## **UNIVERSITYALLIANCE®**

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For Immediate Release:

## Florida Tech University Online Makes Quality Undergraduate Education Accessible to Millions With Five New Associate's Degree Programs

Enrollment Is Underway for 100% Online Associate's Degrees in Accounting, Marketing, Healthcare Management, Criminal Justice and Computer Information Systems

**TAMPA**, **Fla.**, **May 28**, **2009** – With the national unemployment rate at its highest point in 26 years, many out-of-work and underemployed Americans are looking to higher education as their best chance to secure a stable job in a recession-resistant field. Florida Tech University Online (Florida Institute of Technology) makes it easy and convenient to earn a degree with five new associate's programs offered 100% online. Students can earn their credentials in some of today's hottest growth fields: accounting, marketing, healthcare management, criminal justice and computer information systems.

"For those who entered the workforce directly from high school, an associate's degree is the first step toward better career opportunities and greater job security," said Adrian Marrullier, Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer of University Alliance Online, which provides enrollment and support services to Florida Tech University Online. "Students can complete an online associate's degree in less than 20 months and use that credential to move into a new career field, advance within their current job or transition into a bachelor's degree program."

Marrullier noted that online learning is a particularly appealing option for adults, for a variety of reasons. "The ability to attend class anytime and anywhere enables students to schedule their lectures around work, job interviews and family obligations. They don't have to spend time and money commuting to campus. And they don't have to worry about standing out in a sea of teenagers and 20-somethings; the Internet is a great equalizer."

Each of Florida Tech's new associate's degree programs offers excellent career potential:

<u>Associate of Arts in Accounting</u> – Employment of accountants and auditors is expected to grow 18%\* through 2016, which is faster than average for all occupations. Florida Tech's AA in Accounting combines the financial principles and liberal arts background employers seek.

Associate of Arts in Marketing – Entry- to mid-level marketing/public relations jobs are predicted to grow 18%\* by 2016. While this represents faster than average growth for all careers, competition is keen in this popular industry. Florida Tech's AA in Marketing provides the skills and credentials professionals need to get into or get ahead in this exciting field.

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<sup>\*</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008–09 Edition

<u>Associate of Arts in Healthcare Management</u> – Medical and healthcare manager positions are anticipated to grow 16%\* through 2016. This fast-growing career field requires specialized training, and Florida Tech's AA in Healthcare Management delivers with a proven combination of healthcare education and business management principles.

<u>Associate of Arts in Criminal Justice</u> – The job outlook for police, detectives, probation officers, correctional treatment specialists and private investigators ranges from 11% to 18%\* growth through 2016. Florida Tech's AA in Criminal Justice provides a pathway to a rewarding career in crime prevention, homeland security or court administration.

<u>Associate of Science in Computer Information Systems</u> – Employment of computer support specialists, systems administrators and computer information systems managers is anticipated to grow between 16% and 18%\* through 2016. Florida Tech's AS in CIS prepares students for this highgrowth career field with a broad base of technical knowledge and a solid liberal arts foundation.

In addition to the five new associate's degrees, Florida Tech's online undergraduate programs include associate's degrees in liberal arts and business administration plus eight different bachelor's degrees.

To learn more about the <u>online degree programs</u> offered by nationally recognized Florida Tech, visit http://www.FloridaTechOnline.com.

## **About Florida Tech**

Florida Tech is world renowned for its distinguished faculty, comprehensive curriculum and unyielding innovation. Florida Tech continues to be ranked a best national university by <u>U.S. News & World Report</u>. It's rated by the *Fiske Guide to Colleges* and named a best buy in *Barron's Best Buys in College Education*. Among its more than 50,000 alumni include several astronauts, many CEOs of major corporations, Senior Executive Service (SES) members and nearly two dozen generals including three four-star generals, four three-star generals, nine two-star major generals and three one-star brigadier generals. Florida Tech's main campus is located in Melbourne, Florida.



## **About University Alliance Online**

The <u>University Alliance</u> (UA) facilitates the promotion and online delivery of associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees as well as professional certificate programs from the nation's leading traditional universities and institutions. Powered by UA's technology and support services, our university partners have surpassed 300,000 online enrollments — making UA the largest facilitator of e-learning in the country.

<sup>\*</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008–09 Edition