

Media Contacts:
Margot Winick/Paige Feigenbaum
305-284-5500
mwinick@miami.edu

**UM SENIOR RECEIVES AMERICAN
DREAM FELLOWSHIP**
Awards promotes immigration and career advancement

CORAL GABLES, FL (April 26, 2006) - University of Miami senior Patricia Mazzei has been selected as one of 14 Merage American Dream Fellows. Upon submitting detailed plans of what she will be doing post-graduation, Mazzei will receive a \$10,000 stipend per year for two years. These funds go toward either graduate school, travel related to professional development, training programs, use of consultants to assist in business or career advancement, or personal or family support associated with internships. The fellowship will provide recipients with access to mentors, opportunities to share experiences with other Fellows, and networking opportunities.

The Merage Foundation was established by Paul and Lilly Merage, who are both immigrants to America. Because of their gratitude of the opportunities the United States has offered them, the Merage Family has dedicated itself to encouraging other immigrants to achieve great accomplishments. The foundation has partnered with 21 universities, including the University of Miami, to select several graduating seniors each year who have exemplified a superior level of leadership in the areas of business, science, education, public service, culture, and the arts.

The mission of the Merage Foundation is to promote expanded opportunities for immigrants. It hopes to assist and inspire young immigrants to attain their American Dream. The Foundation helps immigrants become future leaders and to encourage Americans to recognize and celebrate the contributions immigrants make in the United States.

At the time she was nominated by the school, Mazzei had earned 130 credit hours, majoring in economics and political science. She maintained a GPA of 3.99. Mazzei is active on campus, especially in the Model UN organization. Mazzei is a native of Venezuela, having immigrated to the United States in 2003.

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THREE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI STUDENTS LAND ROADTRIP NATION INTERNSHIP

Students will travel in RV to explore careers

CORAL GABLES, FL (April 25, 2007) –Three University of Miami students have been selected by Road Trip Nation to complete an internship during the summer of 2007. Roadtrip Nation is a project that is a PBS series, three books, an online community and a student movement. The organization sends people on the road who are interested in exploring the world outside their comfort zone, talking with individuals who chose to define their own road in life, and sharing their experiences with other young people.

Through the program, three UM students, all sophomores, are Tim McNaught, a video/film and Spanish double major, Sean Murphy, a biomedical engineering major, and Christina Padis, an English and pre-med major, will embark on a five-week North American tour. Along the way, they interview professionals and notable figures in various walks of life and report on the different career options they explore.

Departing from Miami on June 24 in a signature green RV provided by Roadtrip Nation, the UM student team will travel to Savannah, Georgia to Washington, D.C. to New York to Boston to Toronto to Chicago to Wisconsin to Seattle to Portland to San Francisco. The trip will conclude in Los Angeles on August 5, from where they will board a plane to return home. Some notable figures they hope to schedule interviews with are Bill Gates, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Barack Obama, Noam Chomsky, and Tyra Banks. They are required to execute a minimum of 30 interviews.

The company has provided the team with a Sony PD-150 camera. Prior to departing, they must record themselves planning their trip and scheduling interviews. Once they hit the road in June, a two-person camera crew will join

them to tape the interviews. The footage collected by this team will be combined with footage collected by other such teams to be edited into a weekly show that will be aired on PBS. The 12-part series will also be available to view at www.roadtripnation.com.

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p.feigenbaum@umiami.edu

2006 UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI IBIS YEARBOOK WINS TOP NATIONAL AWARD

CORAL GABLES, FL (March 20, 2007) - The Columbia Scholastic Press Association announced the winners of top awards for collegiate publications, and the University of Miami's *Ibis Yearbook* took home the title of Gold Crown, the most prestigious of the awards. The *Ibis* shares this honor with four other schools—Indiana University, Westmont College, University of Oklahoma, and Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

The awards were given at the 29th Annual College Media Convention in New York City this past weekend. Three students, including current editor-in-chief Joanna Davila and incoming editor-in-chief Sarah Baird, were present to accept the award, along with the representative from Taylor Publishing, Marcia Meskiel-Macy.

Lori Todd, editor-in-chief of the 2006 *Ibis*, was unable to attend the conference as she is currently employed at the Austin American-Statesman newspaper as a page designer. This past weekend, she had the opportunity to design her first front page with coverage of the South by Southwest Music Festival. Todd landed this job in Austin after completing a successful few months at the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel.

Presented annually since 1982, the Gold Crown was awarded to the *Ibis* once before, for the 2004 yearbook. The *Ibis* has also won the Silver Crown twice, for the 2002 and 2003 editions.

The 2006 *Ibis* is also one of 13 finalists to receive a Pacemaker award from the Associated College Press. Winners will be announced in Washington, D.C. in late October. The *Ibis* has won a Pacemaker once before, due to its coverage of Hurricane Andrew back in 1993. The *Ibis* was also a finalist in 2003 and 2004.

The 2007 volume of the *Ibis* is scheduled to be distributed in September of 2007.

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The University of Miami is the largest private research institution in the southeastern United States. The University's mission is to provide quality education, attract and retain outstanding students, support the faculty and

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