August 1, 2005
Dear Delegate:

On behalf of The Board of Trustees of Fordham University I am delighted to welcome you to this conference on Entrepreneurship and Human Rights co-sponsored by Fordham University and Universidad Iberoamericana in Puebla, Mexico. Opening doors and providing education and opportunities for the poor and disadvantaged has long been a part of the Jesuit tradition at both Universities.

Fordham University was founded in 1841, is the Jesuit University of New York City, and serves approximately 17,000 students. The Lincoln Center Campus, where we are meeting, includes our Graduate Business School, our Law School, several other Nationally Acclaimed Graduate Schools, and our Fordham College at Lincoln Center Undergraduate program. Our Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and most other undergraduate schools and programs, as well as our renowned Walsh Library are located on our Rose Hill Campus in the Bronx, New York. In addition we have beautiful campuses with our Marymount at Tarrytown and Calder Center in Armonk, New York.

Dr. John Hollwitz, Vice President of Academic Affairs at Fordham, along with our other Administrators and Deans wanted to foster cooperation between different Jesuit institutions of higher education by using interdisciplinary issues, such as human rights. Accordingly, a group of eleven Fordham faculty and administrators visited Puebla, Mexico, in June 2003 to learn more about the existing local socio-economic and cultural conditions. This conference arose as a result of that trip and represents the strong cooperation between various schools and campuses of the Universities. A committee of faculty and administrators from Fordham and Universidad Iberoamericana contributed the initial planning for the conference. The Institute for Ethics and Economic Policy headed by Professor H. D. Vinod, located in the Economics Department at the Fordham Rose Hill campus played a major role in this endeavor.

We hope you will have a productive conference, enjoy New York City, and welcome again, to Fordham University!

John N. Tognino
Chair of the Fordham University Board of Trustees