AGSM Launches Accounting & Auditing Master’s Degree

The UC Riverside School of Business Administration, home of the A. Gary Anderson Graduate School of Management, is launching a new master’s degree in accounting and auditing in the fall. The Master of Professional Accountancy (MPAc) program, designed to be completed in three quarters, is now recruiting students for the inaugural class.

The program is in response to a new California law requiring a fifth year of accounting, auditing, ethics and business-related courses in order to become a certified public accountant (CPA).

Accounting professor Michael Moore, who will lead the MPAc program with Ted Mock (recipient of the 2011 American Accounting Association Outstanding Educator Award), said of the new UCR program, “This will make graduates much better able to handle accounting and auditing work from day one and that’s critical.”

Applicants are encouraged to apply early, as space and financial aid are limited.

To learn more or apply, visit mpac.ur.edu.

- Read the UCR Today press release
- Read the Press-Enterprise article, “UCR launches new master’s program”

AGSM Ranked in U.S. News Top 100 Best Graduate Schools

The 2013 edition of U.S. News & World Report’s “Best Graduate Schools” has named the A. Gary Anderson Graduate School of Management (AGSM) among the top 100 graduate business schools in the United States. The UCR graduate business school was ranked 97th out of a total 441 schools, ahead of schools like UC San Diego and all the California State Universities. This marks the first time AGSM has ever been ranked. Read more...

Mr. Cheng Lu

On May 9, SoBA hosted a visit by Cheng Lu, president of the Chinese CEO Organization and chairman and CFO of East-West Logistics, Inc. He was accompanied by Chinese CEO Organization’s vice president, Lisa Zhou, and CFO Tony Sun. The three toured the campus and met with Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost Dallas L. Rabenstein and Vice Chancellor for University Advancement Peter Hayashida. Read more...

Mr. Chris Lam

Chris Lam, president and CEO of Pucci Foods, visited SoBA on May 22. Interim Dean Yunzeng Wang said, “We are proud to call Mr. Lam an alumnus of the UCR business school. We are truly honored by his continuing involvement in his alma mater, and we look forward to more opportunities in the future to further engage with him.” Read more...
SoBA Inducts Beta Gamma Sigma Initiates
On May 24, the School of Business Administration inducted 41 students into the Beta Gamma Sigma international honors society. This is the fourth annual ceremony held at the business school. Read more...

SoBA Honors Best and Brightest Students
The School of Business Administration awarded scholarships to undergraduate and graduate business students at the 19th Annual SoBA Scholarships and Awards Ceremony. Nearly $50,000 in scholarship money were awarded. Read more...

UCR Team Brings Home Second Place Trophies from ICBSC
SoBA congratulates the UCR team of six MBA students that competed at the International Collegiate Business Strategy Competition (ICBSC) April 19-21. Advised by adjunct management professor Roger Conway, the students--Sebastian Dombrowski, Kiwi Huang, Tony Huang, Gurmeet Kharbanda, Misa Lin and Chihiro Yamaguchi--brought home two second place trophies for "Best Overall Performance" and "Best Documents." Read more...

Donna Hoffman Weighs in on Trayvon Martin “Brand” (USA Today)
The Trayvon Martin case that has made the headlines has resulted in “Trayvon” turning into a brand in itself via various apparel like t-shirts. In an Associated Press article that has been picked up by numerous outlets, Donna Hoffman (Albert O. Steffey Professor of Marketing and Co-Director of the UCR Sloan Center for Internet Retailing) weighed in on the phenomenon. Read more...

Jorge Silva-Risso’s Research Shows How to Save on a New Car Purchase (Forbes)
Want to save nearly $800 when you purchase a new car? Associate Professor of Marketing Jorge Silva-Risso’s recent research on price negotiation may help consumers on their quest for a fair bargain when shopping for a new vehicle. Silva-Risso has in the past done contract work for General Motors, Ford, and Toyota, among others. Read more...

