

# NEWS RELEASE

## **College of Business**

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**For immediate release**

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## **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Makes Investment in Chicago Marketplace Through \$5 Million Donation to University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

CHICAGO, May 3, 2004 – PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP today announced it is making a major investment in the Chicago marketplace through a \$5 million donation to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC).

Half of the donation will be a cash contribution to the Department of Accountancy and the College of Business and the other half will be spent through dedicated partner time, which involves collaborating with UIUC to develop Chicago-based initiatives over the next five years to support accountancy education and research.

PwC's contribution to the school is unique in that every partner at PwC who graduated from the University of Illinois — no matter where he or she is now resident — donated his or her own money to support this effort. Those dollars were then supplemented by PricewaterhouseCoopers.

“We see this as a great opportunity to develop a market-leading approach for the long-standing relationship between PwC and the University of Illinois, one that will also benefit the Chicago marketplace,” said Jay Henderson, managing partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers' Chicago office.

“Partners who've graduated from UIUC have cultivated their connections with the school and its students

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## NEWS RELEASE

PricewaterhouseCoopers, page 2

over many years. With our pledge, we are now able to significantly impact the education of future accounting graduates, graduates of the school who are already part of the fabric of the Chicago business community as well as future students from the Chicago metropolitan area.”

PwC will collaborate with UIUC to develop, sponsor and offer various programs for the Chicago business community, accounting students, faculty and alumni. Among these programs are workshops and seminars on emerging accounting and finance issues, alumni activities to strengthen UIUC’s connectivity with Chicago-based graduates, a mentoring program for student leaders of UIUC business organizations and programs aimed at attracting a more diverse student population to the accounting profession.

“The breadth of these programs will benefit many constituents of the College,” said Avijit Ghosh, dean of the University of Illinois College of Business. “We’re excited that PricewaterhouseCoopers is growing its involvement on campus, as well as in the Chicago area. And we are delighted that this commitment includes solid support of students through new programs in mentoring, diversity, thought leadership and career development. The investment underscores the firm’s leadership in the accounting profession.”

Adds PwC’s Mr. Henderson, “With its top ranking among the nation’s accounting programs, UIUC is a strong partner with PricewaterhouseCoopers. Collaborating with UIUC in this manner is an important investment by our firm in the Chicago marketplace.”

Tim Reiersen, PricewaterhouseCoopers lead relationship partner for UIUC, adds, “I am thrilled with the outstanding support we received from our firm’s partners who are alumni of the College of Business. Collectively, the financial commitment of these partners is significant. In addition, many of them will devote significant time to the programs and strategic initiatives that form this relationship.”

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# NEWS RELEASE

PricewaterhouseCoopers, page 3

The cash contribution portion of the donation will be used to support the Accountancy Student Center which will be located in a new instructional facility planned at the College of Business. The Center is intended to serve as a home for accountancy students throughout their campus experience as well as after they complete their degree.

PricewaterhouseCoopers ([www.pwc.com](http://www.pwc.com)) provides industry-focused assurance, tax and advisory services for public and private clients. More than 120,000 people in 139 countries connect their thinking, experience and solutions to build public trust and enhance value for clients and their stakeholders.

Unless otherwise indicated, "PricewaterhouseCoopers" refers to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, a Delaware limited liability partnership. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP is a member firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers International Limited.

Nationally recognized as one of the leading business schools, the College of Business at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign has outstanding programs in accountancy, business administration, and finance. The College enrolls approximately 3,000 undergraduates and 850 graduate students in MBA, master's, and doctoral programs.

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