**Thesis Statements**

To guide us in your oral exam, there are eleven MIS thesis statements on which our discussion will revolve around. Listed below are the thesis statements.

1.  As a course, Management Information Systems synthesizes appropriate topics in the fields of Business Management and Information Technology with the aim of producing graduates capable of identifying and implementing IT solutions that will support a firm as it pursues its goals and strategies.

2. Although the strategic advantages it may deliver are not always sustainable, IT still and will always matter. It must continue to support the business – not just through the logical application of technologies, but through the logical application of common sense. Employees knowledgeable on developing IT solutions addressing different business scenarios are therefore very valuable to an organization, and management should use appropriate employee motivation techniques to retain them.

3. Information Systems have as an objective to support the business in three ways: assisting in day-to-day business operations, producing information for decision-making, and providing the foundation for the strategy of the company. Management should then have a grand IT vision resulting in a portfolio of IS projects that address this objective. Any benefit derived from the use of these information systems should be measured in terms of efficiency and effectiveness – and not on the ROI. After all, there are IT investments that deliver value to an organization even without any demonstrable financial return.

4. One of the major goals of an Information System Department is to improve the performance of the end users of the organization through the use of the most appropriate Information Technology. To effectively address this, the IS Department should create a long term (5-year) strategic IS plan. It is reasonable to assert though that the business strategic plan will drive the strategic IS plan instead of the other way around. Having a clear business strategy is therefore critical.

5. The evolution of IT applications mirrors trends in the business environment – starting from a functional perspective with the advent of accounting information and other transaction processing systems, to integration with enterprise resource planning and other enterprise systems, and to the current emphasis on the extended enterprise via supply chain management and middleware.

6. There are a lot of stories about the number of failed implementation of enterprise systems. But blame should not rest merely on the technical challenges of rolling out these systems. Rather, most can be traced to misalignment with business strategies and poor project management. Specifically for the former, companies simply fail to reconcile the technological imperatives of an enterprise system with the business needs of the enterprise itself. As for the latter, project teams fail to set, align and maintain reasonable time, cost, scope and quality parameters through the life of the implementation.

7. With the new roles that the CIO has to take on, in the light of the increasing strategic importance of IT, it is desirable for the CIO to be more of an executive with a lot of business sense rather than a technologist. At the same time the CIO has to keep pace with developments in ICT and use his imagination to adopt technological innovations for the strategic advantage of the company.

 8. IT governance is the organizational capacity to control the formulation, valuation and implementation of IT strategy, tightly aligned with business strategy. It should focus on the decisions about major IT domains, the who has these decision rights and how they are formed and enacted. In order for it to make an IT department effective and efficient, it has to be practiced in all circumstances.

9. The emergence of the internet was the primary driver behind the new economy. Web-based applications are now supporting innovative business-to-employee, business-to-business and business-to-consumer transactions. Moving forward, Web 2.0 applications have developed their own business model and characteristics which make it a unique business driver in itself.