



SAP North American Academic Community Newsletter

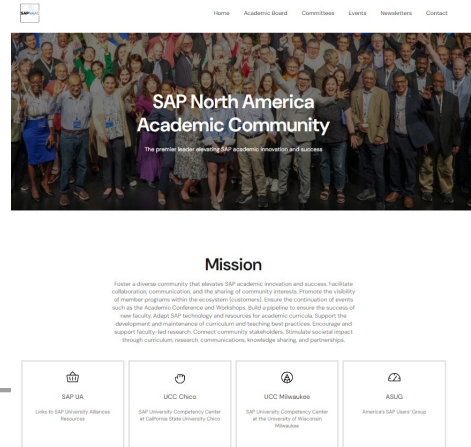
December 2024 Newsletter

Contents

- New Website Launch: sapnaac.org
- Certification Updates
- Celebrating 25 Years with Walter Louie!
- Faculty Coordinator Connection
 - Faculty Coordinator Winter Virtual Happy Hour: Save the Date
 - Faculty Coordinator Spotlight: Stephen Thomson
- Faculty Opportunities & Events
- Academic Conference 2025: SAP North America
- SAP North American Academic Board Highlights
 - From the Chair, Fawzi Noman
 - Academic Board Notes
 - Joint Academic Board Highlights
- SAP University Alliances Updates
 - January Week of Learning
- News from ASUG
- ERPsim Lab Announcements
- Follow Us
- SAPNAAC Newsletter

New Website Launch: SAPNAAC.org

We're excited to unveil our new SAP North American Academic Community website: your central hub for resources, events, and connecting with peers dedicated to innovation and positive change. Explore tools and insights that empower our community to create a lasting impact. Join us at <https://sapnaac.org> and help us build a brighter future!



Certification Updates

The TS410 certification is sunsetting, but there is still an opportunity to take a course with Bob Szymanski to get certified over the winter break. The tentative meeting days are 12/18-12/20, 12/23, 12/26-12/27, and 12/30, 1/2-1/3. Anyone interested can reach out to Bob at rszymanski@georgiasouthern.edu.

IEE2E Certification by Brandenburg University

This is a training conducted by the Brandenburg University of Technology in Germany. It is designed for **Full members of SAP University Alliances** who want to start their professional career in SAP SE Consulting for Intelligent Enterprise (IEE2E) "Multinational Case Study NEW GLOBAL BIKE with S/4HANA Cloud." The IEE2E certification replaces the TS410 certification. For more information and to register, see <https://www.erp4students.us/live/Course-SAP-Registration/registration.aspx>

Celebrating 25 Years with Walter Louie!

We're thrilled to honor Walter Louie, an invaluable original Chico UCC team member who marks 25 incredible years of service. Since 1998, Walter has been a cornerstone of our team, known for his unmatched technical expertise and dedication to solving complex challenges.



If you've ever submitted a help ticket, there's a good chance Walter played a part in resolving it—either directly or behind the scenes. His keen problem-solving skills and commitment to excellence have set a high standard across the team, driving smoother, more effective operations year after year.

Walter's impact extends beyond technical support; his dedication to quality has become a defining part of our success. We are immensely grateful for his contributions to the NA team and our Academic customers, and we're lucky to have someone so committed, collaborative, and genuinely enjoyable to work with. Thank you, Walter, for your 25 years of exceptional service and for the lasting legacy you're creating. Here's to many more!

Faculty Coordinator Connection

Faculty Coordinator Winter Virtual Happy Hour: Save the Date

- **When:** January 9, 2025, 4:30 PM ET
Join your fellow faculty coordinators, the faculty coordinator committee, and special guest, Kim Belehradec, Chief of Staff at ASUG (Americas' SAP Users' Group), as we discuss how we can connect our students to SAP industry partners and help guide our students to SAP-related careers.

Faculty Coordinator Spotlight: Stephen Thomson

Stephen Thomson brings over 20 years of experience in leadership roles in information technology and supply chain management. Before joining Conestoga in 2005, Stephen developed analytics solutions—such as dashboards, scorecards, and visualizations—to enhance operational performance. His research focuses on supply chain analytics and sustainability, including logistics visualizations, predictive analytics, and Industry 4.0. He led the award-winning Bloom Net Zero Living Lab research project, which received the 2022 Kostuch Media Green Leadership Award. An accomplished case writer, Stephen

earned the NACRA 2024 Best Bronze Case Award for Purity Life: Perfecting the Perfect Order Rate and the Best Paper at the 2023 ASAC Conference for Managing Production at Sienci Labs: Push or Pull.

