Our Center for Supply Chain Management is currently enjoying a short fall break after an unusually busy eight weeks of classes, recruitment events and external activities. Each semester seems to get busier than the preceding, and this fall has certainly set a new pace. I am happy to share some reflection on the past few months.

The supply chain management program has seen strong interest internally among students and within industry. The center continues to pursue avenues to integrate applied learning experiences and supply chain technology into the curriculum to develop a pipeline of talent within our program at Marquette University. Based on comments from companies interviewing our students, we seem to be hitting the mark.

We have attracted more students to the program than ever before, growing our senior class by more than 70 percent between 2011-12 and 2012-13. We now have more than 160 declared majors, and approximately 65 seniors are on track to graduate this academic year. Our students are engaging with the major at an earlier level and last year the program saw a spike in the number of freshmen, contributing to more than 50 current sophomores.

Our job placement numbers continue to be among the highest in the college. We placed 85 percent of our recent class of seniors within three months of graduation, and the three-year average placement rate is nearly 90 percent — even with the dramatic growth in numbers of graduates. Through bridging connections with local and national firms, we have expanded our reach into new internships and full-time opportunities for our students.

This fall, Dr. Marko Bastl from Cranfield University, joined the operations and supply chain management program as an assistant professor. He is currently focused on teaching our Introduction to Supply Chain Management courses, and early reviews from students are very positive. Prior to joining academia, Marko worked within the procurement, manufacturing and information technology fields. He is rigorous in his approach to teaching, interested in applied learning opportunities, and very business-oriented.

Through a collaboration with the College of Engineering, the center has introduced a pilot Manufacturing Management course this semester, Manufacturing Processes, which explores key manufacturing processes and explains basic material properties. The course is designed to give students applied manufacturing knowledge to use in their full-time roles. Students attend lectures and applied learning opportunities on the “shop floors” of local manufacturers including Harley-Davidson, Joy Global, Kohler and STRATTEC. We are working on the launch of the second course this spring, Manufacturing Automation & Technology, to be taught by Professor Jim Rice of the College of Engineering. If successful, we anticipate four to six courses in this program. Our sincere thanks to the Advisers who pushed hard to make this happen, and have supported us consistently over the past five years.

A few activities from the semester will be shared in detail below, but I would be remiss not to mention the following:

- Dr. Marko Bastl recently received the award for Best Paper at the Logistics Research Network Annual Conference 2013 for “Sustainability assessment of food chain logistics” Vorst, J.G.A.J., van der Bloemhof, J., Bastl, M., Allouhi, H.
- The center recently participated as a panelist during the 2013 McGladrey Executive Summit, which focused on exploring the challenges and opportunities facing Wisconsin-based companies. The summit featured Governor Scott Walker; Kurt Bauer, president of Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce; Austin Ramirez, CEO of HUSCO International; and Tim Sheehy, president of the MMAC.
- Former OSCM professor Dr. Mark Cotteleer, currently a director - performance portfolio leader at Deloitte Consulting, recently co-authored a paper exploring the link between production location decisions, product creation and technology development.
- The Center for Supply Chain Management has joined Twitter — follow us @MUSupplyChain

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the center; we would be happy to meet and discuss ways to connect you with our students and faculty members. Thank you for your involvement and support of the center!

Dr. Doug Fisher – Director, Center for Supply Chain Management

Summer internship recap:
Our returning students participated in more than 45 unique internships during the past summer. As our student numbers grow we have seen internship participation remain strong, with students participating more than three internships prior to graduation. To share your internship or full-time job opportunities with the center, please contact Beth Krey. Students reflect on their summer experiences:

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Note from new professor Dr. Marko Bastl:

I am very excited to join Marquette University. Since my arrival in August, I have met some fantastic people, including faculty, staff and particularly OSCM students. I feel this place bursts with opportunities, and a large part of my excitement lies around the future of the center at Marquette. I firmly believe that with support from the university and our external business partners, we can put our center on the map in terms of excellence in operations and supply chain management education for students and businesses in North America. I look forward to helping with this journey.

Applied Procurement: Fall 2013 course details

Our fall semester course is in full swing with twelve students and eleven participating companies. Students are working on a variety of purchasing tasks and will share the added value their sourcing projects brought to their companies during final presentations in December.

