Staying Connected
The Department of Supply Chain and Information Systems at the Penn State Smeal College of Business values the support of our alumni and friends. To keep you better connected and informed, we wish to share the latest news, events, and information from the department.

Ranked No. 1 in supply chain education. Gartner, Inc.
The SC&IS Department prepares students to manage and lead today’s complex supply chains. Through involvement in research, extensive interaction with practicing executives, and continuous development of new teaching materials and processes, we strive to provide our students with leading-edge learning opportunities.

To learn more on how you can become involved in supply chain research, teaching, and recruiting initiatives, please contact the SC&IS Department.
On the Horizon

Disruptive learning technologies, big data, and analytics spotlight major challenges for business schools. New learning technologies, social media, and online mass collaboration (crowdsourcing) are disrupting the way we design and deliver online, resident, and executive management courses. For example, many of our online students participate via smartphone, necessitating a reengineering of our instructional strategy. Enterprise social media platforms, including YouTube, Yammer, and the Chatter tool from Salesforce.com, are becoming common fixtures at our students’ companies. As far as crowds go, how would you like to be one of 150,000 students in a single computer science course? That Stanford course on artificial intelligence in 2011 has become one template for MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses), which are hot topics of conversation at every major university.

The SC&IS program was among the first to offer graduate courses online for certificate and master’s programs. We now have 150 students in our public program and 300 students through our corporate partnerships. We will also introduce a new undergraduate Supply Chain and Information Systems minor online through World Campus, which will also earn credit towards an SAP certificate. The SC&IS program will also play a significant role in a proposed new inter-college and inter-campus online master’s degree in Data Science and Analytics.

Finally, we have listened carefully to our corporate sponsors and recruiters about the importance of problem solving/analytical skills in the era of Big Data. This feedback has prompted some major changes to our IS curriculum, which will change the central focus to big data, analytics, and IT strategy. These changes encompass our MIS major, minor, and support-of-major courses and are designed to develop important skills before students go on internships.

Dr. Tyworth
John J. Coyle Endowed Professor of Supply Chain Management
Department Chair, Supply Chain and Information Systems
Penn State Smeal College of Business
Recent News

Guide Named Smeal Chair in Supply Chain and Information Systems

Dan Guide, a faculty member in the SC&IS Department at Smeal, has been named the Smeal Chair in Supply Chain and Information Systems. Guide joined the Smeal faculty in 2002. His research expertise includes product design and the extended supply chain, design and control of closed-loop supply chains, product returns, remanufacturing, and sustainable operations. He currently serves as co-editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Operations Management*, and he is also co-departmental editor for sustainable operations at the *Production and Operations Management* journal. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Georgia and bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Clemson University.

Early Career Professorship Established in Supply Chain Management

An anonymous donor has committed a gift of $334,000 to establish the Dr. John Coyle Early Career Professorship in Supply Chain in honor of John Coyle, professor emeritus of business administration and director of corporate sponsors for the Center for Supply Chain Research. With matching funds from the Penn State Faculty Endowment Challenge, the total endowment is worth $500,000.

Smeal Program Improves Supply Chain Education at State College High School

Bob Novack, Associate Professor of Supply Chain and Information Systems, helped create a program at the State College Area High School in State College that offers a series of supply chain courses to introduce high school students to the profession. The program began several years ago.

Executive Education Programs in Supply Chain Under Way for 2014

Penn State Executive Programs’ series of open enrollment programs for professionals in supply chain management began in March with Developing Strategic Supply Chain Leaders. The executive education unit will offer seven programs featuring faculty from Smeal, which is ranked No. 1 in supply chain education by professionals and academics. Programs in supply chain are offered twice each year in conjunction with the Smeal Center for Supply Chain Research and co-sponsored by the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals. To find out more about offerings from Penn State Executive Programs or to enroll, visit smeal.psu.edu/psep.

SC&IS Department Hosts Marine Corps Fellows

Lieutenant Colonel Shaun McDoniel and Major Matthew Scott were selected as the 2013-2014 Penn State Marine Corps Logistics Fellows. Fellows spend one year taking supply chain courses and completing a research paper.

