FIU COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION STUDENTS SET $30K GOAL TO PROVIDE 1,352 NICARAGUAN CHILDREN WITH SUPPLIES

Project “Nicaragua Dreams for Kids” to help eight Nicaraguan schools, orphanages

MIAMI, Dec. 09, 2005 – A team of 24 students from Florida International University’s (FIU) College of Business Administration kicked off the “Nicaragua Dreams for Kids” fundraising drive to raise $30,000 in clothing, toys and school supplies for more than 1,350 underprivileged Nicaraguan children.

The students, part of the College’s International Business Honor Society (IBHS), will hand-deliver the relief supplies to children at eight schools and orphanages located in Managua and Granada during Dec. 26, 2005–Jan. 4, 2006. In addition, the group will offer on-site English lessons and work with local and international organizations to identify and establish future academic scholarship opportunities.

Two donation ceremonies will take place in Nicaragua in recognition of the project. The first event will be held in Granada’s Jesus Cristo Sana Orphanage, located at Kilometro 51 con Carretera Nandaine, on Dec. 27, 2005, at 10 a.m. The second ceremony will take place in Managua’s Selva Verde Hotel, located at Kilometro 13.5 con Carretera Sur, 400 metros suroeste, on December 27, at 10 a.m.

“The College’s IBHS provides students with the tools and support to go beyond traditional community service activities,” said Dr. Robert Hogner, IBHS faculty advisor and associate professor of management and international business. “The program promotes and facilitates global leadership, economic development and corporate social responsibility, allowing students the opportunity to create cross-border projects and initiatives.”

FIU’s College of Business Administration is home to the national chapter of IBHS. The “Nicaragua Dreams for Kids” project is the second global leadership and service initiative the College has executed. The first international community service initiative was realized earlier this year in Thailand. The project model is the first of its kind and interest in replicating it has been expressed by other IBHS chapters at business schools around the country.

“This program has provided me with incredible perspective and a deep appreciation of the importance of civic and corporate social responsibility,” said Christian Jarquin, one of the student site leaders for the trip. “Establishing relationships with the international business community while finding support for the impoverished children of Nicaragua has been an experience I won’t soon forget.”

The “Nicaragua Dreams for Kids” corporate sponsors to date include: TACA airlines; Elizabeth Flowers; Panorama Travel; and Rolling Doors Inc. The group welcomes any additional sponsor support, most especially a corporate air cargo sponsor to help them deliver the supplies.

Private and corporate donations are accepted by contacting Christian Jarquin, trip co-leader, at (786) 426-9323 or mailing to: IBHS/Nicaragua Dreams for Kids Project, FIU, c/o Department of Management and International Business, located at 11200 S.W. 8th St., RB 346, Miami, FL, 33199.
About Florida International University’s College of Business Administration
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 900 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.

For additional information about the College, its Landon Undergraduate School of Business, and its Chapman Graduate School of Business, please visit the College’s Web site at http://cba.fiu.edu.

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