Sullivan University recently launched the Master of Public Management, to “…address the persistent failure of traditional schools of public policy and administration to adequately focus on the business side of the equation which deals with resource optimization, management, and finding solutions to persistently thorny problems,” notes Dr. Ken Miller, Associate Dean of the Graduate School. Federal, state, and local governments are running out of money and have long-term structural deficits in the hundreds of billions of dollars. Designed with a new breed of public manager in mind, Sullivan’s Master of Public Management (MPM) program looks to emphasize the in-sector strategies and ways of thinking about the business problems of government in a way specifically geared toward the public sector.

A boon to management careers Sullivan’s MPM program is directed toward defining and developing analytical, conceptual, and practical skills for management careers in the public sector. The innovative, practical curriculum stresses the business management side of the public sector. “Historically a business school, Sullivan University is uniquely positioned to train students to manage within the emerging environment of the public sector that emphasizes innovation, strong leadership and problem-solving skills, and getting the biggest bang out of the taxpayer’s dollar,” quotes Dr. Eric Harter, the CEO of the university.

In emphasizing Sullivan University’s history of providing ready-to-work programs, the MPM program is designed to address the shortcomings of traditional programs in public policy and public administration. Often housed in departments of political science, economics or other social science fields, traditional programs often focus too narrowly on a discipline-specific approach and tend to take students with very little or no hands-on experience actually doing the work of government.

Sullivan University seeks to bring people who actually learned the business side of government by hands-on, practical experience instead of just learning about the business side of government from some cratey, old textbook,” Dr. Miller said.

Concentrations cover all areas For concentration areas pulled out for the fall 2011 quarter: Education Management, Healthcare Management, Justice and Public Safety Management, and Management Analytics, which focuses on proving students high powered analytical skills craved by government and business alike.

Iron He’s the ^A!

Dr. Jeff Johnson teaches economics, logistics and operations at the Graduate School and also teaches economics at the undergraduate level. Johnson has presented and published studies on the Federal Reserve and monetary policy. "It would be exciting if all of our expertise would include sports. If you asked him, he’d say he was “just an average athlete across the board.”

But this summer, as a competitor in the 2011 Louisville Ironman race, he gave new meaning to the word “average.” The race is a 2.4-mile swim followed by a 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run on a course that utilizes a variety of Louisville’s scenic areas, including the Ohio River Front, Fern Creek, Old Louisville, and the city of LaGrange. It ends with a finish line celebration at Fourth Street Live.

What motivated this brilliant professor to enter such a grueling event?

“Last year, I volunteered as a finish line ‘catcher’ at the Ironman Louisville,” Johnson recalled. “When a racer crossed the line, I gave him or her a medal, a hug, and provided assistance, etc. I taught a young O’Donnell at about 11:30 (you have until midnight to finish). She hugged me for a good five minutes and as I was helping her through the finish process, she told me she had just been in a 112-hour chemotherapy. I knew at that moment that I had to give it a try. I had no excuses.”

Johnson started training in September, 2010 by doing some general running and swimming as he had already been doing some running. “My swimming training plan was 20 weeks where I had structured workouts 6 days a week.

Respectable finish

“Finished in 15:55. For exact details, go here: http://ironmanlive.com/tracking/?race= louisville&year=2011). My bike number was 2112. It was the first Ironman I’ve done and more, was one of the greatest things I’ve ever experienced. I would recommend it to anyone. Finishing off the Fourth Street Live is something I will never forget.”

Encore next year?

“Probably no Ironman race the following year but maybe a couple half Ironmans. I might try another in 2013 since I had so much fun.”

A contingency of Sullivan cheerleaders will be gearing up for 2013!

SULLIVAN UNIVERSITY HERALD

Dr. Teresa Daniel was a recent recipient of a Sullivan University research grant designed to determine whether or not HR practitioners are the targets of workplace bullying at rates higher than the general population. The state SHRM organization was distributing her research survey to all Kentucky SHRM chapters, but this is beyond my wildest expectations,” Professor Daniel exclaimed.

“Earning my master’s will help me grow personally and professionally and will open up doors to a new career,” said Geri Anderson, a graduate student in the SHRM program. “I chose Sullivan’s Graduate School for several reasons. They have a great record of producing students; the faculty is very supportive; and the location is convenient.”

The MPM program is a national leader in quality online education, Sullivan Global e-Learning is positioning itself as a leader in scholarship.

A master’s in conflict management would open up doors to a new career. “Earning my master’s will help me grow personally and professionally,” Anderson said. “I’m trying to use what I can learn to the ‘real life’ in my life and career. Dr. Wilkin is a great role model and a very inspiring person. I have been taking all of my classes online, this has been a refreshing change of pace for me.”

Name change reflects expanded program

Sullivan’s Logistics and Distribution Department recently changed its name to the Supply Chain Management Department. Logistics and distribution are still a very big part but now students will learn how to be efficiency experts, too. When students finish the program, they are ready to move into an organization and make an immediate impact in improved efficiency and cost.

New class offering Sullivan now offers a capstone for the Supply Chain Management Association’s Degree. Students in this class will take the knowledge they have gained into a “real world” Transportation Management Plan (TMP). The TMP is suitable for presentation and an excellent addition to the student’s portfolio. They show their new or current employer the value that their education is adding to a company’s efficiency and cost.

In this graduate class, practice makes perfect

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Brenda James, Master’s in Conflict Management

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“My Master’s in Conflict Management will be gearing up for 2013!”

The ultimate overall goal in conflict management is a win/win resolution. “The ultimate overall goal in conflict management is a win/win resolution. Students become consultants and write a planning manual for a real world conflict. They coach and guide the process, gaining ownership of the solution to the group. During the second half of the quarter, each student puts on their ‘leader/trainer’ hat and facilitates an hour long class presentation. They prepare, question, handouts, and quizzes, and engage the class in a dynamic dialogue that helps them hone their skills.

As consultants, facilitators are neutral process experts who empower the con- flicted parties to solve their own problems. Their task is to facilitate the process, giving ownership of the solution to the group. During the second half of the quarter, each student puts on their ‘leader/trainer’ hat and facilitates an hour long class presentation. They prepare, question, handouts, and quizzes, and engage the class in a dynamic dialogue that helps them hone their skills.

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