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FIU’s COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OFFERS MBA STUDENTS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL “BUSINESS TRIP”

MIAMI, Fla. – (March X, 2003) – Florida International University’s Chapman Graduate School in the College of Business Administration (CBA) is heightening its emphasis on Asian business with a newly-developed optional international trip in its Executive MBA (EMBA) program.

More than ___ students participating in the inaugural trip (April 30-May 9) will visit Hong Kong and China. The bulk of the trip will take place in Hong Kong where students will be greeted by representatives from multinational corporations and government groups. Additionally, by touring factories and offices in Guangzhou, China, students will be exposed to the country’s industrial region.

“This is a logical step in continuing to grow our business program along with emerging business trends,” said Jose de la Torre, Dean of the Chapman Graduate School of Business. “In addition to the Latin American focus of the College, since Miami is the Gateway to the Americas and many of our students already are familiar with the region, we opted strategically to focus on Asia’s tremendous growth by facilitating our students’ understanding of the hemisphere, the overall goal being to help them stay competitive and succeed in today’s marketplace.”

According to Sumit Kundu, Associate Professor of Management and International Business in the CBA, China has shown recently that it has the most promising economy in the developing world growing at an astonishing nine percent per year.

“International trips like this one will show our students how to forge lucrative relationships between Asiatic countries and Miami,” said Kundu. “The mission is to provide participants with an experience that will demonstrate the importance of expanded business and interpersonal knowledge to maintain a well-rounded global mindset.”

The next trip will showcase India (July 2005), which Kundu indicated also has an impressive annual gross domestic product growth of six to seven percent. Students will visit the capital New
Delhi and Gurgal an area that is home to many manufacturing plants. Additionally, participants will tour Bangalor – considered to be the Silicon Valley of India.

Because of the importance the CBA places on its students being immersed in a culture to understand the inner workings of day-to-day business, EMBA courses beginning after 2005 will require students to participate in the international trip.

Florida International University’s College of Business Administration, South Florida’s business education leader with unique expertise in international business, entrepreneurship, and information technology (IT), is the largest of FIU’s professional schools. Annually, it enrolls approximately 3,400 students in its undergraduate business programs and more than 1,100 graduate students in its Chapman Graduate School of Business. It also is South Florida’s top-rated business research school and one of only 452 business schools in the world accredited by the AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. The College ranks in the top 10 among these schools in the number of students it graduates each year, and the College’s Chapman School offers the 6th largest part-time MBA program among them. U.S. News & World Report (2004) ranked the College’s undergraduate international business program 14th in the nation. Business Week (October 21, 2002) ranked it among the best in the U.S., placing it in the group with American, Fordham, George Washington, South Carolina, Syracuse, Rutgers, Tulane, and others. The August 15, 2003 issue of America Economia, a premier pan-regional business journal, rated it among the top 50 international MBA schools for Latin American students. Hispanic Business (March 2002) ranked the CBA among the top five business schools for Hispanics. The College also is one of only 30 business schools to have received a Department of Education grant to establish and support an international business center. Hispanic Trends (Summer 2003) ranked the College in its list of the Top 25 MBA programs for Hispanics. The CBA, which was featured among other leading MBA programs, was the only school in Florida to be included in the publication’s ranking.

For additional information about the CBA and its Chapman School, please call Assistant Dean Sally Gallion at (305) 348-6631, e-mail gallions@fiu.edu or visit the College’s website at http://cba.fiu.edu .

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