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Through this extraordinary period of economic volatility, slow jobs growth, drilling moratoriums, and increasing global competition in business education, the Jones School continues to improve. Rising excellence is evident in admissions standards, faculty research productivity, course evaluations, alumni satisfaction, alumni salaries post-graduation, and the economic and social impact on our communities.

While pursuing a growth for excellence strategy over the previous five years, we increased total enrollments by roughly 50 percent with the launch of the Rice MBA for Professionals, the Rice Undergraduate Business Minor and a PhD program. This strategy has fueled growth in revenues, created hiring opportunities, and allowed us to build the quality and global visibility of the school.

ENROLLMENT
Despite a 50 percent growth in total student enrollment, we did experience a significant dip in enrollments in the Rice MBA for Professionals and Rice MBA for Executives programs this year. In fall 2009 we anticipated some impact from the economy and made a firm commitment to maintain or increase admissions standards even if it resulted in reduced enrollments. We did not, however, anticipate either the gulf incident or the dramatic impact of a change in reimbursement policy from our largest employer. The net result is that we successfully maintained or increased admissions standards in all programs.

Dramatic growth in enrollments as quality goes up
RICE MBA SALARIES

Rice MBA full-time students’ do well at graduation — 85 percent of Rice MBA Full Time Class of 2010 have accepted employment, slightly exceeding last year’s performance where that percentage earned a top 15 rank relative to other U.S. schools. The average salary is $91,364, a $2296 increase over 2009. But Rice MBA graduates are even more impressive over time, which is best reflected in the five-year U.S. ranking on the graph below. Rice MBAs get more raises and promotions over time – most likely because they outperform the competition on the job. The Rice MBA is a rigorous, substantive program. Our graduates know how to work hard – and they work smart.

Post graduation salaries based on 2000-2010 Financial Times and Forbes rankings of U.S. full-time MBA programs. At graduation salaries include signing bonuses.

FACILITIES

Due to the school’s phenomenal growth since the mid 1990s, we’ve now reached a total population that exceeds the design of the building. This summer we began a facilities planning process to help us utilize McNair Hall more efficiently and assess the potential need for an expansion of the building in the future. Although plans are on the back burner, we’re keeping a careful eye on our projected increases of faculty, students and staff as well as the needs of the Houston business community and how we can best serve all of them.

With classes now well into mid-term, the start to the school year has already flown by. We look forward to hearing news from all directions. Come in to visit when you’re in town, or if you’re in Houston, drop in for a lecture or event and let us know how you’re doing.