

# Ph.D. in Operations Management



## What is Operations Management?

The study of Operations Management focuses on how organizations design, manage, and improve the delivery of products and services. Research in Operations Management may focus on immediate, operational questions (e.g., How should a hospital construct the schedule for an operating room? When should a telephone call center cross-train customer service agents?), but often has a more strategic perspective (e.g., How does product design influence a clothing manufacturer's supply-chain structure? What is the impact of flexible manufacturing technology on a high-tech firm's business plan?).

Researchers in Operations Management apply sophisticated quantitative methods to answer significant, real-world questions. Tools applied to Operations Management include mathematical programming, stochastic processes, queueing theory, theoretical and applied economics, game theory, statistics, and computer science. Research in Operations Management requires a thorough understanding of these tools, but the ultimate goal is to enhance the decision-making of practicing managers at real firms.

## Why the Simon School for a Ph.D. in Operations Management?

The Operations Management group at the University of Rochester's Simon School has an international reputation for its scholarly research, its innovative approach to management education, and its close links to the business community. Students in the Ph.D. program must complete a demanding and rewarding set of courses in Operations Management methods and models. All students eventually work closely with the faculty on research projects. Current topics at the school include:

- ▶ using variety postponement, real options and incentive structures to reduce the demand uncertainty in supply chains
- ▶ the financial justification of new manufacturing technology
- ▶ remanufacturing and reverse-supply chains
- ▶ the interactions between operations and marketing, including the management of product variety and product line design
- ▶ the role of competition in airline yield management.

While the Simon School has an extremely active research program, it is a relatively small school. The small size leads to a collegial atmosphere in which faculty members invest great energy and time into each Ph.D. student's development. In addition, the small size of the school encourages interdisciplinary research. The Operations Management group regularly works across disciplinary boundaries with research focusing on operations and information systems, marketing, finance and accounting.

A Ph.D. from the Simon School is highly respected, offering graduating students excellent opportunities in both academia and industry. Graduates have become faculty at other leading business schools, including

- ▶ Fuqua School of Business, Duke University
- ▶ Graduate School of Management, University of California at Irvine
- ▶ Graduate School of Industrial Administration, Carnegie Mellon University
- ▶ Sloan School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- ▶ Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Recent starting academic salaries for Simon Ph.D.s in Operations Management have been over \$110,000 per year.

## The Faculty

### *The Operations Management group:*

- ▶ Gregory Dobson, Ph.D. Stanford University
- ▶ Harry Groenevelt, Ph.D. Columbia University
- ▶ Phillip J. Lederer, Ph.D. Northwestern University
- ▶ Nils Rudi, Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania
- ▶ Abraham Seidmann, Ph.D. Texas Tech University
- ▶ Robert Shumsky, Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology

### *Faculty in related disciplines:*

- ▶ Rajiv M. Dewan, Ph.D. University of Rochester, Computers and Information Systems
- ▶ Marshall Freimer, Ph.D. Harvard University, Applied Statistics, Management Science and Computers and Information Systems
- ▶ Junling Hu, Ph.D. University of Michigan, Computers and Information Systems
- ▶ H. Roy Jones, Ph.D. Stanford University, Computers and Information Systems
- ▶ Sanjog Misra, Ph.D. State University of New York Buffalo, Marketing
- ▶ Paul E. Nelson, Ph.D. University of Rochester, Marketing
- ▶ Edieal J. Pinker, Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Computers and Information Systems
- ▶ Paul Schweitzer, Sc.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Computers and Information Systems



## Who Should Apply?

If you would like to prepare for a research career in a university or industry and have quantitative interests, we encourage you to apply. We particularly welcome applications from students with an undergraduate degree in economics, engineering, mathematics, physical science, or business. We also encourage applications from students with an M.B.A. degree. Applications should be received by late January.

## Financial Aid

You can expect generous financial support for studies. Admitted applicants receive financial support which includes tuition expenses as well as a substantial stipend for a minimum of four years.

## For More Information

General information about the Simon School and about its Ph.D. program can be found at [www.simon.rochester.edu](http://www.simon.rochester.edu).

Information about the Operations Management group can be found at [omg.simon.rochester.edu/](http://omg.simon.rochester.edu/).

Other information may be obtained by sending an email to the Operations Management group's administrator, Cynthia Baylark ([baylark@simon.rochester.edu](mailto:baylark@simon.rochester.edu)) or by contacting:

### **Ms. Cynthia Baylark**

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*Where Thinkers  
Become Leaders.*