

LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC.
Form 10-K
March 16, 2006

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

ý **ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES**
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005.

OR

o **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES**
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

for the transition period from to .

Commission File Number 0-22844

LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

52-1492296
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

1001 Fleet Street, Baltimore, Maryland
(Address of principal executive offices)

21202
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(410) 843-6100**

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: **None**

Securities registered pursuant to the Section 12(g) of the Act:

Common Stock, Par Value \$.01

Preferred Stock Purchase Rights

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes . No .

Indicated by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act. Yes . No .

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d), of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes . No .

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes . No .

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

The aggregate market value of voting Common Stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was approximately \$2,336,660,931 as of June 30, 2005.

The registrant had 49,901,220 shares of Common Stock outstanding as of March 1, 2006.

Circular 230 Notice: In accordance with Treasury Regulations which became applicable to all tax practitioners as of June 20, 2005, please note that any tax advice given herein (and in any attachments) is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used by any taxpayer, for the purpose of (i) avoiding tax penalties or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Certain information in Laureate Education, Inc.'s definitive Proxy Statement for its 2006 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A no later than April 30, 2006, is incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K.

INDEX

PART I.

<u>Item 1.</u>	<u>Business</u>
<u>Item 1A.</u>	<u>Risk Factors</u>
<u>Item 1B.</u>	<u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>
<u>Item 2.</u>	<u>Properties</u>
<u>Item 3.</u>	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>
<u>Item 4.</u>	<u>Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders</u>

PART II.

<u>Item 5.</u>	<u>Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>
<u>Item 6.</u>	<u>Selected Consolidated Financial Data</u>
<u>Item 7.</u>	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>
<u>Item 7A.</u>	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>
<u>Item 8.</u>	<u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>
<u>Item 9.</u>	<u>Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>
<u>Item 9A.</u>	<u>Controls and Procedures</u>
<u>Item 9B.</u>	<u>Other Information</u>

PART III.

Items 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 are incorporated by reference to Laureate Education, Inc.'s definitive Proxy Statement which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, pursuant to Regulation 14A, no later than April 30, 2006

PART IV.

<u>Item 15.</u>	<u>Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules</u>
-----------------	--

SIGNATURES

PART I

Item 1. Business

Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This Annual Report on Form 10-K and other materials the Company has filed or may file with the Securities and Exchange Commission, as well as information included in statements made, or to be made, by the Company's senior management contain, or will contain, forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include all statements that do not relate solely to historical or current facts and can be identified by the use of words such as anticipate, goal, may, will, expect, hope, believe, intend, plan, estimate, project, should and other similar terms. Such forward-looking statements are based on the current facts and circumstances and management's current strategic plan and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could significantly affect the Company's current goals and future financial condition.

For a comprehensive description of the types of risks and uncertainties the Company faces, see Item 1.A. Risk Factors. of this Annual Report. Please note the forward-looking statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are made only as of the date of this report. The Company assumes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements. Investors should not unduly rely on our forward-looking statements when evaluating the information presented in the our filings and reports.

Laureate Education, Inc. (the Company or Laureate), operates a leading international network of accredited campus-based and online universities and higher education institutions (higher education institutions or schools). Through this network, Laureate offers a broad range of career-oriented undergraduate and graduate degree programs as well as other services that create a superior higher education experience for students. Currently, Laureate enrolls over 217,000 students at its higher education institutions located throughout The Americas, Europe, and Asia.

In many countries, demand for university-level education is rising - fueled by several demographic and economic factors including a growing middle class, a rising percentage of students who participate in higher education, and the need for highly-skilled professionals in an increasingly competitive workforce. To address this growing demand, Laureate is increasing student capacity at current locations, adding new campus locations, developing new programs and curricula, and leveraging the Company's education and marketing expertise. To further strengthen its leadership in the international higher education market, Laureate will also enter into attractive new geographic markets and market segments.

The schools in Laureate's network, known as *Laureate International Universities*, are generally characterized by degree programs in a wide variety of career fields, a curriculum with an international perspective and strong academic and brand name recognition. Laureate's higher education network creates opportunities for students to access unique and specialized curricula from other institutions within Laureate's network as well as study abroad programs and other services shared among institutions in the network.

While most of Laureate's institutions have many years of successful operating history, the Company implements programs and strategies to increase the financial and operational performance of each school. Laureate's higher education institutions share content and degree programs with other schools in the network and transfer best practices, including successful marketing, recruiting, and retention programs.

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

Laureate believes in the social and economic importance of expanding access to higher education, thus its business is focused on addressing this global need. The Company also believes that execution of its business model, a rigorous approach to expansion, and product innovation will continue to provide valuable benefits to students as well as generate increases in revenue and operating margins.

The Company's educational services are offered through three separate business segments: Campus Based - Latin America (Latin America), Campus Based Europe (Europe) and Laureate Online Education. In Latin America, the Company owns or maintains controlling interests in eleven separately accredited higher education institutions located in Mexico, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras and Brazil. In Europe, the Company owns or maintains controlling interests in ten separately accredited higher education institutions located in Spain, Switzerland, France and Cyprus. Laureate's operations in China are managed in the Europe business segment, as those operations are associated with Les Roches, Switzerland. The Laureate Online Education segment provides career-oriented degree programs to approximately 27,000

students through one accredited university - Walden E-Learning, Inc. (Walden) - and two institutions that partner with accredited universities - Laureate Online Education B.V. and Canter and Associates (Canter).

On June 30, 2003, the Company sold the principal operations comprising its K-12 educational services segments (K-12 segments), including certain investments held by Sylvan Ventures LLC (Ventures), deemed not strategic to the Company's higher education business, in a transaction more fully described in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements. As a result, the Company changed its name from Sylvan Learning Systems, Inc. to Laureate Education, Inc. on May 17, 2004. The Company began trading under a new NASDAQ ticker symbol, LAUR, on May 18, 2004.

As part of the Company's transformation in 2003 to focus exclusively on post-secondary education, the Company sold its English Language Instruction business, Wall Street Institute (WSI), on February 28, 2005 (see Note 3 of the consolidated financial statements).

The information in this Item 1 focuses only on continuing operations of the Company.

Campus-based

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

The Company owns and operates the leading network of private, post-secondary educational institutions outside the United States. Their program offerings address the fast-growing international demand for career-oriented education. In many international markets, public higher education institutions are unable to adequately increase capacity to address the burgeoning demand for university education. Laureate is uniquely positioned to address higher education demand by expanding campus locations, opening new campus locations, and developing innovative degree programs for traditional students and for students in new market segments, such as the working adult and technical/vocational markets.

Laureate campuses in Latin America and Europe primarily serve 18- to 24-year-old students, but are increasingly attracting working adults and those seeking vocational and technical training. The Laureate network of schools offers an education that emphasizes career-oriented fields of study with undergraduate and graduate degrees in a wide range of disciplines, including international business, hotel management, health sciences, information technology and engineering. The Company believes its network benefits from the strong academic reputation, developed brand awareness and established operating history of each of its institutions. Each institution also has flexible, teaching-focused faculty led by an experienced local management team. In addition to expanding capacity, Laureate is developing new degree programs and creating study abroad opportunities for both traditional students and working professionals.

Latin America Higher Education Institution Descriptions

The Latin America segment is composed of eleven institutions and operates in Mexico, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras and Brazil. The Latin America schools enroll more than 171,000 students and offer more than 100 degree programs through 42 campuses.

The following table presents information about Laureate schools in Latin America:

Higher Education Institution	Principal Locations	Year Founded	Year Acquired	Current Ownership	No. of Campuses	Enrolled Students(1)	Average Annual Tuition(2)	Regulatory Oversight
Universidad del Valle de México	Mexico City, Mexico	1960	2000	80%	21	66,300	\$ 3,600	Mexican Secretary of Education
Universidad de Las Américas	Santiago, Chile	1988	2000	80%	7	30,400	\$ 3,400	Chilean Ministry of Education
Universidad Andrés Bello and AIEP	Santiago, Chile	1989	2003	80%	3	29,400	\$ 3,120	Chilean Ministry of Education

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

Universidade Anhembi Morumbi	Sao Paulo, Brazil	1970	2005	51%	4	21,200	\$ 3,700	Brazilian Ministry of Education
Universidad Interamericana	San Jose, Costa Rica and Panama City, Panama	1986	2003	100%	2	9,700	\$ 1,400	Costa Rican and Panamanian Ministries of Education
Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas	Lima, Peru	1994	2004	80%	2	7,400	\$ 4,500	Ministry of Education & National Assembly of Rectors
Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana	Tegucigalpa, Honduras	1987	2005	100%	2	4,700	\$ 2,600	Association of Private Universities in Central America; Latin-American Network for University Cooperation
Universidad Latinoamericana de Ciencia y Tecnología	Panama City, Panama	1991	2004	100%	1	1,900	\$ 2,200	Panamanian Ministry of Education

-
- (1) Represents enrollment on the last day of the year rounded to the nearest hundred.
- (2) Based on 2005 calendar year data in U.S. dollars rounded to the nearest hundred.

Laureate higher education institutions in Latin America provide a broad range of degrees and programs, and are well regarded by students, employers and government authorities in their respective markets:

Universidad del Valle de México (UVM) offers 45 undergraduate (9 specifically for working adults) and 25 graduate degree programs in a broad range of fields including accounting, architecture, business administration, education, engineering and law. The university is the second largest private university in Mexico in number of students and number of campuses. UVM has 21 campuses located throughout Mexico including 10 in Mexico City, four in the central region (Queretaro, San Luis Potosi, Aguascalientes and Guadalajara), four in the southern region (Tuxtla, Villahermosa, Puebla and Toluca) and three in the northern region (Hermosillo, Torreon and Saltillo).

Universidad de Las Américas (UDLA) offers 50 undergraduate degree programs focused on business administration, education, engineering, law and psychology through two institutions of higher learning. UDLA

operates 7 campuses, four in Santiago, one in Viña del Mar (central Chile), one in Concepción (southern Chile) and a satellite campus in Quito, Ecuador.

Universidad Andrés Bello (UNAB) offers 54 undergraduate and 78 graduate degree programs. With degree programs in medicine, dentistry, business administration, law, engineering, psychology, and education, UNAB ranks among the top Chilean universities for its academic quality and brand recognition among high school seniors. UNAB operates three campuses (two in Santiago and one in Viña del Mar) and a marine biology research station in Quintay.

Academia de Idiomas y Estudios Profesionales (AIEP) is a professional institute offering 42 technical and vocational programs to traditional and working-adult students at eleven locations throughout Chile. AIEP offers one-to four-year certificate and degree programs, which include technology, management, communications, art, social science, and

health science. AIEP's modular curriculum is geared toward certification of technical/vocational job skills and competencies and is designed to help working adults advance in existing careers, enter new career fields, or prepare for higher levels of university education.

Universidade Anhembi Morumbi (UAM) offers more than 50 undergraduate and associate degrees and 20 graduate degrees focused on architecture, business, communication, design, engineering, health sciences, hospitality management and law. Founded in 1970, UAM is a respected institution with programs in Hospitality Management, Fashion Design and Business that are among the highest ranked in the country. UAM has four campuses located in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Universidad Interamericana (UI) offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs in business, hospitality, engineering, communications, and education through two higher education institutions, one in San Jose, Costa Rica and the other in Panama City, Panama. UI was a founding member of the Interamericana Consortium of Higher Education.

Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC) offers undergraduate and graduate programs in business, engineering, law, communications and architecture, and technical vocational programs in engineering and information technology through *Cibertec*. UPC operates two campuses in central Lima.

Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana (UNITEC) offers more than 15 undergraduate and 6 graduate degree programs in Business, Engineering, Hospitality Management, Communications and Information Technology. UNITEC is accredited by AUPRICA (Association of Private Universities in Central America) and RLCU (Latin-American Network for University Cooperation). UNITEC has campuses in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula.

Universidad Latinoamericana de Ciencia y Tecnología (ULACIT) offers undergraduate and graduate programs in business, engineering, law and psychology through its campus in Panama City, Panama. ULACIT was the first private university in Panama.

Europe Higher Education Institution Descriptions

The Europe segment is composed of ten institutions, and operates in Spain, Switzerland, France, and Cyprus. Laureate campuses in Europe enroll approximately 19,600 students and offer more than 75 degree programs through 9 campuses.

