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Commencement 2009

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Welcome to the fourth issue of the TUI Network.

I’d like to thank Dr. Paul Watkins for the effort he put into the Network in the three previous issues as the Editor in Chief. He has made this magazine a valuable resource for the TUI family of students, alumni, faculty, and friends. I wish him well in his new role as the Vice President of Academic Affairs. As the new Editor in Chief of the Network, I plan to continue what Dr. Watkins has started and keep it a valuable resource enabling all TUI stakeholders to stay in touch and informed of the happenings at TUI.

Let me start by introducing myself to you. I have been with TUI as a full-time faculty member since September 2001. Prior to that time I was known as Lt. Col. Herbert, USAF. In my former life I was a B-52 crew-member flying the BUFF for 11 years and over 1500 hours. My last assignment prior to retiring from the Air Force was as the Chief, Nonresident Curriculum Branch at Air Command and Staff College, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL. My transition from military to civilian life was pretty easy because I went from doing something I had a passion for in the military to doing the same thing in civilian life. Many of you have already or will go through the military retirement experience in the not too distant future. The key to a smooth transition is to prepare for it. One of the best ways a military member can prepare for the transition to civilian life is through education. Take advantage of every opportunity the military provides to further your education. It is valued on the outside, i.e., civilian employment.

My goal for the Network is to have it be something you look forward to receiving in the mail to keep you informed with the goings on at your institution and up to date on what other TUI family members have been up to. If you would like to contribute to the magazine, I welcome your contributions. You can send them to: TUInetwork@tuiu.edu. If you have suggestions for articles or pictures of yourself working on assignments in far off out of the ordinary places send them to the same email address. This is a magazine for the TUI family of stakeholders, to communicate with one another and to share in our successes.

Dr. Gregory Herbert
Editor in Chief
Associate Dean CBA/CIS
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The newsletter is an “official” publication of TUI University
Update from the President and CEO Mr. Ken Sobaski

Hello everyone!

I’m going to write something for every issue of TUI Network and have it included as the President’s Corner. As President I think it’s important to reach out and communicate with our TUI community. But communicating is two-way, which means I also want to hear from you, so please don’t hesitate to write me back at k sobaski@tuiu.edu.

In this issue I’d like to report on what I heard in the listening sessions I had with the faculty and staff here at the main campus and from a number of remote faculty. Remember in the last issue I introduced myself and I mentioned one of the things I intended to do was to meet with everyone and ask them four questions: 1) what five things should be preserved at TUI, 2) what three things need to change at TUI, 3) what do you most hope I do, and 4) what are you most concerned I might do?

I met with over 175 faculty and staff in those listening sessions during my first month here at TUI and there were some common themes that I heard. In response to the first question, these are the top things to preserve: 1) student/customer service focus, 2) high quality robust learning model, 3) high percentage of terminally degreed faculty, 4) military focus, 5) friendly, positive work environment, 6) WASC accreditation and Department of Education program approval. We have demonstrated our commitment and capacity to providing world class, high quality education, so rest assured, our accreditation will be preserved. It is the first four items that distinguishes TUI from other institutions and has enabled TUI to be as successful as it is. These will be emphasized more in our marketing of the institution and its degree programs. To continue to be successful you have to build people/build the organization in order to build the business. That’s why we want to keep TUI a friendly place to work, a place where people will want to come to work every morning and feel good about what they are doing.

"We have demonstrated our commitment and capacity to providing world class, high quality education"...

There were also some common themes relating to the second question of what do we need to change:
1) Improve our overall marketing efforts; a. expand outside the military, b. increase marketing investment, c. enhance our website, 2) Address some key People/HR related items; a. establish formal HR department, b. develop employee recognition plan, c. improve career path opportunities, d. develop training for employees and managers, 3) Improve overall communication; a. communication across departments, b. create opportunities for students, faculty and staff to express opinions, c. increase top down communications. 4) Improve our overall processes; a. ensure focus on continuous improvement of our customer service quality, b. improve financial aid department integration within TUI, c. improve processes to build capacity for future growth. 5) Clearer definition of our policies as it relates to flexibility, 6) Enhance IT tools to better manage the growth of the institution.

