Moore School Gets A Top Ranking For 17th Consecutive Year

The Moore School's graduate program in international business is the top-ranked public university program in the nation and No. 2 among all institutions, according to U.S. News & World Report.

This marks the 17th consecutive year that the program has been ranked either No. 1 or No. 2. The only public university ranked in the top five, the University of South Carolina outpaced Columbia University, Harvard, Duke, the University of Pennsylvania (Wharton), and New York University.

The ranking appeared in the 2007 issue of U.S. News & World Report’s “America’s Best Graduate Schools,” which went on the newsstands in early April.

“The Moore School has placed first or second in U.S. News for graduate international business since these rankings were first published,” said Joel A. Smith III, dean. “This is further testimony to the outstanding contributions of the faculty, staff, and students of the Moore School.”

Thunderbird Graduate School of Arizona led the rankings. The other public universities are the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor (No. 6), the University of Southern California (No. 9), and the University of California-Berkeley (No. 10).

To calculate the international business ranking, U.S. News & World Report asked business school deans and program heads to vote for up to 10 schools offering the best programs in each area. The 10 schools receiving the most votes appear in the ranking.

In August, the Moore School was ranked No. 1 in undergraduate international business education in U.S. News in its 2006 annual survey, “America’s Best Colleges Guide,” for the ninth year.

Entrepreneur Rankings

The Moore School’s entrepreneurship program placed in the top tier among 50 “nationally prominent” colleges and universities in Entrepreneur magazine’s third annual rankings of the top 100 collegiate entrepreneurship programs, reported in its April issue.

In an article accompanying the rankings, David Newton, professor of entrepreneurial finance at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California, said the University of South Carolina “has really been on the move the past several years in terms of expanding, upgrading and doing some innovative things in their entrepreneurship program.” Newton is founder and president of TechKnowledge Point Corp., the research firm that compiles and analyzes the data for the rankings.

The Moore School’s entrepreneurship program was founded in 1975 and was named the Faber Entrepreneurship Center in 1997 for benefactors Tim and Karen Faber, both USC graduates and successful entrepreneurs.

Moore School Featured in Brazilian Newspaper

The Moore School and Portuguese Track students Michael Doherty, Brooks Willet, and Jaclyn Flewelling were recently featured in the Gazeto do Povo, the newspaper of Curitiba, Brazil. The article, entitled “Americans Learn in School to Do Business in Brazil,” appeared in the March 26 edition.

Program Helps Principals Hone Their Management Skills

A new program through Executive Education at the Moore School will offer courses to enhance the management skills of school administrators from across South Carolina.

The new management training program is a cooperative effort of Moore’s Executive Education, the S.C. State Department of Education, and the USC College of Education. It builds on a leadership training program that has been available to S.C. educators through the Center for Creative Leadership of Greensboro, North Carolina, since 2000.

“That program trains 75 people a year,” says Charlie Farrell, director of Executive Education. “There are approximately 3,000 superintendents, principals, and assistant principals in this state who can benefit from this program. The idea is to give superintendents and principals management training that they aren’t getting through the CCL program.” Among the courses that will be offered are Strategic Thinking and Analysis, Crisis Preparedness, Project Management, and Data to Decision-Making.

A full program of 12 course offerings for school administrators will begin in September. In March, school administrators who have already completed CCL’s leadership training began supplemental management courses through Executive Education.

South Carolina’s Education Accountability Act of 1998 called for effective leadership training for school administrators to “meet national standards for professional development and focus on the improvement of teaching and learning.”
Army Officers Helping to Bring Back IMBA’s Arabic Track

In the early 1990s in the aftermath of the first Gulf War, the Moore School of Business suspended the Arabic Track of its International Master of Business Administration (IMBA) program. Last fall, four active duty officers in the U.S. Army began leading the way to formally reinstituting the Arabic Track.

Captain Robert Zanca, Major Levi Dunton, Major David Hibner, and Captain George Walter are back in the classroom after serving in the Middle East, primarily in Iraq. “We’re learning how to study again,” says Walter.

The Moore School plans to bring the Arabic Track online for perhaps 10-15 military personnel in the fall of 2006. A longer, more language-intensive version will be offered to all students in the fall of 2007.

Interest in Moore’s Arabic Track is coming from the military—especially because of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan—and also from private industry.

In lieu of the usual five-month internship required of IMBA students, the Army officers are doing a language and cultural immersion abroad.

Zanca, 35, a native of Bossier City, Louisiana, is in military intelligence and holds a master’s degree from Grambling State University. He has served twice in Iraq for a total of 15 months. Dunton, 32, who comes from Chewelah, Washington, is a helicopter pilot. He spent a year in Iraq and three months in Kuwait. Dunton earned a bachelor’s degree at Gonzaga University in Spokane. Hibner, 32, an engineer from Michigan City, Indiana, spent seven months in Kuwait and four months in Iraq. He holds a master’s degree from Purdue University. Walter, a 31-year-old engineer from Edisto Island, South Carolina, is a graduate of West Point; he spent three months in Iraq.

All four intend to make the Army their career. “By signing up for this program, we’re in it for the long haul,” says Dunton. It’s likely that all will return to the Middle East in some capacity once they have their IMBA degrees in hand in 2007.

Inaugural EIMBA Class Receives Degrees

Fifteen business executives from Mexico who were members of the inaugural class of the University of South Carolina’s new Executive International MBA (EIMBA) program were awarded their master’s degrees May 4 during graduation ceremonies on USC’s Columbia campus. (See photos pages 43, 46.)

“It was an exciting day for everyone,” said Libby Shropshier, program coordinator.

The EIMBA program, launched in August 2004, is offered jointly by the Moore School of Business and Instituto Tecnologico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in Guadalajara, Mexico, popularly known as Tec de Monterrey.

The new graduates earned two degrees: an EIMBA from USC and a Maestria en Administracion from Tec de Monterrey. A second EIMBA class enrolled in August 2005 and will graduate in May 2007.

The 20-month program is aimed at senior Mexican managers in their 30s and 40s who continue to work while earning their degrees. After an opening week in Columbia, classes are taught every third weekend in Guadalajara, utilizing both Moore School and Tec de Monterrey faculty.

Last fall, the program was ranked the eighth-best MBA program in Mexico by Expansión, a well-known Mexican magazine.

Diego Milan, a member of the EIMBA Class of 2006 who is finance and administrative director for Tech Group Mexico, said he was promoted to his current job while working on his degree. “This promotion represented a 25 percent increase in my gross salary,” he said. His “little side business” called Diemy Corp. also grew five-fold during this time in terms of total assets and number of employees.

Enrique Prieto Ibarra said that he has started his own company, called Bufete Constructor y de Bienes Raices S.A. de C.V, since beginning the EIMBA program. “I just closed a deal to build 11 houses here in Guadalajara,” he said. “We are talking about a $1 million (U.S. dollars) investment.”

As for Eduardo Uribe, he has been promoted to Business Unit Manager for Sanmina-SCI Plant 3 in Guadalajara.