Monterey Institute’s Fisher International MBA Again Ranked Among Country’s Top Business Programs By Aspen Institute

Focus on Social and Environmental Responsibility Aids Program’s Ranking

MONTEREY, CA – The Fisher International MBA Program at the Monterey Institute of International Studies has again been recognized as a leader in integrating social, environmental and ethical issues into its MBA program. The 2009-2010 edition of the Aspen Institute’s biennial Beyond Grey Pinstripes survey ranked the Fisher Program number 38 on its list of the top 100 business programs.

“We’re delighted that the Aspen Institute has again ranked the Fisher program among the best business schools in the world at incorporating a broader social perspective into our core MBA program,” said Fisher International MBA Program Chair Bruce Paton. “Our interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral approach uniquely equips our students to succeed in international business while also making a difference in the world.”

Since 2003, the Fisher School has consistently been ranked by the Aspen Institute as one of the nation’s leading socially responsible MBA programs. This year, 149 business schools from 24 countries participated in an 18-month effort to map the landscape of teaching and research on issues pertaining to business and society. Relevant data collected in the survey, as well as the entire “Global 100” list of business schools, is available at: www.beyondgreypinstripes.org.

In addition to its overall ranking, the Fisher International MBA Program was ranked 18th in the world for the availability of courses on campus that address environmental, social and ethical content, and 10th in the world for offering courses that explicitly address how business can be used as an engine for social and environmental change.

Announcement of the Aspen Institute rankings came on the heels of similar recognition from Entrepreneur magazine (www.entrepreneur.com), which last month ranked the Fisher International MBA Program 14th among its top 25 graduate business programs for entrepreneurship.

While many MBA rankings exist, the Aspen Institute’s Beyond Grey Pinstripes is the only one that looks beyond reputation and test scores to measure how well schools are preparing their students for the environmental, social and ethical complexities of modern-day business.
“The best business students move quickly into the front ranks of business--and the attitudes and values they bring to the table are deeply influenced by their time in business education,” said Judith Samuelson, Executive Director of the Aspen Institute’s Business and Society Program. “Will they accept the status quo or act on their passion about the positive role business can play at the intersection of corporate profit and social impact? The schools that are competitive in the Beyond Grey Pinstripes ranking are the real trailblazers--they assure that students have the right skills as well as the will to make things happen.”

“In these challenging economic times, the general public, not just scholars, are questioning whether the established models of business are broken,” said Rich Leimsider, Director of the Aspen Institute’s Center for Business Education. “Beyond Grey Pinstripes schools are thoughtfully pursuing new approaches. They are preparing students who take a more holistic view of business success, one that measures financial results as well as social and environmental impacts.”

The Aspen Institute Center for Business Education (Aspen CBE) equips business leaders for the 21st century with the vision and knowledge to integrate corporate profitability and social value. Aspen helps business educators incorporate issues of social and environmental stewardship into teaching and research by offering targeted resources, networks and a platform to share best practices among peers.

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The Monterey Institute of International Studies is at the forefront of international professional education, preparing students for global careers in the private, public, nonprofit and educational sectors. A private graduate institution located in Monterey, California and affiliated with Middlebury College, the Institute offers degree programs in international business, translation and interpretation, international policy studies and language teaching. The Institute’s approximately 800 students come from more than 50 countries. For more information about the Monterey Institute, visit www.miis.edu.