2012-2013 Fellows:
- Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Raftery
- Major Stanley Bednar

2011-2012 Fellows:
- Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Stewart
- Major Keith Nunn

Case Competitions

Boeing Case Competition

The sixth annual Boeing Case Competition took place last spring with Jessica Isenberg, Connor Amice, Steve Pecora (SC&IS), Meong Kwak (ACTSC), and Max Mellott (ACCTG) taking first place. This competition provides Supply Chain and other business students with an opportunity to apply classroom instruction to real-world problems. Teams use their knowledge of LEAN concepts to determine an optimal solution to a Boeing problem. Six teams competed to win $2,000 in prize money provided by Boeing.

APICS Case Competition

The SC&IS undergraduate team took second place in the undergraduate category at the APICS Mid-Atlantic Division Case Competition last spring. The team, consisting of Melany Cruz Rodriguez, Evan Chen, Alyssa Martir, Patricia Rivera, Justin Scarpello, and Jesse Swank, was awarded a prize of $1,000. The case looked at a company that had recently begun to incorporate lean practices into its manufacturing processes but was looking to do more.

Global Operations Case Competition

An MBA team of students won the 2013 Global Operations Conference Case Competition at the Ross School of Business, University of Michigan, which came with a $5,000 prize. The team consisted of Class of 2014 students Iqbal Aasim, David Benton, Andrew Driscoll, and Ankit Mahajan, and Class of 2015 student Tatiana Kuzmenko, with David Huff as their unofficial advisor. Finalists were given a case, for which they had to prepare a live presentation of their proposed solution.
**United Health Care Innovation Team Challenge**

On November 4, 2013, Smeal MIS students participated in the first annual case competition hosted by United Health Care. This event had MIS students and Health Policy students developing an idea and expanding their idea to a practical, innovative solution. United Health Care provided mentors, judged the presentations and awarded $2,000 in prize money.

**Russian Standard Vodka Case Competition**

On November 18, 2013, Smeal students competed in the first annual case competition hosted by Russian Standard Vodka, USA (RSV-USA). Participants reviewed the current RSV-USA supply chain processes and model and presented solutions to better optimize resources and capture data in an efficient and cost effective manner. First place winners included supply chain majors Tom Campuzano, Lesley Li, Molly Ulrich, Sammie Bursick, and marketing major, Jake Krause. These five students are also members of Smeal’s Phi Chi Theta Business Fraternity.

**Faculty Research & Awards**

Jason Acimovic won the prestigious Dantzig award from INFORMS at the annual meeting on October 6, 2013. The George B. Dantzig Award is given for the best dissertation in any area of operations research and the management sciences that is innovative and relevant to practice. Dr. Acimovic also received the 2013 CSCMP Doctoral Dissertation Award. His dissertation is titled “Lowering Outbound Shipping Costs in an Online Retail Environment by Making Better Fulfillment and Replenishment Decisions.”

Christopher Craighead, Kaitlyn Dunn Wowak (who received her Ph.D. in Supply Chain Management from Penn State), and colleagues were selected as the winners of the Decision Sciences Institute (DSI) Best Empirical/Theoretical Paper for their paper “Why do some Product Recalls Succeed and Others Fail?: A Grounded Theory Investigation of the Recall Process.” They received their award at the 2013 Annual DSI Conference in Baltimore in November.

Susan Purdum, Instructor in Supply Chain Management, was recently elected to the Board of Directors for Penn State’s Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Society. Sue received a BSIE from the Penn State College of Engineering in 1980. Professor Purdum also led a breakout session at the Annual CSCMP Global Conference in October 2013. The session topic was “Women at Work” and posed the question, “Do women possess the leadership traits needed for this new way of work?”