We have started addressing some of these issues already. We’re developing a new website and hiring three more individuals in the marketing department. We have already hired a new Head of HR, Mr. Bob Regalado, whom you can read more about in this issue. We are developing a formal recognition program and posting new job opportunities so every TUI employee is aware of the opportunities. We have established an intranet bulletin board and a community bulletin board for posting notices and other communications here in TUI’s corporate offices. And finally, we’ve instituted process improvement work sessions in and across a number of our departments.
Interestingly, in these listening sessions I also found some paradoxes. TUI has very high quality but possibly the lowest cost to our students, we have a military focus we want to keep but also want to expand outside the military, we are big on team work and a positive work environment yet we need better communication across our departments and finally, we are exclusively online but we need better IT systems. Some things to sort out together as we map our future course for continued success. As part of the continuous improvement process and as TUI moves forward expect more improvements in our product/programs, systems, and processes so that we can maintain the high quality standards we and our student customers expect.

The listening sessions with faculty and staff were great. The information flow and honesty is greatly appreciated. But I don’t want it to stop. I will be doing sessions like this again in the future. I have also begun to meet directly with students, both here in Southern California at graduation and at a recent visit to Atlanta. I will be trying to set up these kinds of sessions. In the meantime, as I said at the beginning, feel free to reach out to me at ksobaski@tuiu.edu and let me know what thoughts, questions or ideas you have. I look forward to hearing from you.

Ken Sobaski
President and CEO

Student’s Corner

TUI PROVES TO BE CHALLENGING, PRACTICAL AND THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR WORKING PROFESSIONALS

TUI University is such a valuable resource for federal, local and military police officers. For some, TUI provides the only opportunity to pursue their educational goals. I am very grateful TUI took the time to attend the IACP Convention.

I have been attending TUI University for several years now. I am working on a B.S.B.A. With my career, family and other commitments, I am not sure I could advance my education any other way. TUI’s electronic interface makes it extremely easy to access the educational tools I need in the limited time I have. I normally access the course materials at the beginning of the session or module and print the reading and study list. The mandatory and suggested material always leads me into further research of the topic. By using the Cyber Library, Proquest and participating in the on-line discussion, it’s amazing how much information can be gathered to write a comprehensive and sophisticated research report. Years ago, when I started attending other schools, gathering that much detailed information would have taken days in several libraries. None of my instructors have ever rubber-stamped my reports. The critiques they provided have always been very specific to my work and given me additional insight into the topic. The courses have also been challenging and useful. My wife and sons attend local colleges. When we all compare content and the required effort to complete the assignments, TUI University’s material always seems more up-to-date and the critical thinking required to complete the assignments seems more practical. This is also reflected in my personal experience. It seems every class has given me skills or insight to use in my professional career or personal life.

Mike Kampen

(more Student Corner continued on page 17)
The eighth annual TUI University graduation ceremony was held on Saturday, August 15, 2009 at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts in Cerritos, California. Two hundred and fifty graduates from all over the country and around the world took part in commencement and more than 1,200 guests, TUI faculty, and staff came to help them celebrate their academic achievements.

Each graduate received a Certificate of Participation as he or she crossed the stage to cheers from the audience, and shook hands with President Ken Sobaski, Executive Chairman of the Board Yoram Neumann, and Vice President for Academic Affairs Paul Watkins. Graduates represented all TUI degree programs offered by TUI University.

The keynote speaker was Mr. Dick Morris, a prominent political consultant, commentator, columnist, and best-selling author. Mr. Morris handled a number of successful political campaigns for former President Bill Clinton and has also managed winning campaigns for more than 30 U.S. senators and governors. Mr. Morris expressed great admiration for the efforts of our graduates and their accomplishments.

Graduates, guests and all who attended the ceremony enjoyed an outdoor reception following the ceremony. It was a beautiful evening all around and a “good time was had by all.”

If you will be completing your degree in the 2009-2010 academic year please plan on attending next year’s graduation in southern California on July 31, 2010. We look forward to seeing you there.
A fresh group of TUI Graduation Candidates pose for a picture on Graduation Day Saturday, August 15, 2009 at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts in Cerritos, California.
New Director of Navy College Guam
Charles J. Wright, BSBA, MBA & MAED graduate retired after 26 years in the Navy and is now Director of Navy College, Guam. Charles took his first course with TUI (then Touro University International) in the Fall 2001 session and completed his MAED in the Spring 09 session. Talk about a professional student—well almost. He credits TUI with helping him earn his current position but all TUI did was provide him the opportunity. He did the rest. Good for you Charles. If you are ever in Guam stop by the Navy College office and tell him “Hi.” Let him know you are a proud member of the TUI family.

