

Newsletter **OPIM**



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-Belma Pehratovic //



OPIM Innovate

Workshop Schedule

10/20- SAS Workshop
10/27- Predictive Modeling
11/3- Unity VR Programming

Register for workshops at:
opiminnovate.uconn.edu



Department Events:

OPIM Alumni & Student Networking Dinner

Wed Oct 25, 6:30-9:30 PM
Graduate Business Learning Center
Hartford, CT

Transportation provided:
Contact
jonathan.a.moore@uconn.edu
to reserve a spot

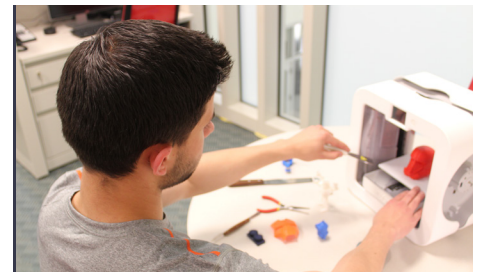


Information Management Association

Upcoming Meetings

Tues Oct 10 - The Hartford
Tues Oct 17 - Cigna
Tues Oct 24 - EY

BUSN 116, 7:30 PM
s.uconn.edu/ima



OPIM Welcomes Back Students

On Friday September 8th the Operations and Information Management Department (OPIM) held an ice cream social reception to welcome back their students. Management Information System (MIS) and Business Data Analysis (BDA) majors, new and returning alike, gathered in the OPIM department to learn about the resources available to them.

Students were welcomed by Jon Moore, MIS Program Director, who highlighted the opportunities and resources available. During this event was also the official opening of OPIM Innovate, which is an initiative to get emerging technology into

the hands of students. Attendees were shown the new innovation space as well as the upgrades to the OPIM research lab. Students moved to different stations where they received their major t-shirt, made ice cream sundaes, and were also encouraged to explore the demonstrations going on in the lab. Faculty and student workers were showing off different technologies found in the lab, including Virtual Reality, 3D printing, and Internet of Things.

The OPIM department is frequently bringing new forms of technology to the lab and teaching their students about them during their workshops.

Lauren Vanfossan, senior MIS major, spoke about her interest in artificial intelligence as it evolves in society, "it will be interesting to see what the lab shows us about the benefits of artificial intelligence versus the negative aspects heavily expressed by the media".

Over 80 students attended the event throughout the three-hour period. Many of these students were new to the program and came to learn more about what OPIM can offer them. Overall the reception was a success and many students who visiting the space were excited to take advantage of the departments opportunities in the future.

1st Place: Alexander Zevin,
Alexander Gmuer, Ali Taouil,
Rashad Lum You

2nd Place: Victoria Trautman,
Belma Pehratoovic, Chris
Connelly, Joel Thomas

3rd Place: Hannah Bonitz,
Radhika Kanaskar, Maggie
Howie, Olivia Villecco



Case Competition

On Friday September 29th the Operations and Information Management Department (OPIM) held their annual Management Information Systems (MIS) Case Competition. A total of 10 teams, each consisting of 4 students, presented their business case solutions to a panel of 3 faculty judges. Each team was given 20 minutes to present their solution and another 10 minutes to answer any of the judges questions.

The teams spent an entire week researching different types of software and educating themselves on to their highest capability. Belma Pehratoovic shared how she initially felt extremely nervous about presenting, however she reflected on a moment of reassurance during her presentation, "I was talking about a software I did not know prior to this week, and I saw someone, who is incredibly educated on the topic, nodding and confirming that my points were correct. It's such a great experience that not only expanded

my knowledge but also gave me new sense of confidence". Pehratoovic's fellow teammate, Victoria Trautman, thought the competition was eyeopening in the fact that it reassured her, a young female professional, that she had the ability to study, research, and eloquently talk about IT related topics such as this.

At the Awards Luncheon on Friday, October 6th the top three teams were announced. . Team "NextGen Consulting": Alexander Zevin, Alexander Gmuer, Ali Taouil, and Rashad Lum You took first place and were each awarded \$500. "Dream Team": Victoria Trautman, Belma Pehratoovic, Chris Connelly, and Joel Thomas took second place and were each awarded \$250. "Girl Bosses": Hannah Bonitz, Radhika Kanaskar, Maggie Howie, and Olivia Villecco took third place and were each awarded \$125. All teams received certificates and gift bags as a thank you for participating.





OPIM Innovate

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Highlighted OPIM Elective Courses:

This spring semester OPIM will be offering several unique electives at the Storrs campus. Below are three courses we want to highlight and two of them have not been offered for a number of years.

OPIM 4895 – Gamification in Business

This course covers the growing field of Gamification, which is the application of game elements, techniques and mechanics in a business environment. It focuses on the topics of interface design, building reward systems, and the process of design thinking.

OPIM 4895 – Visual Analytics

This course covers the highly sought after area of data visualization. It begins with visualization best practices using Excel and then spends the rest of the semester becoming proficient in the Tableau platform.

OPIM 3223 – Advanced Business Application Development

This course is unique in the sense that we are having it focus on virtual reality programming using the Unity platform. The beginning of the course will cover C# and Python which are the languages used to work in Unity.



Student Spotlight: TJ Hannon

Junior Management Information Systems (MIS) major, TJ Hannon, describes Information Technology as “the perfect cross between a computer and a business degree”. During his remaining time at UConn TJ plans to continue taking advantage of the opportunities that the OPIM Innovate lab and encourages students to make use of the resources found in the OPIM Innovate space to further their understanding of emerging technology.

TJ is also an active member of the Information Management Association (IMA) and a lab specialist at the OPIM Innovate lab where he has recently been investigating several virtual reality technologies in order to apply them to OPIM Innovate’s mission of bringing emerging technologies to students and faculty.

5th Annual UConn BBQ with Cigna



Monday October 16th Cigna will be hosting their 5th annual BBQ Recruiting event. The event is scheduled to take place from 2-6pm on Fairfield Way! Check out their TECDP program, a rotational program where interns and full-time employees are able to try different roles within IT, network with peers and executive leaders, and have flexible time to dedicate to different TECDP committees.