The following table presents information about Laureate schools in Europe:

Campus-based

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

Higher Education Institution	Principal Locations	Year Founded	Year Acquired	Current Ownership	No. of Campuses	Enrolled Students(1)	Average Annual Tuition(2)	Regulatory Oversight
Universidad Europea de Madrid	Madrid, Spain	1995	1999	100%	2	8,000	\$ 10,100	Madrid Regional Education Authority
Cyprus College	Nicosia, Cyprus	1961	2005	45%	1	3,500	\$ 6,000(5)	Cyprus Ministry of Education
Hospitality (3) Les Roches and Glion	Bluche, Switzerland Marbella, Spain, Glion, Switzerland	1979 1995 1962	2000 2002 2002	100%	4	3,100	\$ 17,300	Swiss Government (license), Swiss Hotel Association/NEASC (accreditation)
Institut Français de Gestion	Paris, France	1956	2004	51%	N/A	2,000(4)	\$ 3,200	Commission Nationale de la Certification Professionnelle (CPNC)
École Centrale d Electronique	Paris, France	1919	2004	70%	1	1,400	\$ 5,800	Commission des Titres d Ingenieurs

École Supérieure du Commerce Extérieur	Paris, France	1968	2001	89%	1	1,300	\$ 8,500	French Ministry of Education
IEDE, Institute for Executive Development	Madrid, Spain	1991	2004	100%	N/A	150	\$ 20,000	N/A

-
- (1) Represents enrollment on the last day of the year rounded to the nearest hundred.
 - (2) Based on 2005 calendar year data in U.S. dollars rounded to the nearest hundred.
 - (3) Hospitality includes two schools Les Roches and Glion.
 - (4) Excludes approximately 12,000 short-course enrollments in the CNOF and IFG Langues subsidiaries of IFG.
 - (5) Represents average tuition for degree programs only.

Laureate higher education institutions in Europe provide a broad range of degrees and programs, and are well regarded by students, employers and government authorities in their respective markets:

Universidad Europea de Madrid (UEM) offers 43 diploma, bachelor s degrees or double degree programs and 54 graduate and Ph.D. degree programs. The university includes a well-known school of health sciences and schools of architecture, economics, engineering, journalism, law and sports sciences. UEM currently hosts more than 500 students from other universities in the Laureate network through exchange programs. UEM has campuses located in Villaviciosa and downtown Madrid.

Cyprus College offers more than 45 undergraduate and graduate degree programs in business, computer science, education, engineering, hospitality management and social sciences. Cyprus College is accredited by the Ministry of Education and undergraduate educational programs were accredited/validated in 1995 by the National Council for Educational Awards. Cyprus College s central campus is located in Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus.

Hospitality (Swiss Hotel Association Hotel Management School Les Roches (Les Roches) and Glion Institute of Higher Education (Glion)) offers globally recognized hospitality and hotel management programs through four institutions. Hospitality specialized programs require students to complete at least two internships prior to graduation. Les Roches was the first English-speaking hotel management school established in Switzerland. Les Roches also participates in a joint venture with a private university in Shanghai, China. In addition to the appropriate licenses in Switzerland and Spain (Swiss Hotel Association and Swiss Hotel Schools Association), Les Roches (Bluche and Marbella) and Glion are both fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

Institut Français de Gestion (IFG) offers working adult programs in business subjects. Several of its programs have the highest recognition offered by the Commission Nationale de la Certification Professionnelle, the accrediting body for working adult degree programs in France. IFG offers courses to students in Paris and nine other cities in France.

École Centrale d Electronique (ECE) offers undergraduate and graduate programs in engineering to students through its campus in central Paris. ECE, a Grande École of Engineering, was ranked in the top 10 (from more than 300 engineering schools) by the magazine *Le Point* in 2005, and was the second highest ranking private university in the survey.

École Supérieure du Commerce Extérieur (ESCE) offers a four-year undergraduate degree program in international commerce and management that features a combination of coursework and internships and is located in Paris, France. This university was the first in France to specialize in international trade. In 2004, ESCE launched its first graduate degree program (Master in International Management) with Poitiers, another university in France. In November 2004, ESCE was ranked 4th out of the top 30 French business schools by *Le Point*.

IEDE, Institute for Executive Development (IEDE) is a business school offering MBA and postgraduate graduate programs, in its main location in downtown Madrid and an International MBA partially delivered in its subsidiary sites in Shanghai, China and Santiago, Chile.

Degree Programs and Areas of Study

The higher education institutions in the Latin America and European segments offer more than 100 career-oriented undergraduate and graduate degree programs in a wide range of fields. The time typically required to complete a program varies by degree, with undergraduate degrees requiring four to five years on average and graduate degrees requiring an additional two to three years on average. The Company's International Rector oversees curriculum development and deployment of programs in the network in cooperation with the deans of the higher education institutions. The Company also encourages its faculty to develop new educational programs and curricula. The programs are designed to satisfy three constituencies:

Students. The Company believes that students choose from career-oriented schools based on the type and quality of the educational offering and career placement opportunities. The Company focuses on providing students with a solid academic foundation and the technical and practical skills necessary to pursue and excel in their careers.

Employers. The relationship of each of the higher education institutions with the business community plays a significant role in the placement of students and development of curriculum. Each school works with prominent members of relevant industries to evaluate and improve existing programs in order to maintain their relevance in the workplace. These employers provide critical input on the latest advancements within each field and the implications of these changes on the curriculum.

Regulating or licensing agencies. The degree programs of each of the higher education institutions have been approved in accordance with applicable law. For example, the Secretary of Education in Mexico has reviewed all of UVM's accredited programs and given the university degree-granting authority for those programs. The Ministries of Education in Spain, France, Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras, Cyprus, and Ecuador perform similar roles. The Company must generally work with the regulators of these higher education institutions to ensure that any new programs will be approved. In Chile, UDLA, UNAB, and AIEP have been granted full autonomy by the Ministry of Education. As a result, the Company is free to create new degree programs in Chile without additional regulatory approval. In addition, UNAB received a four-year voluntary accreditation from the Ministry of Education. In Brazil, UAM has university status which allows the institution to freely introduce new degrees within its home city, with the requirement that it inform the Ministry of Education about the new program within two years after its introduction. Les Roches and Glion (Hospitality) are licensed in Switzerland and accredited by the NEASC, one of six accrediting associations in the U.S., and must ensure that their curriculum continues to meet the standards of that association.

The campus-based network in Latin America and Europe allows the Company to share high quality curricula among its higher education institutions, thereby broadening students' educational opportunities. In recent years, UEM and Les Roches developed a new joint degree program in hospitality business management that is now offered to students at UEM. UVM now offers a sports management degree program developed at UEM, and has launched an enhanced tourism degree, using Les Roches' curriculum. In 2004, UVM and UEM launched a dual-degree program, in which graduating students receive a degree from both institutions, recognized in both countries. In 2005, UVM and Walden University launched a dual-degree program, in which students complete part of their degree online in English and receive a degree from both institutions, recognized in both countries. The Company has also launched an international resource enabling all students in the campus-based network to identify job and internship opportunities around the world, and allowing the schools' corporate partners to market their open positions to all network students.

Tuition and Fees

Tuition varies at each of the higher education institutions depending on the curriculum and type of program. For the full-service universities in Latin America (Mexico, Chile, Peru, Brazil, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Panama, and Honduras), average annual tuition ranges from \$1,400 to \$4,500 for the 2004-2005 academic year. In Europe, annual tuition at Universidad Europea de Madrid averages \$10,100. For the specialized higher education institutions in Europe (Hospitality, Cyprus, ESCE, IEDE, ECE and IFG), average tuition ranges from \$3,200 to \$20,000 for the 2004-2005 academic year. Tuition payment options vary by higher education institution and primarily include monthly installment payment plans and lump sum payments at the beginning of the academic year. Certain institutions offer long-term financing opportunities (see further discussion below). Historically, the Company has increased tuition as educational costs and inflation have risen. In 2005, the Company implemented average tuition increases of approximately 3.5% and 4.9% in Latin America and Europe, respectively. The Company intends to continue increasing tuition at each of the higher education institutions as market conditions warrant.

Students are generally responsible for room and board fees, transportation expenses and costs related to textbook and supply purchases required for their educational programs. At some of the higher education institutions, the Company offers these services to the student body, which helps generate incremental revenue.

Students typically self-finance their education or seek non-higher education institution sponsored financing programs. Although none of the countries in which the higher education institutions currently operate provides student loan programs similar to those in the U.S., the Company is actively working to develop a variety of financing alternatives for students. The Company has implemented pilot tuition financing programs at its Chilean universities. The Company anticipates these programs will establish a lending and collections history, which will attract third party lenders.

Student Financing - Chile

In 2004, the Company expanded its previous student financing activities at its Chilean universities in order to establish a lending and collections history in this market to attract third party lenders. The Company believes Chile's stability, both economic and political, coupled with its sophisticated banking system, reputable and reliable credit bureau, and the strong credit consciousness of its people, support the Company's decision to explore additional growth opportunities through enhanced financing.

UNAB offered its students financing on a limited basis prior to Laureate's acquisition in 2003. The program was designed as a retention tool offered to students completing their second year of studies that might not otherwise be able to continue due to financial reasons. To be eligible, students must meet certain academic and financial requirements, and provide a cosigner of the debt obligation.

UDLA's financing program also existed prior to Laureate's acquisition in 2000 and, until 2003, was offered on a limited basis to new students for their first year of studies to provide students time to obtain government or other forms of financing. In 2004, the program was redesigned and expanded to require income qualifications and credit scores, as well as a cosigner in certain cases. More importantly, students are required to secure part-time employment to the extent the university is able to provide opportunities through its employment program. UDLA has made arrangements with a number of Santiago businesses to provide flexible part-time employment to its students. As of December 31, 2005, there were approximately 4,800 students participating in the employment program.

Both the UNAB and the redesigned UDLA financing programs permit eligible students to pay 50% of their tuition in monthly installments. Provided the students remain current with their monthly payments, they are allowed to defer the remaining 50% plus interest until after graduation. As of December 31, 2005, the number of internally financed students represented 19% of total Chilean enrollment.

At December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, the Company has long-term tuition receivables of \$44,791 and \$15,339, net of allowances of \$9,328 and \$5,846. There have not been any significant write-offs in 2005 or 2004. Since this program is not mature, there is limited repayment history. Nevertheless, third party interest in the program is increasing as evidenced by recent inquiries from third parties regarding the acquisition of the portfolio and the sale of prior receivables to third parties. Creating a third party tuition finance solution in Latin America could create much broader access to our offerings thereby supplementing future enrollment growth.

During 2005, there has been an increased effort on the part of the private banking sector, as well as, the government to offer more financing solutions to students. At the end of 2005, the Chilean government announced plans to offer additional resources, approximately \$40.0 million, to finance post-secondary education. There were approximately 48,000 students eligible for financing of the 2006 academic year. The tuition funded for each student varies depending upon the degree studied and the university attended. The government program is in addition to others previously in place.

Laureate Online Education

Laureate Online Education offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs to working professionals through distance learning. Laureate Online Education institutions collectively offer degree programs in education, psychology, health and human services, management, engineering, and information technology.

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

The following table presents information about Laureate's online higher education institutions, all of which are 100% owned:

Higher Education Institution	Year Founded	Year Acquired	Enrolled Students(1)	Average Annual Tuition	Accrediting Body
Walden University (3)	1970	2002	20,500	\$ 8,000	North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA)
Canter & Associates	1977	1998	4,450(2)	\$ 4,800	N/A
Laureate Online Education B.V.	2000	2004	1,800	\$ 8,000	N/A

- (1) Represents enrollment as of the last day of the year rounded to the nearest hundred.
- (2) Represents Distance Learning graduate enrollment, excludes over 31,000 non-degree students.
- (3) Includes National Technological University (NTU), which was merged into Walden effective January 1, 2005.

Laureate Online Education's strategy is to expand program offerings in specific career fields and specializations that are experiencing rapid growth, undergoing major industry changes, and/or experiencing professional shortages. Each unit offers programs that present the most current academic theory and its practical application to the workplace, allowing graduates to apply their education to their occupations and successfully compete against other well-qualified professionals in the workforce.

As part of Laureate's international network of higher education institutions, Laureate Online Education is also focused on expanding student access to higher education outside the United States. The Company's online higher education institutions are assisting Laureate's campus based higher education institutions in launching distance-learning initiatives, including joint and coordinated degree programs.