Conestoga College, founded in 1967, serves approximately 32,000 students across 10 campuses in Southern Ontario. Known for its career-focused, hands-on learning model, Conestoga offers diverse programs ranging from apprenticeships and diplomas to degrees and post-graduate certificates, providing practical experience in fields like business, skilled trades, engineering, information technology, health sciences, community services, and media and design. The School of Business at Conestoga College provides a variety of programs, including one-year certificates, advanced diplomas, graduate



certificates, and bachelor's degrees, with specializations in International Business Management, Accounting, Audit and Information Technology, Supply Chain, and Financial Services. Emphasizing critical thinking and specialized knowledge, the school prepares students to tackle real-world business challenges and, since 2020, has integrated the UN Global Compact's Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) into its strategic goals. Since 2016, the SAP University Alliance program has been embedded into Conestoga's

School of Business, offering SAP tools and resources in 9 courses across 7 programs and involving 14 faculty members and 1,500 students in the 2022/23 academic year. The curriculum covers SAP S/4HANA, ERPsim, SAP Analytics Cloud, and includes a pilot integration of SAP SuccessFactors in collaboration with the University of Victoria for HR courses. SAP tools support subjects like Business Processes, Supply Chain Management, Managerial Accounting, Human Resources, and Analytics and Decision Making.

Faculty Opportunities & Events:

- **ERPsim "Sustainable Investments"** - December 10, 2024
Rebalance portfolios using ESG data: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/1004599071867>
- **ICIS 2024 in Bangkok** - December 15-18, 2024
The ERPsim Lab is excited to exhibit at the International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS 2024) in Bangkok, Thailand (December 15-18, 2024). We look forward to sharing our latest developments and reconnecting with the community.
- **Cloud Week of Learning** - January 6-10, 2025
The boot camps are taught virtually in a train-the-trainer format to introduce participants to the latest SAP solutions, methodology-based curriculum, and best practices for successful classroom use.
- **ERPsim Start of Term Webinar** - January 7, 2025
To kick off the new academic term, we're organizing our annual Start of Term Webinar on January 7, 2025. This session will help faculty prepare for the upcoming semester, explore new features, and incorporate them into their teaching. [ERPsim Start of Term Webinar](#)

- **Faculty Coordinator Winter Virtual Happy Hour** - January 9, 2025, 4:30 PM ET
Join us for a virtual happy hour on January 9, 2025, at 4:30 PM ET! This winter gathering allows faculty coordinators to connect, share ideas, and discuss upcoming plans for the year in a relaxed setting.
 - **ERPsims North America Competition** - April 4, 2025
Get ready to take part in this exciting competition. The three winning teams get awarded the unique opportunity to participate
 - **SAP North America Academic Community Conference** - July 15-17, 2025, Newtown Square, PA
The 2025 SAP North America Academic Community Conference will occur from July 15-17 at SAP Americas Headquarters in Newtown Square, PA. This conference is an excellent opportunity for networking, learning, and engaging with peers in the SAP academic community.
 - **ERPsims User Group Meeting** - August 14-16, 2025
Save the date for our next User Group Meeting, taking place from August 14-16, 2025. This annual event brings together our community to share experiences, offer feedback, and collaborate and learn from each other.
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Academic Conference 2025: SAP North America

Mark your calendars! The 2025 SAP North America Academic Community Conference will occur from July 15-17 at SAP Americas Headquarters in Newtown Square, PA. This exciting new venue offers fresh opportunities for collaboration and learning. Stay tuned for more details on themes, accommodations, and special sessions.

Call for Papers: We invite submissions on a range of topics to showcase innovation in our field. More information on submissions will follow.

SAP North American Academic Board Highlights

From the Chair, Fawzi Noman:

Hello, fellow faculty members in the SAP North America Academic Community (SAPNAAC)! It is my honor to serve as your Chair of the SAPNAAC Board for the 2024-2025 academic year. I am trying to fill some very big shoes following the great Bob Szymanski's leadership as Chair of the board during the last academic year and all of the years before that in the myriad of roles he has filled. I hope you will get to know your current Board and help us help you with providing the content and support you need.

I would like to announce the new, improved SAPNAAC website thanks to the diligent work of Mike Lee from USC. The new website is located at <https://sapnaac.org>. It will be updated and will host SAPNAAC Board-related announcements and information, such as this newsletter.

The Board will continue to be your voice to SAP UA leadership, so I encourage you to get involved in whatever capacity you can. The Board continues to reach out to SAP UA Faculty Coordinators to highlight their importance and stress the importance of their community

involvement to keep each of you informed. All of our committees have made significant gains this past year and continue to be active in furthering the Mission, Vision, and Purpose of the SAPNAAC. We will strive to build improved processes for curriculum development so you can collaborate with your colleagues and help grow the curricula necessary to prepare our students to be productive members of the digital workforce. The Board is excited about all that is happening this year and can't wait to share new and better ways to serve our community.

