

New Report Creates a World View of Management Education

Tampa, Florida / Brussels, Belgium (May 6, 2008) – A recent report released by the Global Foundation for Management Education (GFME) goes beyond conventional studies of management education which, until now, have been limited by more narrow and regional perspectives. The report, *The Global Management Education Landscape: Shaping the Future of Business Schools* offers a world view of management education while providing a series of recommendations for leaders in academia, business and government.

A joint venture between the two largest associations of business schools, AACSB International (The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business), and EFMD (The European Foundation for Management Development), GFME challenges leaders to consider how management education will be affected by powerful global forces, including accelerating economic integration, demographic shifts, advances in information technology, and emerging priorities related to social responsibility, governance, and sustainability. It also examines recent developments in the education arena, such as the rapid expansion and increasing diversity of providers, harmonization of degree structures, increasing student mobility, and rising shortages of doctoral business school faculty. These two sections of the report provide a comprehensive survey of the management education landscape.

With its report, GFME also intends to provide a foundation for constructive dialogue, collaboration, and investments in the future of management education. “It is essential that we recognize and build upon the mutual dependencies of businesses, governments, and business schools” said Howard Thomas, GFME chair and dean at Warwick Business School. “This report helps each of us to rise above our regional interests and invest in management education for success in this rapidly changing, and integrating global environment.”

Among the many issues identified, the report expresses concerns about the world’s ability to support the growing demand for quality management education in rapidly developing and transitioning countries. According to Dan LeClair, GFME’s lead researcher and AACSB’s chief knowledge officer, “we expect the most growth in regions where business schools are relatively new, the models and approaches are not widely understood internationally, and quality assurance is often weakest.”

To address the pressing challenges identified, the report calls for numerous global efforts including: advocacy for quality assurance for the benefit of students and employers; stronger collaboration among business schools; gathering of more data and information about management education; and deeper engagement of business and government leaders to envision the future needs of organizations and societies.

The Global Management Education Landscape: Shaping the Future of Business Schools is available for download on the GME website: www.gfme.org. The website also includes profiles of management education in over 50 countries.

About GFME

The Global Foundation for Management Education (GFME) aims to identify and address challenges and opportunities in the practice of management education worldwide, and also to advance its quality and content. The GFME is focused on thought leadership and collaboration rather than on accreditation, and

seeks to collaborate and cooperate with organizations and individuals throughout the world, recognizing the cultural aspects and sensitivities of its global constituency. www.gfme.org

About AACSB International

AACSB International is an association of more than 1,100 educational institutions, businesses and other organizations in 70 countries that are dedicated to the advancement of business education worldwide. In addition to serving as an accreditation body for institutions offering undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees in business and accounting, the association also conducts a wide array of conference and seminar programs at various locations around the world. www.aacsb.edu.

About EFMD

EFMD is an international membership organization based in Brussels, Belgium. With more than 650 member organizations from academia, business, public service and consultancy in 75 countries, EFMD provides a unique forum for information, research, networking and debate on innovation and best practice in management development. Through its EQUIS accreditation system, its fundamental objective is to raise the standard of management education worldwide. www.efmd.org

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