Walden University is one of the pioneers of distance education, and has over 35 years of academic and operating history. Walden offers two undergraduate and 24 graduate degree programs in management, health and human services, psychology, engineering and technology, and education to working professionals. Bachelor's and graduate degree programs are delivered online. Ph.D. programs are delivered online with a short-term residency requirement.

Canter & Associates, through its partner universities, offers a graduate degree in education and thousands of individual courses for teachers. For over 25 years, Canter's mission has been to enhance the quality of teaching and learning by empowering educators with new teaching strategies. Canter's Distance Learning graduate division works with five private universities that provide primary and secondary education level educators the opportunity to earn a graduate degree in education

Laureate Online Education B.V. (formerly KIT eLearning BV), based in Amsterdam, is the exclusive worldwide distance-learning partner of the University of Liverpool, and specializes in delivery of online graduate programs to working-adult students in over 126 countries. The University of Liverpool through Laureate Online Education B.V. offers graduate degree programs in business and information technology.

Tuition and Fees

Tuition varies at each of the higher education institutions, depending on the curriculum and type of program.

For Walden, tuition ranges from \$230 per credit hour (for bachelor's degree programs); to between \$310 and \$865 per credit hour (for the graduate degree programs); to \$4,050 per quarter (for certain Ph.D. degree programs). Walden students are currently eligible for the Department of Education's Title IV federal financial aid under the Higher Education Act of 1965. Degree programs take between two to six years to complete, with a total cost ranging from \$9,800 to \$89,000, depending on the degree.

For Canter, tuition for a typical student enrolled in one of Canter's partner universities is approximately \$8,300 paid over the five semesters, or 20-month program.

For Laureate Online Education B.V., the average online degree program generally requires two to three years to complete, with a total tuition of \$25,000.

Marketing

Latin America and Europe. The Company markets its higher education institutions through professional broadcasts and targeted marketing campaigns. These campaigns reach prospective students indirectly through media advertising as well as directly by mail or one-on-one meetings. During annual enrollment periods, the Company supplements this advertising with local, regional and sometimes national campaigns on television, radio, print and the Internet. Each higher education institution is responsible for implementing its own marketing campaign, although the Company provides a forum for the network's marketing departments to share best practices.

Laureate Online Education. The Company markets its distance learning programs to working professionals primarily through direct mail and web advertising, as well as by direct selling to school districts, hospitals, and corporations.

Competition

The Company faces competition in each of its business segments. The competition focuses on price, educational quality, reputation and location.

Latin America and Europe. The market for post-secondary education outside the U.S. is highly fragmented and marked by large numbers of local competitors. The target demographics are primarily 18- to 24-year-olds in the individual countries in which the Company competes, except for its Hospitality schools, which markets to students worldwide. The Company generally competes with both public and private higher education institutions on the basis of price, educational quality, reputation and location. Public higher education institutions tend to be less expensive, if not free, but more selective and less focused on career-oriented degree programs. The Company believes that it compares favorably with competitors because of its focus on quality, career-oriented curriculum and the efficiencies of its network. At present, the Company believes that no other company has a similar network of international higher education institutions. There are a number of other private and public higher education institutions in each of the countries where the Company owns a higher education institution. Because the concept of private, for-profit higher education institutions is fairly new in many countries, it is difficult to predict how the markets will evolve and how many competitors there will be in the future. The Company expects competition to increase as the markets mature.

Laureate Online Education. The postsecondary education market in the U.S. is highly fragmented and competitive, with no single institution having any significant market share. The target demographics are adult working professionals who are over 25 years old. Laureate Online Education competes with traditional public and private non-profit institutions and for-profit schools. Typically, public institutions charge lower tuitions than Laureate Online Education because they receive state subsidies, government and foundation grants, tax-deductible contributions and have access to other financial sources not available to Laureate Online Education. However, tuition at private non-profit institutions is typically higher than the average tuition rates charged by Laureate Online Education. Laureate Online Education competes with other educational institutions principally based upon the quality of its educational programs and student services.

Campus-based

Government Regulation

Campus-Based Regulation and Licensing. In response to the growing demand for post-secondary education, governments in many countries have revised their regulations to permit the establishment of private post-secondary, for-profit higher education institutions. Each country in which the Company operates now allows private investment in post-secondary education. Typically, each applicable regulatory agency oversees higher education institutions, establishes requirements for creation of higher education institutions and sets the official qualifications and standards governing higher education institution departments and degree programs. Additionally, these regulatory agencies establish prerequisites that students must satisfy in order to apply. These policies are designed to ensure that the higher education institutions have the resources and capability to provide the student body with a quality education.

Title IV. Walden students, mostly working professionals, finance their education through a variety of methods including self-financing, tuition reimbursement from employers, and through federal financial aid programs known as Title IV. The Higher Education Act of 1965 and related regulations govern all U.S. higher education institutions participating in Title IV programs. Walden maintains eligibility to participate in the following Title IV programs: Federal Pell Grant, Federal Work Study, Federal Family Education Loan, and Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students.

For Title IV program eligibility, universities must comply with the standards and procedures set forth in the Higher Education Act of 1965 and related regulations. The U.S. Department of Education reviews all participating institutions for compliance with all applicable standards and regulations under the Higher Education Act. The institution must be certified

by the Department of Education to participate in Title IV programs, based on meeting certain standards of administrative capability and financial responsibility. In addition, an institution must be authorized by each state within which it is physically located to offer its educational programs and maintain institutional accreditations.

Walden is one of only 24 participants qualified in the Distance Education Demonstration Program. This program, authorized by Congress in the 1998 reauthorization of the Higher Education Act of 1965, is designed to test the quality and Title IV eligibility of expanded distance education programs currently restricted under the original Act. Sixteen participants, including Walden, received waivers of provisions that prohibit Title IV eligibility at distance learning institutions.

Walden is subject to announced and unannounced compliance reviews as well as annual and periodic audits by various state and federal government agencies and accrediting agencies. Material provisions of Title IV regulations that may impact eligibility include:

Standards of financial responsibility

Change in ownership or control

Student loan defaults

Changes in federal and state regulations and laws

Compensation of university representatives

Administrative capacity

Eligibility and certification

Accreditation

Changes in Title IV participation requirements, elimination or reduction in federal funding of Title IV programs, or loss of Title IV program eligibility, could reduce the ability of certain Walden students to finance their education, thereby leading to lower student enrollment. In 2005, approximately 39% of total Laureate Online Education students, which represents 5% of students at all Laureate schools, obtain financing under Title IV programs. The elimination or reduction of Title IV programs could have an adverse impact on the Company.

Intellectual Property

The Company currently owns the registered trademark for the word "Laureate". The Company has registered applications with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, as well as with the applicable Trademark agencies within the specific countries where the Company operates, for the marks "Laureate International Universities", "Laureate Online International" and "Laureate Online Education". In addition, Laureate has the rights to tradenames, logos, and other intellectual property specific to most of its higher education institutions, in the countries in which those institutions operate.

Employees

As of December 31, 2005, the Company had approximately 22,800 employees, including approximately 11,000 classified as full-time and approximately 11,800 classified as part-time. Most of the Company's part-time employees are academic teaching staff. The Company's employees at UEM and UVM, as well as a portion of IFG, are covered by labor agreements. The UEM agreement has been negotiated by a national union with a committee representing all of the private, for-profit universities in the country and is due to be revised in 2006. The IFG agreement governs certain labor conditions, such as vacation and salary levels. The agreement has no defined expiration but can be nullified by either party. It is reviewed annually. Substantially all of the faculty at UVM is represented by a union. The economic provisions of the labor agreement at UVM were revised in 2005 without any substantial changes, and will be reviewed again in 2007. The agreements govern salaries, benefits and working conditions for all union members at the higher education institutions. The Company considers itself to be in good standing with these unions and with all of its employees.

Effect of Environmental Laws

The Company believes it is in compliance with all applicable environmental laws, in all material respects. The Company does not expect future compliance with environmental laws to have a material effect on the business.

Available Information

The Company's Internet Address is www.laureate-inc.com. The Company makes available, free of charge through its website, its Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act soon after they are electronically filed with the SEC. In addition, the Company's earnings conference calls and presentations to the financial community are web cast live via the Company's website. In addition to visiting the Company's website, you may read and copy public reports the Company files with or furnishes to the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F. Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet website that contains the Company's reports, proxy and information statements, and other information that the Company files electronically with the SEC at www.sec.gov.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

The reader should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below and all other information contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. In order to help the reader assess the major risks in Laureate Education, Inc.'s business, the Company has identified many, but not all, of these risks. For an enterprise as large and complex as the Company, a wide range of factors could materially affect future developments and performance. In addition to the factors affecting specific business operations identified in connection with the description of these operations and the financial results of these operations elsewhere in this report, the most significant factors affecting the Company's operations include the following:

The Company's global operations pose complex management, foreign currency, legal, tax and economic risks, which may be difficult to adequately address.

Most of the Company's operations are outside the U.S. As a result, the Company faces risks that are inherent in international operations. These risks include:

currency fluctuations, possible devaluations, inflation and hyper-inflation;

price controls or restrictions on exchange of foreign currencies;

potential economic and political instability in the countries in which we operate;

expropriation of assets by local governments;

key political elections in Brazil, and Mexico;

multiple and possibly overlapping and conflicting tax laws;

compliance with the regulatory environment; and

acts of terrorism and war, epidemics and natural disasters.

There are other factors that are important to the Company's success, growth, and profitability that require competent management, planning, and reporting. Failure to execute them effectively and efficiently could adversely affect the Company's operations, profitability, and ability to grow:

enrollment and revenue;

student satisfaction as measured by academic and professional success;

competitive pricing; and

control of costs, including labor and facilities.

The Company plans to continue to grow the business globally by acquiring or establishing private universities in countries where the Company does not currently operate. The Company's success in growing the business profitably will depend on the ability to anticipate and effectively manage these and other risks related to operating in various countries.

The Company's reported revenues and earnings may be negatively affected by currency exchange rates.

The Company reports revenues, costs and earnings in U.S. dollars. Exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and the local currency in the countries where the Company operates universities are likely to fluctuate from period to period. Because consolidated financial results are reported in U.S. dollars, the Company is subject to the risk of translation losses for reporting purposes. When the U.S. dollar appreciates against the applicable local currency in any reporting period, the actual earnings generated by the Company's business in that country are diminished in the translation.

In each of the past five years, operations outside the U.S. accounted for a significant portion of the Company's revenues. To the extent that foreign revenue and expense transactions are not denominated in the local currency and/or to the extent foreign earnings are reinvested in a currency other than their functional currency, the Company is also subject to the risk of transaction loss. The Company occasionally enters into foreign exchange forward contracts to reduce the earnings impact of non-functional currency dominated non-trade receivables. The primary business objective of the activity is to protect the U.S. dollar value of the Company's assets and future cash flows with respect to exchange rate fluctuations.

Given the volatility of exchange rates, there is no assurance that the Company will be able to effectively manage currency transaction and/or translation risks. Therefore, volatility in currency exchange rates may have a material effect on financial condition or results of operations.

Because the valuation of an acquired university's goodwill and indefinite lived intangibles may not accurately reflect its value, an impairment would lead the Company to write off all, or a portion, of goodwill and indefinite lived intangibles, which may adversely affect the financial condition and results of operations.

Upon acquisition of an university, the Company typically allocates a significant portion of the purchase price to goodwill and other intangibles. Identified intangible assets other than goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets are generally amortized over periods of two to seven years following their purchase. In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, the Company is required to test at least annually for impairment of this goodwill and indefinite lived intangibles. The Company cannot assure the reader that the valuation of an acquired university's goodwill and indefinite lived intangibles will prove to reflect its true value. If it does not, the Company would be required to write off the difference between the fair value and the book value of the impaired asset. This charge could have a material adverse effect on financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

If the Company does not effectively manage growth, the business and results of operation may be adversely affected.

The Company has rapidly expanded the business over the past five years through the acquisition of additional universities and intends to continue to do so. The Company intends to establish new universities in certain markets. Planned growth will require the Company to add management personnel and upgrade the financial and management systems and controls. There is no assurance that the Company will be able to maintain or accelerate current growth rate, effectively manage expanding operations, integrate new universities or achieve planned growth on a timely or profitable basis. If revenue growth is less than projected, the costs incurred for these additions and upgrades may cause the Company's profitability to decline from current levels. This could have a material adverse effect on the business, financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

The Company may not be able to identify, acquire and integrate additional private universities, which could adversely affect the growth and profitability of the Company.

