FIU’s COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION TO OFFER NEW EARLY BIRD BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

New Program in Pembroke Pines makes it Possible for Students to Take Early Morning and Online Classes to Earn Degree while Working Full-Time

MIAMI, Fla. – (Oct. 21, 2003) – Florida International University’s College of Business Administration (CBA) is bringing new meaning to the phrase, “the early bird catches the worm.” The CBA will begin offering an Early Bird Bachelor of Business Administration (Early Bird BBA) to make it convenient for full-time working professionals with busy schedules to earn an undergraduate business degree in management. Early morning classes for the program, which will begin January 5, 2004, will be held at the FIU Pines Center in Pembroke Pines.

What’s unique about this program are its combination of on-site and on-line course delivery and an innovative pedagogy in which students share responsibility for each others’ learning. Its carefully-structured curriculum will be offered in six 12-week sessions, allowing participants to receive a BBA in just 18 months. Students will attend classes Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30 – 8:45 a.m. and complete the rest of the coursework online when it’s most convenient for them.

“We created this program as an alternative way for students commuting in the Pembroke Pines area to earn a business degree,” said CBA Executive Dean Joyce J. Elam. “Instead of attending all-day classes on weekends or long evening classes at University Park, they can go to class for a little over an hour before heading to work (less time in on-site classes) and finish the classwork online.

As do all of the College’s undergraduate business programs, the Early Bird BBA gives students a fundamental understanding of today’s global, technology-driven business environment and the knowledge they need to launch or further their management careers. The Early Bird BBA program also incorporates individual, student-tailored paths, group work, interactivity, and an international focus.
To be eligible for the program, applicants must have earned an Associate degree or completed 60 credit-hours of required, undergraduate coursework. **Classes are slated to start on Jan. 5** at the FIU Pines Center located at 17195 Sheridan Street in Pembroke Pines.

A full description of the program can be found at http://earlybba.fiu.edu.

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 email gallions@fiu.edu or visit the College’s website at www.fiu.edu/~cba.