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CSIS, HILLS PROGRAM ON GOVERNANCE WORLD BANK INSTITUTE, GLOBAL CLASSROOM EXCHANGE

The CSIS, Hills Program on Governance has participated in two Global Classroom Exchanges, hosted by the World Bank Institute, Program on Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Competitiveness, in Beijing, China (December 7, 2005) and in Washington D.C. (March 17, 2006).

The World Bank Institute is the capacity development arm of the World Bank, and helps countries communicate and apply global and local knowledge to meet development challenges. WBI's capacity development programs are designed not only to build skills among groups of individuals involved in performing tasks, but also to strengthen the organizations in which they work, and the sociopolitical environment in which they operate.

The Global Classroom Exchange is a program which links leading business schools from around the world to discuss case-studies in business ethics through video-conferencing. On March 17, 2006, Moana M. Erickson, Executive Director of the CSIS, Hills Governance Program in Washington D.C. participated in a panel with Suzanne Rich Folsom, Counselor to President Wolfowitz and Director, Department of Institutional Integrity, World Bank; Ronald Myers, Sector Manager, Public Sector Division, Latin America and the Caribbean; Glenn Ware, Manager Director of Diligence Inc., to analyze a Harvard Business School case-study which challenged business students to think about fiduciary duties owed to employers juxtaposed to confidentiality concerns obtained from non-institutional sources.

The ensuing panel discussion raised a broad range of secondary issues, including the potential economic harm to corporations when employees have insider information, and an examination of what is legal and what is ethically responsible behavior in a professional work environment. The participating business schools in the March 17th Global Classroom Exchange included the following: Vargas, Sao Paulo, Brazil; Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia; Tertiary School in Business Administration, Capetown, South Africa; Wharton School of Business, Philadelphia, USA.