The Company expects to continue to rely on acquisitions as a key element of growth strategy, primarily in markets where the Company does not currently have a university. There is no assurance that the Company will be able to identify suitable acquisition candidates or that the Company will be able to acquire any of the acquisition candidates on favorable terms. In addition, in many countries, the approval of a regulatory agency is needed to acquire or operate a university, which the Company may not be able to obtain. Furthermore, there is no assurance that any acquired university can be successfully integrated into the Company's operations or be operated profitably. Acquisitions involve a number of risks, including:

diversion of management's time and resources;

adverse short-term effects on reported operating results;

cultural issues related to acquisition of family-run universities in countries around the world;

integration of acquired universities' operations, including reporting systems and internal controls; and

loss of key employees of the acquired business.

If the Company cannot make acquisitions or make fewer acquisitions than planned, or if the acquisitions are not managed successfully, business growth and results of operations of the Company will be adversely affected.

The Company may not be able to successfully establish new universities, which could adversely affect growth and profitability.

The Company has primarily grown through initial acquisitions. As part of the growth strategy, the Company intends to establish new universities in some markets where there are no suitable acquisition targets. The Company has never successfully established a new university and there is no assurance that it can be done successfully or profitably. Establishing new universities poses unique challenges and will require the Company to make investments in management, capital expenditures, marketing expenses and other resources that are different, and in many cases greater, than those made to acquire and then operate an existing university. To open a new university, the Company will also be required to obtain

appropriate governmental approvals. If the Company is unable to successfully establish new universities, the Company's growth and profitability may be adversely affected.

The Company may need to raise additional capital in the future, which may not be available. The raising of additional capital may dilute the reader's ownership interest.

The Company may need to raise additional funds through the public or private sale of debt or equity securities in order to acquire or establish universities, develop new campuses, support a larger business or respond to competitive pressures. Any additional capital raised through the sale of equity securities is likely to dilute the ownership interest of the reader. There is no assurance that any additional financing needed will be available on terms favorable to the Company, or at all.

The minority owners of universities may disagree with the way the Company operates them or plans to expand them, which could adversely affect the Company's business and results of operations.

Although the Company controls all of its universities, the Company shares ownership of a few universities with minority stockholders. The Company currently does not have the right to buy out all of these minority interests. Minority stockholders may make conflict of interest claims in the future. For example, if the Company acquired another university in a country in which it operates, the Company could face claims of a conflict of interest from the minority owners of the university already owned in that country. The minority owners also could assert that the business decisions of the Company at the other university adversely affected the value of their investment. Disagreements with the minority owners may distract management and may adversely affect the Company's business, results of operations and financial condition.

If the Company cannot maintain student enrollments in its universities, the results of operations may be adversely affected.

The Company's strategy for growth and profitability depends, in part, upon maintaining and, subsequently, increasing student enrollments in its universities. Attrition rates are often due to factors outside the Company's control. Many students face financial, personal or family constraints that require them to drop out of school. They also are affected by economic and social factors prevalent in their countries. If the Company is unable to control the rate of student attrition, the overall enrollment levels are likely to decline. Also, to attract more students, the Company must develop and implement marketing and student recruitment programs, which may not succeed. If the Company cannot maintain and, subsequently, increase student enrollments, the Company's results of operations and profitability may be adversely affected.

The Company's universities are subject to uncertain and varying regulations, and any changes to these regulations may adversely affect the business and results of operations.

Post-secondary education is regulated to varying degrees and in different ways in each of the countries where the Company has a university. In general, the Company's universities must have licenses from governmental authorities as well as maintain, or improve current accreditation status. These licenses and accreditations must be renewed periodically, usually after an evaluation of the university by governmental authorities. Although unlikely, these periodic evaluations could result in restrictions, downgrade, or withdrawal of licenses or accreditation. Once licensed, most of the universities will need approvals for new campuses or to add new degree programs. Also, in Mexico and Chile, for-profit universities are not specifically allowed by applicable law. In order to efficiently transfer funds out of the universities in these countries, the Company has

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

entered into management agreements with the university. Under these agreements, the management company would be paid for providing services to the university. There is no assurance that the governments would continue to permit this type of arrangement at all or would not require the Company to revise the amounts charged for the services provided.

All of these regulations are subject to change without notice. Moreover, regulatory agencies may single the Company's universities out for special treatment because they are owned and controlled by a U.S. corporation. The ability to operate universities profitably may be adversely affected by any changes in generally applicable regulations or how they are applied to the Company.

The laws of the countries where the Company owns universities and expects to acquire universities in the future must permit both private universities and foreign ownership of them. For political, economic or other reasons, a country could decide to change its laws to prohibit private universities or foreign ownership of private universities. If this change occurred, the Company could be forced to sell a university, and the sale price could be lower than the fair value of the university. Therefore, a forced sale could adversely impact the Company's business, results of operations and financial condition.

The Company is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties relating to U.S. and foreign income taxes, any of which could have a material adverse impact on the Company.

The Company has not recorded any deferred tax liabilities for undistributed foreign earnings because the Company plans to permanently reinvest these earnings outside the U.S. If circumstances change and some or all of these undistributed foreign earnings are remitted to the U.S., the Company will be required to recognize deferred tax liabilities on those amounts. For more information, see Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates. In addition, in February 2006, the Company received two notices from the Internal Revenue Service (Service) with respect to its tax returns for prior periods. One notice related to a break-up fee received by the Company in its attempted acquisition of NEC. The Company can provide no assurance as to the outcome of these claims. For more information, see Note 13 Income Taxes to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements. In addition, there are several other income tax audits in progress. No assurance can be given as to the eventual outcome of these audits.

If the Company is unable to attract and retain highly qualified personnel, it will not be able to compete effectively and will not be able to grow its business.

The Company's success and ability to grow depends on the ability to hire and retain large numbers of talented people. The Company depends on its executive officers and other members of its management team, as well as the management and faculties at each of its universities. There is no assurance that the Company will be able to retain its existing key personnel or that it will be able to attract, assimilate and retain the additional personnel needed to support the business. If the Company cannot, it may not be able to grow its business as planned, and the Company may not be able to operate its existing business effectively. This could have a material adverse effect on the business, financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

The post-secondary education market is very competitive, and the Company may not be able to compete effectively.

The post-secondary education markets outside the United States are very competitive and dynamic. The Company's universities compete with traditional public and private two-year and four-year universities and other proprietary schools, including those that offer distance-learning programs. In each of the countries where the Company operates a private university, its primary competitors are other private universities, some of which are larger, more widely known and have better reputations than the Company's universities. Some of the Company's competitors in both the public and private sectors have substantially greater financial and other resources than the Company has. Other competitors may include large, well-capitalized companies who may pursue a strategy similar to the Company's of acquiring or establishing for-profit universities. Also, some of the smaller private universities in a country may decide to consolidate, thereby creating a larger or better-capitalized competitor with enhanced abilities to compete with the Company for students.

Any of these large, well-capitalized competitors may make it more difficult or impossible for the Company to acquire universities as part of its growth strategy. They may also be able to charge lower tuitions or attract more students, which would adversely affect the Company's growth and the profitability of its competing university. The Company expects competition to increase as the markets mature. This may create greater pricing or operating pressure on the Company, which could have an adverse effect on its universities' enrollments, revenues and profit margins.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 2. Properties

The Company leases 66% of the square footage in its facilities worldwide and owns the other 34%.

The Company's headquarters consist of three leased facilities in Baltimore, Maryland, used primarily for office space. The Laureate Online Education segment has offices with the Company's headquarters location in Baltimore and leases four additional facilities in Los Angeles, California; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Tempe, Arizona; and Amsterdam, Netherlands.

The Company's campus-based segments lease various sites, primarily in Mexico, Central America, South America and Europe. The campus-based segments lease 14 UVM sites, 14 UNAB and AIEP sites, 13 IFG sites, 6 UDLA sites, 4 UAM sites, 3 UEM sites, 3 ECE sites, 2 UI sites, 2 UNITEC, and one site each at ESCE, Les Roches, Marbella, Glion, IEDE,

Cyprus, China, ULACIT, and UPC.

The Company's owned facilities consist of academic buildings and dormitories on the campuses of UVM, UDLA, UPC, Glion, Les Roches, and UEM. Some of the academic buildings and dormitories at UEM, Les Roches, Glion and UDLA are subject to mortgages.

The Company monitors the capacity of its higher education institutions on a regular basis and makes decisions to expand capacity based on existing facilities and enrollments.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

The Company is not currently a party to any litigation that management believes to be material as of December 31, 2005.

Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

No matters were submitted to a vote of security holders during the fourth quarter of 2005.

PART II.

Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

a) The Company's Common Stock trades on the NASDAQ National Market under the ticker symbol LAUR. The high and low trade prices for 2005 and 2004 for the Company's common stock are set out in the following table. These prices are as reported by NASDAQ, and reflect inter-day price quotations, without retail mark-up, mark down or commission, and may not necessarily represent actual transactions.

2005	High	Low
4th Quarter	\$ 54.95	\$ 46.69
3rd Quarter	\$ 50.51	\$ 41.39
2nd Quarter	\$ 48.55	\$ 40.56
1st Quarter	\$ 48.20	\$ 41.83

2004	High	Low
------	------	-----

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

4th Quarter	\$	44.96	\$	34.80
3rd Quarter	\$	39.24	\$	30.50
2nd Quarter	\$	40.21	\$	33.64
1st Quarter	\$	35.34	\$	28.38

No dividends were declared on the Company's common stock during 2005 and 2004, and the Company does not anticipate paying dividends in the foreseeable future.

The number of registered shareholders of record as of February 28, 2006 was 673.

b) None.

c) No shares of common stock were repurchased during the fourth quarter of 2005.

Item 6. Selected Consolidated Financial Data

The selected consolidated financial data for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, and 2001 have been derived from the Company's consolidated financial statements. The financial data should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto.

The Company consummated several significant purchase business combinations in the five-year period ended December 31, 2005. These business combinations affect the comparability of the amounts presented. Additionally, the accompanying financial data presents the continuing operations of the Company, and excludes the results of operations of several businesses that were sold during the periods presented. Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements describes the operations that were discontinued in 2005, 2004, and 2003.

LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statements of Operations Data

(Dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
	(1)(2)	(1)(2)(5)	(1)(2)(3)(5)	(1)(3)(5)	(1)(3)(4)
Revenues					
Core operating segments	\$ 875,376	\$ 646,931	\$ 471,903	\$ 335,608	\$ 244,529
Ventures			903	395	
Total revenues	875,376	646,931	472,806	336,003	244,529
Costs and expenses					
Direct costs:					
Core operating segments	714,906	528,307	393,050	291,619	209,579
Ventures			2,122	2,592	
General and administrative expense:					
Core operating segments	25,460	21,380	17,774	21,318	22,003
Ventures			1,756	4,804	9,211
Non-cash stock compensation expense	4,588	5,718	23,050	1,046	
Total costs and expenses	744,954	555,405	437,752	321,379	240,793
Operating income	130,422	91,526	35,054	14,624	3,736
Other income (expense)					
Interest and other income	11,789	28,179	7,003	6,905	11,274
Interest expense	(10,440)	(7,670)	(8,844)	(8,256)	(8,700)
Ventures investment (losses) income			(8,394)	(2,308)	22,131
Loss on investments				(8,253)	(14,231)
Foreign currency exchange (loss) gain	(1,503)	(956)	257	641	(80)
	(154)	19,553	(9,978)	(11,271)	10,394
Income from continuing operations before income taxes, minority interest, equity in net income (loss) of affiliates, and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	130,268	111,079	25,076	3,353	14,130
Income tax (expense) benefit	(19,667)	(6,798)	2,930	13,171	(1,517)
Minority interest in (income) loss of consolidated subsidiaries, net of tax:					
Core operating segments	(24,320)	(21,158)	(14,947)	(6,880)	(7,598)
Ventures			487	2,058	2,590
	(24,320)	(21,158)	(14,460)	(4,822)	(5,008)
Equity in net (loss) income of affiliates, net of tax:					
Core operating segments	(535)	(323)	194	309	28
Ventures			(4,055)	(4,029)	(31,428)
	(535)	(323)	(3,861)	(3,720)	(31,400)
Income (loss) from continuing operations before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	\$ 85,746	\$ 82,800	\$ 9,685	\$ 7,982	\$ (23,795)

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

Income (loss) from continuing operations before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle per share, basic	\$	1.73	\$	1.79	\$	0.23	\$	0.20	\$	(0.62)
Income (loss) from continuing operations before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle per share, diluted	\$	1.65	\$	1.69	\$	0.22	\$	0.20	\$	(0.62)

Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	105,106	\$	106,854	\$	92,145	\$	94,068	\$	86,463
Available-for-sale securities		4,768		3,258		16,765		22,282		59,563
Net working (deficit) capital		(150,893)		(77,298)		(42,906)		73,709		117,912
Intangible assets and deferred costs, net		656,324		566,641		334,096		219,247		153,258
Net assets of discontinued operations		2,906		50,199		71,914		198,281		277,383
Total assets		1,782,943		1,535,092		1,154,296		972,193		909,191
Long-term debt, including current portion, and other long-term liabilities		251,923		232,314		148,411		200,175		148,706
Stockholders' equity		978,709		883,017		673,532		490,310		545,855

(1) During 2005, 2004, and 2003, the Company completed significant acquisitions as discussed further in Note 4 to the consolidated financial statements.

