NEWEST EXECUTIVE MBA FACULTY MEMBERS APPOINTED AT FIU’S COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

MIAMI, Fla. – (September 3, 2003) – Steven Beste, Director, and Sherry Moss and Clark Wheatley, Faculty Directors for the Executive MBA (EMBA) program at FIU’s College of Business Administration (CBA) recently announced the appointment of the program’s newest faculty members. With the August, 2003, cohort, Jose de la Torre, Dean of the Chapman Graduate School of Business, William Welch, Associate Professor of Finance, Sumit Kundu, Associate Professor of Management and International Business, and Krishnan Dandapani, Professor of Finance, will join EMBA’s team of expert professors.

De la Torre has more than 30 years of professional experience, with a solid background in management, international business, organizational design, and strategic planning. Prior to joining the CBA, de la Torre served as a professor at UCLA’s The Anderson School, where he chaired the Strategy and Organization area and directed UCLA’s Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) from its inception in 1989. He founded the School’s International Business Roundtable and co-chaired the Faculty Executive Committee in the Latin America Center. De la Torre completed a bachelor’s degree in aerospace engineering and an MBA in management at Pennsylvania State University; he earned a doctorate in international business from Harvard University.

Welch has taught at FIU since 1973 and is a recipient of the Teachers’ Incentive Program Award. Recently, he was appointed Chair of the Finance Department in the College of Business Administration. He is the author of Strategies for Put and Call Option Trading. In addition, he has published many articles in journals such as Personal Finance Planning, Finance India, International
Journal of Finance, and Real Estate Finance. He also is a member of the Board of Directors for Turnberry Bank in Miami.

**Kundu** has taught several international business courses at both the graduate and undergraduate levels at Saint Louis University, State University of New York, Northeastern University, and Rutgers University. His extensive international experience includes teaching at Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), City University of Hong Kong (China), Saint Louis University Madrid Campus (Spain) and the Indian Institute of Management. This year he has been the recipient of several teaching awards, including Outstanding Graduate Teacher of the Year, Teacher of the Year for an executive Master’s in International Business program, and Teacher of the Year for a full-time MBA program. He also has published several articles in the Journal of International Business Studies, Journal of Business Research, Journal of International Management, Journal of International Marketing, and Journal of Small Business Economics. He served as the President and Program Chair for the Midwest Academy of International Business Conference in 2002 and 2003. His corporate experience includes cash flow management and international marketing for Unilever PLC, Fedders Lloyd PLC, and Phillips Petroleum PLC. In addition, he has been a consultant to several multinational corporations, including MasterCard International, Ingersoll Rand-Hussman International, Boeing, and CPI-Sears Portrait Studio.

**Dandapani** has more than 15 years of experience in performing research and financial analysis for corporations, governments, and institutions throughout the world. He was the principal investigator for “The Financial Implications of the Latin American Trade Block,” a research project based on statistical analysis of countries to become part of the Latin America Trade Block. His research has been published in many journals, including the Journal of Banking and Finance and The International Trade Journal. He also is the author of Banking in North America: NAFTA and Beyond (Elseiver Science, 1999) and Return Generating Models in Finance (Elseiver, 1998). In 2001 he received grants from the Department of Community Affairs to fund a Homeowner Insurance and Mitigation Incentive Project, and from the CBA Knight-Ridder Center to develop e-finance projects.

Like all of its graduate degree offerings, the Chapman School’s EMBA program is fully-accredited by AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, the recognized accrediting body for graduate business programs around the world. The EMBA program’s goal is to provide participants with the foundations of general management—a solid theoretical and practical understanding of core business disciplines and of how these disciplines interrelate when applied to real-world business challenges. It also gives participants the skills to navigate strategically and adeptly in the evolving digital economy and within a global business environment. Its selective admission policies and its capping of class size at about 40 students fosters high-quality instruction and interaction.
The EMBA program’s students earn their degree in 21 months, attending classes three Saturdays and one Friday per month. The program itself is divided into four quarters per year (fall, winter, spring and summer), with each quarter meeting for a 10-week period. A three-day residency session precedes the first quarter session each year. New EMBA classes begin each August and each January.

Florida International University’s College of Business Administration (CBA), 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. It enrolls approximately 3,400 students in its undergraduate program and more than 1,100 graduate students in its Chapman Graduate School of Business each year. It also is South Florida’s top-rated business research school and one of only 454 business schools in the world accredited by the AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. The College’s Chapman School offers the 6th-largest part-time MBA program among this group. *U.S. News & World Report* 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.

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

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