



Drexel University Joins Forces with Leading Pharmaceutical Company to Provide Their Employees with Online Education Opportunities

Philadelphia, PA – September 8, 2005 – Drexel University, Philadelphia’s leading technological University, announces the launch of an education partnership with Merck & Co., a global research-driven pharmaceutical company.

Through this collaboration Merck’s employees will have the opportunity to take online courses through Drexel and receive special discounted tuition rates. A pioneer in online learning since 1996, Drexel University offers Merck employees a full catalog of online Bachelor’s, Master’s and Certificate programs in the areas of Business, Clinical Research, Engineering, Computer Science, Computing Technology, Nursing, Information Science & Technology, Public Health, and Education.

Merck selected Drexel University as an online education provider for their employees because there is no distinction between their online and on-campus degree and certificate programs. Drexel’s online programs follow the same academic standards (i.e. admissions criteria, curricula, and accreditations), are taught by the same renowned faculty and therefore lead to the same degree as on campus - with no commuting or career interruption.

For the past three years, Drexel eLearning, the online education subsidiary of Drexel University, has been partnering with corporations, health systems and associations alike throughout the United States to provide their employees and members with career advancement opportunities through *Quality Education Online* at a cost they can afford with the flexibility they need.

“A well-educated workforce is a competitive advantage for companies today,” said Dr. Kenneth Hartman, Academic Director of Drexel eLearning. “Corporations have been selecting Drexel as their preferred online education provider because they know that we have designed our online programs to the same high standards of our on-campus programs but take into account the needs of their busy employees. We are looking forward to this new venture with Merck and hope we can assist them in meeting their business objectives,” added Dr. Hartman.

For more information about partnering with Drexel University, please visit www.drexel-partners.com, email corporate@drexelelearning.com, or call (866) 440-1946.

About Drexel e-Learning

Drexel e-Learning, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Drexel University, specializing in innovative, Internet-based distance education programs for working professionals and corporations in the U.S. and abroad. Drexel University is continually ranked one of the best national doctoral universities by *U.S. News & World Report* and enjoys regional accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges & Secondary Schools. For more information about Drexel's online degrees, visit www.drexel.com, email info@drexel.com, or call (877) 215-0009.

###

Contact:

Dr. Kenneth Hartman

Drexel eLearning

(215) 895-0501

kenhartman@drexel.edu