The following acquisition were completed during 2002 and the Company's 2002 results of continuing operations include the results of the acquired companies from the effective date of the acquisition through December 31, 2002.

On March 1, 2002, the Company acquired for cash of \$6.7 million all of the outstanding common stock of Hedleton, B.V., which owns all of the capital stock of Escuela Superior De Alta Gestion De Hotel, S.A. (Marbella), a private for-profit university located in Marbella, Spain.

Effective May 1, 2002, the Company acquired an additional 20% ownership interest in Desarrollo del Conocimiento S.A. (Decon), a holding company that controls and operates UDLA, for a cash purchase price of approximately \$6.7 million. In 2000, the Company acquired a 60% interest in UDLA. The purchase of the additional interest was accounted for as a step acquisition.

Effective August 1, 2002, the Company acquired for cash all of the outstanding common stock of the Glion Group, S.A., the parent company of Glion, a leading hotel management school in Switzerland. The initial purchase price totaled approximately \$16.9 million.

In November 2002, the Company completed its acquisition of substantially all the assets and certain liabilities of the NTU and Stratys Learning Solutions, Inc. (the holding company of NTU) for consideration of \$15.4 million.

The following acquisitions were completed during 2001 and the Company's 2001 results of continuing operations include the results of the acquired companies from the effective date of the acquisition through December 31, 2001.

During July 2001, the Company acquired an additional 23.75% ownership interest in Prouniversidad S.A., which owns and operates UEM, for cash of \$18.5 million, increasing its total ownership in Prouniversidad S.A. to 77.75%. The Company previously acquired a 54% ownership interest in UEM in 1999. The purchase of the additional interest was accounted for as a step acquisition.

In October 2001, the Company acquired 98.8% of the common stock of ESCE, a private, for-profit university in Paris, for \$8.2 million in cash. In December 2002, the Company sold 10% of its ownership in ESCE to an unrelated third party.

(2) During 2005 and 2003, the Company recorded non-cash stock compensation expense related to the modification of stock options. During 2004, the Company recorded a non-cash stock compensation expense related to the replenishment plan implementation change. These events are discussed further in Note 12 to the consolidated financial statements.

(3) During 2003, the Company recorded losses on investments. The loss recorded during 2003 is discussed further in Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements.

The Company realized investment losses of \$10.6 million in 2002. The most significant transaction giving rise to the loss was a \$7.4 million write-off of the Company's investment in and advances to the Frontline Group.

The Company realized investment gains of \$7.9 million in 2001. The most significant transactions giving rise to these gains are an investment gain of \$24.7 million on the sale of its investment in Classwell Learning Group, Inc., partially offset by the loss on investment in Caliber of \$16.8 million.

(4) Prior to the adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, the Company was required to amortize goodwill and all intangible assets. During 2001, the Company recorded \$15.6 million of goodwill amortization. For 2001, equity in net losses of affiliates included amortization of \$8.9 million related to the Ventures business.

(5) The Company restated its 2002 financial statements that decreased income tax expense and increased net income. due to incorrect recording of a \$4.4 million deferred tax benefit relating to the acquisition of the WSI business.

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Overview

Laureate is focused exclusively on providing a superior higher education experience to over 217,000 students through the leading global network of accredited campus-based and online higher education institutions. The Company's educational services are offered through three separate reportable segments: Latin America, Europe and Laureate Online Education. Latin America and Europe own or maintain controlling interests in eleven and ten separately accredited higher education institutions, respectively. The Latin America segment has locations in Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Panama, Costa Rica, and Honduras. The Europe segment has locations in Spain, Switzerland, Cyprus, and France. The Laureate Online Education segment provides career-oriented degree programs to approximately 27,000 students through Walden, Laureate Education Online BV and Canter.

On May 17, 2004, the Company changed its name from Sylvan Learning Systems, Inc. to Laureate Education, Inc. The Company began trading under a new NASDAQ ticker symbol, LAUR, on May 18, 2004.

Sale of Business Units

The Company reached a decision in 2005 to sell the operations of a non-strategic business in Europe, accordingly the business was classified as discontinued operations. During the first quarter of 2005, the Company closed the sale of its WSI business. During 2004, the Company terminated its program in India and sold its remaining K-12 educational services businesses. On June 30, 2003, the Company completed the sale to Educate, Inc. (Educate), a company newly-formed by Apollo Management L.P. (Apollo), of substantially all of the Company's K-12 segments. The operations and cash flows of the business components comprising the non-strategic European segment business, WSI, India, and K-12 educational services businesses were or will be eliminated from ongoing operations as a result of the sale or abandonment and the Company will not have any significant continuing involvement in the operations after the disposal transactions. Therefore, these operations are classified as discontinued operations for all periods. See Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements for more information regarding these transactions.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The Company's accounting policies are more fully described in Note 2 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. As disclosed in Note 1 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, the preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions about future events that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Future events and their effects cannot be determined with absolute certainty. Therefore, the determination of estimates requires the exercise of judgment. Actual results inevitably will differ from those estimates, and these differences may be material to the financial statements. The Company believes the following key accounting policies affect its more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of its consolidated financial statements and are critical to its business operations and the understanding of its results of operations.

Revenue Recognition. Revenues from educational services, tuition and fees, are recorded on a straight-line monthly basis over the length of period in which services are provided. Textbook sales and the related cost of the textbooks are

recognized at the beginning of each academic quarter with respect to students who are attending courses in which textbooks are charged separately from tuition. Approximately 92% of the Company's revenues represent tuition charges and approximately 4% of revenues represent bookstore sales and student fees. For each student, billings issued or payments received in excess of tuition earned are recorded as deferred revenue. Refunds to students have been immaterial and generally limited to amounts paid for which educational services have not been rendered. Since the Company does not recognize revenues until the services have been rendered, these refunds are typically charged to the deferred revenue account. The amount of tuition earned depends on the fee per semester or per credit hour of the courses, the number of program courses a student takes during each period of enrollment, and the total number of students enrolled in each program. Each of these factors is known at the time tuition revenues are calculated and is not subject to estimation. If the Company adds additional fees related to educational services, the fees are assessed separately for proper revenue recognition treatment.

Revenue from the sale of educational products, approximately 4% of the Company's revenues, is generally recognized when shipped and collectibility is reasonably assured.

Accounts and Notes Receivable. The Company routinely makes estimates of the collectibility of its accounts and notes receivable. The Company maintains allowances for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability of its students and other parties to make required payments. The Company estimates the amount of the required allowance by reviewing the status of past-due receivables and analyzing historical bad debt trends. If the financial condition of students were to deteriorate, resulting in an impairment of their ability to make required payments for tuition, additional allowances may be required.

Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets. During each of the years presented, the Company acquired various businesses accounted for using the purchase method of accounting. A portion of the purchase price for these businesses was allocated to identifiable tangible and intangible assets and assumed liabilities based on estimated fair values at the date of acquisition. Any excess purchase price was allocated to goodwill. This goodwill and other indefinite-lived intangibles are evaluated at least annually for impairment.

Goodwill is potentially impaired when the carrying amount of a reporting unit's goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, as determined under a two-step approach. The first step is to determine the estimated fair value of each reporting unit with goodwill. The reporting units of the Company for purposes of the impairment test are those operating components for which discrete financial information is available and for which operating results are regularly reviewed by segment management. Components are combined when determining reporting units if they have similar economic characteristics. In general, each country in which the Company operates is a reporting unit for purposes of the impairment tests.

The Company estimates the fair value of each reporting unit by estimating the present value of the reporting unit's future cash flows. If the recorded net assets of the reporting unit are less than the reporting unit's estimated fair value, then no impairment is indicated. Alternatively, if the recorded net assets of the reporting unit exceed its estimated fair value, then goodwill is potentially impaired and a second step is performed. In the second step, the implied fair value of the goodwill is determined by deducting the estimated fair value of all tangible and identifiable intangible net assets of the reporting unit from the estimated fair value of the reporting unit. If the recorded amount of goodwill exceeds this implied fair value, an impairment charge is recorded for the excess.

Other intangible assets include acquired student rosters, accreditation, tradenames, non-competition agreements and curriculum. The assumptions used to calculate the initial fair value of these identified intangible assets included estimates of future operating results and cash flows, as well as discount rates and weighted average costs of capital for each acquisition. Accreditations and tradenames have indefinite lives. Useful lives, which range from 2 to 7 years, are assigned to all other intangible assets based upon estimated matriculation rates and other factors.

If the Company used different assumptions and estimates in the calculation of the initial fair value of identified intangible assets and the estimation of the related useful lives, the amounts allocated to these assets, as well as the related amortization expense, could have been significantly different than the amounts recorded.

In assessing the recoverability of the Company's goodwill and other intangible assets, the Company must make assumptions regarding estimated future cash flows and other factors to determine the fair value of the respective assets. If these estimates or their related assumptions change in the future, the Company may be required to record impairment charges for these assets not previously recorded.

Income Taxes. The Company earns a significant portion of its income from subsidiaries located in countries outside of the United States. Deferred tax liabilities have not been recognized for undistributed earnings because it is management's intention to permanently reinvest such undistributed earnings outside of the United States. APB Opinion No. 23, *Accounting for Income Taxes - Special Areas*, requires that a company evaluate its circumstances to determine whether or not there is sufficient evidence to support the assertion that it has or will reinvest undistributed foreign earnings indefinitely.

The Company's assertion that earnings from its foreign operations will be permanently reinvested is supported by projected working capital and long-term capital needs in each subsidiary location in which the earnings are generated. Additionally, the Company believes that it has the ability to permanently reinvest foreign earnings based on a review of projected cash flows from domestic operations, projected working capital and liquidity for both short-term and long-term domestic needs, and the expected availability of debt or equity markets to provide funds for those domestic needs.

If circumstances change and it becomes apparent that some or all of the undistributed earnings of the Company's foreign subsidiaries will be remitted to the United States in the foreseeable future, the Company will be required to recognize deferred tax expense and liabilities on those amounts.

The Company records a valuation allowance to reduce its deferred tax assets to the amount that it believes is more likely than not to be realized. The Company also has considered future taxable income and ongoing prudent and feasible tax planning strategies in assessing the amount of valuation allowance needed. If the Company were to determine that it would not be able to realize all or part of its net deferred tax assets in the future, an adjustment to the deferred tax assets would be charged to income from continuing operations in the period such determination was made. Likewise, should the Company determine that it would be able to realize its deferred tax assets in the future in excess of its net recorded amount, an adjustment to the valuation allowance would increase income from continuing operations in the period such determination was made.

Impact of Recently Issued Accounting Standards.

In June 2005, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 154, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections* (SFAS 154). SFAS 154 replaces Accounting Principles Board (APB) Opinion No. 20, *Accounting Changes* and SFAS No. 3, *Reporting Accounting Changes in Interim Financial Statements*. SFAS 154 requires that a voluntary change in accounting principle be applied retrospectively with all prior period financial statements presented on the new accounting principle. SFAS 154 also requires that a change in method of depreciating or amortizing a long-lived nonfinancial asset be accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate, and correction of errors in previously issued financial statements should be termed a restatement. SFAS 154 is effective for accounting changes and correction of errors made in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2005. The Company does not expect the adoption of SFAS 154 to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements except as discussed below related to our voluntary change in accounting for revenue recognition.

