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For Immediate Release

Graduates of GSU from China

University Park, IL, June 7, 2009 – While all the students who participated in the Governors State University Commencement exercises held on June 6 have a story to tell of the journey they took to graduate, few have come as far as eight students earning their MBAs.

These students are part among the 20 students attending GSU from Guangdong University of Technology (GDUT) in China. They are the first graduates of a program begun in 2006. Their MBA degrees represent specializations in finance, accounting, and management.

The education exchange agreement between GSU and GDUT was initiated by Hilary Burkinshaw, Director of the CenterPoint for Entrepreneurs at GSU. Burkinshaw travelled to China on a trade mission organized by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The agreement enabled GSU professors to work closely with the Chinese students to prepare them for their learning experience in an American university classroom.

"It's been a rewarding experience spending time with the students in China, helping them adjust here at GSU, and finally, be a part of their educational experience over the last two years," said Dashan Cui, Director of the Centerpoint for Entrepreneurs Global Trade Center.

Several of the students' parents traveled to GSU to celebrate their children's success at the invitation from Ellen Foster Curtis, Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration.