

OPTIONALS

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

May, 2001

Summer. A Time to Bask in the Radiance of Knowledge

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

Another May ... Another Option II Newsletter

Riddle me this, if you will: almost 1,000 alumni received the last Options newsletter and three alumni responded to me in any way.



This lack of response from the general membership can mean one of several things: 1) you cannot (unlikely) or did not read the last newsletter, 2) you simply don't have anything going on of interest in your life or 3) you just did not take the time to drop me a line about your activities.

It can't be number two since I know that you all have great doings of one type or another going on, or you simply would not be Option II graduates. So, what is going on with you all? OK. I'll start.

My (**Ed Paulson '90**) next book, "Inside Cisco" - from John Wiley and Sons, will come out in the fall and investigates Cisco Systems' "gold standard" acquisition practices.

Betty Otter-Nickerson ('91) has been named CEO of start-up company Elegant, Inc. after her nine years at BMC Software. Read the details at <http://austin.bcentral.com/austin/stories/2001> for the week of May 14 "Getting a fresh start."

Jack ('91) and Rosemary Lacy announce the launching of Healthy, Wealthy Lifestyles, a company designed to protect their clients' most important asset - their health. Their products are developed by Mannatech, Inc., the leading R&D company in Glycobiology. This use of carbohydrate technology, according to Jack, applied to nutrition has shown positive results that range from good to great to mind-boggling. (Mind boggling sounds good!)

It is just that simple to provide us with information that lets others know what you are up to. The '90 and '91 classes are represented. Is anyone else out there?

This newsletter is now only two pages long because that is all the space it needs to include such little feedback as is being provided. The more feedback I get, the longer I can make the newsletter. Simple. Try this as a simple remedy to this lack of feedback situation: after you read this edition, simply take a few moments and drop me a one or two sentence email about what you are doing. That is all it takes.

With your help we can make your Option II affiliation more valuable as time goes on. Help us to make our association as valuable as possible not only for us but also for those that follow.

Email: author@edpaulson.com
Phone: 630-960-3299

Regional Option II sdays

San Antonio - July 10. Alumni will gather at Chris Madrid's, 1900 Blanco, 6pm. Cash bar/food.

Austin - July 10, 7pm, Round Rock Express vs. Midland Rock Hounds, Dell diamond. The Region is buying the tickets but you pay for your own food and drinks. RSVP mandatory to get an accurate ticket count. First come, first served! RSVP early to **Jose Chacon** (512) 419-1359 or email: jose.chacon@motorola.com.

Austin - August 14, 6-8pm, Barton Creek Resort, Jim Bob's Bar and Grill. Cash bar. Meet new class members and mingle with alumni.

Fall Business Seminar

"The Strategy of the Partnership"

Friday, September 21, 2001

8AM - 5 PM

Joe C. Thompson Conference Center on the University of Texas campus

Registration begins June 15th. Seminar brochure with full details to go out mid-June.

Speakers and activities are set to visit the strategic considerations and the critical roles in the development of partnerships that prevail throughout the many facets of corporate life - people, finance, channel opportunities, community, and resources.

Date Change - Reminder

In the past the seminar has coincided with the first weekend of class, and added to the excitement, and some would say, the turmoil, of the return to campus for the Option II classes. Scheduling the event for the second weekend sets a better pace for all the participants, especially the Option II staff who can now participate more fully in the alumni activities.

A Full Weekend Of Activities

The events will be expanded through Sunday, creating a reunion weekend that will hopefully entice more alumni to return. Many traditional events will remain on the schedule: the gathering on Thursday evening, the seminar and the cocktail party on Friday, and the Saturday golf tournament. On Saturday we will add other campus activities and a dinner for all alumni. And, the 10 year reunion activities will be expanded: this year we recognize the Class of 1991!

Mark your calendars for Option II Revisited - September 21-23, 2001.

A Brief Interview With Dave Jemison

Q: Is there a trend or recent event in the business world that you find surprising, interesting, dangerous, or noteworthy?

A: Strategy matters so do profits, and free lunches are out. As the French say, "The more things change, the more they stay the same." My sense is that the recent stock market correction has reinforced the need to get back to some basics. Does our firm (or business unit) have a solid purpose that will allow us to survive in an increasingly competitive marketplace? Do we have a strategy in place that will allow us to chart a course to achieve that purpose? Do we have and/or are we developing the capabilities necessary for continued success in future? It seems that some management teams may have forgotten the need for strategic basics coupled with the agility to respond to ever changing market forces.

Houston Area June 12th Event and Other Activities

There are roughly 140 Option II alumni in the Houston area. Everybody pitch in and help us keep e-mail addresses and phone numbers up to date by providing "move" information to the OII office and also to **Grant Haddix** at (281) 395-0159 or email address listed below.

What: Option IIsday and Discussion With Steve Tomlinson (See below for details.)
When: Tuesday June 12, 2001, 6:30 to 9 pm
Where: Ruggles Grill at Enron Field (Texas & Crawford, Downtown Houston)
Agenda: 6:30 to 7:30: Appetizers and Cash Bar
7:30 to 7:45: Houston Alumni Events Discussion (next events, Curtis Bissonnette)
7:45 to 9:00: Professor **Steve Tomlinson**, Spirituality and its Relationship to Business Values

To Attend: RSVP to Grant Haddix (via e-mail reply, ghaddix@aol.com) by June 7.
Send \$30 check made out to: **Walter Guidroz** Address: 243 Litchfield Ln, Houston, TX 77024

The \$30 covers fees for the speaker, using the restaurant, and appetizers. As before, dinner is not covered and there is no obligation to eat dinner at Ruggles. We will accept \$30 at the door, but please try to plan ahead (i.e. RSVP and send check by June 7). For those that attended in March, the reason for the price increase (above \$20) is simple: In order to bring you high quality speakers related to the OII program (or otherwise), it will be necessary to increase the price to allow for remuneration of the speakers (or worthy cause of their choosing). We will not be able to consistently provide quality speakers like Court Huber (who works for free... ;) at \$20/event. We remind you that we operate as a non-profit organization with a mission to create incremental value around your OII education. ps\Walter is the Houston area treasurer.



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