

Society for the Advancement of Information Systems  
MBAA Abstract April 18 - 20, 2018 Chicago

Authors:

Dr. Abbas Foroughi  
Chair, Department of Management & IS  
Romain College of Business  
University of Southern Indiana  
8600 University Blvd., Evansville IN 47712  
812-465-1667  
aforough@usi.edu

Dr. Jack Smothers  
MBA Program Director  
Romain College of Business  
University of Southern Indiana  
8600 University Blvd., Evansville IN 47712  
812-461-5248  
jesmothers@usi.edu

Dr. Mohammed Khayum  
Dean, Romain College of business  
University of Southern Indiana  
8600 University Blvd. 47712  
812465-1681  
mkhayum@usi.edu

Title: Administrative, Faculty, and Student Perspectives on a Two-Year Transition to a Large-Enrollment Online MBA Program: Challenges and Opportunities.

Keywords: MBA Programs, Online MBA Programs, Faculty Resources, Administrative Support for Online Higher Education Innovations, Blackboard.

This paper describes the challenges encountered by graduate faculty at a Midwestern public university as it transitioned to a totally online MBA Program that now offers MBA classes of up to 300+ students. Over a short span of two years, faculty made the appropriate adjustments in teaching methods, structured assignments and interactions with students, coordinated course delivery with academic coaches, and dealt with other issues, all with limited resources. MBA administrators offered revenue sharing with faculty as incentives for the additional work required to transition face-to-face courses to online formats, and the structure of the MBA Program was changed. Challenges faced, lessons learned, and student feedback are discussed. Specific examples are given of changes made to the program's graduate-level Management Information Systems course and the Management Leadership Skills and Innovation course.