

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**M. BLAIR HULL JOINS UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO'S
FINANCIAL MATHEMATICS ADVISORY BOARD**

CHICAGO, IL (January 19, 2006) -- M. Blair Hull, founder, chairman and CEO of Matlock Capital, LLC of Chicago, Illinois, has joined the Advisory Board for the University of Chicago's Masters in Financial Mathematics (MFM) program, it was announced today by Niels Nygaard, Ph.D., who heads the program. The University of Chicago's MFM program is a pioneer and leader in teaching the integration of theoretical applied math and practical applications of pricing derivatives and managing financial assets. The Advisory Board is comprised of distinguished financial industry executives and helps guide the MFM curriculum, graduate job placement and recruiting.

"Blair Hull's broad financial experience will benefit our Program immensely," said Dr. Nygaard. "As markets evolve and financial instruments increase in complexity, our Advisory Board has proven to be of enormous value knowledge of our strong academic staff with that of experienced professionals. Having Blair aboard in enabling us to blend the will contribute importantly to what makes our program at the UofC exceptional. The job placement rates and salaries being earned by our graduates, speaks to the high regard for our program and the steadily increasing demand for our students."

"In my experience, I have found the University of Chicago's Graduate Financial Mathematics Program to be one of the few, if not the only, program that advocates the rigorous mathematic background necessary to produce quality Financial Engineers and Quantitative Analysts, who will continue to insure the integrity of the financial markets," said Mr. Hull. "I am pleased and honored to join its Advisory Board."

Matlock Capital provides financial services to the Hull family and the Hull Family Foundation. It was established following the sale to Goldman, Sachs & Co. in 1999 of The Hull Group, an international electronic trading company Mr. Hull founded in 1985. Matlock Capital also operates proprietary trading and private investment businesses. Prior to establishing Matlock and The Hull Group, Mr. Hull was a market maker on the Pacific Stock Exchange and on the floor of the Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE), where he was named one of the CBOE's first Designated Primary Market Makers.

Mr. Hull has served on the Board of Directors of the CBOE, the Options Clearing Corporation and BARRA, Inc. He currently is a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of California Santa Barbara Foundation and the Investment Committee and Board of the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. Mr. Hull holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics from the University of California Santa Barbara, a Master of Business Administration from Santa Clara University. He is a graduate of the Harvard Business School's Owner/President Management Program.

Other members of the University of Chicago MFM Advisory Board include: Neil A. Chriss -- Managing Director, Quantitative Strategies, SAC Capital Management, LLC; Robert J. Frey -- President and CEO, Harbor Financial Management, LLC; Kay Torshen -- President and CEO, Torshen Capital Management, LLC; Daniel B. Coleman -- Managing Director, UBS; Peter Fraenkel -- Managing Director, Morgan Stanley; Hedi Kallal -- Managing Director, Citadel Group; Frank Meyer -- Former CEO, Glenwood Capital; Andrew Mulhaupt -- Managing Director, SAC Capital Management, LLC; Anne B. Popkin -- Director, Financial Risk Management; Eric Wepsic -- Managing Director, D.E. Shaw & Co.

The innovative one-year Master of Science in Financial Mathematics Program, staffed with professors from the University of Chicago's distinguished Departments of Mathematics, Statistics and Economics, as well as experienced financial industry professionals, is designed to provide students with an exceptional understanding of the underlying assumptions of various financial models, enabling students to critically ascertain applicability and limitations. For further information visit <http://www-finmath.uchicago.edu/>.

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