



PRESIDIO
GRADUATE SCHOOL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESIDIO GRADUATE SCHOOL CELEBRATES RECORD GROWTH DESPITE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN

Country's Largest and Fastest-Growing Sustainability-Focused Graduate School Hails Sixth Anniversary with Record Enrollment and New Board Members

SAN FRANCISCO, November 10, 2009 — [Presidio Graduate School](#), the country's largest and fastest growing graduate school designed around the principles of sustainability, today heralded its sixth anniversary by announcing record growth in its enrollment and the appointment of four new members to its Board of Directors.

Even as the U.S. enters Year Two of the Great Recession, Presidio Graduate School has continued to enjoy exceptional annual growth, boosting its enrollment from a starting class of 22 students to over 600 students and graduates among its MBA, Executive and MPA programs, and winning accolades from business and civic leaders as well as the country's leading sustainability experts.

Only six years after its founding, other notable Presidio Graduate School milestones include:

- Achieving an average annual growth in enrollment of 25 percent.
- Pioneering a groundbreaking approach to sustainability education through its distinctive MBA and Executive programs.
- Launching a unique new Master in Public Administration in Sustainable Management – the country's first "green MPA" degree program that integrates principles of sustainable management into core public administration coursework and trains leaders to address the planet's most compelling energy and economic issues.
- Winning leading sustainability awards and competitions – including Wal-Mart's Better Living Business Plan Challenge (Western Regional division); Cornell University's SustaInvest Competition, and Sustainable Brands New Venture Exchange Audience Award.
- Incubating students' successful startup sustainability ventures – nearly two dozen Presidio startups have launched in the last two years alone, with five ventures securing more than \$10 million in initial funding.

"I'm very pleased about our growth and feel very optimistic about the future. Presidio's learning community has grown exponentially and is well-positioned for further expansion and success," said Seyed Amiry, Presidio Graduate School President and CEO. "This is a pivotal moment in our history and we are immensely proud of the ways Presidio students and graduates are making a difference by creating value and innovation in every sector."

--more--

Presidio Graduate School also marked its six year anniversary by announcing four new members to its Board of Directors:

- **William Leimbach, MBA**, a financial management executive and consultant with the [Reznick Group, PC](#), serving renewable energy clients.
- **Steve Newcomb**, successful serial entrepreneur and Founder, CEO and Board Chair of [Virgance](#), an incubator that builds and owns social enterprises.
- **Teresa Pahl, JD**, head of the Business & Corporate Section at the [Hanson Bridgett](#) law firm.
- **Toni Rembe, JD**, President of the [van Loben Sels Foundation](#) and senior advisor/retired partner at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pitman LLP.

“It’s an honor to join the Presidio Graduate School board at this exciting time and I look forward to working with Presidio’s leadership to further expand this innovative and forward-thinking sustainability learning community,” said Steve Newcomb, founder and CEO of social enterprise incubator Virgance.

A full list of Presidio Graduate School board members is at: <http://www.presidioedu.org/network/board-directors>

Presidio Graduate School was one of the first and remains one of the only schools in the country offering an MBA in Sustainable Management and an MPA in Sustainable Management. It teaches integrated bottom-line sustainability principles that serve as the foundation for a strategic commitment to sustainability, which has been proven to increase every aspect of shareholder value.

More information about Presidio Graduate School is available at: <http://www.presidioedu.org>

About Presidio Graduate School

Presidio Graduate School in San Francisco, California offers innovative graduate education in sustainable management including an MBA, MPA and Executive Program. Started in 2003, Presidio features faculty members who are noted scholars and practitioners in sustainable business. Students and graduates of the programs use proven sustainable management theory with practical experience to enable organizations to implement systemic changes for improving the way they do business and interact with their stakeholders. Presidio Graduate School is an affiliate of Alliant International University, accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). For more information, please visit <http://www.presidioedu.org>

###

Contact:

Kristina Nielsen
Presidio Graduate School
415.655.8934
kristina.nielsen@presidioedu.org

Deborah Schneider
PR & Company
415.277.6973
dschneider@prandcompany.com