



# University of Northern Virginia Newsletter

December 2009

2009 - Issue 6

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR



Dr. David Lee

As usual, a lot has happened since your last newsletter.

The most important thing for you to know is that we have further streamlined the registration process. All registrations will be on line. There are no more paper registrations. There will be computers available in the registration office, at the business office and in the computer labs, plus you can use your own laptop either at the school or at home. The article on page 3 in this newsletter will tell you more about the process.

I strongly urge you to register early both for your own good and for the good of your classmates. We will enforce the class size limits much more carefully, and if you register late your choices will be more limited. If a class is filled early in the process, we may be able to open another section so early registration helps you as well as your classmates.

We had a record-breaking enrollment for the fall and we expect the numbers to continue to grow in the coming quarters so the streamlined registration process is really needed.

Many of you have asked about our accreditation progress. We have

formally submitted our SACS accreditation application. This is a milestone marking the culmination of almost two years of preparation. See the article on page two in this newsletter for more information about the accreditation process.

We have also added two new locations to the UNVA family. UNVA is opening new locations in partnership with **Mansoura Academy for Science Technology and Information System (MASTIS) in Cairo, Egypt** and with **Walton College in Vancouver, Canada**. As we continue to form new alliances, we strengthen our school and provide you, our students, with more choices.

I would like to report that we had another successful graduation at our Hong Kong location. Edward Wong and his team did their usual excellent job and the graduation ceremonies went smoothly and professionally. We will post graduation pictures from Kong Kong on the website soon.

Finally, I would like to welcome new members to our staff.

Komal Makhdoom  
Admissions Assistant

Carolina Delgadillo  
Admissions Assistant

Iryna Hurtovenko  
Admissions Assistant

Erica Tan  
Receptionist

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### Key Dates:

<b>Dec 7</b>
Winter Registration Starts
<b>Dec 10</b>
Last Day to Completely Withdraw
<b>Dec 20</b>
Fall Quadmester Ends
<b>Dec 24 - 27</b>
Winter Break (UNVA Closed)
<b>Dec 31 – Jan 3</b>
New Year Holiday
<b>Jan 4</b>
New Student Orientation
Last Day to Register Without Late Fee
<b>Jan 5</b>
Winter term begins
<b>Jan 11</b>
Last Day for 75% Refund For Dropped Courses
<b>Jan 14</b>
Last Day for Registration
<b>Jan 18</b>
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (UNVA closed)

# UNVA SUBMITTED APPLICATION FOR REGIONAL ACCREDITATION

**By David Lee, UNVA  
Chancellor**

The UNVA application for SACS regional accreditation was submitted on October 1, 2009. We anticipate formal candidacy status by December 2010 or June 2011, and full accreditation by December 2011 or June 2012. For full accreditation, the effective date is retroactive to the prior January.

Here is an outline of the accreditation process.

We assessed ourselves and determined that we were not yet ready to apply. Instead, we made huge investments in both time and money to implement a whole new student records system, clean our data, upgrade our library, update our course catalog, clean up and audit our accounts, write new position descriptions, review, update and document all procedures, build two new campuses and otherwise improve our entire operation.

When we felt we were ready for accreditation, we attended a mandatory accreditation class given by SACS. This class is only held twice a year.

We hired a consultant and appointed a team to write the application. This required several months since the application process is very involved and requires extensive documentation. Despite our efforts listed above, we found areas where we needed to improve our documentation.

We submitted the application. We

were told by SACS that there are two schools in line before us, and that we would be reviewed in a month at the earliest.

Once we are reviewed, SACS will probably return the application with comments. We will address their comments and resubmit the application.

SACS will then appoint a site team to visit us. The site team will perform an extremely thorough review of every aspect of our university and document their findings.

We will respond and their report, along with our response, will go to the SACS committee. The committee meets twice a year, in June and December. It is our hope that we will be reviewed in time for the December 2010 committee meeting, but the June 2011 meeting is more likely.

We expect to be approved for candidacy at that point because of the meticulous work that we did in preparing before we even submitted our application. Candidacy is a major step, and in some ways, schools with candidacy status enjoy many of the benefits of full accreditation. Some schools recognize candidacy for purposes of accepting transfer credits, and the US Department of Education recognizes SACS candidacy status as qualifying for federal financial aid (Title IV) for nonprofit schools. We were told by

SACS that more than 95% of schools who achieve candidacy will achieve full accreditation within a year.

