty; to the diverse student body; to the support from an administration that is committed to global engagement and innovative, adaptive and technology-driven programs that prepare future business leaders."

▶ IN THIS ISSUE:

- New Business Dean Announced
- Fall 2008 MBA Conference Winners
- SoBA Enrollment Increases
- Chinese New Year Celebration
- New Faces at SoBA
- And much more...

▶ IMPORTANT DATES:

- **February 20**
Last day to apply for spring graduation
- **March 2**
International student application deadline for summer
- **March 16-22**
Spring Break
- **April 1**
Summer schedule available online
- **April 20**
Summer registration opens
- **May 16**
Spring Commencement - Victoria
- **May 25**
Memorial Day Holiday
- **May 29**
Payment deadline at noon for summer semester
- **June 1**
International student application deadline for fall
- **June 1**
First class day of summer semester
- **June 12**
Last day to apply for summer graduation

Fall 2008 BBA and MBA Conference Winners

The University of Houston-Victoria School of Business Administration is pleased to announce the winning teams from the Fall 2008 BBA and MBA Case Competitions.

The MBA Conference was held on Saturday, December 6, 2008 at the University of Houston System Cinco Ranch campus in Katy, Texas. Central to the MBA Conference is the case competition, which provides MBA students with the opportunity to apply what they have learned in the MBA program to real-world business situations. Teams participating in the competition this fall prepared original business case analyses on Starbucks. The first place team included Mubashir Ahmed, Ernesto Dario Montes, Bitan Banerjee, Lex Sheddan, and Ceasar Banda. The second place team included Nicholas Lirette, Maria Gallego, Adrienne Gilpin, and Robert Gilpin, and the third place team included Simon Mumford, Ir-

fan Umatiya, Theresa Foss, Mazen Saman, and Jesse Sims.

The BBA Conference was held on Saturday, November 22, 2008 at the University of Houston-Victoria. The BBA Conference provides students with the opportunity to apply what they have learned in the BBA program to real-world business situations. Students participating in the competition this fall prepared original business case analyses on Costco. The top ranking BBA student for the Fall 2008 BBA Conference was Brianne Masculine.

BBA and MBA Conference winners received individual certificates recognizing their accomplishment, and their names will appear on perpetual plaques in the UHV School of Business Administration offices. All winning students will be invited to serve as panelists at future case competitions.

Fall 2008 MBA Conference Winner Celebration Breakfast

The University of Houston-Victoria School of Business held a celebration breakfast at UH System Sugar Land on January 16, 2009 for the winners of the Fall 2008 MBA Case Conference. During the event, the winners were recognized by Jifu Wang, Interim Dean of the School of Business Administration, for their achievements. Kurt Czupryn, Director of UH System Cinco Ranch, also received an appreciation plaque at the celebration breakfast for his assistance with the conference facilities. Several other key staff members were also present to honor the winners.

In addition, case conference winners received information regarding UHV Connect, career services and events, and they were reminded that all three teams will be invited to serve as panelists at future case competitions.

Summer Registration Information

The summer schedule will be available online beginning April 1. Registration for the summer semester begins on Monday, April 20. Students are encouraged to register as early as possible to ensure best course selection. Summer courses will begin June 1.

If you need to get into a full class during the normal registration period, you should use the full-class waiting list available online at <http://www.uhv.edu/bus/registration/waiting.asp>. Adding yourself to the waiting list does not guarantee that you will be added into the course. Waiting list requests are processed in the order received, as class capacity allows the addition of

students. Do not contact the instructor about getting into a full course, as they will simply ask you to complete the waiting list form.

As a reminder, payment is due by midnight on Thursday, May 28. Students will be dropped for non-payment, and with the enrollment growth in the School of Business Administration, getting back into the preferred course(s) may prove impossible.

Chinese New Year Celebration

On Saturday, January 24, many of SoBA's Chinese international students celebrated the Chinese New Year (Year of the Ox) at the Chinese Christian Church in Houston. The Chinese New Year is a major holiday

► SPOTLIGHT:

Anuva Banik is the new International Student Services Coordinator for the University of Houston-Victoria School of Business Administration. She is located at UH System Cinco Ranch in Katy. She will provide guidance to SoBA's international students in the admissions process, evaluate foreign transcripts, and draft degree plans.

Anuva is a University of Houston Bauer College of Business alumni. She has worked previously as an ESL elementary teacher, and also has experience working with visa processing.

Anuva enjoys working with diverse people, learning about other cultures, and traveling. She is looking forward to a great year at UHV Cinco Ranch.

► UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **March 11** *Business Open House*
UH System Sugar Land - 5-7pm
- **March 25** *Business Open House*
UH System Cinco Ranch - 5-7pm
- **April 8** *Business Open House*
UH System Sugar Land - 5-7pm
- **April 29** *Business Open House*
UH System Cinco Ranch - 5-7pm
- **May 2** *BBA Case Conference*
- **May 9** *MBA Conference*

in China, which is a time of family reunion.

