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INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

FIU EXTENDS ITS OUTREACH IN LATIN AMERICA

Florida International University is expanding its links with graduate business schools in Latin America.

FIU's College of Business Administration launched a two-year dual degree program that lets students from partner schools abroad earn an MBA from their home institution as well as a Master's of International Business degree from FIU in South Florida.

Agreements for the dual-degree program have been signed with Universidad ORT in Montevideo, Uruguay; The COPPEAD Graduate School of Business Administration of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil; Universidad de Anahuac in Mexico City; Universidad de San Andres in Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile in Santiago, Chile.

The program is especially attractive to foreign students because, after completing their FIU's master's program, they can apply under F-1 visa status for 12 months of optional practical training at a U.S.-based company.

The first group of students — from Brazil's COPPEAD — will begin studies at FIU under the dual-degree program this January.

For information, call Anna Pietraszczek at 305-348-3279 or e-mail: pietrasa@fiu.edu.

Meanwhile, the University of Miami announced a partnership with a business coalition to boost the quality of kindergarten through 12th grade education in Latin America.

UM said its School of Education will team with the Latin American Basic Education Ini-



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tiative known as Labei, a 2-year-old effort by **IBM, Cisneros Group of Cos.** and other multinational corporations.

Labei seeks to encourage education reform, especially for better teacher training, academic standards and accountability in education spending.

The announcement comes as UM restructures its North-South Center, the think-tank created in 1984 to help formulate policy on the Americas. All 12 of the center's staffers are losing their jobs at the end of the year, with director Ambler Moss to stay on the UM faculty.

UM will run the North-South Center starting next year with the **Rand Corp.**, a non-partisan consultancy based in Santa Monica, Calif., which had its roots in research on security.

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