Research Presentation
Ph.D. student Kiet T. Tran who is currently working on his dissertation proposal, was selected to present his paper, “IT Governance and Software Reuse Success Model” at the Doctoral Symposium of the 11th International Conference on Software Reuse held in Falls Church, VA, USA, 27-30 Sept. 09. His paper focuses on the relationship between IT governance and software reuse success through the two mediators: IT strategy and the Strategic Decision Making Process. In addition, the study also considers the moderating factor of the intention to adopt construct toward the relationships between the two mediators and the dependent variable Software Reuse Success.

New Presidential Fellow
TUI MBA graduate (2009) and current Ph.D. student Mark Butler is in his first year as a Presidential Management Fellow (PMF). He was one of 787 PMF finalists selected from the 5000 applications for 2009. The PMF program is run out of the Office of Personnel Management and is the premier succession tool employed by the U.S. Government to recruit recent graduate students into federal service, placing them on the fast track to management positions. To find out more about the PMF program go to: https://www.pmf.opm.gov/.

Education at TUI University Helps Student Land Federal Job
I was only four years away from retiring from the U.S. Navy in 2002. I knew I had to work on my degree as fast as I could. When I heard about Touro University International on line, I was a bit nervous as to whether or not I would be able to deal with on line classes. Most of my schooling before I attended TUI was inside a classroom. It was something new to me, but the greatest thing was that I had great instructors at TUI who always encouraged me.

At the time, I had been working on my bachelor’s degree for a number of years. It was difficult back then, since I spent a great deal of my time in the Navy at sea. I never had the opportunity to remain focused at just one school or degree since I rotated from duty assignments every 2 to 3 years. (Continue Story Page 17)
My name is David Garrett and I am happy to be a TUI graduate and Lifetime Alumni Member. The course delivery format, flexibility and support of TUI professors and staff have been instrumental in this achievement for me.

In 2003 I enlisted in the Air Force. Although I had many reasons for wanting to serve, a personal goal I had when I signed up was to earn a bachelors degree in my first enlistment. At that time I had no idea how far TUI University would take me. With a goal in mind of a bachelor’s degree while serving active duty in the Air Force, non-traditional schooling seemed like the most manageable route. Earning many credit hours through CLEP and DANTES exams, Community College of the Air Force and online courses, I had a myriad of transcripts and credit hours. The biggest challenge for me was to find a good school that would accept my previous credits. A couple of years of research and three colleges later, TUI University was recommended to me by a mentor. TUI accepted most of my credits and I haven't looked back since. I am proud to say that in just over six years in the Air Force, I have completed a bachelor’s degree and an MBA at TUI University. I have separated from active duty service a smarter, more prepared person thanks to the educational benefits of the USAF. Although I completed college quickly, I wasn't left with just a diploma to hang on the wall after I left active duty service. In fact, I continued my service in the Air Force Reserves and most recently, my education at TUI was a key component to my acceptance as a commissioned officer in the Medical Corps. Additionally, while transitioning from active duty to a reserve component, I drew from my business experience to successfully launch a franchise deli. The business knowledge I gained through my MBA with TUI has been invaluable as my business partner and I navigate entrepreneurship. The encouragement of my wife Brandi, late nights studying, mountains of research and sacrifice have all led me to achieve these goals and I am thankful that TUI provided me with an educational opportunity second to none.
Spring 2009 saw two new Drs. Williamson. Dr. Louise Williamson earned her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from TUI University while her daughter Dr. Christie Williamson earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Duquesne University. Louise completed her doctorate at TUI within days of her daughter achieving her doctorate and did it all while maintaining a 4.0 grade point average and working full-time as the managing principal of her own higher education consulting business. This is a great example of how TUI University enables busy working adults to achieve their educational goals. Congratulations to both Louise and Christie. (Portions of the above reprinted with permission from Bucks County Herald)
Hands down the best part of doing special projects lies with traveling and getting the chance to work, train, eat, and live with military people around the world. As a philosopher, I know that studying language is the key to understanding the value systems and thinking styles in any culture. Not being from a military background myself, spending time with military people evinced linguistic and moral truths that are truly important for civilian professors to understand.

