

**Invited Speech at the Hellenic American Union, Athens, Greece**

**Second Conference (12-14 October 2007) on**

**“University Assessment: Assessing Quality”**

**Sunday, October 14, 2007, 11:00-13:30**

# **Aiming Towards Educational Excellence**

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The background of the slide features a large, semi-transparent crest of the University of Piraeus. The crest is shield-shaped and divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant is red with a white cross. The top-right quadrant is blue with a white cross. The bottom-left quadrant is red with a white cross. The bottom-right quadrant is blue with a white cross. The crest is set against a light blue background.

**This presentation has three parts:**

- (a) A few things about the history of the University and its present status,
- (b) The University of Piraeus efforts towards achieving academic recognition(s) and state-required quality standards,
- (c) Benchmarking practices and achievements at the University of Piraeus.

## **A few historical comments on the University of Piraeus:**

Founded in 1938 as the School for Industrial Studies by the Industrialists and Tradesmen Association.

After three major organizational transformations, presently the University has nine Departments and offers a series of undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees.

Each year 2.100 new undergraduate students join the university, which, in addition has 2.060 masters students and 270 doctoral ones. Its faculty is comprised of 250 (all terminally qualified) individuals.

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## **The University of Piraeus ....**

**Complies with 3374/2005.**

**Follows all guidelines of the Hellenic  
Quality Assurance Agency For Higher  
Education.**

**Plans for internal and external  
evaluations.**

**Considers joining AACSB and EFMD.**

## **University of Piraeus: Examples of “quality” Academic Efforts ...**

1. A publication that showcases the recent research of one of our Departments,
2. How we use “active learning” in “mega”-classes,
3. About our MBA/TQM,
4. Receiving ISO 9001:2000 for our Socrates/Erasmus programs,
5. Our global recognition by Microsoft,
6. Receiving of the award of best-published article of doctoral dissertations.

2001-2005

# Επιστημονικές Δραστηριότητες

Τμήμα Πληροφορικής

# Teaching International Business in "Mega"-Classes: A Case Study

John Thanopoulos

**ABSTRACT.** The article presents the successful experience of teaching the basic International Business (IB) undergraduate class, in a unique way and in classes of more than 200 students. The approach is based on modified routines taught in AACSB workshops for much smaller classes and capitalizes on 5-member student teams. The approach has been used for three years in a row and has produced extremely positive results, including significant class interest, very high outcome assessment scores, annual CD-ROMs on a variety of topics, a very active student organization, student-organized conferences, a career center, student-to-student interaction and undertaking of social causes. [Article copies available from The Haworth Document Delivery Service: 1-800-HAWORTH; Email: <docdelivery@haworthpress.com> Website: <<http://www.haworthpress.com>> © 2004 by The Haworth Press, Inc. All rights reserved.]

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## **About University of Piraeus MBA/TQM:**

