FIU’s Chapman School gains honors

The Chapman Graduate School of Business at Florida International University is gaining recognition as one of the country’s top business schools.

Ranked among the top 25 graduate programs for international business in the most recent issue of US News & World Report, it’s also rated in the top 10 among 480 AACSB International-accredited business schools for Latin Americans and Hispanics in the number of students graduated each year.

Business schools must pass a rigorous peer review to be accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Chapman is one of only four such institutions in South Florida.

Chapman was named among America Economia’s 50 Best Global MBA Programs for Latin Americans, Hispanic Business’s top 25 MBA Programs for Hispanics and Hispanic Trend’s top 25 MBA Programs for Hispanics.

“What makes us unique,” says marketing director Corinne Young, “is the number of postgraduate programs we offer and the value that each program brings to a student’s career development.”

These include master’s degree programs in accounting, international business, finance, human-resources management, management-information systems and taxation and a doctoral program in business administration.

“We’re particularly proud of our master of international business program,” she said. “Only candidates who have already earned an MBA or an undergraduate degree in business are admitted, so it’s truly a specialization.”

Courses at Chapman are conducted in an intimate setting – average class enrollment is 35 – by Ph.D.s with a solid background in real-world experience. They are experts in doing business in the Americas, from Canada to Argentina.

“We keep investing dollars in the development of our faculty,” Ms. Young said, “so that they stay current and on the leading edge of their respective disciplines.”

At the helm is dean José de la Torre, a dynamic educator whose professional credits span the globe. He received his doctorate from Harvard Business School, where he was a research associate.

A founding director of UCLA’s Center for International Business Education and Research from 1989 until 2000, he has taught international business strategy at graduate schools and institutions in the US, France, Sweden and several Latin American countries.

Mr. de la Torre, a prolific author who has served as a consultant to dozens of multinational companies, still finds time to teach at least one graduate course every semester, as does executive dean Joyce Elam.

The school’s diverse, multicultural student body affords great networking opportunities, and its relationships with schools and institutions throughout the world give graduate students the opportunity to work on projects overseas or pursue dual degrees with the best universities in Latin America and Europe.

Chapman’s flexible scheduling options, which include classes during the day, evenings and on weekends, allows busy executives to pursue advanced degrees at their own pace.

Chapman Graduate School of Business, in the College of Business Administration at Florida International University, is at 11200 SW Eighth St., RB 220. (305) 348-4723 or (305) 348-6604 (phone). (305) 348-7204 (fax) or chapinfo@fiu.edu.