

For immediate release

**Fund Raising Exceeds Goal:
MBA Program Supports Hurricane Relief Efforts**

Champaign, Ill., September 12, 2005 – Students in the Illinois MBA program coordinated a fund-raising effort that resulted in a contribution today of almost \$7,000 to the American Red Cross Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund. A team of MBA students spearheaded the seven-day drive with fellow students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

“As an MBA community, we set an ambitious goal of raising \$5,000 to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina,” said Brian Precious, a second-year student in the MBA program. “We felt it was imperative to do something to help those affected by this terrible tragedy. By coming together as a team, we exceeded our goal by 40%. The level of compassion and generosity is reflective of the caliber of the individuals affiliated with the Illinois MBA program. We are hopeful that the funds raised will be used to bring relief to those most in need.”

A total of 92 MBA students, faculty, administrative staff, alumni, and other friends of the program contributed. Donations ranged from \$10-\$505, with the highest contribution being from a student. The total amount raised by the pledge drive was \$5,970. The MBA Association added another \$1,000 bringing the total amount raised to just under \$7,000. One-hundred percent of the funds raised were donated to the American Red Cross Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

The College of Business was also a site for contributions for the campus-wide effort to raise funds for hurricane victims, with Business staff members accepting donations for several days last week. According to the Red Cross website, as of Sept. 11, 2005, the Red Cross has received more than \$580 million in gifts and pledges for the hurricane relief effort.

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 775 graduate students in MBA, master’s, and doctoral programs.

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