As permitted by SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, the Company accounts for share-based payments to employees using the intrinsic value method under APB Opinion No. 25. As such, the Company generally does not recognize compensation cost related to employee stock options or shares issued under the Company's employee stock purchase plan. In December 2004, the FASB issued SFAS No. 123(R), *Share-Based Payment*, which is a revision of SFAS No. 123 and supersedes APB Opinion No. 25.

SFAS No. 123(R) allows for two adoption methods:

The modified prospective method which requires companies to recognize compensation cost beginning with the effective date of adoption based on (a) the requirements for all share-based payments granted after the effective date of adoption and (b) the requirements for all unvested awards granted to employees prior to the effective date of adoption; or

The modified retrospective method which includes the requirements of the modified prospective method described above, but also requires restatement of prior period financial statements using amounts previously disclosed under the pro-forma provisions of Statement 123.

SFAS No. 123(R) requires all share-based payments to employees and directors to be recognized in the financial statements based on their fair values, using prescribed option-pricing models. Upon adoption pro-forma disclosure will no longer be an alternative to financial statement recognition. The Company will adopt the provisions of SFAS No. 123(R) in the first quarter of 2006. The Company intends to use the modified prospective method of adoption and continue to use the Black-Scholes option pricing model to value share-based payments, though alternatives for adoption under the new pronouncement continue to be reviewed by the Company. The Company continues to review the impact of SFAS No. 123(R) as relates to future use of share-based payments to compensate employees in 2006. Therefore, the impact of adoption cannot be predicted with certainty at this time because it will depend on the levels of share-based payments granted in the future. Due to the timing of the Company's equity grants, the charge will not be spread evenly throughout the year. The adoption of the fair-value method will have a significant impact on the Company's results of operations as the fair value of stock option grants and stock purchases under the employee stock purchase plan will be required to be expensed beginning in 2006. The adoption of Statement No. 123(R) is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's overall financial position.

Statement No. 123(R) also requires the benefit related to income tax deductions in excess of recognized compensation cost to be reported as a financing cash flow, rather than as an operating cash flow as required under current accounting guidance. This requirement will reduce net operating flows and increase financing cash flows of the Company in periods subsequent to adoption. These future amounts cannot be estimated, as they depend on, among other things, when employees exercise stock options.

Effective January 1, 2006, the Company has changed its revenue recognition policies for its international universities. The universities will recognize revenue on a weekly basis over each academic session as opposed to the monthly, which had been the revenue recognition period used. The revenue recognition policy will remain unchanged for its online business. This decision was made to improve transparency and the connection among the Company's enrollments, revenues, and actual academic calendars.

This adoption is preferential and elective by the Company. The Company recognizes this as a voluntary change in accounting method and will file the required preferability letter in conjunction with the first quarter Form 10-Q. The Company will apply this change retrospectively with all prior period financial statements presented in accordance with Statement No. 154. There is no material impact on the annual results of the Company as a result of this change. Certain financial data has been historically re-presented for 2004 and 2005 in the Company's Form 8-K filing on February 28, 2006.

Results of Operations

The Company's three continuing reportable segments generate revenues as follows:

Latin America and Europe both earn tuition and related fees paid by the students of the Company's campus-based higher education institutions.

Laureate Online Education earns revenues from instructional services that are provided through an online format, as well as other forms of distance learning.

The Latin America, Europe and Laureate Online Education segments, when presenting aggregated statements of operations data, are referred to as Core Operating Segments.

Enrollments

Management closely follows trends in new and total enrollment because total enrollment growth is highly correlated with revenue growth. New enrollments are particularly important as they impact future results.

Enrollment Reporting

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

Each of Laureate's higher education institutions has a different enrollment cycle depending on geography and academic program. Each school has a Primary Intake at the start of each academic year, during which most of the enrollment occurs. The first quarter coincides with the Primary Intakes for the Company's higher education institutions in South America (Chile, Brazil, Ecuador and Peru). The third quarter coincides with the Primary Intakes for Central America (Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama and Honduras), as well as for schools in the Mediterranean region (Spain and Cyprus), Switzerland, U.S. and France. Out of session periods cause seasonality.

Seasonality

Most of the schools in the Company's network have a summer break when classes are generally not in session and during which minimal revenues are recognized. Operating expenses, however, do not fully correlate to the enrollment and revenue cycles, as the schools continue to incur fixed expenses during summer breaks. As a result, the fourth quarter is the Company's strongest quarter because all of its higher education institutions are in session. The second quarter is also strong as most schools have classes in session, although the Company's largest school, located in Mexico, is in session for only part of that quarter. The first and third quarters are weaker quarters because the majority of the Company's schools have summer breaks for some portion of one of these two quarters. Due to this seasonality, revenues and profits in any quarter are not necessarily indicative of results in subsequent quarters.

The following chart shows the enrollment cycles for each higher education institution. In the chart, shaded areas represent periods when classes are generally in session and revenues are recognized. Areas that are not shaded represent summer breaks during which revenues are not typically recognized. The large circles indicate the Primary Intake start dates of the Company's schools, and the small circles represent Secondary Intake start dates (smaller intake cycles).

Notes:

- (1) Central America includes Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama and Honduras
- (2) South America includes Chile, Brazil, Ecuador and Peru
- (3) Mediterranean region includes Spain and Cyprus

Student Attrition

Management defines attrition as those students that leave the higher education institution prior to graduation. Attrition may be due to academic, financial or other personal reasons. Management closely monitors attrition levels at its higher education institutions. To address the key reasons for student attrition, management has implemented programs, such as assistance with financing, remedial educational programs, mentoring and counseling. In general, attrition at the Company's schools has been stable as a percentage of total revenue over the past five years.

Average Length of Stay

Campus-based

Management actively monitors the average length of stay of students. The average length of stay is defined as the average time necessary to complete a given course of study, adjusted for attrition. Management believes that the Company's 3 to 4 year average length of stay and low attrition levels contribute to the predictability of future revenues. Due to the Company's multi-year average length of stay, changes in enrollment from one cycle to the next have not historically materially impacted quarterly or annual results.

Pricing

Each higher education institution has different pricing based upon local demand level, economic conditions, and competitive environment. Increases in tuition have historically exceeded local market inflation.

Foreign Exchange

All of the higher education institutions in the campus-based segments are located outside the United States. Therefore, management actively monitors the impact of foreign currency movements and the correlation between the local currency and the U.S. Dollar. The Company's diversified portfolio of currencies has mitigated the impact of translation risk based on currency movements. Because all revenues and expenses in a particular country are generally denominated in the local

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

currency, the exposure is limited to the operating margins of schools in that country. Also, since the Company has historically reinvested each higher education institution's cash flow locally, the principal exposure is the translation risk into U.S. Dollars for purposes of the consolidated financial statements, as required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). In addition, the Company occasionally enters into foreign exchange forward contracts to reduce the earnings impact of non-functional currency denominated receivables. Currently, the Mexican Peso is the Company's largest currency, followed by the Chilean Peso, U.S. Dollar, Euro, Brazilian Real, Swiss Franc, Peruvian Nuevo Sol, Costa Rican Colon, Honduran Lempira, and Cypriot Pound.

Reportable Segments

The following table is derived from the Company's consolidated financial statements and represents financial information of the Company's reportable segments for 2005, 2004, and 2003:

	Latin America	Europe	Laureate Online Education (in thousands)	Other (1)	Unallocated	Consolidated
2005						
Segment revenues	\$ 507,260	\$ 183,761	\$ 184,355	\$	\$	\$ 875,376
Segment direct costs	(383,028)	(160,229)	(156,121)			(699,378)
Campus-based segment's overhead					(15,528)	(15,528)
Segment profit (loss)	124,232	23,532	28,234		(15,528)	160,470
General and administrative expenses					(25,460)	(25,460)
Non-cash stock compensation expense					(4,588)	(4,588)
Operating income (loss)	\$ 124,232	\$ 23,532	\$ 28,234	\$	\$ (45,576)	\$ 130,422
2004						
Segment revenues	\$ 360,485	\$ 151,312	\$ 135,134	\$	\$	\$ 646,931
Segment direct costs	(275,027)	(127,249)	(113,991)			(516,267)
Campus-based segment's overhead					(12,040)	(12,040)
Segment profit (loss)	85,458	24,063	21,143		(12,040)	118,624
General and administrative expenses					(21,380)	(21,380)
Non-cash stock compensation expense					(5,718)	(5,718)
Operating income (loss)	\$ 85,458	\$ 24,063	\$ 21,143	\$	\$ (39,138)	\$ 91,526
2003						
Segment revenues	\$ 249,533	\$ 126,555	\$ 95,815	\$ 903	\$	\$ 472,806
Segment direct costs	(191,907)	(106,621)	(82,527)	(2,122)		(383,177)
Campus-based segment's overhead					(11,995)	(11,995)
Segment profit (loss)	57,626	19,934	13,288	(1,219)	(11,995)	77,634
General and administrative expenses				(1,756)	(17,774)	(19,530)
Non-cash stock compensation expense					(23,050)	(23,050)
Operating income (loss)	\$ 57,626	\$ 19,934	\$ 13,288	\$ (2,975)	\$ (52,819)	\$ 35,054

(1) Other represents results from the Ventures business, which was disbanded in 2003.

The Company's direct costs include all expenses incurred by operating units including selling and administrative expenses. The Company's campus-based segments' overhead represents centralized costs incurred in support of the Latin America and Europe operations that are not allocated back to the reportable segments.

The following comparisons of results of operations focus on the continuing operations of the Company.

Comparison of results for 2005 to results for 2004.

Revenues. Total revenues increased by \$228.4 million, or 35%, to \$875.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2005 (2005) from \$646.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 (2004). This revenue increase was driven primarily by increased total enrollment at the Company's higher education institutions, plus the impact of acquisitions within the last two years.

Latin America revenue for 2005 increased by \$146.8 million, or 41%, to \$507.3 million compared to 2004. Enrollment increases of 17.5% in schools owned in both fiscal years added revenues of \$57.7 million over 2004. For schools owned in both years, the Company increased local currency tuition by a weighted average of 3.5%, which served to increase revenues by \$13.1 million. Each institution in the segment offers tuitions at various prices based upon degree program. For 2005, the

effects of product mix resulted in a \$4.0 million reduction in revenue primarily due to lower-priced working adult and high school enrollments exceeding undergraduate enrollment growth. The segment operates in several countries and is subject to the effects of foreign currency exchange rates in each of those countries. For 2005, the effects of currency translations increased revenues by \$26.5 million, primarily due to the strengthening of the Chilean Peso and Mexican Peso relative to the U.S. Dollar. A full year's operations at UPC, ULACIT, and the Hispanoamericana campus of UVM, and the acquisitions of UAM, UNITEC, and the UNO campus of UVM in 2005 increased revenues by \$53.5 million. Latin America revenue represented 58% of total revenues for 2005 and 56% of total revenue for 2004.

Europe revenue for 2005 increased by \$32.4 million, or 21%, to \$183.8 million compared to 2004. Enrollment increases of 6.0% in schools owned in both years added revenues of \$9.7 million over 2004. For schools owned in both years, the Company increased local currency tuition by a weighted average of 4.9%, which served to increase revenues by \$8.4 million. Each institution in the segment offers tuitions at various prices based upon degree program. For 2005, the effects of product mix resulted in a \$11.0 million reduction in revenue primarily due to lower-priced post-graduate enrollment growth in Spain exceeding undergraduate enrollment growth. The segment operates in several countries and is subject to the effects of foreign currency exchange rates in each of those countries. For 2005, the effects of currency translations decreased revenues by \$1.2 million, due to the weakening of the Euro and Swiss Franc against the U.S. Dollar. A full year's operations at IEDE, IFG and ECE and the acquisition of Cyprus College in 2005 increased revenues by \$26.5 million. Europe revenue represented 21% of total revenues for 2005, and 23% of total revenue for 2004.

Laureate Online Education revenue increased by \$49.2 million, or 36%, to \$184.3 million for 2005 compared to 2004. Enrollment increases of 27% added revenues of \$30.3 million, and the Laureate Online Education B.V. acquisition added revenues of \$2.9 million. Weighted average tuition increases of 4.6% accounted for \$5.0 million of additional revenues, and other factors, primarily a favorable change in degree program mix, added \$11.0 million. Laureate Online Education revenue represented 21% of total revenues for 2005 and 2004.

Direct Costs. Total direct costs of revenues increased \$186.6 million, or 35%, to \$714.9 million for 2005 from \$528.3 million for 2004. Direct costs remained unchanged at 82% of total revenues in 2005 and 2004.

