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**Villanova School of Business Earns the #26 Spot
among US-Based Executive MBA Programs in *Financial Times* Rankings**

PHILADELPHIA - 26 October 2007—Only seven years after the program’s inception, the Villanova School of Business Executive MBA program has earned the #26 spot among US-based executive MBA programs in the *Financial Times* annual ranking, released this week. Worldwide, the school placed #64 among over 300 executive MBA programs.

The curriculum of this selective MBA program for executive leaders is focused on systems thinking—an approach to creative decision making within complex business environments. The small-group dynamic of the program has created a cohesive alumni network in the program’s short history, and has also lent itself to strong connections between faculty and students, and between the school and its corporate partners.

The *Financial Times* ranking focuses on areas of particular importance within the executive MBA marketplace, including the work experience of executive MBA participants—a factor that directly leads to the quality of classroom discussions and program collaboration among peers. The criteria for such experience includes seniority of positions held, number of years in each position, size of company, and any international work experience prior to starting the EMBA. In this category, the Villanova School of Business has earned the #1 spot in the Philadelphia market.

“The cornerstone of the admissions process for this program,” explains Executive MBA Director Douglas Dickel, “is whether or not there is an appropriate fit between our Executive MBA and the life goals of the applicant. This is a program for highly skilled, emerging executive leaders who want to transform the way they lead organizations. Our students want to challenge themselves to change, grow, and view the world differently as a result of their learning here.”

The Villanova School of Business Executive MBA Program is a 21-month program offered on Fridays and Saturdays every other week. When classes are in session, participants study and reside at The Villanova Conference Center in Radnor, Pennsylvania, 12 miles west of Philadelphia. The program includes a rigorous international study trip. Faculty members in the program are multidimensional experts who excel in teaching, research, and the practice of business.

The next Executive MBA Open House will take place on November 7, 2007, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Villanova Conference Center.

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