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FIU business school slated to honor three entrepreneurs

BY APRIL HAVENS

Florida International University's College of Business Administration was to honor Margarita M. Gonzalez and Antonio L Argiz with inductions into the school's Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame and Miriam López with the South

Florida Entrepreneur of the Year Award Wednesday afternoon.

The Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame, founded in 1999, recognizes alumni achievement in two business categories – founder (entrepreneur) and builder (intrapreneur). The Entrepreneur of the Year award goes to a non-FIU alumnus.

Ms. Gonzalez received the Founder Award for co-founding AccuBANKER, which provides technology services to retail and financial institutions. The company conducts business in more than 42 countries and employs 15 people in South Florida and a fully staffed sourcing office in China. Ms. Gonzalez

received a bachelor's degree in business administration from FIU in 2006.

Mr. Argiz, managing partner of Morrison Brown Argiz & Farra, received the Builder Award for expanding the accounting and management firm from a handful of accountants and staffers to 250 associates

and \$44 million in revenue this year.

Morrison Brown Argiz & Farra is among the top 50 accounting firms in the US. It is the sixth-largest in the Southeast and the largest in Florida.

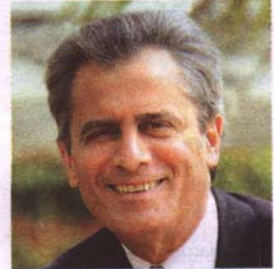
Mr. Argiz received his bachelor of business administration degree from FIU in 1974.

Ms. López, chairman and CEO of TransAtlantic Bank since 1985, was chairwoman of the American Bankers Association in 1999-2000 and was a board of directors and audit committee member from 2001 to 2004. She currently is a member of its government-relations council and executive committee.

She was honored last year with the Cuban-American Bankers Association's Banker of the Year award. The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has honored her with a Woman of Leadership award in banking and finance.



Margarita M. Gonzalez: Founder of tech provider AccuBANKER.



Antonio L. Argiz: Managing partner at Morrison Brown Argiz & Farra.



Miriam López: Chairwoman, CEO of TransAtlantic Bank since 1985.