The Global Executive Track: PhD in Industrial Engineering

“Bridging the gap between the academic and business worlds.”
THE WAYNE STATE GLOBAL EXECUTIVE TRACK PHD:
MORE THAN A REQUIRED CREDENTIAL

Filled with talented leaders who want to do more than simply earn a credential that can carry them higher in industry, the WSU Global Executive Track PhD is for driven people. It is for those who have a resume full of accomplishments to prove that their success isn't dependent upon a degree. It is for driven learners who want an educational experience that will challenge and invigorate them - and take their thinking to a whole new level. Their strategic and in-depth view of their research area can help their organization develop new and innovative business practices.

OUR MISSION

To provide opportunities for working executives to combine real-world experience with academic skills to create a new class of technical leaders who embrace integrative thinking, are globally aware, and are capable of producing sustainable value to any organization throughout the world.
Donna Bell,
Director, Technology and Feature Strategy & Planning Enterprise and PL Management, Ford Motor Company (Graduate 2019)
IT’S NOT ABOUT THE DEGREE. IT’S ABOUT A LEARNING EXPERIENCE YOU CAN’T GET ELSEWHERE.

The WSU Global Executive Track PhD is designed for mid- and senior-level managers, executives, technical leaders and entrepreneurs. Students typically have 10+ years of work experience under their belts, much of it in management, leadership, or ownership roles.

The class schedule is formatted to allow students to continue working while they pursue their studies - in fact, the expectation is that they will remain employed in a position that allows them to apply what they are learning while they complete the program.

Because of this, student interaction is different in the Global Executive Track PhD Program. By bringing their current and prior experience into the classroom, these accomplished students enrich one another’s learning experiences. Wayne State’s faculty experts from diverse disciplines of business, cultural anthropology, global leadership, and engineering, lead lively conversations and real case discussions that provide access to leading edge knowledge that contributes toward a PhD experience that is unlike any other.

Our alumni call the Global Executive Track PhD and exhilarating and intense experience, one that changed the way they think about leadership, global business, system improvement, and problem solving.
ABOUT THE WSU GLOBAL EXECUTIVE TRACK PHD

The WSU Global Executive Track PhD program is an intense program that minimizes time out of the workplace. Our course meetings occur only a couple times per month, primarily in evenings and on weekends to avoid work conflicts. On-line access is available for all courses and the degree can be completed totally on-line. Students begin the program in January and move through the program as a cohort, however we do offer flexibility in the program.

The Global Executive Track PhD comes with a great support system. GET Students are busy people who don’t want to hassle with administrative tasks, coordinating on campus parking, paying attention to deadlines, or worrying about getting food between work and class. Our concierge like staff handle these chores so that students can focus on their jobs and studies.
NO HASSLE PROCESS. EXPAND YOUR NETWORK.

A schedule that works with your work.

Students in the GET PhD program are able to earn the degree with minimal disruption to their work schedules. Class cycle starts in December with an orientation session and then classes begin in January. Classes meet at length on a limited frequency with some classes meeting once per month and some twice per month.

Hassle-free registration, parking, and support services.

Our staff purchase and deliver your parking passes, coordinate course registrations, and take care of routine enrollment chores so that students can focus on their jobs and studies.

- Registration issues are handled by GET Program staff and all course resources are shared before classes begin.
- Catered breakfasts, lunch, or dinners are provided on-site during class days
Curricula that employers want.

Our program has an industry advisory board that helps keep our curriculum up-to-date with industry needs. The Global Executive Track PhD Program offers two different non-traditional pathways to a PhD in Engineering while still meeting the needs of working executives.

THE “MANAGEMENT” CONCENTRATION
Targeted at executives, managers and consultants who want to:

- Broaden their global technical leadership skills and competencies
- Work on important strategic leadership issues during the course of study

The Management pathway is flexible and allows candidates to pursue research around leadership, strategy, all facets of the product and service development life-cycle, as well as functions of the business (e.g., R&D, product development, manufacturing, supply chain management, service, sustainability). This concentration allows flexibility with course meeting times and can be completed totally on-line (through synchronous online classes to benefit from rich interaction with the fellow program candidates and faculty) if so desired.

THE “TECHNICAL” CONCENTRATION
Targeted at technical leaders and consultants who want to:

- Deepen specific domain knowledge
- Work on specific research customized to their problem of practice

The Technical pathway is highly customizable allowing specialization in all traditional and emerging engineering domains (e.g., from electric powertrains, systems engineering to mobility, data science / AI, Internet-of-Things, and cyber-physical systems). Core classes allow flexibility with course meeting times and can be completed totally on-line (through synchronous online classes to benefit from rich interaction with the fellow program candidates and faculty) if so desired. Certain domain specific courses will follow a more traditional university calendar (meeting once or twice a week) and may not have on-line capabilities.

In both concentrations, candidates complete the PhD Qualifying Exams by developing and defending two high-quality teaching case studies along with teaching notes based on their rich technical and management experience. Both concentrations also require the candidates to publish dissertation research results in high quality academic journals and present the findings at professional conferences.