We then update and file our application for full accreditation and another site visit is scheduled with a new site team. This site team documents its findings and UNVA responds. Following UNVA's response, the full committee meets in June or December and renders its decision on full accreditation. Again, we anticipate a positive decision and accreditation would be effective as of the January prior to the decision.

As you can see, this is a lengthy and detailed process. It is intended to ensure that we are able to provide our students with a quality education and that we are able to do what our mission statement says.

In terms of effort, we are far past the midway mark. The first year and a half were dedicated simply to making sure we are truly ready for accreditation. Even so, completing the application is a milestone and I congratulate the accreditation team and everyone else who worked to get us this far.

## **NEW REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR WINTER 2010 TERM**

Due to a rapid growth of enrollment, UNVA is adopting a major change in the way students register for classes in the Winter 2010 quadmester. The proposal for a paperless registration process was recently endorsed by the University. Starting with the Winter 2010 term, all students must register their classes online by using their student portal accounts. Students who need personal assistance may register classes in person at the Annandale campus. UNVA will have staff on site to assist students to register their classes into the systems directly.

All registration will be considered "unofficial" before payment is made in full or a payment plan is approved by the Business Manager. To secure the seats in the registered classes, students must make payments or have their payment plans approved within 24 hours after they enter their course selections into the system. If a student fails to do so, the student may be put on the waiting list when a course enrollment reaches the maximum limit. Seats are not guaranteed until payment is completed or the payment plan is approved.

Students with an F-1 visa must follow the full-time enrollment requirements and they can only select one online class per semester. If a student fails to follow the rules, the student is at risk of losing the F-1 status. A student who participates in the CPT program and works at the time of registration must register for ORTN500 or ORTN590 at the time of online registration; failure to do so and the Co-Op department will cancel the student's CPT status and the student's employer will be notified. UNVA will not be responsible for students' mistakes or negligence.

Plan ahead. UNVA has posted the Winter 2010 schedule online. Make your course selections and contact your advisors or department chairs for assistance before the end of the Fall quadmester. For step by step instructions on registering online, visit the UNVA website at [www.unva.edu](http://www.unva.edu) (Online Access, then Student Portal FAQ).

## **DIWALI CELEBRATION**

UNVA hosted Diwali celebrations at the Manassas campus and in New Jersey last month. At the Manassas celebration, a buffet lunch was served and a career seminar was held. At the New Jersey learning site, several UNVA officials including David Lee, Ahmad Noor, Soon Yap and Ren Parikh, celebrated the Diwali holiday with students with food and a drawing for a laptop computer.



## **FACULTY MEETING – DEC. 14<sup>th</sup>**

The Winter Quarter General Faculty Meeting will be held at the Annandale Campus on Monday, December 14, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. All evening classes will be cancelled that day. There will be a faculty workshop following the meeting.

## **SUPER Q MART HAS DISCOUNT FOR UNVA STUDENTS AND STAFF**

Super Q Mart, the largest group of international markets in the area is offering a Special Discount Program for UNVA students & staff! Just show your Student ID or Staff ID and get an instant 5% discount at the following locations:

19721 Frederick Rd, Germantown, MD 20876  
Tel. 301.515.5585 Fax. 301.515.5584

16593 River Ridge Blvd., Woodbridge, VA 22191  
Tel. 703.221.0272 Fax. 703.221.6665

9946 Liberia Ave., Manassas, VA 20110  
Tel. 703.365.9312 Fax. 703.365.9315

You can also visit their website at:  
[www.superqmart.com](http://www.superqmart.com)

## UNVA FORMS ALLIANCE IN CAIRO, EGYPT

Mansoura Academy for Science, Technology & Information Systems (MASTIS) and UNVA signed a partnership agreement. MASTIS becomes another site for UNVA serving students in Egypt and the Middle East region. Dr. Daniel Ho and Dr. David Lee visited the MASTIS location in Cairo, Egypt in September, 2009 to finalize the agreement.

UNVA's new site in Egypt offers UNVA students around the world a unique opportunity to visit Egypt and study for credit or to audit some courses. These classes can be transferred to their current programs of study as part of an exchange program.

### **Some of the courses offered by MASTIS:**

Middle East Studies

Survey of Arab History

Peoples & Culture of the Middle East & North Africa

Arab – Islamic Civilization in the Classical age.

History of the Middle East in 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Women, Islam, and the State

Islamic Law

Islamic Institutions

Classical & Modern Arabic literature in Translation Studies in Ibn Khaldon.

Islamic History & Architecture.