With an overall goal of saving money for their respective companies during their semester-long projects, many ideas are continued after the semester ends. A project from the Fall 2012 semester recently concluded and saved the company upwards of $1.7 million! The course will continue during the Spring 2014 semester, led again by Lee Marks, vice president of global operations and supply chain for Brady Corporation, and we are looking for additional companies to participate and host a student intern. If interested in learning more about this opportunity please reach out to Beth Krey.

Thank you to Direct Supply, Harley-Davidson, Johnson Controls, Kohler Company, Lucas Milhaupt, MillerCoors, Milwaukee Tool, Marquette University, Northwestern Mutual Life, Rockwell Automation, and Waukesha Metal Products for their participation this semester.

BizNet 2013: Event Recap

The center would like to thank the students and company participants who attended the eighth annual BizNet event on Tuesday, October 8. BizNet provides an opportunity for students majoring in the Operations and Supply Chain Management and Information Technology fields to meet and network with members of the professional community. Representatives from more than 45 companies and 150 students were able to interact and make new, mutually beneficial connections.

Hosting a professional development event like BizNet is integral to maintaining the applied learning focus of our program. We thank all the 2013 attendees for their support of our students and hope for another successful event in October 2014.

Event sponsors:

Supply chain students earn multiple scholarships

Marquette Business recently announced the 2013 recipients of the Uline Scholarship. Supply chain management senior Christopher Steffen was one of the four Marquette Business recipients, and has been awarded a $5,000 scholarship.

Local supply chain organizations the Logistics Council of Milwaukee and ISM-Milwaukee award academic scholarships each year to undergraduate students attending Wisconsin universities who plan to study and enter the supply chain management field. This fall, five supply chain majors received these awards

- The Logistics Council: Katherine Engeling, Erin Lauterbach and Christopher Steffen
- ISM-Milwaukee: Erin Lauterbach, John Mau and Danielle Moscatel

Center Events: Fall 2013

Thank you to the following companies, individuals and organizations for allowing the center to participate in or host the events listed below so far this semester:

- September 3: Classroom Speaker: Bob Eck, Arts ’80, president, Anixter International Inc.
- September 11: Operations & Supply Chain Management Majors Meeting
- September 17: Classroom Speaker: Mark Cane, former president of Material Handling at Menasha, former president of Intercity at Amtrak, and vice president of Intermodal at Burlington Northern Inc.
- September 24: OSCM Club Tour: Stone Creek Coffee
- October 7: WIM/CRI 40th Anniversary Event: Supply Chain Sustainability Panel
- October 7: Classroom Speaker: Oliver Kaestner, director of global supply chain; and Dan Quasney, Bus Ad ’11, inventory analyst, Kohler Company
- October 8: Classroom Speaker: John Wolf, Bus Ad ’90, vice president customer service, Snap-on Tools
- October 8: 8th Annual BizNet Networking Event
- October 9: 2013 McGladrey Executive Summit
- October 11: Marquette CIRCLES: CEO Roundtable at The Manitowoc Company, Inc.

Student Profile: Christopher Steffen Bus Ad ’14

Major: Operations and supply chain management

Past Internships:
- Boeing Company: Hazardous Materials Process Improvement
- Harley-Davidson - Parts and Accessories:
  - Developmental Purchasing Analyst Intern
  - Supply Chain Analyst Intern

What are you looking forward to most during your senior year?

Receiving an offer from a great company before graduation. Nothing would be a bigger relief. I believe my coursework and experiences should help turn that desire into reality.

Most important lesson learned at Marquette?

There is a delicate balance between who and what you know. Focusing too hard on either one can throw that balance.

Favorite course?

Applied Procurement: It was great being able to take what I learned in the classroom and apply it to real world situations the very next week. That is something you do not see in a lot of classes.

Favorite MU experience so far?

Simultaneously taking 18 credits, being an officer to a campus club, holding an internship at Harley-Davidson, and a separate part-time job. This taught me the ability to handle just about anything thrown and the value of a good night’s sleep. A close second was the men’s basketball elite eight appearance last season.

Dream job?

I would love to be in a position where I am able to use my creativity while helping people in the process. I think any career in which both of those elements are present would be ideal for me.

Advice to new supply chain students?

Don’t be afraid to make mistakes, be it in the classroom or at an internship. Believe it or not it’s expected of you as a student and often this is the best learning opportunity. You may not get the same chances when you’re a professional.

For more information about the Center for Supply Chain Management at Marquette University:

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