MIAMI, Nov. 10, 2014 – As part of creating dynamic learning experiences for its students, the St. Thomas University School of Business hosts Global Entrepreneurship Week every year. Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) is an international initiative that introduces entrepreneurship to youth in six continents. In 2008, its inaugural year, Global Entrepreneurship Week involved more than 3 million participants; 100 countries; 25,000 activities; and 8,800 partners. Entrepreneurs are not born, they are made. One of every two young men or women expresses an interest in starting a business. The mission of GEW is to inspire people to pursue their ideas, to create jobs and to build global ambition among young people and business owners alike.

2014 will be the sixth year that St. Thomas University participates in Global Entrepreneurship Week. With each year, the University adds more events and creates new opportunities for students to learn about entrepreneurship and showcase their original business ideas. The opening ceremonies always include a panel of outstanding entrepreneurial business leaders – this has included Manny Medina (founder of Terremark); Jorge Mas (Chairman of MasTec); and Scott Case (founder of Priceline). Additionally, there are specific workshops from “Women and Entrepreneurship” to “Finding Venture Capital.” In November 2011 during GEW Week, the University hosted the launch of “Startup Florida” – the statewide counterpart of “Startup America” that was launched by the White House. In November 2012 during GEW Week, the University had the Prime Minister of Haiti, Laurent Lamothe (an alumnus of St. Thomas), spoke about Haiti and current entrepreneurship. A list of the 2014 events, topics, and panelists is attached.

Among the highly successful entrepreneurs are Frank del Rio, CEO of Prestige Cruise Holdings; Mario Murgado, CEO, Murgado Automotive Group; Mike Thomas, CEO, Bioheart; Lourdes Rivas, CEO, Simply Healthcare; Remedios Diaz-Oliver, President, All American Containers; and Kenneth Finneran, CPO, Hellman Worldwide Logistics.

With recent data breaches of Fortune 500 companies, there is a pressing market need for graduates who specialize in cybersecurity. The School of Business at St. Thomas University is proud to announce the establishment of the Gary Goldbloom Endowed Distinguished Chair in Cybersecurity. This generous gift will allow the University to recruit and retain a top academic leader in this field who is published and has a prestigious reputation. The Endowed Distinguished Chair will be the cornerstone of the new undergraduate and graduate programs in cybersecurity at St. Thomas University, thanks to Gary Goldbloom, a prominent South Florida developer and a long-time Trustee of the University.

“Our Global Entrepreneurship Week provides incredible exposure to our students, and allows our community to hear from the leaders in their industries,” said University President Monsignor Franklyn Casale. “We are fortunate again this year to have outstanding panelists from a wide array of industries and multinationals”.

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About St. Thomas University
The only Catholic Archdiocesan-sponsored University in Florida, St. Thomas University places an institutional emphasis on social justice and ethical behavior. The University offers more than forty-five undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate degrees at its 144 acre campus in Miami Gardens, Florida, and through distance learning, including one of the oldest (and highly ranked) undergraduate programs in Sports Administration in the Country. Approximately 90% of the faculty holds the highest degree in their fields and the university provides its diverse student body with low student/teacher ratios. The STU School of Law boasts one of the most culturally diverse student bodies in the country, ranking at the top among all ABA-approved law schools in the proportion of Hispanic students, and sixth among African-American students. STU is one of the only law schools in the nation with a Human Rights Institute and offers a joint M.B.A.-J.D. in Accounting, International Business, Marriage and Family Counseling, and Sports Administration.