THE COMMITTEE OF 200 TO HOLD SEMINAR FOR WOMEN MBA STUDENTS AT NYU STERN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

New York (November 17, 2005) – The Committee of 200 (C200), the organization of leading women in business dedicated to fostering growth and increasing opportunities for women entrepreneurs and corporate leaders worldwide, will hold The C200 Fall MBA Outreach Seminar for women MBA students at New York University Stern School of Business on December 8, 2005. C200 is working in partnership with the Stern Women in Business (SWIB) student organization on the event.

At the seminar, one first-year Stern MBA student will be awarded a $25,000 scholarship sponsored by BNP Paribas, plus a 10-week paid internship at a C200 member’s company. In addition, The Committee of 200 will make available to Stern students a pool of internship opportunities at C200 member companies, where student participants will have the opportunity to be informally mentored by preeminent business women.

The day-long event, which journalists are invited to attend, will involve Stern women MBA students and more than 40 C200 members who are leaders in a variety of industries, from banking and insurance to professional services, technology and manufacturing. The seminar’s theme is “Managing Your Career, Your Brand, and Your Life in a Changing World.” C200 member Ann S. Moore, Chairman & CEO, Time Inc., will deliver the luncheon keynote address.

“A key goal of our MBA Outreach Seminar is to begin a dialogue and a mentoring process with women who have the desire and potential to reach leadership positions in corporations and in the entrepreneurial sector. Women’s influence and presence in the upper echelons of the corporate world aren’t increasing fast enough. We believe programs like this can help jump-start progress,” said Mary G. “Trudi” Williams, Area Executive Vice President of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. and C200’s Co-Chair for the MBA Outreach Seminar.

Kathryn Swintek, C200 MBA Outreach Seminar Co-Chair, Head of U.S. Leveraged Finance Group at BNP Paribas and an alumna of the Stern School of Business added, “There are still disconnects between what women want out of their professional lives and
the current realities of top-level corporate jobs. The outreach program is an opportunity to engage with women at the earlier stages of their business lives to discuss how they – and those of us already in leadership positions – can help shape the corporate world so it’s more appealing to women with significant leadership skills and inclinations. Corporations ultimately can’t afford to let these women slip through the cracks.”

Veronica Walker Hackett, C200 MBA Outreach Seminar Co-Chair and Co-founder of The Clarett Group, a New York-based real estate investment and development company, said, “C200 research shows that women MBA students are surprisingly skeptical about the business world. We believe this program will help women with leadership capabilities to appreciate how positively they can contribute to the world through business.”

“Our members are very excited that C200 has chosen to come to Stern this year,” said Kelly Thomas, co-president, Stern Women in Business student organization. “This is a wonderful event where we can discuss the opportunities and challenges facing women in today’s competitive business environment with some of America’s most successful female business leaders.”

C200 holds MBA Outreach Seminars twice a year – fall and spring – at selected business schools, including Babson, Carlson School at The University of Minnesota, Carnegie Mellon, Columbia, Duke, Emory, Harvard, Kellogg, Santa Clara University, Thunderbird, University of Michigan, UNC-Chapel Hill, Vanderbilt, and Wharton. C200 has reached more than 11,000 women via the Outreach Seminars and awarded over $500,000 in scholarships in conjunction with the program.

About the Committee of 200
The Committee of 200 is the organization of preeminent businesswomen that capitalizes on the success, power and influence of women in the global economy. The mission of C200 is to exemplify and promote entrepreneurship and corporate leadership among women of this generation and the next. The membership of C200 is comprised of an exclusive group of women business leaders from all industries. Each C200 member has attained or exceeded a specific level of success tied to revenues and industry recognition. Founding members included Muriel Siebert, the first woman to own a seat on the New York Stock Exchange; Lillian Vernon, the catalogue entrepreneur; the late Katherine Graham, publisher of The Washington Post; Sherry Lansing, Chairman and CEO of Paramount Picture Group; and Ellen Gordon, President and COO of Tootsie Roll Industries, Inc. The C200 executive offices are located at 980 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611-3108. C200’s website address is: http://www.c200.org.

About BNP Paribas
BNP Paribas (www.bnpparibas.com) is a European leader in banking and financial services, with a significant and growing presence in the United States and leading positions in Asia. The most profitable bank in the Euro zone, it has a presence in 85 countries with close to 100,000 employees. The group enjoys key positions in Corporate and Investment Banking, Private Banking & Asset Management, Insurance, Securities Services and Retail Banking.

BNP Paribas provides a full array of financial products through a portfolio of brands that cover a variety of distribution channels. With offices in New York, BNP Paribas in North America offers a broad range of corporate, investment banking and securities brokerage activities. With locations in all the major corporate and financial centers across the United States and Canada, BNP Paribas in North America serves a world-
class client base of multinational corporate and mid-cap companies, major issuers and institutional buyers. As a registered member of the NYSE, a NASD broker-dealer and member of SIPC, BNP Paribas Securities Corp. trades and markets a vast array of global and domestic fixed income and equity products.

**About NYU Stern School of Business**

New York University Stern School of Business, located in the heart of Greenwich Village, is one of the nation’s premier management education schools and research centers. The MBA program of choice for women, NYU Stern has enrolled one of the highest percentages of females among top-tier business schools for nearly a decade. The School’s Stern Women in Business student organization is one of the largest and most active clubs on campus. NYU Stern offers a broad portfolio of academic programs at the graduate and undergraduate levels, all of them informed and enriched by the dynamism, energy and deep resources of the world’s business capital.

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