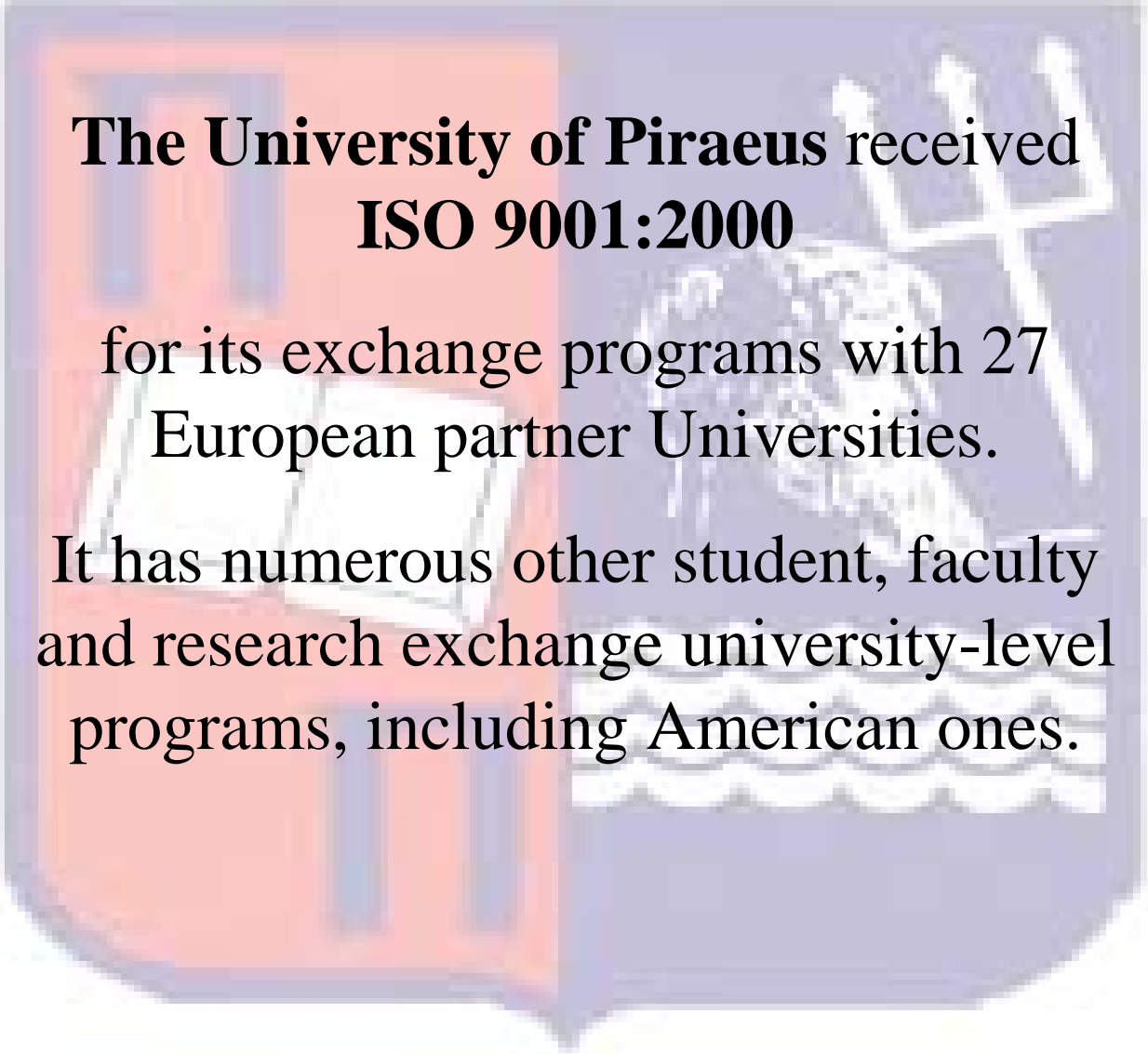
Started by Professor Karvounis, thirteen years ago. By all measurements it is a cutting-edge program.

*Present vision is that every single of our graduates has an appropriate job before graduation!*

Incidentally, at the University of Piraeus we have 17 other graduate programs from Maritime studies to IT.

Each year 3.500 students apply for our graduate degrees and we accept 850 new graduate students a year.

