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Let us hope 2004 brings good health, prosperity, and success for all. We have lined up several interesting feature articles in this issue of *Decision Line*. In the President's letter, Professor Barbara Flynn, Wake Forest University, recognizes the valuable contributions made by the Program Committee in organizing the very successful annual meeting in Washington, D.C., and the efforts of numerous other volunteers. We wish Professor Flynn a speedy road to full recovery from her surgery.

Professor Madeliene Pullman of Cornell University describes several approaches to internationalize business programs in the International Issues column. Some of the approaches such as the use of guest speakers, international cases, and readings are easy to implement, while others such as field trips and student and faculty exchange programs are more challenging. In an ever increasingly global business environment, it is critical for faculty to be involved with international programs.

In the Information Technology column, Professors Michael McNeese, Sandeep Puroo, James Thomas, and John Yen, Pennsylvania State University, explain that focusing on problem-based, interdisciplinary research in the core areas of people, technology, and information has attracted external funding from sources such as the National Science Foundation, Lockheed Martin, and Ford Motor Company.

The E-Commerce feature by Greg Sherbon, Resorts International Hotel, Inc., discusses the growing problem of the quantity of paperwork generated in the workplace. He explains that incorporating technology to reduce paper is necessary to improve efficiency. However, he believes that "it will take some time for people to adapt to paperless technology."

In the column on Doctoral Issues, Professor Andrew Gold, University of South Carolina, explains how students can optimize their experience in doctoral seminars. The faculty must provide structure and di-

rection in doctoral seminars so that the students can improve their skills, get ready for comprehensive examinations, and better prepare for life as a researcher. Students also benefit by turning research seminar papers into conference papers and possibly published articles.

George Benson, dean of the Terry College of Business, University of Georgia, provides an interesting history of the development of U.S. business education from "apprenticeships, to bookkeeping and commercial training, to collegiate education based in arts and sciences colleges and economics departments, to today's full-service schools and colleges of business."

Many of you already know of the loss of Andrew Vazsonyi, who served for many years as the feature editor of the "Specialist with a Universal Mind" column. Out of respect for Professor Vazsonyi's contribution to *Decision Line*, the "Specialist with a Universal Mind" column will rest with him. Over the years he has written many insightful as well as thought-provoking columns and his absence will be sadly missed by all of us associated with *Decision Line*. Professor Nancy Weida of Bucknell University pays tribute to Professor Vazsonyi as a mentor, collaborator, and friend.

Professor Sathasivam Mathiyalakan, University of Massachusetts Boston, reviews three books for an introductory course in management information systems: *Principles of Information Systems* (6th ed.), by Ralph M. Stair and George W. Reynolds; *Management Information Systems* (3rd ed.), by Effy Oz; and *Introduction to Information Technology* (2nd ed.), by Efraim Turban, R. Kelly Rainer, and Richard E. Potter. All three textbooks provide a "suitable fit with the model curricula."

Have a Happy New Year!! ■



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