But as you can see, these efforts will only be successful with you! I am inviting you to get involved with the SAPNAAC Board by volunteering to serve on one of the committees and consider becoming a future member of the SAPNAAC Board. The full list of committees can be found on our website or further down in this newsletter. Our community is not well served without the dedication of those who participate on those committees.

I would be remiss if I did not spotlight our 2024-2025 Board Members. Many of the names may be familiar, but feel free to contact any SAPNAAC Board members. This community would not be as strong and vibrant as it is without all the things they do to help improve and foster the necessary collaboration between us!

I hope your semester is winding down to a successful close, and I look forward to meeting you at one of our events or even perhaps as a participant on one of our SAPNAAC Board committees.

Fawzi Noman

Chair, SAP North America Academic Community
fnoman@shsu.edu
Sam Houston State University

Academic Board Notes

Introducing the SAP University Alliances North America Academic Board for the 2024-2025 term. Under the board's perpetual membership structure, one-third of members rotate annually. This newly installed board will continue developing strategies to maximize faculty benefits within the University Alliances membership and strengthen partnerships with SAP and industry leaders. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

2024-2025 Academic Board:

- **Chair:** Fawzi Noman (fnoman@shsu.edu)
- **Vice-Chair:** Meagan Luttenton-Knoll (luttente@gvsu.edu)
- **Secretary:** Olivier Caya (olivier.caya@usherbrooke.ca)
- **Treasurer:** Ellen Monk (monke@udel.edu)

Board Members:

- Murat Adivar, Fayetteville State University
- Michael Gibbs, University of Arkansas
- Nancy Jones, San Diego State University

- Mike Lee, University of Southern California
- Jerad Lumina, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- Heather Matthews, SAP University Alliance North America
- Evan Sevits, SAP University Alliance North America
- Vishal Shah, Central Michigan University
- Tom Wilder, California State University at Chico

Standing Committees

SAPNAAC includes six standing committees that work together to foster a diverse community, promoting SAP academic innovation and success across North America. These committees focus on specific areas, including:

- **Communications & PR** – Manages communications with members, academia, industry, and SAP.
- **Curriculum** – Aligns curriculum with community needs.
- **Election** – Organizes voting processes and assists in vote tabulation.
- **Events** – Plans and executes events.
- **Faculty Coordinator** – Coordinates faculty involvement and support.
- **Partnerships** – Focuses on industry outreach and fundraising.
- **Research** – Promotes research collaboration and publications, including conference proceedings.

2024-2025 Committee Chairs:

- **Communications & PR:** Mike Lee (Chair) (mikelee@usc.edu)
- **Curriculum:** Fawzi Noman (Interim Chair) (fnoman@shsu.edu)
- **Election:** Fawzi Noman (Co-Chair) (fnoman@shsu.edu) & Ellen Monk (Co-Chair) (monke@udel.edu)
- **Events:** Evan Sevits (Chair) (evan.sevits@sap.com)
- **Faculty Coordinator:** Nancy Jones (Chair) (njones@sdsu.edu)
- **Partnerships:** Murat Adivar (Co-Chair) (madivar@uncfsu.edu) & Olivier Caya (Co-Chair) (olivier.caya@usherbrooke.ca)
- **Research:** Vishal Shah (Chair) (shah3v@cmich.edu)

SAPNAAC is actively seeking volunteers to join the standing committees. Virtual meetings require a minimal monthly time commitment, but the positive impact on our community is substantial. We invite you to contribute fresh ideas, new skills, and increased involvement. To join, please reach out to the committee chair – it's an opportunity to make a lasting difference in our community!

Joint Academic Boards Highlight

In October, the DACH Academic Board, North American Academic Board, Ibero-Americas Board, SAP Academic Board APJC, and Sub-Saharan Academic Board met to discuss COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning). COIL connects students and faculty from different countries through digital platforms to collaborate on projects and assignments, promoting cross-cultural understanding and

global engagement without traveling. This approach enhances students' international collaboration, communication, and problem-solving skills through virtual teamwork.

A featured COIL project shared during the meeting was the collaboration between the Symbiosis Center for Information Technology in India and the University of Applied Sciences in Germany. This project uses design science and design thinking methodologies, bringing together students from both institutions to solve real-world challenges. Over the years, it has expanded, fostering cross-cultural collaboration and providing students with valuable international experience while preparing them for future global challenges through virtual teamwork and industry partnerships.

If you're interested in learning more about Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) and exploring opportunities for participation or collaboration, you can contact Uta Mathis at uta.mathis@hs-esslingen.de

SAP University Alliances Updates

Join faculty from North America, **January Week of Learning**, for a week of virtual cloud learning. Hear innovations in teaching with learning resources from SAP University Alliances. Learn high-impact practices for integrating SAP into classroom teaching, incorporate the latest technology developments into the curriculum, and gain hands-on experience with SAP cloud software & blended learning resources for successful classroom use.