## UNVA SUCCESS STORIES – HAITAO BI

Haitao Bi has had a busy year. She graduated this year from UNVA with a Master in Accountancy (MAC) degree with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. Then she found a position as a staff accountant working for M. Silver Associates in New York City. Her company is a public relations firm that has been in business for 45 years and specializes in consumer marketing and public relations.

Ms. Bi, who is known as Lucy to her professors and classmates, is originally from Shenyang City in Liaoning Province in northern China. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Industry Foreign Trade from Northeastern University, which is located in Shenyang, China.

Her goal in the short term is to learn as much as she can since she is new in the company. Lucy said, "After I have a good performance rating in the company, I want to get a higher

position and obtain a CPA certificate." Meanwhile, her long term goal is to obtain a green card, get a government job and eventually start her own business.

Lucy praised her UNVA education by saying, "UNVA gave me the accounting fundamentals and opened doors with brilliant career opportunities. In my opinion, our school's accounting program is excellent since it not only covers all the accounting fields, but also specializes in the skills we apply in our jobs. Further, I realized that my knowledge from UNVA is no different from those of accountants from other so called famous universities."

Ms. Bi has tips for UNVA students:

1. Learn from experiences from others. I always collected information related to interviews from my teachers, friends and classmates.
2. Develop your network. A good referral is better than sending hundreds of resumes.

3. Dress properly: Some firms, like my company, pay more attention to your dress and appearance.

4. Write a thank you letter after interview: It is necessary to show your appreciation to interviewers since they spend time for you.

5. Be confident! Even in this economic down turn, there are still job opportunities waiting for you somewhere. So don't give up!



## A NOTE TO OUR STUDENTS

By Professor Ahmad Noor

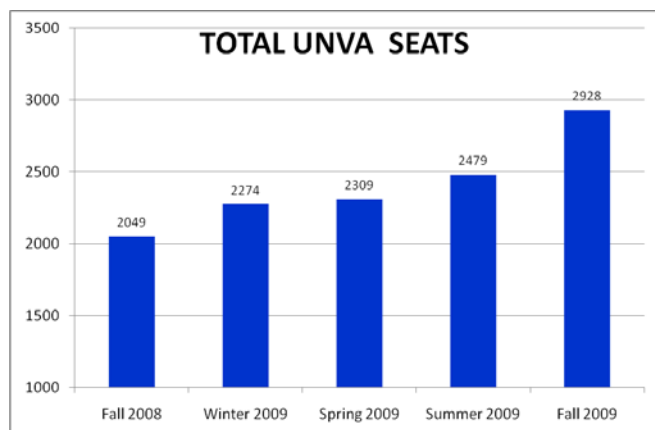
At the University of Northern Virginia we strive to offer unparalleled education and student services. That means that we stay on top of industry trends and new technologies. Over the past several quarters we have been changing our system to provide greater services and more flexible course offerings to our students. Our new registration and record keeping system will complement and strengthen our philosophy of providing excellent service to our students.

While we are improving our academic standards, we are also proud of our success with finding jobs for our international students through Curricular Practical Training (CPT) and Optional Practical Training (OPT) programs. These training programs are related to the student's field of study and supplement the student's learning experience at UNVA.

Our international student advisors are well trained and highly experienced with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) regulations. They follow government requirements carefully and their leadership has given UNVA successful CPT and OPT programs.

As we continue with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation process, we will continue to increase our scholastic standards and we will continue to provide practical training programs to our students.

As you can see from the chart below, UNVA has been growing rapidly in the past year and we are planning for further growth in the future after our accreditation. So these are exciting times for UNVA and you play a big part in our developmental plans!



## UNVA STUDENT SPEAKS ON CAPITOL HILL

Muhammad Jawad Khan, a Doctoral Candidate in UNVA's DBA program, was invited to a panel on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. He met with other panelists and gave briefings to members of different committees and staffers. The meetings were organized by 3D Security Initiative, an NGO that connects people with committees on the Hill. You can see Jawad's interview at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k7oYnOEs9a8> .



Jawad is from Pakistan and is currently involved in research related to Post Conflict Management, which is his subject for his doctoral dissertation. He also has taught undergraduate and graduate classes at UNVA.

## CAREER CORNER

**Question:** *How many pages for a resume?*

**Answer:** It depends on how much experience you have. A student with little work experience should normally use one page. Students with more work experience and other valuable achievements will probably need two pages. In either case, students should only list valuable information and not waste time and paper with dull and minor details.

