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For immediate release

### **Executive MBA Council names Michael Desiderio as new executive director**

The Executive MBA Council Board of Trustees approved the appointment of Michael Desiderio as executive director in June.

“Michael brings both extensive academic and business leadership experience to the council,” says Barry Van Dyck, board chair and director of degree programs, executive education, at the University of Notre Dame. “He also brings energy, passion and a commitment for controlled growth, service and exceptional executive education.”

Desiderio currently serves as director of strategic partnerships for the W. P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University, Tempe, Ariz. He has been in industry in various positions that range from engineering through executive management. He also founded Enigma Professional Services, a firm that offers business consulting and speaking services. Desiderio received his undergraduate degree in electrical engineering from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N.Y., and his Executive MBA degree in 2001 from the W. P. Cary School at Arizona State University.

In January 2007, the council’s first managing director, Maury Kalnitz, announced his intention to retire June 30. Desiderio will officially join the council on July 1, 2007, and will be based in Phoenix.

While a manager at Motorola, Desiderio decided to pursue his Executive MBA degree. “I wanted an Executive MBA especially because of the interaction with the unique peer group in Executive MBA Programs,” says Desiderio. He remains an active alumnus of his program and an advocate for the value of Executive MBA education.

“I loved working at W. P. Carey,” he says. “I also believe strongly in Executive MBA education and am drawn to the energy and passion of these programs and of the council. The council is poised to take advantage of the global growth in Executive MBA education and to continue adding value to programs and to the industry. I’m excited by this opportunity to build on the many strengths of the council.”

*The Executive MBA Council fosters excellence and innovation worldwide in Executive MBA Programs, as well as in other business-related degree programs for professionals. The council provides a place for programs to share best practices and gathers data that helps members improve their programs and that reveals the importance of business degree programs for professionals. The council has more than 200 member colleges and universities worldwide, which offer more than 300 programs in 25 countries. For more information, contact the Executive MBA Council office at 714.628.7334 or [info@embac.org](mailto:info@embac.org).*