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**CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AT
GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY NAMES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Amy Thomas to Direct Nationwide Center Offering Educational Opportunities
for Business, Health Care and Education Professionals**

PHOENIX (July 17, 2007) – The Center for Educational Excellence at Grand Canyon University (GCU) has named an executive director for its nationwide program envisioned to be a premier clearinghouse for educational solutions and best practices in education, business, and health care.

Amy Thomas was named executive director of the Center for Educational Excellence after successfully marketing the program's educational conferences nationally for the past several months. She has been with Grand Canyon University since 2004, and was most recently director of marketing.

“With our 58-year history, we believe that no other organization is better suited to meet today's educational opportunities within companies, hospitals, and school districts than the Center for Educational Excellence at Grand Canyon University, and Amy Thomas has already demonstrated tremendous leadership in marketing and growing the Center,” said Christel Mosby, GCU Vice President of Marketing.

Blending input from some of the brightest academic and business minds in the nation, the Center for Educational Excellence offers cutting-edge learning opportunities to professionals in education, health care, and business. The Center's initial educational conferences have already drawn strong attendance and have helped build the national credibility and prestige, while attracting interest in the University's degree programs. Due to this preliminary success, the University has invested significant resources into the Center's growth and expansion by dedicating a full-time staff and offering expanded programs in business and health care.

In her role as executive director, Thomas will serve as a liaison to the University's academic community, working collaboratively to develop new products and services. The Center, which will operate as a separate business entity, will offer national conferences and symposiums, customized curriculum for employee training and development, certificate programs, provide subject matter experts and facilitate research projects.

About the Center for Educational Excellence at Grand Canyon University

The Center's vision is to gain global recognition as the premier clearinghouse for dynamic and innovative educational solutions that empower working professionals to achieve more in their organizations and their careers. The Center is supported by the technological and academic resources of an innovative and forward-thinking university to offer national conferences, custom training modules, courses and certificate programs that help companies and individuals in their quest for best practices, continuing education, and personal achievement.

About Grand Canyon University

Founded in 1949, Grand Canyon University is a one of Arizona's leading higher learning institutions and one of the nation's fastest-growing. Based in Phoenix, the regionally accredited, private, non-denominational Christian university offers online and campus-based bachelor's and master's degree programs through the Ken Blanchard College of Business, College of Education, College of Nursing and Health Sciences, and College of Humanities and Social Sciences. The school was recently ranked as having the top online education program by OEDb (Online Education Database). With a total enrollment of approximately 13,000 students, GCU emphasizes individual attention for both traditional undergraduate students as well as the working professional. For more information, please visit www.gcu.edu.

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