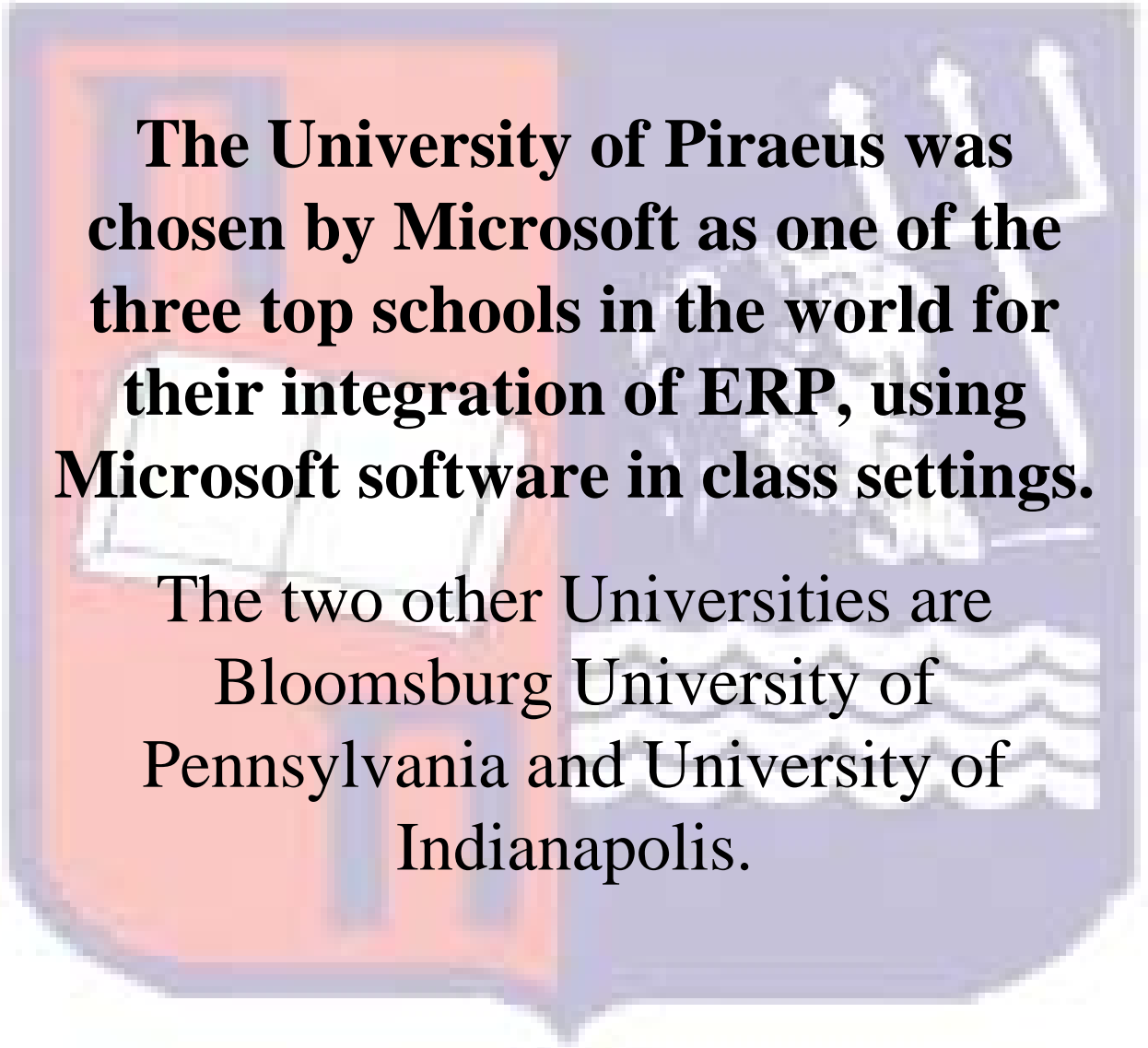


The logo of the University of Piraeus is a shield-shaped emblem. The left half is red with a white cross and a white book. The right half is blue with a white cross and a white book. The shield is set against a white background.

**The University of Piraeus received  
ISO 9001:2000**

for its exchange programs with 27  
European partner Universities.

It has numerous other student, faculty  
and research exchange university-level  
programs, including American ones.

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**The University of Piraeus was chosen by Microsoft as one of the three top schools in the world for their integration of ERP, using Microsoft software in class settings.**

The two other Universities are  
Bloomsburg University of  
Pennsylvania and University of  
Indianapolis.

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'Our Dreams of Excellence - Learning  
from the Past and Architecturing the  
Future'

The award for best article based on a  
doctoral dissertation went to the

**University of Piraeus doctoral  
student Mr. Loukas Anninos,**

**who worked under the supervision of  
Professor Leonidas Chitiris**

**Congratulations to both!**

The logo of the University of Piraeus is a shield-shaped emblem. The left half is red with a white book and a white column. The right half is blue with a white ship and white waves. The text is centered over the shield.

At the University of Piraeus we invite  
to meet us closer.

Our 18.000 students, faculty and staff  
welcome you!

**Thank for listening!**

**Any questions?**

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