Latin America direct costs increased by \$108.0 million to \$383.0 million, or 76% of Latin America revenue for 2005 year, compared to \$275.0 million or 76% of Latin America revenue for 2004. An increase of \$42.9 million in expenses reflected higher enrollments and corresponding expanded operating activities compared to 2004. Acquisitions increased expenses by \$47.2 million. For 2005, the effects of currency translations increased expenses by \$17.9 million, primarily due to the strengthening of the Chilean Peso and Mexican Peso relative to the U.S. Dollar.

Europe direct costs increased by \$33.0 million to \$160.3 million, or 87% of Europe revenue for 2005, compared to \$127.3 million, or 84% of Europe revenue for 2004. Higher enrollments and expanded operations at the higher education institutions compared to 2004 increased expenses by \$7.0 million, and the acquisitions increased expenses by \$26.4 million. For 2005, the effects of currency translations decreased expenses by \$0.4 million, due to the weakening of the Euro and Swiss Franc against the U.S. Dollar.

Campus-based segments overhead expense increased \$3.5 million, or 29%, to \$15.5 million in 2005 compared to \$12.0 million for 2004. Campus based overhead expense remained unchanged at 2% of total Campus-Based revenues in 2005 and 2004.

Laureate Online Education direct costs increased by \$42.1 million to \$156.1 million, or 85% of Laureate Online Education revenue for 2005, compared to \$114.0 million, or 84% of Laureate Online Education revenue for 2004. The increase in direct costs as a percentage of revenues reflects investment in brand development and student recruiting services. These investments were partially offset by increased efficiencies in program delivery as a result of higher enrollment volumes.

Other Operating Expenses. Other operating expenses increased by \$2.9 million to \$30.0 million for 2005 year from \$27.1 million for 2004. The increase in other operating expenses related primarily to the increase in core operating segments general and administrative expenses.

Core operating segments general and administrative expenses increased by \$4.0 million in 2005 to \$25.4 million from \$21.4 million in 2004. The increase in expenses was primarily due to increases in payroll and other employee related costs resulting from increased headcount, training costs and travel expenses incurred to support the rapid growth in the Company's global operations.

Non-cash stock compensation expense decreased \$1.1 million to \$4.6 million for 2005 compared to \$5.7 million for 2004. The decrease in non-cash stock compensation was primarily due to non-recurring variable accounting expenses incurred in 2004 as a result of the inadvertent exercise as discussed below. In each year, the Company issued restricted stock to the senior executives resulting in additional non-cash compensation expense of \$0.8 million in 2005 and \$1.9 million in 2004.

During 2004, certain employees were inadvertently permitted to exercise stock options on a net share basis, whereby shares equal in value to the option exercise price and the employee's minimum tax withholding obligation were withheld by the Company (also known as a cashless exercise). Under Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, the use of in-the-money options to cover the exercise price resulted in a new measurement date and, as a result, the Company recognized \$1.0 million of additional compensation expense in continuing operations for the difference between the exercise price and the market value of the shares on date of exercise. When the situation was discovered by management in May 2004, the Company discontinued this practice and, therefore, expects no further compensation charges from the exercise of employee stock options.

Non-Operating Income/Expenses. Non-operating income/expenses changed to expense of \$0.2 million for 2005 from income of \$19.6 million in 2004. This change was primarily attributable to 2004 income recognized in connection with the early repayment of a note receivable originally issued on June 30, 2003, as partial consideration for the sale of the Company's K-12 segments to Educate with an original issue discount of \$13.4 million.

Interest and other income decreased \$16.4 million to \$11.8 million from \$28.2 million in 2004. In connection with the early repayment of the Educate note, the Company recorded income of \$12.7 million in 2004 due to the accelerated recognition of the remaining unamortized original issue discount. In addition in 2004, the Company recorded a gain of \$5.2 million on the divestment of land at UEM.

Interest expense increased \$2.8 million primarily due to the acquired debt as a result of current year acquisitions.

Minority Interest in (Income) Loss of Affiliates, Net of Tax. Minority interest in (income) loss of affiliates increased \$3.1 million to \$24.3 million in 2005 from \$21.2 million in 2004. Acquisitions added \$0.8 million, and the minority share of improved operating results at UVM, UDLA, and UNAB was \$5.9 million. As more fully described in Note 4 to the consolidated financial statements, the remaining ownership interests of the minority shareholders at Walden and UEM were acquired in September 2004 and December 2004, respectively, which decreased minority interest by \$3.6 million in 2005.

Income Taxes. The Company has operations in multiple countries, many of which have statutory tax rates lower than the United States. Since approximately 80% of the Company's revenues are generated outside the United States, the impact of generally lower effective tax rates in these foreign jurisdictions is an effective tax rate significantly lower than the United States statutory rate as outlined in Note 13 to the consolidated financial statements. The Company's effective tax rates from continuing operations were 15.1% and 6.1% for the 2005 and 2004, respectively. During

2004, the effective rate was impacted by the reversal of a valuation allowance related to a deferred tax asset.

Comparison of results for 2004 to results for 2003.

Revenues. Total revenues increased by \$174.1 million, or 37%, to \$646.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 (2004) from \$472.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 (2003). This revenue increase was driven primarily by increased total enrollment at the Company's higher education institutions, plus the impact of acquisitions within the last two years.

Latin America revenue for 2004 increased by \$111.0 million, or 44%, to \$360.5 million compared to 2003. Enrollment increases of 20.2% in schools owned in both fiscal years added revenues of \$49.9 million over 2003. For schools owned in both years, the Company increased local currency tuition by a weighted average of 4.5%, which served to increase revenues by \$10.2 million. Each institution in the segment offers tuitions at various prices based upon degree program. For 2004, the effects of product mix resulted in a \$7.1 million reduction in revenue primarily due to lower-priced working adult and high school enrollments exceeding undergraduate enrollment growth. The segment operates in several countries and is subject to the effects of foreign currency exchange rates in each of those countries. For 2004, the effects of currency translations increased revenues by \$2.5 million, primarily due to the strengthening of the Chilean Peso against the U.S. Dollar, partially offset by the weaker Mexican Peso relative to the U.S. Dollar. A full year's operations at UNAB/AIEP, acquired May 2003, and the acquisitions of UPC, ULACIT, and the Hispanoamericana campus of UVM in 2004, increased revenues by \$55.5 million. Latin America revenue represented 56% of total revenues for 2004, and 53% of total revenues for 2003.

Europe revenue for 2004 increased by \$24.7 million, or 20%, to \$151.3 million compared to 2003. Enrollment increases of 3.1% in schools owned in both years added revenues of \$2.5 million over 2003. For schools owned in both years, the Company increased local currency tuition by a weighted average of 6.0%, which served to increase revenues by \$7.2 million. Each institution in the segment offers tuitions at various prices based upon degree program. For 2004, the effects of product mix resulted in a \$7.4 million reduction in revenue primarily due to lower-priced post-graduate enrollment growth in Spain exceeding undergraduate enrollment growth. The segment operates in several countries and is subject to the effects of foreign currency exchange rates in each of those countries. For 2004, the effects of currency translations increased revenues by \$12.4 million, due to the strengthening of the Euro and Swiss Franc against the U.S. Dollar. The acquisitions of IEDE, IFG and ECE increased revenues by \$10.0 million. Europe revenue represented 23% of total revenues for 2004, and 27% of total revenue for 2003.

Laureate Online Education revenue increased by \$39.3 million, or 41%, to \$135.1 million for 2004 compared to 2003. Enrollment increases of 23%, excluding Laureate Online Education, B.V., added revenues of \$18.3 million, and the Laureate Online Education B.V. acquisition added revenues of \$7.5 million. Tuition increases accounted for \$3.8 million of additional revenues, and other factors, primarily a favorable change in degree program mix, added \$9.7 million. Laureate Online Education revenue represented 21% of total revenues for 2004, and 20% of total revenues for 2003.

Direct Costs. Total direct costs of revenues increased \$133.1 million, or 34%, to \$528.3 million for 2004 from \$395.2 million for 2003. Direct costs decreased to 82% of total revenues in 2004 from 84% in 2003 primarily due to increased enrollments providing improved leverage of the fixed cost base.

Latin America direct costs increased by \$83.1 million to \$275.0 million, or 76% of Latin America revenue for 2004 year, compared to \$191.9 million or 77% of Latin America revenue for 2003. An increase of \$35.4 million in expenses reflected higher enrollments and corresponding expanded operating activities compared to 2003. Acquisitions increased expenses by \$47.0 million. For 2004, the effects of currency translations increased expenses by \$0.7 million, primarily due to the strengthening of the Chilean Peso against the U.S. Dollar, partially offset by the weakening of the Mexican Peso relative to the U.S. Dollar.

Europe direct costs increased by \$20.6 million to \$127.2 million, or 84% of Europe revenue for 2004, compared to \$106.6 million, or 84% of Europe revenue for 2003. Higher enrollments and expanded operations at the higher education institutions compared to 2003 increased expenses by \$1.5 million, and the acquisitions of IEDE, IFG and ECE increased expenses by \$9.0 million. For 2004, the effects of currency translations increased expenses by \$10.1 million, due to the strengthening of the Euro and Swiss Franc against the U.S. Dollar.

Campus-based segments overhead expense remained constant at \$12.0 million in 2004 and 2003.

Laureate Online Education direct costs increased by \$31.5 million to \$114.0 million, or 84% of Laureate Online Education revenue for 2004, compared to \$82.5 million, or 86% of Laureate Online Education revenue for 2003. The decrease in direct costs as a percentage of revenues was the result of improved Walden margins resulting from higher enrollment volume, partially offset by the inclusion of Laureate Online Education B.V.'s breakeven operating results in 2004.

Other Operating Expenses. Other operating expenses decreased by \$15.5 million to \$27.1 million for 2004 year from \$42.6 million for 2003. The decrease in other operating expenses related primarily to the decrease in non-cash stock compensation expense.

Core operating segments general and administrative expenses increased by \$3.6 million in 2004 to \$21.4 million from \$17.8 million in 2003. The increase in expenses was primarily due to increases in payroll and other employee related costs resulting from increased headcount, training costs and travel expenses incurred to support the rapid growth in the Company's global operations and implementation of the provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley legislation. Approximately \$4.0 million of additional consulting expenses related to Sarbanes-Oxley Section 404 internal controls evaluation assistance.

These increases were offset by a net reduction in labor costs and facilities as a result of the sale of the K-12 segments to Educate. Certain employees principally dedicated to servicing the K-12 segments were employed by Educate effective July 1, 2003. Contemporaneously, the Company entered into a service agreement for the contracting of certain administrative services from Educate. Also, the Company entered into a sub-lease agreement with Educate for certain space in the

Company's headquarters facility. See the contractual obligations and contingent matters discussion for further description of these agreements.

Ventures had no general and administrative expenses or non-operating expenses in 2004 due to the sale of its investment portfolio and the related discontinuation of its administrative costs during the second quarter of 2003. *Ventures* incurred \$1.8 million of general and administrative expenses in 2003 related to management of its investment portfolio.

Non-cash stock compensation expense decreased \$17.3 million to \$5.7 million for 2004 compared to \$23.0 million for 2003. During 2003, employee stock options of a subsidiary were exchanged for options to acquire Laureate common stock resulting in compensation expense of \$21.9 million in 2003 and \$1.9 million in 2004. In each year, the Company also issued restricted stock to senior executives resulting in additional non-cash compensation expense of \$2.8 million in 2004 and \$1.0 million in 2003.

During 2004, certain employees were inadvertently permitted to exercise stock options on a net share basis, whereby shares equal in value to the option exercise price and the employee's minimum tax withholding obligation were withheld by the Company (also known as a "cashless exercise"). Under Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, the use of "in the money" options to cover the exercise price resulted in a new measurement date and, as a result, the Company recognized \$1.0 million of additional compensation expense in continuing operations for the difference between the exercise price and the market value of the shares on date of exercise. When the situation was discovered by management in May 2004, the Company discontinued this practice and, therefore, expects no further compensation charges from the exercise of employee stock options.

Non-Operating Income/Expenses. Non-operating income/expenses changed to income of \$19.6 million for 2004 from an expense of \$10.0 million in 2003. This change was primarily attributable to income recognized in connection with the early repayment of a note receivable originally issued on June 30, 2003, as partial consideration for the sale of the Company's K-12 segments to Educate with an original issue discount of \$13.4 million. The primary component of non-operating expense in 2003 was a loss on investments of \$8.4 million.

