



Chicago Campus Business

Dr. Bharat Thakkar

Argosy Business Professor Dr. Bharat Thakkar brings extensive teaching experience through the many business courses that he has taught at several colleges and universities including for the Midwest College of Engineering where he was Chairman of the Mechanical Engineering Department. Thus far his teaching emphasis has been in operations management, change, decision-making, leadership, and research. He earned Ph.D. and M.S. degrees from the Illinois Institute of Technology at Chicago.

In addition to teaching experience, Dr. Thakkar brings management and industrial experience and perspective to the classroom. He worked for Lucent Technologies (formerly AT&T Bell Laboratories), and Argonne National Laboratories, and continues as a consultant and CEO with PREM Group, Inc., Wheaton, Illinois, where he provides workshops and seminars on engineering and technology management problems to domestic and international clients. Dr. Thakkar has published and presented over twenty technical papers and holds two U. S. patents. He also has received several awards for community service and affirmative action activities at Bell Labs.

Dr. Elias Demetriades

Dr. Demetriades has spent most of his career in various managerial and consulting engagements in the US, Europe, and Africa. He has taught undergraduate and graduate course for 15 years.

He currently teaches undergraduate math and economics courses, as well as economics, management and finance at the graduate level while consulting in finance (quantitative modeling, alternative investments, risk management).

He holds a B.S. in Business Administration (concentration in Marketing), an MBA from IMD in Switzerland, and a Ph.D. in Management Science (concentration in Finance).

Dr. James A. Ramos

Dr. Ramos began his career in advertising, planning the media and negotiating advertising space prices for clients, which included, Benetton, Louis Vuitton, Christian Dior, Givenchy, Prudential Securities, Pedigree Dog Food, Sheba Cat Food, Roman Meal Bread, and Tanqueray Gin. He also worked at NBC on projects to streamline communication with viewers, employees, and the press. Dr. Ramos has a keen interest in online consumer behavior, product placement, and new media and marketing tactics. He is a firm believer in collaborative learning. Dr. Ramos earned his Ph.D. in Mass Media from the Department of Advertising at Michigan State University, his M.A. in Communication Management from the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Southern California, and his B.A. in Communication from the Department of Communication and Media Studies at Fordham University.

Dr. Phyllis Anderson

Dr. Phyllis Anderson, Ph.D. Management, MBA, has taught at several higher-ed institutions and various business courses. She received a University Excellence Award. She also has several years' work experience in the private sector including with B. F. Goodrich, Continental Can, and United States Steel. Dr. Anderson has authored several publications and is a member of numerous management associations.

Dr. Robert Castaneda

Dr. Roberto Castaneda received his DBA in Accounting from Argosy University, an MM/MBA in Marketing and Finance from Northwestern University, and an undergraduate degree in Accounting and Marketing from DePaul University. He is also a Certified Public Accountant. Dr. Castaneda has worked in senior finance positions at American Express, PepsiCo, and McDonald's Corporation in a number of countries.

Dr. Mohammad Malkawi

During the last three years, Dr. Malkawi was one of the prime architects of the High Productivity/Performance Computing Systems at Sun Microsystems. This is a project sponsored by the Department of Defense Advanced Research Program Agency. His involvement was in the fault tolerance aspect of the system.

- Dr. Malkawi co-founded and is acting VP of a startup company (AIM Wireless Solutions). This company develops and provides high performance and highly reliable software systems. This group has developed several packages for the telecomm industry. The products provide ultra high speed performance.
 - Dr. Malkawi is a visiting Research Scientist at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC).
 - Dr. Malkawi holds the position of "International Program Coordinator" for Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST). He recently arranged for JUST to establish a joint collaborative program in Engineering Sciences with University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.
 - He supervises graduate students at M.S. and Ph.D. levels at UIUC, JUST, and other universities in Jordan.
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Dr. William Nowlin

Dr. William Nowlin teaches courses in educational administration, organizational leadership, and business. He has published articles on employee and workplace issues. He holds a Ph.D. in Higher Education (University of Buffalo), Masters of Public Administration (State University of New York, Brockport), and a MS in Organizational Psychology, (Kansas State University) and a BA in Business Administration (State University of New York, Empire). He is a professor at Governors State University; he a former dean and a former Interim Vice President and CEO of the GSU Foundation.

