

# MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Undergraduate Program

## WHY MIS?

Are you good at problem-solving and interested in technology? Do you want to have a competitive salary and be able to find a job easily? If so, a degree in Management Information Systems (MIS) from the Spears School of Business at OSU might be for you. Information systems are the core of all successful businesses, and MIS is an exciting, thriving field of study that focuses on applying technology to solve real-world organization problems. Plus, students with an education in MIS are in high demand.

To earn this degree, you will complete 120 hours of undergraduate coursework. Many students also choose to pursue double majors, minors or options; these include information assurance, accounting, and management science and computer systems.

## Internships

Spears School encourages participation in internship opportunities prior to graduation to gain work experience, improve your competitiveness in the labor market, and discover through real world experience whether the career you are pursuing is a good fit. One of the best places you can find internships and begin interacting with employers is through the OSU Career Services website, [hireosugrads.com](http://hireosugrads.com).

## Student organizations

The MSIS Department is home to the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) and the Information Security and Assurance Club (ISAC). These organizations are great resources for students to learn, lead and make contacts in information systems and assurance.

## Study abroad/ travel programs

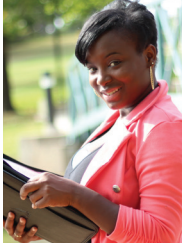
The Center for Executive and Professional Development in the Spears School provides a number of short-term, study abroad and travel programs to expose you to different cultures, experiences, and business views. Courses within these programs are designed specifically for the setting within which the travel experience takes place and allow you to advance your academic and professional education.

## Scholarships

Each year, the Spears School grants more than 275 individual awards for a total of nearly \$500,000 in scholarships to both undergraduate and graduate students. These numbers continue to grow as donors recognize the value of providing assistance to college students.

## INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

### Ka'Shay Warren



#### DECEMBER 2013 GRADUATE

Management Information Systems, Information Assurance Option

International Business with a concentration in Spanish

USAA

IT Intern, Bank Project Delivery Web Developer

#### *Briefly describe your role and responsibilities as an intern.*

I am a web development intern for USAA in San Antonio, Texas. USAA is a company with a mission to be the provider of choice for military and military families. My time is spent coding pages sent to me from various designers for use on dot com and other internal sites. I have a mentor and manager assigned specifically to me so that I am able to get daily feedback on my performance. These hands-on experiences ensure that I am constantly learning and am in an environment where being inquisitive is expected and appreciated. I enjoy getting to see the visual implications of the code I create. There is something rewarding about seeing what you have created in production.

#### *What did your internship teach you about this career field?*

I have learned that there is ALWAYS something to learn in the IT field. The field is constantly growing so if you want to grow with the field you must make a conscious effort to learn as much as possible, whenever possible. Since beginning this internship, I can certainly say that there have been aspects of both my majors evident in my day to day activities. I have a newfound respect for each person who influences and helps in the production of websites and apps because it is truly a team effort. The greatest thing about this experience is that it is more of an actual representation of what a "group project" is like in the business world. You are dodging schedules, meeting overhead guidelines, budgeting, and learning to communicate with others from various backgrounds.

#### *What impacted your selection of this major?*

To be quite honest, having a major that is going to produce a vast majority of jobs is the number one reason. Over the course of my internship, I have learned that there are expected to be over a million computer-related jobs by the year 2020. The number two reason would be having a great mentor who saw talent in me that I had yet to see in myself: research, patience, teachable mindset, and good communication skills, which are all very crucial in the role I am currently in.

#### *What about your academic program or training proved valuable in facilitating your career development or attainment of professional opportunities?*

Career Services in the Spears School of Business, Student Support Services, OK-LSAMP, working a part-time job and volunteering as a mentor through various organizations were the most influential things that impacted my performance leading up to and during the internship. I went to countless resume doctors, discussed interview questions and etiquette, learned how to communicate with all types of people, learned how to multitask, and perfected putting the greater good of others or the company over my own. The classes I feel best prepared me for this job were the PHP programming class because it taught me basic HTML code, and the basic 3000 level management and marketing classes because those are all things that should be considered when developing websites and apps.

#### *Please highlight any extracurricular activities that are a meaningful part of your collegiate experience and what they taught you.*

I have volunteered ever since I graduated high school and even continued to volunteer while in San Antonio on my internship. There is a lot to be said about what you learn when you give your personal time to assist someone in bettering their life. I currently mentor incoming freshmen through LASSO and that is definitely the highlight of my school week. In helping others I have learned a lot about myself and have grown in ways that few could fathom.

#### *Is there anything else you could share with students considering this area of study that will encourage success or allow them to maximize their collegiate career?*

I suggest networking with as many people as possible, joining organizations inside and outside of your college, volunteering, and lastly, either joining/creating a study group or using the tutoring center. You want your resume and GPA to show that you do a lot of things, and do them with passion. Also, studying abroad was very influential for me in my college career. It is easy to think you are accepting and inclusive in your behavior when you're surrounded by people who look like you. Spending time in a foreign country where you become the minority gives you a new found appreciation and understanding of others. I believe this is imperative in the business world because diversity is inevitable, especially if the company wants to thrive and grow.

## DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

## CAREER SPOTLIGHT

### Matt Griffin



#### MAY 2013 GRADUATE

Management Information Systems, Information Assurance Option  
Chesapeake Energy  
Associate Security Administrator

#### *Briefly describe your role and responsibilities as a new hire.*

In my position, I grant/deny access to various items throughout the company as well as troubleshoot certain issues as needed. I also incorporate new employee accounts into some of our numerous company-wide applications. The best part of my job is the people I work with. Every day I help solve business problems, and I am grateful for a supportive team that is always more than happy to help me with any problem I am unable to overcome on my own.

#### *When you were choosing a major, what factored into your selection?*

When I chose my major I first tried to take into account the number of job opportunities that would be available to me by selecting this major. I then tried to find the appropriate area in my major that would give me a well-balanced amount of computer to people interaction. Applied Information Assurance prepared me for the security side of my job. Business Communications prepared me for the people interaction I receive from all the different departments at Chesapeake. Finally, Systems Analysis and Design helped me to understand how all the many applications in a company work together properly to support a company's business.

#### *What about your academic program or training proved valuable in facilitating your career development or attainment of professional opportunities?*

To me the most influential resources at OSU would have to have been Career Services, the Business Career Fair, and the plethora of clubs and organizations. Through utilizing all three of these resources I was able to receive an internship with Chesapeake and finally a full-time offer when I graduated. Each resource played a part but ultimately it all started and ended with career services. First, having no knowledge whatsoever on how to land a corporate position with a Fortune 500 company, I went to Career Services and was enlightened on all the different ways I could meet potential employers. I asked for advice on how to approach employers, what homework needed to be done before meeting with an employer, and how I could make them remember me enough to obtain an interview. At the Career Fair I was able to continue my networking and get a chance to secure interviews. Next, I joined a couple of organizations that allowed me to meet CEOs as well as representatives from tons of different companies in my field. This was a great opener for starting my network. Finally, I was able to bring it to a close with Career Services help and practice on interviewing. I took every interviewing tip I possibly could from them including advice on attire, posture, and communication, as well as practiced with interview flash cards and a mock interview. It was a good amount of work but immensely paid off in the end.

#### *Please highlight any extracurricular activities that were a meaningful part of your collegiate experience and what they taught you.*

Alpha Kappa Psi and The Association of Information Technology Professionals were two of the most meaningful extracurricular groups I was involved in simply because they allowed me to network with so many companies and employers that were in my field of study. These organizations allowed CEOs of companies and representatives to come talk to the group members and tell us about their company, give interviewing tips, life lessons, do's and don'ts in the business world, and ultimately give us a competitive advantage over our peers by letting us ask any question that came to our mind.

#### *Is there anything else you could share with students considering this area of study that will encourage success or allow them to maximize their collegiate career?*

I would say that if you don't do anything else in college, go to Career Services. The knowledge they have to share will open numerous doors as long as you're willing to put the work in for it. Even if you practically live at Career Services, it is imperative that you network with your professors in the MSIS Department. So many of these professors have written recommendations for their students and helped land them interviews, if not jobs. They have seen many of their students graduate to good full-time positions, which means those professors have networks inside the companies by now. Also, I strongly recommend internships. They are the gateway to full-time positions everywhere because of the real, hands-on experience you gain.

## Management information systems career areas

### Business analyst

- Business analysts work with employees, managers and systems development teams to construct an organization's information systems.

### Systems analyst

- Systems analysts use information needs collected by the business analysts to organize and design information systems that programmers will code.

### Database administrator

- Data analysts design and build databases that work to meet business needs. If the data isn't correct, the system doesn't work. Data warehouses, data marts and data mining: The power is in the data.

### Network communications specialist

- Network communications specialists design networks and connect computers, routers, switches and other devices to make operational networks.

### Information assurance (IA) analyst

- IA analysts protect information and information systems from hackers and malicious attacks.

## Career resources for management information systems majors

OSU Career Services [hireosugrads.com](http://hireosugrads.com)

Tech Careers [techcareers.com](http://techcareers.com)

Tech Jobs [dice.com](http://dice.com)

I Crunch Data [icrunchdata.com](http://icrunchdata.com)

Computer World [computerworld.com](http://computerworld.com)

Information Week [informationweek.com](http://informationweek.com)

Intern Match [internmatch.com](http://internmatch.com)

Indeed [indeed.com](http://indeed.com)

Simply Hired [simplyhired.com](http://simplyhired.com)

The Association for Information Technology Professionals [aitp.org](http://aitp.org)

Association for Information Systems [home.aisnet.org](http://home.aisnet.org)

## CAREER SERVICES

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# CAREER SERVICES

