

— News from —



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## **PRESS RELEASE**

# **FIU College of Business joins Inter-American Development Bank to launch IndexAmericas corporate sustainability index**

**MIAMI (April 11, 2017)** – The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Inter-American Investment Corporation (IIC) this week launched the Corporate Sustainability Index (IndexAmericas), designed to help gauge these efforts in Latin America and the Caribbean, with FIU’s College of Business serving as IndexAmerica’s academic partner.

IndexAmericas measures companies acting in Latin America and the Caribbean based on their performance in environmental, social and governance dimensions, as well as on a development component added by the IDB. S-Network Global Indexes and Thomson Reuters are in charge of data collection and analysis.

“We wholly support IndexAmericas because it aligns with the College of Business’ mission and vision,” said Jose Aldrich, acting dean of FIU’s College of Business. “We are proud to have been invited by the IDB-IIC to be part of this project.”

College of Business faculty, and its Capital Markets Lab, will put together regional workshops and forums designed to help companies improve their corporate sustainability performance based on the index.

The ability to advance sustainable development is an integral part of many businesses’ corporate missions, as well as addressing the social, environment,

and financial impacts of their enterprises. IndexAmericas seeks to show businesses they have a responsibility to actively guide the development of markets in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The first phase of IndexAmericas will evaluate the sustainability performance of 6,000 global companies, of which 600 have a presence in Latin America. Among the U.S. companies that will be ranked in the index are Microsoft, Millicom, PepsiCo, Nestlé, Cisco, and Unilever.

“It is the first initiative of its kind led by a multilateral agency with vast experience in economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean,” the IDB said in a statement.

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### **About the College of Business:**

Florida International University’s College of Business, plays pivotal role in the development of global business leaders. Two of its international business programs are ranked among the Top 15 nationwide by U.S. News & World Report and Financial Times. In the 2017 edition of U.S. News’ Best Colleges report, the undergraduate international business program was ranked #5 in the U.S. Among the Best Graduate Schools, the College of Business was ranked #15 in graduate international business programs in 2016. The largest of the FIU’s professional schools, the College of Business has unique expertise in international business, data analytics, entrepreneurship, healthcare management, and a broad range of financial services. Its Hollo School of Real Estate was ranked #1 in the U.S. and #2 globally by the Journal of Real Estate Literature. More than 8,000 students are enrolled in undergraduate business courses in its R. Kirk Landon Undergraduate School of Business, and over 2,000 graduate students study in its Alvah H. Chapman Jr. Graduate School of Business every year. Another 1,000 business professionals participate annually in one or more of its professional and executive education programs. For more information, visit <https://business.fiu.edu>.

### **About FIU:**

Florida International University is classified by Carnegie as a “R1: Doctoral Universities - Highest Research Activity” and recognized as a Carnegie Community Engaged university. It is a public research university with [colleges and schools](#) that offers [bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral](#) programs in fields such as business engineering, computer science, international relations, architecture, law and medicine. As one of South Florida’s anchor institutions, FIU contributes almost \$9 billion each year to the local economy and is ranked second in Florida in Forbes Magazine’s “America’s Best Employers” list. FIU graduates are consistently among the highest paid college graduates in Florida and are among the leaders of public and private organizations throughout South Florida. FIU is Worlds Ahead in finding solutions to the most challenging problems of our time.

FIU emphasizes research as a major component of its mission with [multiple state-of-the-art research facilities](#) including the [Wall of Wind Research and Testing Facility](#), [FIU's Medina Aquarius Program](#) and the [Advanced Materials Engineering Research Institute](#). FIU has awarded more than 220,000 degrees and enrolls more than 54,000 students in two campuses and centers including FIU Downtown on Brickell, FIU@I-75, the Miami Beach Urban Studios, and Tianjin, China. FIU also supports artistic and cultural engagement through its three museums: [Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum](#), the [Wolfsonian-FIU](#), and the [Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU](#). FIU is a member of [Conference USA](#) and more than 400 student-athletes participating in 18 sports. For more information about FIU, visit <http://www.fiu.edu/>.