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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GLOBAL WORKFORCE ROUNDTABLE
-- INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYER FORUM FOR DISCUSSION OF WORKFORCE STRATEGIES --
IS LAUNCHED BY BOSTON COLLEGE CENTER FOR WORK & FAMILY**

GLAXOSMITHKLINE AND IBM TO CO-SPONSOR INAUGURAL SUMMIT IN LONDON, 2006

CHESTNUT HILL, MA (01-17-06) -- In response to the growing need for an international forum for discussion of workforce strategies, the Boston College Center for Work & Family announces the launch of its Global Workforce Roundtable, a network comprised of human resources professionals from leading multinational organizations.

Participation in the Global Workforce Roundtable is by invitation only and is initially limited to ten companies. Participants will share information and strategies regarding issues ranging from flex time and telecommuting to attraction and retention of talented personnel and aging workforce across the U.S., Europe and Asia Pacific regions.

GlaxoSmithKline and IBM, two of the founding partners of the Roundtable, will co-sponsor the network's inaugural summit in London in September 2006.

"GlaxoSmithKline is proud to host the inaugural summit of the Boston College Global Workforce Roundtable at our corporate headquarters in London," said Daniel J. Phelan, Senior Vice President, Human Resources. "Establishing a global employee work-life strategy is fundamental to business success. On behalf of our more than 100,000 employees worldwide who work enthusiastically each day to improve the quality of human life by enabling people to do more, feel better and live longer, the company is dedicated to fulfilling this mission by providing the best place for the best people to do their best work."

During its first year, the Global Workforce Roundtable will initiate a series of events and projects, leading up to the three-day London summit, to which the ten founding partners will send, at minimum, representatives from their AsiaPacific, Europe and United States regions. In preparation for the meeting, the companies will complete a benchmarking survey of culture, workforce processes and trends in those three geographies.

Throughout the first year, participating companies will also share best practice data and strategies through facilitated employer dialogues, as well as have access to cutting-edge research and statistics through the Global Roundtable's network of affiliated scholars.

"Our mission," said Kathy Lynch, Director of Corporate Partnerships at the Boston College Center for Work & Family, "is to provide a unique forum for a multicultural exchange of information, best practices and lessons learned among leading corporations seeking to enhance their global workforce strategies." The Global Workforce Roundtable builds on the successful formula used for the Center's National Work and Family Roundtable, founded in 1990.

To date, Deutsche Bank, GlaxoSmithKline, IBM Corporation, Merck & Co., Inc., Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, and Royal Dutch Shell have signed on as founding partners, and the Center is in contact with several large multinationals.

Plans are already under consideration for a second summit to take place in the Asia Pacific region in 2007.

For more information please visit our website at www.bc.edu/cwf.

Founded in 1990, the Boston College Center for Work & Family is committed to enhancing the quality of life of today's workforce by providing leadership for the integration of work and life, an essential for business and community success. Our vision is that companies and communities will work together to ensure their mutual prosperity and the well being of employees and their families.

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