



UNIVERSITY OF ATLANTA

AU COURANT **University of Atlanta News and Events** **UPDATES** **JUNE 2010**

The University of Atlanta Launches Four New Graduate Certificate Programs

- The University of Atlanta recently launched four new Graduate Certificate Programs as options for prospective students: Graduate Certificate in Project Management and Graduate Certificate in International Project Management--in cooperation with the American Academy of Project Management - AAPM; Master Certificate in Healthcare Administration; and Master Certificate in Information Technology for Management. The programs have been designed so that all courses are ultimately transferrable into one or more graduate degree programs offered at the University, should students, upon completion of the Certificate, determine that they wish to pursue yet further studies toward a degree. All programs have been approved, accredited and are available to eligible applicants. (A fifth option, Graduate Certificate in Finance, is in its final stages of approval and will be available in the near future – in cooperation with the American Academy of Financial Management – AAFM.)

The University of Atlanta Launches Six-Part Monograph Series

- In response to frequent inquiries and expressions of interest from an array of established and apprentice scholars, the Executive Council of the University of Atlanta is pleased to announce the official launch of the UNIVERSITY OF ATLANTA MONOGRAPH SERIES. Formally approved by, and registered with, the Library of Congress, books published in the series will appear, as per the author-publisher agreement, online, in print or in both formats (with separate ISSN serial numbers distinguishing each). The six-part series embraces a spectrum of fields and disciplines: University of Atlanta Monograph Series in Management Studies (Series 1); University of Atlanta Monograph Series in Healthcare Administration (Series 2); University of Atlanta Monograph Series in

Educational Leadership (Series 3); University of Atlanta Monograph Series in Legal Studies and Jurisprudence (Series 4); University of Atlanta Monograph Series in Applied Critical Theory (Series 5); and University of Atlanta Monograph Series in Communication Studies (Series 6). Book-length studies in English or French (of approximately 200-300 manuscript pages), formatted in strict conformity with APA guidelines, will be accepted for review as of June 1, 2010 with anticipated publication in Fall 2011. Initial inquiries (not integral texts) are welcome at this time and should be accompanied, when feasible, by a detailed (2-3 page) abstract of the proposed study. Submitted manuscripts will be peer reviewed by no less than three external members of the International Advisory Council and Editorial Board. Where an inquiry/abstract is deemed of interest, more extensive submission details and contractual terms will be provided.

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The University of Atlanta Offers Doctoral Degree for Corporate Executives and Senior Leaders: Doctor of Business Administration Program in Managerial Science Off to Triumphant Start

- The University of Atlanta's Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) program in Managerial Science has been designed for a diversified student body: experienced business professionals who wish to translate corporate experience into senior leadership options, be it as a member of the executive team within their current organization or as a top competitor in other settings; individuals at any stage of their career who, beyond their completed Master's level studies in Business or Management, are inspired to soar higher, to explore, examine and critically evaluate theories, applications, concepts, processes and conventions in new, creative ways; those who, already part of the world of higher education or headed in such direction, seek an appointment or professional advancement that the DBA is apt to facilitate; and those who, focused less on specific objectives, as conventionally defined, and more on the process of, and quest for, further growth and development, seek the learning experience that such a program promises to provide.

Whatever the personal or professional motivation, as part of a DBA cohort at the University of Atlanta, students will engage with highly-qualified corporate executives and academic professionals alike who build upon each candidate's established core skills and

knowledge to develop a superior level of competence in managerial science. Sophisticated critical thinking skills will be honed via guided scholarly and practical enterprise, action research, complex problem-solving activities and analytical assessment of relevant documents based on recent events and, too, on case studies.

Developed with the input and insight of a broad-winged panel of experienced faculty members and leading business practitioners, the DBA program emphasizes advanced decision-making and leadership skills, in-depth knowledge of both theory and application, and the ability to manage positive social change. Throughout this educational journey, students will explore many of the greatest challenges and opportunities confronting business and leadership today, including, among others, globalization, ethics, and management of stakeholder relationships. Whatever one's specific background or particular interests, the DBA candidate will develop the critical knowledge and practical skills required for success. Students will have ample opportunity to target specific areas of interest within the program setting and will ultimately be well prepared and well positioned for forward direction, prosperous re-beginnings and upward mobility.

The DBA program, while academically rigorous, has been developed to foster the needs of active professionals who must balance the demands of career, family, and educational advancement. Moreover, U of A's School of Business and Managerial Science welcomes and encourages students with diverse backgrounds and from all geographic locations, world-wide. In consequence of such diversity and cross-national emphasis, we are able to provide an enriched, value-added environment for expanded learning, one wherein global perspectives and multi-cultural exchange flourish. The largely a-synchronous delivery model (with synchronous, cohort-based components) affords an opportunity to those who, despite their qualifications and desire for doctoral-level studies, would not be able to pursue this option within the traditional academic setting. It is for this reason, too, that, unlike most online programs, we require no time in residence, thereby eliminating the significant costs and inconvenience associated with travel and displacement.

