FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Financial Times Ranks UC Irvine’s Paul Merage School of Business 26th in the U.S.

Irvine, CA – (January 28, 2013) – In the 2013 Financial Times Global MBA rankings report released today, UC Irvine’s Paul Merage School of Business was ranked 26th in the U.S. and 9th among public universities in the U.S. In addition, the Merage School ranks 5th in the U.S. for students employed within 90 days of graduation (at 94 percent), and is the #1 school in the U.S. for percentage of women faculty and percentage of women students. The Merage School was also ranked 8th globally for e-business, as rated by alumni. The ranking places the Merage School among the top 5 percent of accredited programs and can be attributed to significant increases in the School’s faculty research, an increase in weighted salary, and major strides in employment success and percentage of women students.

“This Financial Times report confirms the progress toward our primary initiative: creating one of the world’s top public university research-based business schools,” said Andrew J. Policano, dean of The Paul Merage School of Business. “We have made a commitment to our students to provide the highest quality MBA education possible. Our faculty, students, staff and the business community have provided us with invaluable feedback on how we can continue to improve our curriculum and resources to better meet the demands of our students and the employers that hire them. We listened closely and we implemented many suggestions. This ranking clearly illustrates the value of this open dialog and sets the stage for future successes at the School.”

“It’s rewarding to see our work recognized through these results,” said Tom Kozicki, executive director of MBA Career Services. “Several years ago we made a conscious strategic decision to provide our students with additional resources to help them successfully manage the interview process, secure strong post-MBA positions and career management guidance and training. The Financial Times ranking this year indicates that these efforts, and the hard work of our students, have made a difference.”

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The Merage School’s Full-Time MBA program ranked 33rd in the world for faculty research and 26th in the U.S. In addition, the Merage School’s placement success score jumped 32 spots to 51st globally according to the new *Financial Times* report. The Merage School’s overall global ranking is 54th in the report.

**About the Methodology**

The *Financial Times Global MBA* rankings report methodology consists of three factors: an alumni survey (59 percent of ranking) that includes a survey of the current alumni class and alumni surveys of two previous graduating classes; a school survey (31 percent of ranking) that includes placement, international orientation, gender diversity, doctoral rank, and faculty with doctorates; and a faculty research rank score (10 percent of ranking) that is calculated according to the number of faculty publications in 45 international and academic practitioner journals, in approximately the previous 3.5 years. The faculty research rank score is weighted based on the full-time faculty size.

**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 – plus PhD and undergraduate business degrees – that deliver its thematic approach to business education: sustainable growth through strategic innovation. It 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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