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- PERFORMANCE, REGULATION AND THE FINANCIAL CRISIS
- CHINA HOUSING BUBBLE AND BANK EXPOSURE


THE CITY'S MAIN INDUSTRIES ARE FINANCIAL SERVICES, RETAIL AND REAL ESTATE, BUT MANUFACTURING IS ALSO IMPORTANT WITH U.S. COMPANIES SUCH AS GM MANUFACTURING IN SHANGHAI. WITH ITS BREATH-TAKING CITY SCAPE, SHANGHAI IS THE MODERN FACE OF CHINA.

“THE CHINESE ECONOMY AND THE CHALLENGES FOR U.S. BUSINESS”

COURSE PROFESSOR AND GUIDE:
DR. SEAN JASSO, SOBA
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Justin Rastegar B.S. 2010

Alumni Spotlight: Justin Rastegar graduated from the undergraduate business program at UCR in 2010. He is currently the owner of the San Bernardino-based motorcycle shop, Motopia.

What have you been up to since you graduated?

I don’t think it would be appropriate to talk about what I did after I graduated if I didn’t explain a little bit about what happened during my undergraduate education at UCR. While I was in school I worked for Red Bull North America as a student brand manager for all four years. Before I even graduated from UCR I was already working part time for K&N as a product specialist. Once school was finished, I moved from part-time to full-time.

At K&N I served as a brand ambassador to end consumers, or the customers that actually use the product. I spent a lot of time on the road working trade shows and visiting accounts, speaking to people about the technical benefits of K&N’s products. When I was in the office I worked on different sales programs along with a variety of other tasks they had me doing such as the K&N apparel line. After a year of service at K&N things were not moving quickly enough for me and I started exploring other options. I could have easily networked my way into another company in a similar position, but what really interested me was how much money retailers were able to make. When visiting retail accounts I was intrigued by the numerical figures that some of these small businesses were able to generate.

During the past two years since I graduated I have had a lot of great opportunities to explore the world of motorcycles. I participated in America’s second oldest motorcycle race called Pikes Peak Hill Climb. I drove out to Colorado Springs and raced up a 14,000-foot mountain. I raced a series of indoor motorcycle racing called EnduroCross that takes place in Las Vegas. My life isn’t all work. I try to still have fun and remember why I chose the industry I did.

Have you always sought to translate this passion for motorcycles via a business perspective?

I have been riding motorcycles for 15 years now, and working on them for about the same amount of time. If I broke it, I would fix it myself. It is more than just a pastime and hobby for me, and even though it might seem kind of weird, it has really shaped who I am and how I live my life. I will give you an example: Growing up I wanted to race motorcycles professionally, and because of this I never smoke and always try to stay in the best shape possible with diet and exercise. Although I no longer compete regularly, I have continued with my strict training regimen and healthy lifestyle. It has taught me a lot about budgeting, maintaining my equipment, and how to cope with a slew of injuries.

Owning my own shop has been something that I have wanted to do for a while now. I have always been business-minded as well, so the two together seemed to work out perfectly.

What prompted you to start your own company?

I had been working on friends’ bikes out of my garage for a few years. In 2007 I started to get more involved in buying and selling bikes. A few years later I had enough experience to the point where I could make my entire month’s pay at K&N with one bike turnaround sale. I was dead set on leaving K&N and starting my own by the end of 2011, early 2012. I had already decided on starting a shop like Motopia before I came up with the name. As silly as this may sound, the name came to me when I was half asleep trying to go to bed on a hot Riverside night.

To initially get Motopia rolling I planned to partner with a friend of mine who also shares the same passion of motorcycles. We wrote the business plan to be more of a motorcycle hang out, and an apparel shop. If Motopia looked like what we had written it to be on paper, the shop would be completely different than it is now. It’s amazing how much your business plan adapts to how things start working out. I decided to rent a unit in San Bernardino, and make that the home base for Motopia. I contacted some friends in the industry to get their products in my shop, and even got my seller’s permit to receive parts from one of the world’s largest part distributors, Parts Unlimited.

Describe your role as owner. What has the experience been like?

Being a business owner is definitely not for everyone. There is a lot of risk and a lot of pressure, but...
We'd Love to Hear From You!
Is there something you’d like to share with your fellow alumni? Let us know for inclusion in our next newsletter!

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