

March 29, 2002

Greetings from the College of Business and Technology at Western Illinois University!

We would like to cordially invite you to join us, along with other distinguished individuals, for a session of innovative thoughts and ideas to discuss the feasibility of a second international business education conference.

In September 2000, the College of Business and Technology, in collaboration with several other universities, government agencies, private sector organizations and foundations, sponsored a conference entitled *Partnerships for the Education of Future Global Business Leaders* in Washington, DC. The conference created an opportunity for participants to develop a new vision for higher education that would impact on policies regarding international business education and the demands of the new global markets. In addition, they examined issues related to consortium development and the benefits of business and governmental alliances. It was, and continues to be, the overwhelming consensus that the Partnerships conference was a success and that the established dialogue must continue.

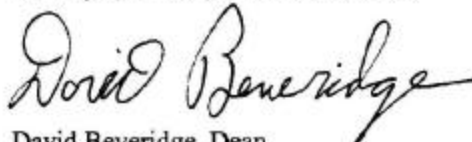
The proposed second conference would take place Spring 2003. Possible titles of the conference are *Educational Interdependence: The Americas*; or *International Business Education in a Changing World*; or *Collaborative Relationships Among Education, Business and Government: Challenges, Strategies, and Leadership*.

The initial conference provided a vast and solid knowledge base upon which we can grow and build. We will center our attention on the countries that are geographically interconnected yet culturally different. We propose to focus the conference on the Western Hemisphere.

The meeting will be hosted by the Organization of American States, 17th St and Constitution Ave, Salon Miranda, Washington, DC on Wednesday, April 17 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 followed by lunch.

We hope you will be able to join us as your insight will be very helpful in the creation of the global conference and will solidify the conference concept. We will have someone call in a few days to confirm your participation. Please contact us with any questions you may have.

We hope you can join us on April 17!



David Beveridge, Dean
College of Business and Technology



Carol Fimmen, Director
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