Graduate Goes Online

Come to SU or let SU come to you as you pursue your graduate degree. Starting in fall 2015, three of SU’s graduate programs begin completely online versions: the Master of Business Administration, the Master of Science in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Management and the Master of Social Work.

Be on the Cutting Edge: M.B.A.

“We wanted to offer a more flexible and convenient version of our highly competitive M.B.A. for working professionals and others,” said Dr. Christy Weer M’96, Perdue School dean. “Courses will be led by the same excellent faculty who teach on campus.”

An accelerated version of the program may be completed in as quickly as one year, or students may choose a part-time track. Both campus and online options feature small classes in fast-paced seven-week sessions.

The Perdue School is a member of SAP University Alliances and is accredited by AACSB International, which, Weer said, allows it to offer an innovative and exceptional program: “Our graduates will have cutting-edge skills for globally diverse, team-focused and technologically oriented work environments.”

SAP University Alliances is an international program that introduces students to technologies shaping businesses today. At SU, an SAP-enhanced curriculum gives students hands-on experience with software and applications to develop skills that complement their studies.

For example, several M.B.A. courses use Enterprise Resource Planning systems and Business Intelligence tools to highlight the integrated nature of business processes, including accounting, sales and marketing. This gives students a competitive advantage in the job market, Weer said, as they have opportunities to participate in virtual simulations and master skills that add immediate value to organizations.

The program is open to anyone who has completed an undergraduate degree and wishes to advance in his or her career. In the past, M.B.A. students have come from fields as diverse as archaeology, art history, accounting and engineering.

To learn more about SU’s M.B.A. program visit www.salisbury.edu/mba.

Get Ahead: M.S. in GISM

“Our program is designed specifically for working GIS professionals who seek management credentials for career advancement,” said Dr. Stuart Hamilton of the Geography and Geosciences Department. “The combined focus on technical and management skills makes it one of only a few programs of its kind in the world.”

Customizable for those working in government, business and nonprofit sectors, the program also allows students to earn education credits toward their GISP® certification. The degree may be completed in 13 months full time or two years part time.

Previously, the program, which started in 2007, included both online components and a campus session.

Now it is accessible to students from across the U.S., as well as international students, who may not have been able to travel to Salisbury before, Hamilton added.

“Offering the program 100 percent online allows students to complete all coursework on their schedule,” said Dr. Michael Scott, program director. “According to our graduates, having this degree frequently leads to substantial salary increases.”

SU offers a flat tuition rate regardless of location and third-party billing options for employer payments. For more information visit www.salisbury.edu/msgism.

Help Others: M.S.W.

“The Social Work Department is committed to reaching out to people who might not ordinarily be able to participate,” said Dr. Batya Hyman, program director. Its bachelor’s and master’s degrees already are offered at five satellite sites in Maryland and to military personnel and their dependents in Europe.

This newest expansion online will provide access to high-quality education for students who have jobs or “complicated lives,” allowing them to work toward their goals right in their communities, Hyman added.

Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, the M.S.W. prepares graduates for licensure and to work in a variety of community-based settings, including schools, hospitals, health departments, mental health clinics and child welfare organizations.

“We hope to attract motivated students who have completed any undergraduate major and who have a passion for helping others,” Hyman said. Students will need to have self-discipline and competence with technology, she added.

The three-year program features seven-week sessions. Students also will engage in field internships; SU has a strong network of field placement professionals.

SU offers one of the most affordable M.S.W. programs in Maryland. Currently, the program is open to students from Maryland and some contiguous states, including Virginia, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. To learn more visit www.salisbury.edu/onlineMSW.