The program offers GET “Intensive” Sessions several times a year for program candidates to share their learning and research experiences with fellow candidates. The program also offers monthly short on-line GET “DeepDive” sessions in the evenings where program faculty and candidates discuss various current and research topics.

Both pathways require 90 credits to complete the program, with up to 32 credits transferring from a technical master’s degree or MBA and 30 credits of dissertation research.
PROGRAM PROFILE

Students come from richly diverse academic and professional backgrounds. Many have worked in large corporations as well as small family-owned businesses.

The average age of a WSU Global Executive Track PhD student is 44, but classmates range in age from 31-62. About 80 percent of WSU’s GET students have Engineering degrees such as Industrial Engineering Mechanical, Electrical, BioEngineering, Chemical Engineering, and Computer Science. The remaining students have backgrounds in Business Administration, International Relations, Healthcare, and Statistics.

Regardless of background, all participants are motivated learners who seek the skills necessary for top leadership roles.
WSU’S GLOBAL EXECUTIVE TRACK – WORLD CLASS FACULTY
OUR FACULTY ARE YOUR PARTNERS IN LEARNING.

The GET Program’s team approach to education provides an action-centered experience that combines the groundwork of theory with the practical application of up-to-the-moment information.

The faculty are experienced, effective instructors as well as experts in their field. Many play active roles in community business projects and are south-after speakers at national and international conferences.

They routinely publish books and articles on relevant engineering and business topics. They bring their experiences working outside of academia; this insider’s point of view sheds light on key business & engineering concepts.

Faculty Members

RATNA BABU CHINNAM, PROFESSOR
Dr. Chinnam earned his PhD in Industrial Engineering from Texas Tech University in 1994. He is the Co-Founder of the GET Program and Big Data, AI & Business Analytics Group at WSU. He has carried out collaborative research and consulting projects with many multi-national companies. His research areas of interest are Supply Chain Management, Manufacturing & Operations, Product Development, Healthcare and Data Science. He teaches our Launch through Sustainability and Literature Review courses.

LESLIE MONPLAISIR, PROFESSOR
Dr. Monplaisir earned his PhD in Engineering Management from Missouri University of Science and Technology in 1995. He is a Lead Research and Director of the Product Development and Systems Engineering Consortium at WSU. His research interests include: Lean Product Development, Design for Lean Systems and Services, Collaborative PD Decision Making, Design for Supply Chain, and Healthcare System Design. He teaches our Idea through Launch: Products & Services course.

JULIA GLUESING, ADJUNCT PROFESSOR
Dr. Gluesing earned her PhD in Cultural Anthropology from Wayne State University in 1995 and served as a Research Professor in our department and Co-Founder of the GET Program. She founded Cultural Connections, Inc. a research, consulting, and education firm supporting global business development and organizational anthropology. With for more than 40 years of industry and academic experience Dr. Gluesing leads our Global Perspectives, Global Leadership, and Qualitative Research Methods courses.
Faculty Members (continued)

TONI SOMERS, PROFESSOR
Dr. Somers earned her PhD in Business Administration from University of Toledo in 1982 and serves as the Associate Dean in the School of Business at WSU. Her areas of research interests are corporate board diversity, information systems, data driven decision making, and quantitative methods. She teaches our Quantitative Research Methods course.

NANCY PHILIPPART, ADJUNCT PROFESSOR
Dr. Philippart earned her PhD in Industrial & Systems Engineering from Wayne State University in 2014 and is a graduate of the Global Executive Track Program. She is General Partner and co-founder of Belle Michigan an early state venture fund, previously she spent 30 year in the automobile industry retiring as General Manager and Executive Director of GM Accessories. Her areas of research interests are innovation and technology management, corporate social responsibility, social entrepreneurism, global and e-leadership, strategy and cultural intelligence.

JEREMY RICKLI, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Dr. Rickli earned his PhD in Industrial & Systems Engineering from Virginia Tech in 2013. He has created the Manufacturing and Remanufacturing Systems Laboratory at WSU. His research interests include: Uncertainty Management in Remanufacturing and Disassembly, Leveraging Data to Innovate Decision Making in the Digital Manufacturing Enterprise, Collaborative Robotic Automation in Advanced Manufacturing and Assembly Systems. He teaches Manufacturing modules in the program.

ALPER MURAT, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Dr. Murat earned his PhD in Management Science & Operations Research from McGill University in 2006. His research interests include application of optimization modeling and simulation techniques and data mining in the fields of supply chain management, logistics and transportation, product development, quality, reliability and healthcare. He teaches optimization and literature review modules in the program.

