

OPTION II OPTIONS

The Newsletter of the University of Texas at Austin Option II Executive MBA Association

July, 2001

Exercise Your Right To Stay Connected

This Ain't Your Father's Option II Alumni Association!

www.optionii.com

... and the livin' is easy ...

Hello again from me, Ed Paulson, and your other Option II Board of Directors. Summer is here and hopefully you are basking in the glow of vacations, barbecues and leisurely pool parties. If you are not, then, to quote that great philosopher, Monty Python, "Get On With It."



Thank you to all those who responded to my last newsletter's call for feedback. The response was gratifying and substantial, much of which you will see included in this issue. "Keep them cards and letters comin', you hear!" We really are a substantial group, as you will see. As a final administrative note, remember that the Fall Seminar, "The Strategy of the Partnership", is scheduled for September 21st, and looks to be a great event. You should have already received a flyer with information about the event and a registration form. Please take a few minutes to, now, complete the registration form and mail it in or register at the Web site, www.optionii.com. These seminars are great and if you get one concept, thought, idea or inspiration from it, the cost is easily justified. And, having attended many of these myself, you will get that one "ah-hah." It just happens. But you need to show up to help not only yourself in particular, but also Option II in general.

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Alumni Corral

Rick Relyea ('83) is working with Eli Cox, former Option II Director and professor who is now the Director of the UT Business School Honors Program.

Eli has amassed a group of Option II alumni with the common goal of establishing scholarships for academically qualified but financially constrained (in other words, very smart but very poor) students to be able to enter the UT Business Honors Program. Almost \$100,000 has been raised towards that effort to date.

"I can think of no other endeavor that has been more satisfying to me personally than being involved in these kid's lives," says Rick, and he encourages all Option II alumni to consider becoming part of this effort. Eli can be reached by phone at 471-5431 or by email epcii@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu.

Rick is himself a busy beaver. He was just asked to be on the Strategic Planning Board of the Mechanical Engineering School (already number one ranked in Texas) to develop a plan to move it to the number one ranking in the nation.

Donna Prestwood ('85) just returned to the corporate world, after many years as a consultant, to work as the Customer Service Marketing Manager for Tokyo Electron America, Inc. They created the position for her and she "just couldn't refuse." Tokyo Electron America (TEA) makes the equipment that makes the wafers & chips.

Robert D. Thomas ('00) has left his business development internet startup, Yclip.com and a partnership at an Austin law firm to form his own law firm, Thomas, Hudson & Nelson, L.L.P. Robert's business focus is representing small to medium sized established and high growth companies as a business strategist and outside general counsel.

Allen Monroe ('00) is working to develop a public/private partnership with the City of Austin to build a world class public aquarium in Austin. This

aquatic science center will be located along Town Lake and would offer education, recreation and economic development opportunities for central Texas. Additional board members are currently being recruited so if you know of someone who would be of value to this project, feel free to make an introduction. See the web site at www.main.org/aquarium for more info.

Brett Field ('94) has fallen prey to the entrepreneurial bug (again) by forming 'DigitalePrint', an on-line digital printing service firm. He claims that anyone can send him a file to print and have it turned around in under 24 hours and challenges Option II alumni to test his claim. www.digitalePrint.com

Luan Duy Nguyen ('93) co-founded Web Office Inc. in Feb 2000, as an Internet infrastructure company providing a unique Internet communications platform, ILANd, which gives global enterprises a scalable solution for the delivery of high quality multimedia contents worldwide. They are part of the Austin Technology Incubator (ATI). He also taught a 2nd-year UT MBA class on "Strategic Analysis for Hi-Tech Industries"

Tiana Scruggs celebrated her 25th year with UT this year. She has been with the Option II MBA Program since 1981, the very beginning of the program. Dan Short wasn't enough to get me into the program ... thank goodness for Tiana. ☺ She has an amazing memory; and chances are pretty good that if your name came up in conversation, she'd know you were an Option II Alumni. Please send her your congratulations at tscruggs@optionii.bus.utexas.

Regional Option IIsdays

DFW Events

Monday, August 6th, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

* Welcome the Class of 2003 at Mattito's Restaurant, at the intersection of Routh St. and Cedar Springs, near downtown Dallas

* Court Huber will attend

* Cost: \$20 per person for food, payable by cash or check at the door

* Cash Bar

* Spouses or other guests are welcome

* Please RSVP for this event no later than Wednesday, August 1st, to Belinda Marshall at belinda.marshall@aa.com or (817)963-5013 (office phone), as she must guarantee a count to the restaurant.

Austin Events

August 14, 6-8pm, Barton Creek Resort, Jim Bob's Bar and Grill. Cash bar.

Meet new class members and mingle with alumni.

Fall Seminar Registration Update

1. Look for your seminar flyer in the mail. **Register easily at the Option II Web Site: www.optionii.com**
2. The seminar brochure included an 800 number for the Club Hotel by Doubletree to make reservations. If you have experienced any problems getting the Option II rate at the national number, please call the Austin local hotel at 512-479-4000 and ask to speak with Jenny Liang, Director or Sales.
3. Finally, use the Web to obtain information about the speakers and their companies. Links are included in the brochure and you should be able to find more than enough information for even the most inquiring minds.
4. The next newsletter will provide more details about the seminar and the weekend's activities. And other stuff, too.



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