Procrastination in Savings and Loans Crisis Only Makes Bailout More Costly; UD Helps Transform Manufacturing Assembly Lines into World-class Competitors

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PROCRASTINATION IN SAVINGS AND LOANS CRISIS
ONLY MAKES BAILOUT MORE COSTLY, SAYS UD ECONOMICS PROFESSOR

The cost of governmental inaction in the savings and loans crisis is $23,000 per minute—or about a billion dollars per month, according to Anthony Chan, a University of Dayton assistant professor of economics and finance.

"This suggests that government policymakers should stop playing games and fix the problem immediately even if this means shocking the federal government's budgetary restrictions—the Gramm-Rudman targets—because further procrastination will cost dearly in the long run," said Chan, who teaches money and banking classes.

Approximately 1,000 of the nation's remaining 3,000 S&Ls are either insolvent or very weak. "The traditional type of S&L that existed 20 years ago has become a dinosaur," said Chan, noting that half have gone out of business since 1960.

In recent years, the government has bailed out Lockheed, Chrysler, New York City and Penn Central with loan guarantees and eventually lost no money. In the S&L case, the industry cannot solve the problem on its own, according to Chan. "Healthy S&Ls could at best provide only 5 to 10 percent of the cost of bailing out the industry over the next decade," he said.

Chan questions whether S&Ls are even worth saving: "The argument for saving an industry that requires staggering sums of money to prop it up without any guarantees does not appear to have any support on logical grounds."

For media interviews, contact Anthony Chan at 229-2409.

UD HELPS TRANSFORM MANUFACTURING ASSEMBLY LINES INTO WORLD-CLASS COMPETITORS

More and more American manufacturers are turning to the University of Dayton for advice on how to increase productivity, quality—and competitiveness.

Last February, the Management Development Center in the School of Business Administration began offering a Just-in-Time inventory management three-day workshop for General Motors' supervisors and hourly employees from the Inland division. Under the direction of Saul Young, more than 500 manufacturing employees have learned about factory cell design, set-up time reduction, focused factories, "autonomation" and other JIT techniques. By popular demand, a one-day course is now being offered.

In the School of Engineering's Center for Computer-Integrated Design and Manufacturing, Brenda Seefluth has helped more than 150 businesses—from small tool shops to the U.S. Air Force—learn to increase productivity and quality through computer-aided design and integration using a common product data base. "Right now there's too much redesign of a product from concept through build," Seefluth said. "Design engineers, tool engineers and managers should use the same data base. Too often they don't." Seefluth and the Special Programs division in the School of Engineering are planning a major computer networking conference later this year.

For media interviews, contact Saul Young at 229-4308, Dave Ulrich (Inland) at 455-3557 or Brenda Seefluth at 229-3171.