CELESTINE AGUWA, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF RESEARCH
Dr. Aguwa earned his PhD in Industrial Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh in 2000. After an extensive career in industry he joined our department where his research interests have focused on facilities design and material flow, digital automation and production systems, flexible manufacturing, and lean product development. He teaches Lean and Product Development modules in the program.
Mark Dolsen,
President, TRQSS, (Graduate 2017)
ADMISSION INFORMATION

The Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering is seeking creative learning partners interested in sharpening their critical and analytical thinking skills. Our learning environment promotes participants’ intellectual development and adds to the knowledge and mastery both of fundamental and cutting edge engineering and business principles and their application to many different environments.

DEGREES: Applicants must hold an undergraduate degree and graduate degree in a STEM field from an accredited institution. Degrees preferably in engineering, operations research, engineering management, or business administration.

MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE: A minimum of five years of managerial experience is preferred and at least 10 years of work experience. While managing people is preferred, managing projects, budgets, or products will be considered. Students work in fields as varied as engineering, manufacturing, healthcare, marketing, sales, education, and military.

TIME: Ability to participate in and contribute to an intensive learning environment. Students must have the time and willingness to make a four-year commitment to attend classes, study group meetings, deep learning session, Research Intensives, and other required activities.
APPLICATION DEADLINE

Because the Global Executive Track PhD Program is a Cohort based program, new students can join the program every January. We do allow rolling admissions to allow students early admission to take any pre-requisite courses as needed throughout the year.

Early application is strongly encouraged; while applications are accepted year round, applications should be received no later than November 1 for those who wish to start in January to allow time for admission processing.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Submit the following online: (application is found at https://gradschool.wayne.edu/admissions)

1. Official Transcripts (sealed, one for each institution attended)
2. Two Recommendation Letters
3. Supporting Documents: Professional resume, a statement of purpose
4. Citation of any publications / conference presentations

When completing the online application please choose Program: Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering, then select Major: Industrial GET (IEG) for domestic students and Industrial GET Online (IEGO) for international students.

A personal interview is required and is typically scheduled with a Program Co-Director once the above items have been submitted.

All foreign transcripts require a course-by-course evaluation from a foreign transcript evaluation service.
TUITION / FINANCIAL AID

The Global Executive Track PhD program is a premium program that provides students with administration and support services. Because of these additional services, the cost of the GET PhD is higher than that of a traditional PhD Program. The estimated cost of the program is $90,000, however fees change yearly; visit go.wayne.edu/get for current fee schedule.

GET PhD tuition is payable in installments; current rates can be viewed on the program website at go.wayne.edu/get. Most reading materials, supplies, software, meals, and parking are included in the GET PhD tuition.

The Post 9-11 GI Bill covers a large amount of the tuition and program fees for the Global Executive Track PhD Program. The WSU Veterans Service office can help veterans, active duty service persons and members of the Selected Reserve, and depends of veterans eligible for benefits.

Additionally, many employers offer tuition assistance or tuition reimbursement programs. Seeking research & development grants from employers to fund research efforts important to the employer are another option for funding tuition. We strongly recommend students investigate these opportunities before applying for federal tuition assistance.

Graduate students are eligible for Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans and a limited number of Graduate Scholarships are available through our University and non-University organizations to help offset educational expenses.
A NETWORK YOU BUILD – AND GROW

WSU Global Executive Track PhD students and alumni remain connected and build a network that spans industries and the globe.

Co-Directors:
Dr. Ratna Babu Chinnam • ratna.chinnam@wayne.edu
Dr. Nancy Philippart • nancy.philippart@wayne.edu

Program Manager:
Mark Garrison • mark.garrison@wayne.edu • +1 (313) 577-5683

Nabil Raad
VP of Data Science
GM Financial
2019 Graduate

Peter Chhim
Corporate Warranty Manager – N.A.
Tenneco
2016 Graduate

Nancy Philippart
General Partner
Belle Michigan Fund
2014 Graduate

Steve Rapp
Senior Research Scientist
TARDEC
2017 Graduate

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2019 Graduate
Mark Dolsen
President
TRQSS, Inc.
2017 Graduate

Rita D’Angelo
Owner/Consultant
D’Angelo Advantage

Darrel Williams
Director of Program Management
Teva Pharmaceuticals

Rachel Itabashi-Campbell
Functional Safety Manager
Aptiv
2013 Graduate

Greg Hartman
Industrial Engineer
TARDEC
2017 Graduate

Mark Colosimo
VP of Data & Analytics
Urban Science
2018 Graduate
“The GET program combines both the necessary PhD activities while adding practical application and the ability to share with other experienced professionals. The scope of the education not only promotes and supports the ability to research but also understand the implications of global business activities while still instructing on analytical techniques and processes.”

-Mark Colosimo, VP Data & Analytics @ Urban Science (Graduate 2018)

“In addition to being an immense intellectual challenge, the relevant coursework and highly engaging industry peers and professors create a stimulating learning environment. The learning is truly one of a kind as cutting edge topics and research are vetted by seasoned business professionals.“

-Peter Chhim, Corporate Warranty Manager @ Tenneco (Graduate 2016)
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For More Information: go.wayne.edu/get