

UT program provides transition opportunity into business professorship

By Allison Sproul
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As economic changes move white-collar jobs overseas and science and engineering experts find themselves looking for career changes, a program at The University of Toledo College of Business Administration has been developed to enable those with non-doctoral degrees to quickly and easily make the transition into business academe.



Dr. Anand Kunnathur, senior associate dean in the College of Business Administration, right, and Dr. Robert Yonker, assistant professor of management, review applications for the college's new Postdoctoral Bridge to Business Program.

In addition to today's economic changes, the Postdoctoral Bridge to Business Program addresses the current shortage of roughly 1,100 business PhDs that will more than double to 2,400 or greater by 2012. Selected by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, the program, one of five programs internationally and the only one in the Midwest, creates a pathway to business professorships for PhDs both inside and outside a university setting from a variety of disciplines, addressing the demand/supply imbalance of business faculty.

"Business overlaps with a large cross section of academic, private and public sector disciplines," said Dr. Anand Kunnathur, senior associate dean in the College of Business Administration. "Everything from mathematics and economics to public administration and psychology to physics and chemistry — the linkages to business are closer than you might initially think, and these people have a great deal to offer new business students."

The program is a seven-week intensive session over the summer during which business topics — marketing, supply chain management, sales, etc. — are taught or refreshed. The program costs \$25,000, which includes tuition, lodging and food expenses, and applications are being considered through mid-June. Final timelines for the program are being worked out.

Kunnathur noted how quickly participants will see a return on that investment, pointing out that assistant professors of information systems or operations management commonly earn salaries right near \$100,000, more than double those of other disciplines.

For more information on the program, visit <http://utoledo.edu/business/aacsbbridge> or call Kunnathur at 419.530.5644.