Those who are accepted into a doctoral cohort of the University of Atlanta's DBA program will happily embark on a "new intellectual journey."

The University of Atlanta lists Dr. Bethel Erastus-Obilo as number one finalist for the position of Vice President for Academic Research and Development and Professor of International Law and Managerial Science.

- Dr. Bethel Erastus-Obilo, who has served the University of Atlanta in a variety of capacities since January 2007 with absolute distinction, most recently as Director of Academics and Special Assistant to the Provost has been identified as the leading candidate for the position of Vice President for Academic Research and Development and Professor of International Law and Managerial Science, reporting directly to the Provost. Bethel has a record of marked accomplishment in higher educational, corporate and legal arenas. Prior to his affiliations with University of Atlanta, he has served in other organizations as Vice President of Operations and Business Development, Dean of Student Affairs and Professor of Law. Most recently, Bethel also served as Special Legal Counsel for two organizations in the Chicago area. Dr. Erastus-Obilo brings to us a well-recognized record of innovative scholarship. Some of his recent publications include: *A Theory of the Perverse Verdict; Crimson Robes, Baggy Jeans and Baseball Caps: The Apostate Puritan; The Monarch, the Jurists and the Dean of Harvard; Constructive*

Intelligence and the Frontiers of Human Rights, to cite but a limited sampling. His work, *A Criminal Moment in Time: Intent and the Tripartite Continuum: A Theoretical Charting* is slated to appear as the inaugural volume in the *University of Atlanta Monograph Series* (Series IV: Legal Studies and Jurisprudence). Among many other academic credentials, Bethel holds the BTEC Diploma of Engineering (College of Northwest London, UK); LL.B. (Honors) = J.D. (University of Hertfordshire, UK); Ph.D. in Law and Psychology (University of Hertfordshire, UK), each earned with high honors.

The University of Atlanta Appoints Dr. James L. Williams as Academic Administrator and Curriculum Specialist.

- I am pleased to announce that, effective June 1, 2010, Dr. James L. Williams assumed the position of Academic Administrator and Curriculum Specialist in the Division of Academic Affairs at the University of Atlanta. James brings a record of successful academic experience to this position: as member of the graduate faculty, research evaluation team and dissertation committee member at Walden, Troy and Capella Universities; as former Administrator at the University of the District of Columbia, as Assistant Director of Academic Affairs at Georgetown University and as Academic Counselor and Director of Orientation at American University, to highlight his most recent appointments. Among James' recently published articles, one might well cite, "Multicultural Education: A Look to the Future or a Clutch on the Past"; "Collaborative Teaching: the Magic of Two or the Crippling of Students?"; "Are High-Stakes Tests Effectively Measuring Student Learning in K-12 Schools?"; "Assessing Student Achievement in the Right Way: A Study of Practicing Teachers"; and "Assessment of Student Learning Practices: The Perceptions of Faculty Members and Administrators at a Public University in the University System of Georgia." His publications on James earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Communications at Georgia Southern University; his Master of Science degree in Counseling Psychology at Fort Valley State University; and the Doctorate of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership from Argosy University. Beyond his formal degrees, he has several professional certifications, among them: Certified Chief Examiner for the American Council on Education.

The University of Atlanta Announces Appointment of Nechelle N. Robinson to the position of Vice President for Student Affairs

- The Executive Board of the University of Atlanta is pleased to announce the appointment of Nechelle N. Robinson to the position of Vice President for Student Affairs, effective immediately. In this capacity, Ms. Robinson will continue to enhance, refine and resolve student-centered issues, which will, above all else, provide students with a superior experience. Ms. Robinson formerly held notable, broad-spanning administrative positions at, among others the University of Alabama and the University of Atlanta until she assumed the role of Academic Dean for National High School, a function that she will continue to fulfill, along with her recently augmented responsibilities. Ms. Robinson's record of innovative accomplishments is extensive, significant and impressive.

Nechelle holds the degrees of Bachelor of Science and Master of Science from Jackson State University. She is currently engaged in the last phase her doctoral studies (the dissertation) in the University of Alabama's Executive Doctorate in Higher Education Administration Program. Upon completion, she will hold the degree of Doctor of Education (Ed.D.). Certified by the Georgia Assessments for the Certification of

Educators (GACE), one might cite, among Ms. Robinson's many organizational affiliations, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, the American Evaluators Association, the Association for the Study of Higher Education, the Advertising Federation of Alabama, the Public Relations Society of Mississippi, the Public Relations Society of Georgia, the Association of Fundraising Professionals and the National Association of Black Journalists.

The University of Atlanta Announces Forthcoming Programs (Specific Launch Date for Each to be Announced)

- In a recent update report, the Executive Board of the University of Atlanta underscored that the following programs are all in mid to late development stages and will be submitted for final accreditation approval at various points between May and August 2010 (as currently projected): Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership; Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) in Health Science and Healthcare Administration; Bachelor of Science in Hospitality and Tourism Management; and the Graduate Certificate Program in Finance. Note that additional programs are currently under consideration and will be announced at the appropriate moment. Each program is developed by a team of well-acclaimed field specialists and is reviewed by another team before submission to multiple agencies for formal external approval.