Professors from SAP University Alliances member institutions are invited to attend the SAP University Alliances Cloud Week of Learning 2024 on January 6-10, 2025. The boot camps are taught virtually in a train-the-trainer format to introduce participants to the latest SAP solutions, methodology-based curriculum, and best practices for successful classroom use.

Topics include:

- Signavio
- Digital Transformation
- Integration Suite
- SAP Build Code
- Business Builders

Registration will open soon! Keep an eye out for an email from your University Alliances team with registration information in the coming weeks.

News from ASUG

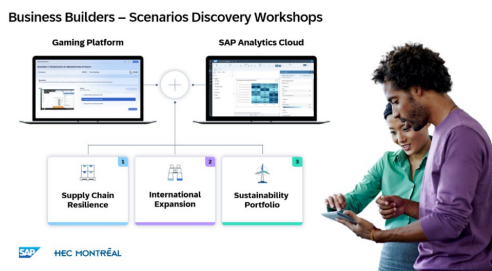
The Benefits of ASUG Membership for Students:

Since 2023, ASUG has been connecting college students with SAP professionals through its Campus Connect program at select regional chapter events. This initiative allows students to build valuable relationships and deepen their SAP knowledge alongside experienced professionals. These events help

nurture up-and-coming talent through mentoring, educational talks, and networking, allowing students to apply classroom concepts to real-world situations. So far, several events have occurred at universities like the University of Texas at Dallas, The Citadel, Fayetteville State University, Georgia Southern University, Central Michigan, and Grand Valley State University, with more planned for the future. Students are encouraged to explore ASUG membership by signing up through their University Alliance school on [ASUG's website](#). The website will direct them to the registration page, where they must use their school email address to complete registration. Once they create a profile, they'll receive weekly ASUG updates, including the Monday First Five Newsletter, and gain access to benefits like ASUG Webcasts, ASUG Content Collections, the ASUG Talks podcast, and much more. For any questions, reach out to Kim Belehradec, ASUG's Chief of Staff.

ERPsim Lab Announcements

Business Builders: Ready for the Classroom!



We're excited to announce that Business Builders is fully functional and ready to be integrated into your curriculum. This platform allows educators to teach data visualization using SAP Analytics Cloud through a variety of real-world scenarios.

We're also hosting a series of webinars designed to help faculty get familiar with Business Builders and seamlessly incorporate it into their courses. Be sure to join us for the upcoming sessions!

- "Unlocking Growth" (Oct 8th): Use data visualization for global business decisions (recording available): <https://erpsim.hec.ca/en/node/304>
- "A Resilient Future" (Nov 12th): Analyze data to strengthen your supply chain: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/1004597607487>
- "Sustainable Investments" (Dec 10th): Rebalance portfolios using ESG data: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/1004599071867>

Manufacturing Sustainability Faculty Challenge

On November 1st, 2024, we proudly hosted the Manufacturing Sustainability Faculty Challenge, with over 50 faculty members and 20 teams participating in the event and tagging alongside this experience! It was a great success, and we look forward to continuing to engage our community in more challenges and events!

ICIS 2024 in Bangkok



The ERPsim Lab is excited to exhibit at the International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS 2024) in Bangkok, Thailand (December 15-18, 2024). We look forward to sharing our latest developments and reconnecting with the community. To conclude our visit, we'll join the SAP University Alliances Team for APJ for a presentation at the SAP Bangkok office on December 18th, 2024.

ERPsim Start of Term Webinar – January 7th, 2025

To kick off the new academic term, we're organizing our annual Start of Term Webinar on January 7th, 2025. This session will help faculty prepare for the upcoming semester, explore new features, and incorporate them into their teaching. For more details, visit their official event page: [ERPsim Start of Term Webinar](#)

North America Competition – April 4th, 2025

Save the date for the ERPsim North America Competition on Friday, April 4th, 2025. Get ready to take part in this exciting competition.



The three winning teams are awarded the unique opportunity to participate in the ERPsim International Competition (June 5th, 2025).

ERPsim User Group Meeting – August 14th-16th, 2025

Save the date for our next User Group Meeting, taking place from August 14-16, 2025. This annual event brings together our community to share experiences, offer feedback, and collaborate and learn from each other.

Follow Us

We love engaging with our community on LinkedIn! Follow us for the latest news, events, and insights. We're here to connect and chat—feel free to reach out with a direct message anytime!


LinkedIn: SAPNAAC on [LinkedIn](#)

SAPNAAC Newsletter

Stay informed with our bi-annual newsletter, sent in December and May, where we share exciting updates, community stories, and valuable resources.

Contact Us:

 Email: community@sapnaac.org

 Website: sapnaac.org

Let's stay connected and continue building a strong SAPNAAC community!

Communications Committee: Mike Lee (Chair), Jerad Lumina, Meagan Luttenton-Knoll, Fawzi Noman, Tom Wilder