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RG: The president of Anglo-American University, Alan Krautstengl, visited Chapman six years ago at the invitation of one of our faculty members. After meeting the former Dean of the Argyros School of Business and Economics, an agreement was made to establish a Chapman MBA in Prague.

Anglo-American University was a natural partner for Chapman due to its outstanding reputation as the oldest private university in the Czech Republic and given AAU's experience in delivering high-quality instruction in English.

TPP: Does the lower cost of studying the MBA program in Prague compared to the US make it an attractive option for prospective students affected by the recession?

RG: I think that the globalization of business is a stronger factor for prospective students than the cost when selecting an international program. Students look for value (what you get for what you pay) in programs, so value is a more important factor than cost. Students find

strong value in Chapman/AAU's Argyros School Prague MBA because they can combine the Czech Republic's advancements and geographic location with instruction from our world class faculty.

TPP: What is the key to creating a successful business education program today?

RG: Simply stated, our role is to prepare students for highly productive careers in the business world. It's important for business schools to train students for the realities and complexities of today's business world. Therefore, regular interaction with the business community is an important aspect of successful business education.

Examples of interaction would include regularly inviting business executives to speak to classes, soliciting input from prospective employers on the school's curricular and co-curricular programs, providing opportunities for students to do projects and internships with businesses as part of the education, and learning through case studies of actual businesses.

TPP: What lessons can future business leaders learn following the economic crisis?

RG: The economic crisis exposed both

high-risk behaviors and unethical behaviors. My hope is that business leaders renew their commitment to appropriately measure risk and ethics; both in their own behaviors and as models for their employees. Future business leaders can also learn the importance of being agile and adaptive in their thinking. The crisis created a period of dramatic change for most businesses, but rapid change is also now a constant in the world of business. Leaders need to know how to regularly monitor information from their business environments and adjust their strategies to reach their goals.

TPP: What do employers really want from the students they hire from college business programs?

RG: Employers are looking for self-starters meaning people they can point in the right direction and not have to direct day to day. Exposure to the real world of business during their education is important in this respect, to marry what students learn in the classroom with actual business environments. The most successful graduates will also have skills in problem solving, quantitative analysis, oral and written communications, and teaming.

TPP: Do the program's graduates see future work and business opportunities here in the Czech Republic?

RG: Definitely, most of our students remain in the Czech Republic, and they see great opportunities here. The Czech market is growing and there is high demand for talented and well-trained managers. Our students see that the MBA is highly regarded in the Czech Republic, and is a way for our graduates to distinguish themselves. As our MBA program becomes better known, employers realize that, as a very rigorous program, our graduates have worked extremely hard to get their degree. Employers value this work ethic in addition to the business skills and English language proficiency required to complete the Chapman/AAU MBA coursework. This combination provides many opportunities for our graduates, both in the Czech Republic and the rest of the world.

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- 5) Magical beauty of glass

November 28, 2013
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