The first time I saw a senior NCO task a soldier with a job it became clear that implicit in the notion of tasking is critical thinking. Civilians often assume military people think mechanically, and only know how to follow orders. Nothing could be further from the truth. “Tasking” is a military word that roughly translates into civilian as “DONE”. There is no “I tried”, “it was too hard”, “Hey, dude I did my best”. You do what you have to do to get the job done. Thinking outside the box and thinking critically is at the core of everything military people do every day. So the misconception that military people are not critical thinkers presents itself as patently false the first time one hears a ‘task’ being given.

One has to be very careful playing with military language though. Everyone likes ‘in-group’ talk, and let’s face it; military jargon is just really cool. But early on, when talking about students who had not started their courses, a faculty member called them “MIAs”. These students had not submitted work in the first week and we could not reach them as they were likely downrange; so in a sense they were ‘missing in action’ (though we always found them). Very quickly it was realized that so profound a military term should not be used in such a cavalier manner.

Further, one has to be careful when using civilian terms appropriated by military people. I was visiting Korea, I think I was up at Camp Casey (2ID Warrior Country, hooah), and the Command Sergeant Major asked me into his office. He thanked me for the email I had sent the day before from Camp Humphrey giving him another week on his paper. The other professor had agreed as well and told the CSM to just get the work in ASAP. Well, before the crimson could rise beyond this poor CSMs collar I had to explain to him “no no, that is civilian ASAP, which means as soon as possible, not military ASAP which means, well, NOW”.

There is something really special about being a civilian professor and learning the values and attitudes of military people through didactic communication. It brings civilian and military people together in a way where we can better share values and truly become one family.
According to the Institute of Management Accountants, “85% of accountants today work inside organizations, where expertise in decision support, planning, and control over value-adding operations are crucial elements of operational success. In earning the CMA, you will have mastered a comprehensive body of knowledge directly related to operational and strategic management as well as the skills and abilities required to build quality business practices inside organizations.”

The world has become smaller which means the skills necessary to compete must become broader. The accounting concentrations create a competitive advantage for the TUI student. These concentrations focus on giving the student a broad perspective of business. Among other business and non-business topics, the TUI Accounting concentrations address the following:

- Economics
- Regulatory
- Social
- Financial
- Governmental
- International

In addition, TUI’s accounting concentrations address many other key success factors for both non-profit (business) and public organizations. The TUI accounting concentrations provide knowledge that prepares the student to achieve various nationally and internationally recognized certifications such as the Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Management Accountant (CMA), and Certified Governmental Financial Management (CGFM).

There are several accounting concentrations currently being offered in TUI’s Colleges of Business Administration and Information Systems.

- Management Accounting (undergraduate and graduate)
- Governmental and Non-Profit Accounting (undergraduate and graduate)

Also, the graduate curriculum offers certificates in both management accounting and governmental and non-profit accounting. These courses may be used to fulfill the 150 hour rule for transfer students for certification qualification.

A writer for Forbes.com made this statement in 2007, “When BLS [Bureau of Labor Statistics] reviews its data later this year, its researchers may find that finance is a growing field.” Today Accounting and Finance are listed in the top 20 of fastest growing professions.

Go to TUI University’s website for more information about TUI’s accounting concentrations. Begin your journey! www.tuiu.edu

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Dr. Anthony Culpepper, CPA, CMA, CFM
Dean of CBA-CIS

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TUI NETWORK  FALL 2009
TUI is having an effect on education throughout the world.

Dr. Marina Reifschneider, one of the recent PhD graduates in the College of Education, came all the way from Brazil to our Cypress campus in California to defend her dissertation on September 11, 2009. Her dissertation study “Factors affecting perceptions of online education and quality and effectiveness in Brazil” surveyed students, faculty, and administrators in Brazil. Her study is one of the few to look at this issue from the point of view of all three main stakeholders of education (administrators, faculty, and students) in a non-English speaking country. Online education is likely to have a major impact on the development of education in Brazil, particularly in higher education. “Traditional education will increasingly not be able to meet the demand for higher education of an ever-increasing population of prospective students; population which will require the necessary capabilities and skills to enter the global workforce.” says Reifschneider. While age and motivation were predictors of perceptions, learning enjoyment of the online experience also made a significant contribution. “Besides the immense pleasure of being with my advisor and committee members, I had the satisfaction of meeting the capable staff members with whom I had been exchanging e-mails and phone calls for several years. I must say that now that I have defended my dissertation I feel a mix of relief and sorrow; a bittersweet feeling for leaving behind a time of interesting subjects and hard study; a time of intellectual and personal growth. I am grateful for having studied with such dedicated and knowledgeable teachers, hopeful for new opportunities and glad for the friends I have made.”
Welcome to Bob Regalado, the new director of Human Resources (HR) at TUI University. He became a member of the TUI family September 8th as our new interim Head of Human Resources reporting to the President. Bob has expressed strong enthusiasm for the future opportunities at TUI and for all of us here. He is looking forward to contributing as part of our TUI family!

Bob is a Human Resources consultant with over thirteen years of comprehensive human resources experience. Bob spent seven years in Human Resources at the Home Depot Corporation as a Human Resources Manager and as a Regional Human Resources Director. In his role at Home Depot he had human resource oversight responsibility for eighteen Home Depot stores, twenty one Human Resource Trainers and Managers and approximately 2300 Home Depot associates. Prior to becoming a human resource professional, Bob was a small business entrepreneur and also worked for Xerox and Eastman Kodak in sales and sales management. Bob has worked in many industries including: business equipment, retail, computer, finance and software industries. His breadth of business and sales management experiences along with his specific human resources experiences will serve TUI well.

Bob grew up in Torrance, CA and is a graduate of Cal State University Long Beach with a BS degree in Business Administration. He is married with three children and resides in Orinda, California. Please welcome Bob to the TUI family and if you are ever on campus stop by his office on the 3rd floor to say “hello”.

In its efforts to help busy first responders achieve their educational goals and enhance their careers and future earnings, TUI recently attended three Law Enforcement national conventions: The National Sheriffs Association convention held in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, 20-24 June, the Fraternal Order of Police convention held in Long Beach, CA, 16-18 August, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police conference and exposition in Denver, CO, 3-7 October.

(Top L. to R.): Rafi Itzhaki, Ken Sobaski, NFOP President Chuck Canterbury
Myra Reyes - BSHS Admission Specialist

How long have you been with TUI and what are your current duties? - Originally started in October 2006 (left for 4 months) Returned in January 2008. I assist new students with any questions and concerns they may have regarding our school and I help new students with submitting their application and get them registered for their first session.

What do you like most about TUIU? - I like knowing that I’ve been able to help a student get started on their education even though they may be thousands of miles away. Not many other universities can say that about themselves.

How have things changed at TUIU since you first started? - Many things have changed since I first started at TUI. I think one of the biggest changes that occurred while working here was when we branched from Touro College. Growth is the biggest theme that I’ve noticed while working here and hopefully, we’ll continue to advance and maintain quality services to students as we grow.

What do you see as the future for TUIU? - I hope that TUI’s popularity spreads further not only with our Military families but with our civilian families as well.

What are your interests outside of TUIU? - I went skydiving and LOVED it. I’m a strong swimmer and used to be a lifeguard. Generally, I’m a very happy person. I’m goofy, family oriented, and LOVE to eat! Outside of work and school, my days are spent with my boyfriend and my son. During the summer, my loves are the beach, surf, and barbecues. I think about nothing but snowboarding after it rains and my son keeps me light hearted.

Have you personally taken advantage of any educational options at TUIU? - I am currently taking courses for the BSHS Program with a Concentration in Health Educator. It’s convenient with my work schedule and doesn’t take too much time away from my family.

What are your views on student service/customer service? - I work with TUI students on a daily basis. I encounter students with various situations, many of whom are located all over the world. Many of my students are often on deployment so I like to assist them with whatever I can to make things as easy as possible for them.
Dr. J.D. Eveland - Professor of Business Administration and Professor of Information Systems

When and why did you join TUI? - I came to TUIU in the spring of 2001. At the time I was also working as a consultant to the American Institutes for Research (AIR) in Palo Alto, on the evaluation of the Gates Foundation’s program to assist small schools. I was referred to TUIU by former student of mine at California School of Professional Psychology. I found the idea of an all-online University sufficiently intriguing and unusual that I decided to take up the offer of a part-time position doing course development and teaching. In September, having been offered a full-time position at the University, I left AIR and returned to Los Angeles, where I have been up to my ears in TUIU ever since.