**New Faculty**

2013:

Aydin Alptekinoglu, Associate Professor of Supply Chain Management

Abdou Karim Jallow, Instructor in Management Information Systems

2012:

Heather Lutz, Clinical Associate Professor of Supply Chain Management

2011:

John Jordan promoted to Clinical Professor

Feliza Preciado promoted to Clinical Associate Professor

Douglas Thomas promoted to Professor

2010:

Christopher Craighead promoted to Associate Professor

**Faculty Promotions**

2013:

John Jordan promoted to Clinical Professor

Feliza Preciado promoted to Clinical Associate Professor

Douglas Thomas promoted to Professor

2012:

Christopher Craighead promoted to Associate Professor

**Faculty Endowments**

2012:

Christopher Craighead, Rothkopf Early Career Professor of Supply Chain Management

Gene Tyworth, John J. Coyle Endowed Professor of Supply Chain Management

Susan Xu, Robert G. Schwartz Fellow in Supply Chain Management

**Scholarships and Awards**

**R. Gene Richter Scholarship Winners**

Markea Dickinson, Samantha Jarmul, and Chelsea Miller (SC&IS), were chosen by the R. Gene and Nancy D. Richter Foundation as three of ten students around the country to receive the 2013 R. Gene Richter Scholarship Award. The $5,000 scholarship is presented annually to senior supply chain students based on high-achieving academic records, strong leadership skills, high ethical standards, and a commitment to a career in supply chain management. Over the last nine years, our SC&IS Department has produced ten other Richter Scholars. For more information on this award, visit sleam.psu.edu/scis/awards.
MISA Award
The Management Information Systems Association (MISA) was the co-winner of The Most Improved Organization Award in Spring 2013. MISA developed an ambassadors program with the mission of educating younger students on the MIS major, made many new corporate contacts, and developed a system to track its membership.

Faculty Take Part in Inaugural Certified Analytics Professional CAP Program
INFORMS announced that the first Certified Analytics Professional CAP exam was held in San Antonio on April 7, 2013. A total of 38 professionals were in the inaugural awardee group, including Terry Harrison and Russell Barton (Smeal Professors of Supply Chain and Information Systems).

Real-World Projects Give Smeal Students Experience in Solving Business Problems
Bob Novack's SCM 301H Supply Chain Management honors course prepares students for successful careers by offering them the chance to work with industry representatives from major corporations to solve real, timely business problems over the course of the semester. This year Novack partnered with Unilever and The Hershey Company.

R. Hadly Waters Symposium
The 24th Annual R. Hadly Waters Supply Chain Symposium's theme, Innovative Logistics – The Supply Chain Strategy Enabler, will be held on April 24, 2014, at The Penn Stater Conference Center, University Park, PA. Join industry experts for a practical discussion of their successes and perhaps some of their missteps in achieving supply chain strategy success through innovative logistics processes. Learn more at: smeal.psu.edu/cscr/edop/hadly.

Spisak Lecture
The Fall 2013 Spisak Lecture took place on October 10, 2013. Michael Jacobs, a 2010 graduate of Penn State's Master of Professional Studies in Supply Chain Management and Chief Logistics Officer, Green Mountain Coffee Roasters (GMCR)—Keurig, was this semester's distinguished speaker for the series. Jacobs' presentation “The Supply Chain Journey for One of America's Fastest Growing Companies” focused on the challenges of an ever-growing supply chain and the GMCR customer-centered strategies, including new platforms and product offerings, core brand business growth, new strategic partnerships, and global expansion.

Chuck Nicholson Selected for 2013 Homecoming Court
Chuck Nicholson, Clinical Associate Professor of Supply Chain Management, was chosen as one of the eight faculty members on the Penn State Homecoming Court. The Nittany Lions defeated the Michigan Wolverines in the fourth overtime with a score of 43-40.

Student Recruiting
Supply Chain Career Fair
Each semester the SC&IS Department partners with the Center for Supply Chain Research to host the Supply Chain Career Fair. The purpose of this fair is to connect companies with our Supply Chain, Management Information Systems, Industrial Engineering, and Information Sciences & Technology students. For the Fall 2013 career fair, we extended the event to three days. This fair brought in 112 different companies and more than 800 students. The Spring 2014 Supply Chain Career Fair took place on January 29 and 30 and saw 84 different companies and approximately 460 students participated.

The Fall 2014 Career Fair is scheduled for September 9-11 in the Business Building Atrium from 11am - 4pm, each day. For more information on participation, visit smeal.psu.edu/cscr/recruiting.

At graduation, 80% of supply chain students had full-time positions or post-graduation plans (graduate school, military services, etc.). Of those students, 94% had participated in an internship or co-op experience.

Smeal News
The Schneider Ride of Pride truck, outfitted in honor of our military and driven by a Marine Corps veteran, made a special visit to campus this spring.