Dr. Edward Balli

Dr. Edward N. Balli is a partner in Financial and Managerial Solutions in Dekalb, Illinois. He earned a Doctorate in Business Administration in Accounting with a minor in MIS from Argosy University. His experience is in working with small to medium size private and public firms in the Midwest with accounting and information systems. The recommendations may include a complete audit of the operations to recommendations of proposed application software, telecommunications, and hardware. He has over 25 years of experience and has taught part-time for over 12 years at Aurora University in business courses. He is a member of American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA);

Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA); Certified Internal Auditor (CIA); Special Interest Group on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (SIGKDD); and Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM); American Mathematical Society (AMS) and Illinois CPA Society (ICPAS).

William Fanizzo

William Fanizzo is a principal in Advantage Business Solutions Inc., which is an industrial staffing brokerage company that specializes in permanent placement as well as temporary placement personnel. This is a new venture for him (six yrs) and unique to the industry. Prior to the staffing company Mr. Fanizzo was a founding partner and General Manager in Contract Food Management, Inc (CFM) for 16 years, after which he negotiated the sale of the business to a competitor. CFM was a Foodservice Management Company that provided management services to restaurants, colleges, and employee cafeterias for third parties.

Mr. Fanizzo has been involved in other entrepreneurial efforts in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area where he formed an S-corporation and sold shares of stock in a start-up restaurant and purchased an ongoing business from a retiring couple. He received much of his training from ARAMARK and Canteen Corporation where he managed several public restaurants and numerous academic and industrial facilities. During this time he developed his skills in cost control and management.

Mr. Fanizzo has taught Food Preparation at Purdue University. He has served on the scholarship selection panel for the National Restaurant Association, as well as on academic advisory boards in Minnesota and Indiana. He has been a consultant to various companies; most recently a retirement home and a manufacturing company, both located in the northern suburbs of Chicago. He has been a consultant to Enterprises for the Blind for the State of Minnesota.

Mr. Fanizzo received his MBA from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management 2002 and his Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Illinois University 1969. He is currently pursuing the DBA, Doctorate of Business Administration, degree in Management at Argosy University.

Brandon Hamilton

Brandon Hamilton is President of Hamilton's Solutions, Incorporated. He has over 25 years in engineering, public relations, project management, operations management, productivity analysis, e-commerce, telecommunications, marketing, and the application of technology to business strategy, management, and decision-making. Prior to teaching, he was a systems engineer for Stone & Webster Engineering, Southern California Edison and eventually President of World Marketing Services, a television production company. After many years in corporate America, he started a consulting company. This corporation, Hamilton's Solutions, has designed telecommunication systems and software applications in performance metrics, relationship marketing, market analysis, financial planning, fundraising management, law, hospital administration, and sales force management. On the West Coast, the company has consulted for Los Angeles Department of Health Services, the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, Drew University of Medicine and Science, Children's Institute International, Ben and Jerry's of California, Harley Davidson Motorcycles and the City of Hope. Since relocating to the Midwest, Brandon Hamilton has consulted for Chicago Public Schools, McGrathAutoGroup.com, LaPorte County (Indiana) Department of Health, Catholic Diocese of Northwest Indiana, Trinity United Church of Christ, and the Chicago Urban League.

Besides Argosy University, he also teaches at DeVry University and Keller Graduate School of Management. He has also taught at the University of Phoenix, Los Angeles Valley College, Ivy Tech State College, Chicago City Colleges, University of California at Los Angeles, Westwood College of Technology, and Northeastern Illinois University. He completed doctoral coursework in educational leadership, administration, and foundations at Indiana State University. He holds a Bachelor of Science in engineering from the University of Illinois, a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Southern California, and a Masters of Information Systems Management from DeVry University. He is pursuing a Doctorate in Business Administration at Argosy University.