Tell us about your background - I started with a bachelor’s degree in history from Reed College, and followed that with a public administration masters from the University of Pittsburgh. That led me to five years with the US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. After all that time observing a big organization doing the kinds of things that big organizations do, I decided that rather than keep doing them, I’d rather figure out why they were doing them -- hence, my PhD studies in organizational behavior at the University of Michigan. Following a couple of years teaching business and OB at Eastern Michigan University, I spent seven years as a program manager and policy analyst at the National Science Foundation in Washington DC. Leaving NSF and coming to California in 1985, I was an independent researcher and consultant for a few years, working in part with the RAND Corporation (including doing the first published empirical research study on e-mail use). In 1989, I came to Los Angeles to the Claremont Graduate School (now University) in the psychology department, where I was basically the only organizational psychologist. In 1995, I moved to the California School of Professional Psychology, Los Angeles where I taught for five years and ended up as program director for organizational psychology.

Describe your current duties at TUIU - At present I am coordinating two large management classes, and also doing two research methods classes for PhD students, including the advanced statistics course. I’m also working with some doctoral students on their dissertations, and working on a number of other projects, including some new concentrations for the MBA program. I even find time to do a little research of my own from time to time. It’s pretty engaging, and keeps me fully employed and mostly out of trouble. I’ve made a couple of presentations on research methodology and statistical issues to the TUIU Faculty Research Forum that were generally well received, and I’ve been able to incorporate a lot of this into my teaching as well. I’m at present engaging in “conversations for possibilities” about possible research projects with a number of TUIU colleagues – we’ll see what develops.

What do you like most about TUIU? - I enjoy the day-to-day personal interactions with the other faculty and the students. I enjoy the challenge of developing new courses and rethinking existing ones, always trying to make things work better but recognizing that sometimes they don’t work out the way you think it will. And on a broader level, I really enjoy being part of a major new transition paradigm in education, moving from the old classroom centered model to a model based in the evolving information space called the Internet.

How have things changed at TUIU since you first started? - Over the eight years I’ve been involved here, much has changed, and a number of things haven’t. We’re still using pretty much the same pedagogical model that I became familiar with quickly back in 2001. Far from being the pedagogical straitjacket that it at first appeared, the TUIU course format is actually enormously liberating to the teacher and student alike, reinforcing the teaching process in predictable patterns while still allowing content freedom and even the occasional personal idiosyncrasies of instructors to shine through (and I have done a lot of such shining through in my courses, I must confess)!
What has changed most dramatically is the quality of the information base we have to draw upon in constructing our classes. It’s hard to remember, but what we now call the Internet is barely 15 years old, and it was barely half that old when we started. Somewhere along the line, we switched from a system of information scarcity to a system of information glut, barely noticing the transition. It’s so easy now to find the resources for classes that once had to be painfully scratched off the information superhighway. We’ve also become somewhat more structured and formal in our procedures, as we’ve acquired more and more students. But we have managed to retain our free and easy interaction, and our ability to deal with complex issues of change directly and rapidly rather than bureaucratically. That’s no small accomplishment. We’ve acquired a whole bunch of new faculty, and are looking to acquire more -- so we’ve enriched ourselves intellectually. But likewise, we’ve retained the collegiality that was so important when we started out, and I think will continue to do so.

What do you see as the future for TUIU? - I would hope that we continue to do pretty much the same sorts of things we’ve been doing all along, only better and with better tools. I see us developing some new directions and some new ideas, and I hope we’ll be able to take advantage of rapidly galloping technology improvements in terms of interaction with students and facilitating interaction among them. One of our great virtues as an institution is that we have always pretty much known who we are, rather than chasing off after trying to become something entirely different. I think if we can maintain that core essence, we will continue to be a strong and vibrant center of educational excellence in a rapidly churning information environment.

What are your views on student service/customer service? - I work with students everyday, in many ways and at many levels. That’s what teaching is all about, after all. We don’t have that immediate feedback that you get while scanning a classroom of students, but we’ve worked out compensatory mechanisms that work nearly as well and give a pretty good feel for where the students are and where they ought to be. In fact, despite being in the online environment, I probably engage in more direct interaction with a higher proportion of students than I ever did in the face-to-face environment, with the exception of a couple of doctoral seminars.

Our students are, to put it mildly, awesome. Frankly, in all the institutions where I’ve taught, I’ve never seen so much attention given to student welfare and responsiveness to student needs. This has been one of the hallmarks of TUIU since the beginning, and I hope we never cease caring about them as much as we do.

