FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. News & World Report Ranks UC Irvine’s Paul Merage School of Business Full-Time MBA Program 45th in the Nation

Full-Time MBA Program Climbing Steadily, Up Four Spots From Last Year

Irvine, CA – (March 12, 2014) – The Full Time MBA program at UC Irvine’s Paul Merage School of Business has moved up four spots to rank 45th among the nation’s Top MBA Programs in the 2015 Best Business Schools rankings released by U.S. News & World Report.

“This new U.S. News ranking, like the U.S. Top 25 ranking we recently received from the Financial Times, is the result of the hard work of our MBA students, our faculty and staff,” said Gary Lindblad, assistant dean and director of the Full Time MBA Program at the Merage School. “Our faculty’s intellectual capital and teaching, coupled with specific, proactive career training and activities is proving key to our students’ ability to achieve top employment success among all southern California MBA Programs. With 89.2 percent of our students accepting job offers by 90 days after graduation, we are extremely competitive.”

“The rise in GPA of our incoming students and the ability to be more selective in our acceptance rate are indicators of our momentum and the rigors of our programs,” said Rajeev Tyagi, interim dean of the Merage School. “We are also receiving positive reinforcement from recruiter assessments which, along with rises in salary and bonus rates for our graduating students, is driving a continued positive impact on our rankings.”

Most recently, the Merage School was ranked among the top 25 schools in the U.S. by the Financial Times; 48th in the world overall.

“This current U.S. News & World Report ranking reinforces the Merage School placement among the top 5 percent of accredited programs in the U.S.,” said Tyagi, adding, “we continue to enhance our programs and curriculum in support of our commitment to students to provide the highest quality MBA education possible.”

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About The U.S. News Rankings Methodology

The 453 master’s programs in business administration accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) were surveyed; 385 responded, with 127 MBA programs providing the data needed to calculate rankings based on a weighted average of indicators including: quality assessment; which involved two surveys conducted in fall 2013; placement success (weighted by .35) which was based on average starting salary and bonus (40 percent of this measure) and employment rates for full-time 2013 graduates at graduation (20 percent) and three months later (40 percent); student selectivity (weighted by .25) which is the strength of full-time students entering in the fall of 2013 measured by the average GMAT and GRE scores (65 percent) average undergraduate GPA (30 percent), and the proportion of applicants accepted by the school (5 percent); overall rank, and specialty rankings. To view the full report, visit: usnews.com/grad.

About The Paul Merage School of Business at UC Irvine

The Paul Merage School of Business at UC Irvine offers four dynamic MBA programs, a Master of Professional Accountancy, and PhD and undergraduate business degrees that deliver its thematic approach to business education: sustainable growth through strategic innovation. The school graduates leaders with the exceptional ability to help grow their organizations through analytical decision-making, innovation and collaborative execution. In-class and on-site experiences with real-world business problems give students the edge needed to help companies compete in today’s global economy.

Seven Centers of Excellence and Executive Education programs provide numerous and varied opportunities for students and the business community at large to enhance their education experience and update their professional expertise. While the Merage School is relatively young, it has quickly grown to consistently rank among the top 10 percent of all AACSB-accredited programs through exceptional student recruitment, world-class faculty, a strong alumni network and close individual and corporate relationships. For more information, visit merage.uci.edu.

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