The first half of the first page is the most important section because managers scan a resume quickly for significant accomplishments. They are looking for contributions you made to your previous employers, honors you received at schools, and special awards and skills. Here are some examples for your resume:

- Graduated with honors from UNVA
- MBA in Finance from UNVA with a 3.9 GPA
- Handled \$5 million in Accounts Receivables
- Improved quality control by 10%

So, boost your resume with notable facts to make your resume stand out and make a potential employer eager to interview you!

## UNVA'S PRAGUE LOCATION DEVELOPED SEVERAL NEW RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES THIS SEMESTER

In the period from September until now, UNVA Prague has been busy developing and improving the offerings for students both in an academic sense and in the social sphere. Efforts have been split between online (virtual) and 'real-world' pursuits.

In the virtual realm, Kaveh Kalantar at the branch campus has greatly expanded the [www.unva.cz](http://www.unva.cz) web portal. MyUNVA.com is an interactive virtual space designed to facilitate student to student, student to faculty, and faculty to staff collaboration. The new site is powered by *Google* and boasts more than 100 regular users. The number of patrons is increasing on a weekly basis and as content continues to grow that number is expected to rise at a fast pace.

The UNVAmagazine.com site includes articles from students, faculty, and friends of the University. [UNVAmagazine.com](http://UNVAmagazine.com) is edited by renowned author, publisher, and blogger Ken Nicholas. Content is updated on a daily basis and this is aided by contests to attract new material providers.

In partnership with *Cinema Village* (a Europe-wide movie theatre group) UNVA-Prague offers movie tickets for approved and published articles submitted by a growing body of contributors. A 'Golden V.I.P.' cinema pass is awarded to the author of the *Article of the Month* and more significantly the author of the *Article of the Year* will walk off with the latest version of the Iphone. [UNVAchannel.com](http://UNVAchannel.com) is the media center of UNVA-Prague where video projects created by students are showcased. There are a number of videos already on the site with many more under development.

The Virginia in Prague Student Council has been re-configured to adopt a self-managing team structure. In the absence of a deciding vote from a president, all decisions are reached by consensus and persuasion. This is helping to develop the negotiating skills of Student Council participants. There are planned activities throughout the year, but so far these have concentrated on sporting activities (predominantly soccer). The Virginia in Prague Student Council hosted a Halloween Party with well in excess of 100 attendees from UNVA-Prague and the other universities in the city. Student Council members organized a *Bowling Night* where more than thirty students and faculty enjoyed an opportunity to better know one another.

A Forex training program has been created and is currently in full swing. This Forex training is provided for students and friends of the University to develop their understanding of investment strategies in the foreign exchange market. The training program has attracted BBA students, MBA students, and others. Staff and students attended a gala award ceremony for forex training, where one of our MBA students won a laptop computer.

Johnny Ho, President of UNVA Prague, has been instrumental in developing first class facilities for free time activities for students. The student lounge has been upgraded to include futsal, table-tennis, chess boards, American pool and table hockey all within an environment that benefits from comfortable beanbag seating. The students now have a dedicated study room that facilitates quiet study for up to twelve students at one time.

The Toyota Motor Corporation was represented at UNVA-Prague by one of their research teams, lead by a senior researcher Mr. Kaida. The Toyota team presented their new vision for the future to UNVA-Prague students. After a two hour interactive question and answer sessions a small group of students assembled to assist the research team with more focused research matters. The Toyota team is shown in the photograph below.



In the next report, we look forward to covering the student trip to Berlin and the various activities around Christmas.

