FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY’S COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION RECOGNIZES R. KIRK LANDON WITH HONORARY BETA GAMMA SIGMA INDUCTION

MIAMI, Fla. – (May 19, 2005) – Florida International University’s College of Business Administration (CBA) recently inducted R. Kirk Landon as an honorary member of the College’s Chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, a national honor society dedicated to encouraging and honoring academic achievement in the study of business and in both personal and professional excellence.

Landon, the retired chairman and CEO of American Bankers Insurance Group, gave $5 million to the College last year, the largest cash gift from an individual ever made to Florida International University and the biggest in the history of the College of Business Administration. In recognition of his contribution, the undergraduate school of business was named the R. Kirk Landon Undergraduate School of Business.

“Kirk Landon is a commendable leader in our community and his values coincide perfectly with the ideals of Beta Gamma Sigma—honor, wisdom and earnestness,” said Clifford Perry, associate dean, academic affairs and undergraduate programs and faculty advisor to the Chapter. “He sets a remarkable example for our students.”

This is the second year that the Society has inducted an honorary member. Carlos Sabater, Partner at Deloitte & Touche, was inducted as an honorary member last year.

Membership in Beta Gamma Sigma is the highest international recognition a business student anywhere in the world can receive in an undergraduate, master's or doctoral program at a school accredited by AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

Sixty undergraduate students and fifteen graduate students also were inducted this year. To be eligible for membership, the academic ranking of those being considered must place them in the upper seven percent of the junior class, upper 10 percent of the senior class or upper 20
Florida International University’s College of Business Administration, South Florida’s leading business school with unique expertise in international business, entrepreneurship, and information technology (IT) strategy, is the largest of the University’s professional schools. Among the College’s more than 25,000 alumni are some of South Florida’s most successful business leaders and entrepreneurs. Approximately 6000 students are enrolled in undergraduate business courses in its R. Kirk Landon Undergraduate School of Business and more than 800 graduate students study in its Alvah H. Chapman, Jr., Graduate School of Business every year. Another 1,000 participate annually in one or more of its professional and executive education programs.

The College is one of only 494 business schools in the world—about 25% of all business schools worldwide—accredited by the AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. It ranks in the top 10 among these schools in the number of students it graduates each year, and its Chapman School offers the 6th largest part-time MBA program among them. U.S. News & World Report (2005) ranked the international business programs in the College’s Landon Undergraduate School of Business the 9th best in the nation and the international business programs in its Chapman Graduate School of Business among the top 25 in the U.S. (America’s Best Graduate Schools 2006)—the only Florida business school to make both lists. BusinessWeek (October 11, 2004) has again ranked the College among the top 15% in the U.S., placing it in the group with American, Fordham, George Washington, South Carolina, Syracuse, Rutgers, Tulane, and others. For the past three years, AméricaEconomía, a premier pan-regional business journal, has rated it among the top 50 MBA schools for Latin American students. For the last six years, Hispanic Business has ranked the College among the top 25 business schools for Hispanics. Hispanic Trends (Summer 2003) ranked the College in its list of the Top 25 MBA programs for Latinos—the only Florida business school to make the cut. Additionally, in March 2004, HispanicMagazine.com ranked the school in its Top 25 colleges for Latinos. The College also is one of only 33 business schools to have received a U.S. Department of Education grant to establish and support a Center for International Business Education and Research.

For additional information about the College, its Landon Undergraduate School of Business, and its Chapman Graduate School of Business, 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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