

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Juan Carlos Espinosa  
The Honors College  
Florida International University  
(305) 348-4100  
[espinosaj@fiu.edu](mailto:espinosaj@fiu.edu)

Josh Merkin  
Thorp & Company  
(305) 446-2700  
[jmerkin@thorpco.com](mailto:jmerkin@thorpco.com)

### **U.S. Century Bank Donates \$5,000 to FIU's Honors College**

MIAMI, Fla., Nov 23, 2006 – U.S. Century Bank recently made a \$5,000 donation to Florida International University's Honors College to support alumni initiatives and two \$1,000 scholarships for students.

U.S. Century Bank is one of Florida's fastest-growing community banks, with 13 existing branches and an additional six to eight branches scheduled to open in South Florida in the next year. The bank is committed to providing superior customer care for the community.

"We are very excited about this new partnership, as many of our employees and some of our board members are FIU graduates," said U.S. Century Bank president and CEO Octavio Hernández. "As a community bank we feel that we have a duty to give back to this great city by supporting the future business leaders currently attending FIU."

Hernández is an alumnus of FIU's Class of 1974, the first graduating class in FIU's history. Vice President Ruth Jimenez, who serves on FIU's Honors College Advisory Board and is herself an FIU alumna, also played a critical role in facilitating the gift. Several members of U.S. Century Bank's board of directors, who are FIU alumni, met Honors College students when the bank opened its Dadeland-area branch in September. Two branches near FIU are also scheduled to open in the near future: one on 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue and another on Bird Road and 94<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

The Honors College is pleased to partner with U.S. Century Bank. Dr. Lesley A. Northup, Dean of The Honors College, remarked, "We are confident that this gift is the first step toward a growing relationship between FIU and U.S. Century Bank and we are proud to count on the support of FIU alumni in our community."

U.S. Century Bank is a Miami-based community bank that serves the financial needs of South Florida's business community. U.S. Century Bank currently offers a wide range of banking products and services to customers in Miami-Dade and Broward counties from its 13 branch locations. For more information or to find a U.S. Century branch near you, call (305) 260-9400 or visit [www.uscentury.com](http://www.uscentury.com).