The University of Atlanta Has Named the University's Third Provostial Fellow

- Upon the recommendation of the Provost and with the unanimous support of the University Executive Board and with concurrence of the Board, the University of Atlanta has named its Provostial Fellow (the first at the doctoral level): Danish M. Khan, candidate for the degree Doctor of Business Administration in Managerial Science. Established in late 2007 and implemented as of January 1, 2008, the Provostial Fellow program seeks to recognize exceptional graduate students who, early in their studies, manifest unequivocal distinction of performance and significant promise for future success. We will feature a full-length academic-professional article in an upcoming issue of *Au Courant* and in other university publications.

The University of Atlanta Works With Curriculum Specialists to Develop Doctoral Programs in Educational Leadership and in Health Science and Healthcare Administration

- The University of Atlanta is in the process of finalizing two additional doctoral programs: one in Educational Leadership (Ed.D.) and the other in Health Science and Healthcare Administration (D.Sc.). In collaboration with the Provost, renowned field specialists have been recruited to oversee and lead others in the production of innovative, solidly-grounded programs. Dr. Michael Jazzar is head of the development of the Ed.D. program and Dr. Gary Klein is stewarding the curriculum development team toward completion of the D.Sc. program. The University is privileged to have two such accomplished figures overseeing programmatic development at this level.

The University of Atlanta Offers a Program Designed for Senior Management and Executive Leaders in Business

- The Executive MBA (EMBA) Program has been designed to meet the educational and professional needs of managers, executives, entrepreneurs, and other business leaders. The Executive MBA (EMBA) curriculum addresses in particular senior, highly self-motivated, analytically-oriented leaders with global or international interests. It is designed for individuals with significant potential, ambition, and those committed to expand their understanding of the broader matrix of business and administration across geographical and cultural boundaries. As such, the program is largely self-directed. Classes are constructed in an “executive” format to allow maximum flexibility for active professionals and entrepreneurs. Via the refined curriculum, program participants will acquire a sophisticated degree of concept and theory mastery and the research skills required to confront an ever-widening range of contemporary management topics, including a well-developed understanding of entrepreneurial thinking and planning in a globally competitive world. The EMBA curriculum represents a strategic balance of multiple elements: technical rigor, management theory, practical, innovative applications, and knowledge integration, all designed for contextual, real-life (corporate or other) applications. EMBA graduates are apt to have a competitive edge over more traditionally trained peers with any organizational environment. NOTE: All EMBA candidates must complete a significant and closely directed Research Master’s Thesis in partial fulfillment of degree requirements. Students work in close collaboration with a field specialist (Thesis Director) so as to develop an appropriate focus for research inquiry. The final product must reflect the mastery of problem-solving techniques, evidenced through substantive critical thinking, mastery of research methods, sustained and insightful argumentation and, ultimately, production of an analytical (usable) contribution of significance within an area of approved concentration. Upon final submission, the EMBA thesis must be approved by the Faculty Director, two external specialist readers, the Chair of the EMBA program, the Dean of the Graduate School and the University Provost.

The University of Atlanta Offers a Program Designed for Leaders in Education

- The Master of Arts in Educational Leadership Program is designed to produce leaders who have a deep and broad understanding of academic and organizational management, who seek to be change agents capable of initiating and sustaining positive innovations,

and who are reflective learners, whose research skills, critical thinking, original insights and acquired knowledge base will provide the opportunity for advances in a democratic environment.

A skilled professional in educational leadership often works within a school setting, either as a principal in an elementary or secondary school or in a college setting as a department head. Others may work with local school boards, manage private daycares, administrate government programs, or work as curriculum coordinators for schools or community programs. Individuals with a degree in educational leadership may even go on to work in business administration, public policy or direct programs in medical or correctional facilities.

The University of Atlanta's curriculum in Educational Leadership has been scrupulously designed to provide comprehensive and balanced study of key areas, among them: contemporary issues in education, theory and practice of educational management, principles and methods of teaching and learning, financial dimensions of the educational process and system, public policy and politics in the educational context, personnel administration within school systems, new technologies in education, the legal aspects of school management, and applied educational research methods. Program participants will gain a refined understanding of action-research, and will be called upon to apply the products of their learning within a variety of contexts and settings, the results of which will be shared with student peers and others and will constitute the basis of extended analytical contributions. NOTE: All MS in Ed Leadership degree candidates must complete a significant and closely directed Research Master's Thesis in partial fulfillment of degree requirements. Students work in close collaboration with a field specialist (Thesis Director) so as to develop an appropriate focus for research inquiry and/or action research. The final product must reflect the mastery of problem-solving techniques, evidenced through substantive critical thinking, mastery of research methods, sustained and insightful argumentation and, ultimately, production of an analytical (usable) contribution of significance within an area of approved concentration. Upon final submission, the MS in Ed Leadership thesis must be approved by the Faculty Director, two external specialist readers, the Chair of the MS in Ed Leadership program, the Dean of the Graduate School and the University Provost.

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