What are your concluding thoughts and observation about TUI? - It may sound strange to say this, but it often seems to me that destiny had kept continually nudging me toward TUIU, long before it was even a gleam in Dr. Neumann’s eye. Being here, and being able to make my own strange and wonderful contributions to the evolving organization, is the capstone of my career, and has been a great ride that I hope has a number of loops yet to be experienced!

A number of Dr. Evelands' more entertaining pieces of thought are available on his personal website (http://jdeveland.com/materials.htm).
It is hard to believe that I am nearly done with the TUI Master’s program. The operations tempo and demands of serving in a US military that is downsizing while at war as I have been pursuing this degree, have been the greatest in my 13 year career. In fact, if I could have chosen any other time in my career to pursue this degree I would have chosen several others. But I am coming up for a promotion that requires a master’s so there was no way out.

I firmly believe that my completion of this degree would not have been possible in a traditional education setting. Being on temporary duty 40% of the last several years, two deployments and incredible home station workload due to transformation and new projects would have prevented that. Military service often requires 100% dedication for short and long periods of time with hopefully some slow times in between crises but while at war....it’s been a almost constant high demand cadence.

TUI’s outstanding online education format, online resources that always work, highest quality educators, predictability, assignment format and incredible flexibility have been the key to completion of my degree. Without the many extensions (I needed at least one in every class) I don’t believe I would have completed a single course. What TUI and its educators have given me is priceless and I have already applied a good deal of it in solving several strategic projects the military has put in front of me and those I work with.

TUI truly provides valuable, straightforward solutions to the challenge of obtaining an advanced degree in this day and age. It has been a blessing to have been part of the TUI education experience. HUA!

Ray Gale

TUI University has been selected for inclusion in the Military Advanced Education’s 3rd Annual Guide to America’s Military-Friendly Colleges and Universities. This is the third consecutive year TUI has been chosen for inclusion in the 2009 Guide. The listing will appear in the print edition of the November/December 2009 issue of Military Advanced Education as well as in an online PDF of the print edition.

TUI University highlighted in Defense & Aerospace Week. In the 30 September 2009 issue of Defense & Aerospace Week, TUI University was highlighted as having the highest course completion rate among top military educators. The article quotes the Navy Voluntary Education Program as stating TUI has a 99% course completion rate of all online universities serving military members. This is a great tribute to TUI faculty, staff, and students.
TUIU PhD & Masters Students, TUIU Alums, and Faculty Activities and Awards

Dr. Mickey Shachar:

BOOK:

Dr. Wenling Li
• Dr. Li became a proposal reviewer for the National Science Foundation, the sub-division of second language acquisition. Below is a paper she recently coauthored:

Dr. Afrooz Afghani

BOOK CHAPTERS:

The following research articles co-authored by Dr. David Turbow were recently accepted for publication:
2. Linton, A., Singh, M., Turbow, D., & Legg, T. (In Press). Street Youth in Toronto: An Investigation of Demographic Predictors of High Risk Behaviors and HIV. Journal of HIV/AIDS & Social Services, 8(4). Dr. Anthony Linton (Ryerson University) is a graduate of TUI's Doctoral Program in Health Sciences. Dr. Mina Singh is a professor in the School of Nursing at York University. Dr. Timothy Legg is a professor in the College of Health Sciences at TUI.

The following was published in July-August 2009 issue of Family Medicine:
“Effect of a Computerized Body Mass Index Prompt of Diagnosis and Treatment of Adult Obesity” by Susan P. Schriefer, PhD (TUI University), FNP-BC; Suzanne E. Landis, MD, MPH; David J. Turbow, PhD, Assistant Professor of Health Sciences, TUI University; Steven C. Patch, PhD.

IN MEMORIUM

In Memory of Staff Sgt. John H. Roy, III, U.S. Marine Corps and TUI Student

The TUI family mourns the loss of Staff Sgt. John H. Roy, III, U.S. Marine Corps. John was a student in TUI’s College of Business Administration well on his way towards graduating with the highest honors. An EOD technician, S.Sgt. Roy was killed while preparing to destroy a World War II-era shell in a demolition range on Okinawa, Japan. TUI is proud to have counted John as part of the TUI family, as we are proud to serve all of our military members in their pursuit of higher education. S.Sgt. John Roy’s sacrifice, however, is a sober reminder of how serious a mission this really is. John Roy leaves behind his wife Amanda and two children Jackson, 7 and Alyssa 4. Semper Fi John.