

NEWS RELEASE

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**DELOITTE, U OF I SLATE KICK-OFF
FOR BUSINESS BUILDING CAMPAIGN**

Deloitte, one of the nation's leading professional services firms, and the University of Illinois will host a multimillion-dollar fundraising campaign kick-off to benefit the U of I College of Business Tuesday evening (March 8) in Chicago.

The Deloitte Building Campaign is a five-year effort to generate private financial support for the Deloitte Auditorium in the new College of Business facility on the Urbana-Champaign campus. Deloitte, which provides audit, tax, consulting, and financial advisory services through nearly 30,000 people in more than 80 U.S. cities, has almost 600 U of I alumni, the largest source of talent to the firm worldwide.

The new building, estimated at \$55 million, is a major part of the College of Business's \$75 million campaign, "Investing in Excellence: The Campaign for Business Education at Illinois." The new facility, designed by renowned architect and U of I alumnus Cesar Pelli, will be located adjacent to the College's Commerce West building, now Wohler's Hall. The building will anchor the business campus and serve graduate

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and undergraduate students by providing much-needed space for classrooms, student services, studying, and information gatherings. The structure is designed to foster interactions between and among students and faculty.

The 90-year-old College of Business, with more than 4,200 students, 300 faculty and staff, and over 52,000 alumni, is ranked among the top business schools in the nation. The College has not expanded its facilities since the 1960s. The state of Illinois will provide half the funding for the new facility.

Design of the new, 163,000 square-foot building includes a 275-seat auditorium, the focus of the Deloitte fundraising effort. "The Auditorium is expected to be a signature element of the new facility, and to serve as a venue for important College activities," said Howard Engle, a partner with Deloitte in Chicago and a 1972 Illinois accountancy graduate. Engle is an Adjunct Lecturer with the College and one of the more than 50 Deloitte partners who are U of I alumni. He also serves as a Trustee of the Deloitte Foundation.

The Deloitte Foundation will double match gifts of all Deloitte alumni who contribute to the campaign, which will continue into 2009.

"We are extremely proud of our long association with the University and the College of Business," said Michael J. Lullo, a 1988 U of I business graduate and partner with Deloitte. "As the largest employer of University of Illinois business graduates, we are deeply appreciative of the quality of instruction and the preparedness of the students who join

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us from the College of Business. We look forward to building upon that strong and mutually beneficial relationship in the years to come," he said.

Stephen C. Van Arsdell, a partner and member of the Board of Directors of Deloitte and a 1972 and 1973 graduate of the College's undergraduate and graduate programs in accountancy, commented "We are extremely proud of our Illini heritage and what it has meant to each of us individually and to all of us institutionally. We share the Dean's vision and look forward to continuing to support the College as it moves to even greater heights in the years to come."

Avijit Ghosh, dean of the College, said, "For many years the College of Business at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has nurtured the dream of acquiring the facilities and endowment that would propel us to new academic heights well into this century of change and challenge. The continued efforts and gifts in support of the College of Business through the Deloitte fund are helping to make this vision possible."

The Deloitte Building Campaign kick-off will be held Tuesday, March 8, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Joe's, 940 W. Weed St., Chicago.

The business school effort is part of a larger, yet untitled, University-wide capital campaign in support of the campuses in Chicago, Springfield and Urbana-Champaign. Now in its nucleus or planning phase, the campaign is expected to be officially announced in the fall of 2006, according to the U of I Foundation.

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