SoBA's Chinese international students celebrated the new year with their new friends and local Chinese families. To celebrate the joyous occasion, the students prepared dumplings, participated in a great pot luck dinner, and watched a delightful cultural program.



SoBA Chinese Students
Celebrating the Chinese New Year

Another Record-Setting Semester!

The School of Business Administration continues to experience record-high enrollment in its Bachelor-level and Master-level programs. Compared to spring 2008, enrollment in the School of Business Administration increased 30.01% for the spring 2009 semester!



Global MBA Students Seeking Internship Opportunities in Katy

Several select students from China are taking part in the UHV Global Master of Business Administration program according to five partnerships with Chinese universities in Xi'an, Beijing, Nanjing and Hangzhou. The partnerships allow Chinese students to complete their eight Global MBA foundation courses from the Chinese universities using textbook selections and syllabi approved by UHV. The courses are taught in English. After completing their bachelor's degrees and Global MBA foundation courses with the Chinese partner universities, the students then attend classes at UH System Cinco Ranch to complete their Global MBA degrees. These students are eager to utilize their education and skills and are seeking internship opportunities in the Katy area.

If you are interested in hiring a volunteer student intern, we ask that you develop a brief description of the anticipated job duties, including the estimated hours/week.

If you are a Katy area business that would like to explore internship or scholarship options, the recruitment process is quite simple: you may either email or fax the pertinent information (busadvisor@uhv.edu or (281) 275-3378). Your opportunity will be posted in a variety of locations, including campus bulletin boards, our SoBA website (www.uhv.edu/bus) and our Career Services website. Furthermore, information regarding internships will be periodically sent directly to our SoBA students and faculty.

Beta Gamma Sigma Induction Ceremony - Coming in April!

Beta Gamma Sigma is the honor society for students enrolled in business and management programs accredited by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Election to lifetime membership in Beta Gamma Sigma is the highest honor a business student anywhere in the world can receive in an undergraduate or master's program. Students, based on high academic achievement, and tenured business school faculty members are the only ones eligible for membership in the Society. With more than 580,000 members worldwide, the Society's membership comprises the brightest and best of the world's business leaders.

Beta Gamma Sigma membership provides recognition for a lifetime. With eighteen alumni chapters in major metropolitan areas across the United States and Hong Kong, the BGS CareerCentral job board, and the online membership community, those recognized for their academic achievements at UHV School of Business Administration can continue an active relationship with Beta Gamma Sigma long after graduation.

Invitations to join Beta Gamma Sigma will be mailed to eligible students and faculty in the near future and the induction ceremony will be held in April 2009. Watch for more information regarding the event in our upcoming newsletter!

Spring Break Fun - March 19th Support UHV Jaguars

UHV students in the Fort Bend and Harris county area are invited to join a free bus trip to Victoria to watch the UHV Jaguars softball and baseball teams play back to back home games on Thursday, March 19th.

The bus will pick up from the Cinco Ranch and Sugar Land campuses at noon and return after the games finish at 9:30pm. Food, admission, T-shirts and goodie bags will be provided.

RSVP to Janet Foerster at FoersterJ@uhv.edu right away to reserve your seat on the bus.

Study Abroad Opportunities

This summer, UHV graduate business students have the opportunity to study in **Taiwan** for 3 weeks from May 18 to June 6 as part of ECO 6300 - IT Manufacturing in the World Supply Chain. This course will count towards any MBA or Global MBA concentration.

Graduate business students will also have the opportunity to study in **Mexico** for 2 weeks from May 30 to June 13 as part of FIN 6367-International Finance. Upon return to Houston, students will have 6-8 weeks to complete two major projects for the course. FIN 6367 is an elective for the Strategic MBA

SOBA CONTACTS:

Anuva Banik

International Student Services Coordinator
Location: Cinco Ranch
International Advising
BanikA@uhv.edu

Angela Green

Advising Specialist
Location: Sugar Land
BBA Advising
GreenA@uhv.edu

Emily Harrison

Student Services Coordinator
Location: Victoria
Graduate and Undergraduate Advising
HarrisonE@uhv.edu

Kristy Hennessey

Marketing/Recruitment Coordinator
Location: Sugar Land
Graduate Advising
HennesseyK@uhv.edu

Rosie McCusker

Manager, Student Recruitment and Marketing
Location: Cinco Ranch
Graduate Advising
McCuskerR@uhv.edu

and a core course for the Global MBA.

For more information about, visit the study abroad website at <http://www.uhv.edu/studyabroad/>.



Taipei 101

New Faces at SoBA

The School of Business Administration welcomes several new faces to our team. Emily Harrison joins us as the Student Services Coordinator in Victoria. Anuva Banik, International Student Services Coordinator, is located at UH System Cinco Ranch. And Chad Abston, Multimedia Specialist, is located in Victoria. New business faculty members include Uche Nwabueze, John Kagochi, and Omar Al Nasser.