# UNVA DEAN'S LIST FOR SUMMER 2009 QUADMESTER

<b>Doctoral</b>	<b>GPA</b>				
Adhikari, Subas	4.00	James, Shiju P.	4.00	Qiu, Dongjian	4.00
Ashon, Nathaniel Jojo	4.00	Jha, Shilpi	4.00	Rai, Mani R.	4.00
Dahiya, Ritu	4.00	Joshi, Rajnish	4.00	Ramanathan , Jeevitha	4.00
Fologang, Donald Othusitse	4.00	Karki, Dipesh	4.00	Raval, Sheekha B.	4.00
Gorla, Hemachandra Reddy	4.00	Khilnani, Leena	4.00	Ravilla, Sukeerthi	3.90
Khan, Muhammad Jawad	4.00	Kim, Ji Yeon	4.00	Raziyeva, Mukhabat	4.00
Ligate, Obed H.	4.00	Kochhar, Reema	4.00	Reddy , Vangala Chinni Prashanth	4.00
OSSIPENKO, OLESJA	4.00	Kodali, Sridevi	4.00	Sagiraju Chandraraju, Deepa Chandru	3.90
Wang, Yu-Bing	4.00	Kondakindi, Swathi Reddy	4.00	Saini , Gaganpreet	4.00
Wu, Hui-Chuan	4.00	Kondoju, Sunitha	4.00	Sajja, Sobhan B.	3.92
		Kothapalli , Swapna	4.00	Sanga, Krishna K	4.00
		Kotwal, Vidul Krishna	4.00	Sanghvi, Dimple	4.00
		Krishna Murthy Godavarthi, Divya	4.00	Sejpal, Kajal Dineshkumar	4.00
<b>Master</b>	<b>GPA</b>	Kumar, Santosh	4.00	Shenoy, Narasimha S.	3.91
Achanta, Sriram Prasad	4.00	Lampthey, Emmanuel N.	4.00	Shivji, Shahdil S.	3.92
Amaning, Kwarteng	4.00	Leung, Wai Kwan	4.00	Shree, Preety	4.00
Anbalagan, Madhumidha	4.00	Liu, Hua	4.00	Shukla, Charu	4.00
Arora, Shalini	4.00	Liu, Jeanne	3.91	Singh, Ramanpreet	4.00
B K, Snehal	4.00	Liu, XiaoJing	4.00	Singh, Santosh	4.00
Bae, Jung Ho	4.00	Lkhagvadorj, Ankhmaa	4.00	Sinha, Abhishek	3.92
Basnyat, Priti	4.00	Ludhani, Deepak	4.00	Sridharan, Suresh	4.00
Bhamla, Aqsa Mohammed Hasham	4.00	Maleki, Zahra	4.00	Sujo Romero, Sey Lu Fabiola	4.00
Bhardwaj, Meenakshi R	4.00	Malik, Muhammad Usman I	4.00	Taneja, Shilpi	4.00
Bharti, Reena	3.91	Manchikanti , Santoshi	4.00	Tesfaye, Melat	4.00
Bolledula, Srinath	4.00	Mangal, Bhavna	4.00	Thapa, Raman	3.91
Cai, Liang	4.00	Moodliar, Venkatesh	4.00	Thejaswini, Nagral A.	4.00
Cao, Wen	3.92	Motschmann, Rowena F.	3.90	Thomas, Gautam	4.00
Chaand, Akshay	4.00	Mukungu, Martha NP	4.00	Tripathi, Kamla	4.00
Chandrasekharan, Uthra	4.00	Muvva, Ramya Krishna	4.00	Tummala, Swathi	3.90
Chitipirlla, Abhiram	4.00	Mwenje, Samuel D	3.91	Utupan, Rodica	4.00
Chunduri, Satya	4.00	Nallapareddy, Pruthvi	4.00	Varshney, Noopur	4.00
Cui, Yuan Yuan	4.00	Nannuri, Kavitha	3.90	Ventrpragada, Gopal S	4.00
Dahiya, Shikha	4.00	Nauronyte, Jolanta	4.00	Vieira, Mariana W.	4.00
Daud, Jordan Gideon	4.00	Nepal, Archana	4.00	Woldekidan, Zebenay K.	4.00
Debele, Meselech	4.00	Nes, Gaurang Dahyabhai	4.00	Yan, Lingna	4.00
Deshavath, Ravindra Naik	4.00	Oh, Choor Sime	4.00	Yi, Shin Wook	4.00
Devarajulu, Ganesh Babu	4.00	Palagiri, Pavithra	3.92	Yin, Jifang	4.00
Dhiman, Sharik	4.00	Paldano, Antonio Gerard Dylan	4.00	Zivkovic, Bojan	3.90
Dsouza, Shobha	4.00	Patel , Parehkumar Rasikbhai	4.00		
Ganeshan, Deepa	4.00	Patel, Sawan Rajeshkumar	4.00	<b>Undergraduate</b>	<b>GPA</b>
Gebremariam, Daniel Belay	4.00	Patel, Shwetakumari Mahendrabhai	4.00	Bezu, Asnakech	4.00
Guduru, Sailesh Kumar	4.00	Patel, Vaishali Hiralal	4.00	Woldeyohannes	
Harpalani, Ajay	4.00	Pendharkar, Sheetal Vikas	4.00		
Jaisingh, Sippika	4.00	Phirieepa, Lesego	4.00		