Investment and other income increased \$21.2 million to \$28.2 million from \$7.0 million in 2003. In connection with the Educate note, the Company recorded income of \$12.7 million due to the accelerated recognition of the remaining unamortized original issue discount. The remaining increase in the investment and other income was primarily due to the interest earned on the Educate note prior to repayment and the gain on the divestment of land at UEM of \$5.2 million.

Ventures loss on investment of \$8.4 million during 2003 was primarily attributable to the write-off of the investment in ClubMom, Inc.

Interest expense decreased \$1.2 million primarily due to the retirement and conversion of \$95.0 million of convertible debentures in 2003, partially offset by an increase in expense related to debt incurred in connection with the 2003 UNAB acquisition.

Minority Interest in (Income) Loss of Affiliates, Net of Tax. Minority interest in (income) loss of affiliates increased \$6.7 million to \$21.2 million in 2004 from \$14.5 million in 2003. Acquisitions added \$1.6 million, and the minority share of improved operating results at UVM, UDLA, UNAB and Walden was \$4.5 million. As more fully described in Note 4 to the consolidated financial statements, the ownership interests of the minority shareholders at Walden and UEM were bought out in September 2004 and December 2004, respectively.

Income Taxes. The Company has operations in multiple countries, many of which have statutory tax rates lower than the United States. Since approximately 80% of the Company's revenues are generated outside the United States, the impact of generally lower effective tax rates in these foreign jurisdictions is an effective tax rate significantly lower than the United States statutory rate as outlined in Note 13 to the consolidated financial statements.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company generates revenue from tuition and other fees charged to students in connection with its various education program offerings. Students typically self-finance the costs of their education or seek third-party sponsored financing programs. Tuition is generally collected in advance. As a result, working capital is generally a source rather than use of funds. Given the favorable cash flow characteristics of the Company's post-secondary education business, Laureate anticipates generating sufficient cash flow from operations within each of the individual countries where we operate to

satisfy the working capital and financing needs of the Company's organic growth plans for each country. If an educational institution in a country were to be unable to maintain sufficient liquidity on its own, the Company would look to internal cash resources as well as explore reasonable short-term facilities to accommodate any short to medium term shortfalls. Accordingly, liquidity is managed locally with oversight provided by corporate staff in Baltimore, Maryland.

The Company incurs significant costs at its headquarters location in Baltimore, Maryland relating to (1) meeting U.S. and group corporate governance, reporting and compliance requirements, (2) stewardship and financing of its ownership in investments and subsidiaries, and (3) development of group synergies among its investments and subsidiaries. Cash flow from operations generated by the Company's domestic businesses, included within Laureate Online Education, coupled with incremental borrowing capacity, are expected to be sufficient to meet future domestic working capital, financing and investment needs.

Cash provided by operations was \$141.1 million for 2005, an increase of \$16.8 million from \$124.3 million for 2004. This increase was driven by several factors, including a \$12.2 million increase in net income for 2005. Adjustments for significant non-cash income and expense included a \$9.2 million increase in depreciation and amortization, a \$2.6 million reduction in non-cash stock compensation in 2005, and a \$4.2 million decrease in the loss recorded on discontinued operations primarily related to the sale of WSI. In addition, 2004 net income included \$12.7 million of a non-cash acceleration of original issue discount that did not recur in 2005 as well as a \$5.1 million gain on the divestment of land at UEM in 2004. Minority interest in consolidated subsidiaries increased by \$3.2 million. Deferred income taxes increased by \$9.5 million. Other noncash activities changed by a use of cash of \$2.5 million. The operating assets and liabilities changed \$25.1 million from a use of cash of \$31.5 million in 2005 compared to a use of cash of \$6.4 million in 2004.

Cash used in investing activities increased \$81.0 million from \$127.0 million for 2004 to \$208.0 million for 2005. Late in the second quarter of 2004, the Company collected a \$55.0 million related party note receivable taken in connection with the 2003 sale of its K-12 business segments. Investing activities in 2005 included \$12.7 million collected in connection with the disposition of discontinued operations. 2005 included a \$15.5 million increase in payments of consideration for acquisitions over 2004, primarily due to payments to prior owners of Walden and UNAB. The net change in notes receivables decreased \$14.6 million from \$20.5 million in 2004 to \$5.9 million in 2005. Net transactions in available-for-sale securities decreased from a source of cash of \$14.8 million in 2004 to a use of cash of \$1.6 million in 2005. Purchases of property and equipment were \$8.3 million higher in 2005 than in 2004. In addition, 2004 included a \$13.1 million source of cash related to the sale of land that did not recur in 2005.

Cash provided by financing activities was \$40.8 million in 2005, compared to cash provided by financing activities of \$31.8 million in 2004, an increase of \$9.0 million. The most significant components of this change are a net increase in the issuance of long-term debt of \$16.7 million, which was partially offset by a decrease in proceeds from the exercise of options of \$5.2 million.

The foreign currency effect on our operations resulted in an increase in cash of \$3.8 million in 2005 compared to a decrease of \$10.0 million in 2004.

On October 26, 2005, the Company entered into a 364-day, \$120.0 million Credit Agreement (the "Agreement") with Bank of America, N.A. ("Bank of America") and certain other parties. The Agreement expires on October 25, 2006 and is comprised of two tranches: Tranche A for \$90.0 million and Tranche B for \$30.0 million. Tranche B has a \$20.0 million sublimit for standby letters of credit. The Agreement effectively supercedes the existing \$30.0 million Credit Agreement dated June 30, 2003 by incorporating it as Tranche B in the Agreement. See Note 8 to the consolidated financial statement for additional information on the Agreement.

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

The Agreement has a material covenant, which states that the Company is limited in total net debt, defined as debt minus unrestricted cash, to 2.5 times consolidated EBITDA, as defined. The following subsidiaries of the Company are guarantors under the Agreement: Walden E-Learning, Inc., Walden University, Inc., The Canter Group of Companies, and Canter and Associates, Inc. The outstanding balance on the line of credit was \$34.3 million at December 31, 2005. The Company is in compliance with this covenant as of December 31, 2005.

The Company anticipates that cash flow from operations, available cash and existing credit facilities will be sufficient to meet its recurring operating requirements, including some expansions of its existing business. The Company expects to continue to make a significant investment in capital projects including renovations and expansions of existing facilities. The Company continues to evaluate secured and unsecured debt as well as equity instruments in order to meet the significant additional commitments for the short to medium term including any contingent consideration paid to minority owners of its

institutions. The Company continues to examine opportunities in the educational services industry for potential synergistic acquisitions and expects that existing capital resources (including credit facilities) will be sufficient to continue to acquire businesses in the educational services industry. However, if the Company were to pursue a number of acquisitions or major expansions, additional debt or equity capital may be required. The Company cannot be certain that this capital would be available on attractive terms, if at all.

Contractual Obligations and Contingent Matters

The following tables reflect the Company's contractual obligations and other commercial commitments as of December 31, 2005:

Contractual Obligations	Total	Payments Due by Period (in thousands)			
		Due in less than 1 year	Due in 1-3 years	Due in 4-5 years	Due after 5 years
Long-term debt (1)	\$ 163,041	\$ 63,044	\$ 42,835	\$ 16,606	\$ 40,556
Interest payments (7)	25,483	8,258	10,803	3,199	3,223
Operating leases	343,694	41,936	111,503	62,913	127,342
Due to shareholders of acquired companies	65,423	18,737	33,073	3,241	10,372
Other long term liabilities (2),(6)	5,760	5,760			
Total contractual cash obligations of continuing operations	\$ 603,401	\$ 137,735	\$ 198,214	\$ 85,959	\$ 181,493

Commercial Commitments	Total Amounts Committed	Amount of Commitment Expiration Per Period (in thousands)			
		Due in less than 1 year	Due in 1-3 years	Due in 4-5 years	Due after 5 years
Guarantees (3)	\$ 11,058	\$ 4,202	\$ 5,295	\$ 1,561	\$
Purchase Obligations(4)	12,931	1,484	11,447		
Standby letters of credit(5)	14,500	14,500			
Total commercial commitments of continuing operations	\$ 38,489	\$ 20,186	\$ 16,742	\$ 1,561	\$

(1) On October 26, 2005, the Company entered into a 364-day, \$120.0 million Credit Agreement (the "Agreement") with Bank of America, N.A. ("Bank of America") and certain other parties. The Agreement expires on October 25, 2006 and is comprised of two tranches: Tranche A for \$90.0 million and Tranche B for \$30.0 million. Tranche B has a \$20.0 million sublimit for standby letters of credit. The Agreement effectively supercedes the existing \$30.0 million Credit Agreement dated June 30, 2003 by incorporating it as Tranche B in the Agreement. See Note 8 to the consolidated financial statement for additional information on the Agreement. The outstanding balance on the line of credit was \$34.3 million at December 31, 2005. Individual units within campus-based operations have unsecured lines of credit, which total \$42.0 million, primarily for working capital purposes. The aggregate outstanding balance on the campus-based segments' lines of credit was \$17.4 million at December 31, 2005, which is included in the current portion of long-term debt. The weighted average short term borrowing rates were 6.0% and 8.1% at December 31, 2005 and December 31, 2004 respectively.

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

(2) In connection with the sale of substantially all of the Company's K-12 segments to Educate, the Company entered into a three-year management service agreement with Educate. Under the terms of the agreement, Educate will provide certain support services, including, specified accounting, benefits, IT, human resources, purchasing and payroll services to Laureate. Conversely, Laureate will provide certain support services, primarily in the areas of tax and treasury, to Educate. The agreement is based on a fixed-fee, adjusted as appropriate based on increases to predetermined service volumes. The net fee due to Educate prior to June 30, 2006 is \$1.9 million.

(3)Subsequent to the divestiture of the K-12 segments, all leases related to Sylvan Learning Centers acquired by Educate were renegotiated or assigned in the name of Educate during the third quarter of 2003. Leases with remaining payments of \$6.7 million through December 2010 are guaranteed by the Company. Under the terms of Asset Purchase Agreement with Educate, the Company is indemnified against any losses suffered as a result of these lease guarantees. During the fourth quarter of 2004, Laureate entered into an agreement to guarantee lease payments owed by Kendall College to Key Equipment Finance. Leases with remaining payments of \$4.3 million through December 2011 are guaranteed by the Company under this agreement.

(4)As part of the acquisition of ECE, the Company committed to purchase the remaining 30% ownership from the sellers on December 31, 2008 for approximately \$8.3 million. The agreement is denominated in Euros, and is subject to foreign currency exchange rate risk on the dates of payment. As part of the acquisition of IFG, the Company committed to additional capital contributions, which will increase the Company's share of ownership. The agreement provides that, no later than July 31, 2006 and July 31, 2007, the Company shall contribute approximately \$1.5 million and \$2.2 million resulting in an increase in ownership share of 16% and 23%, respectively. In addition, during the period October through November 2008, the sellers may exercise a put option requiring the Company to purchase the remaining 10% ownership for approximately \$0.9 million. The agreement is denominated in Euros, and is subject to foreign currency exchange rate risk on the dates of payment.

(5)The Company has approximately \$14.5 million outstanding in standby letters of credit. The Company is self-insured for workers compensation and other insurable risks up to predetermined amounts above which third party insurance applies. The Company is contingently liable to insurance carriers under certain of these policies and has provided a letter of credit in favor of the insurance carriers for approximately \$1.1 million. The company has also issued a standby letter of credit in the amount of \$1.4 million assuring the collectibility of a line of credit at AIEP, which is being used for working capital purposes. The outstanding balance on the AIEP line of credit was \$2.0 million at December 31, 2005. In the first quarter of 2005, the Company issued a \$12.0 million standby letter of credit in favor of WSI Education S.a.r.l. for a tax indemnification related to the sale of WSI.

(6)Under terms of note agreements with Kendall College (Kendall) (more fully described in Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements), the Company has committed to providing total additional funding to Kendall in the amount of \$3.9 million. As of December 31, 2005, the Company has substantially fulfilled this funding commitment. In the event the Company does not exercise its agreement to acquire Kendall, Kendall is obligated to enter into a lease agreement with the Company beginning July 21, 2006 to lease office space. The lease commitment specifies a term of 36 months and annual rent of \$1.0 million.

(7)Interest payments for variable rate long-term debt were calculated using the variable interest rate at December 31, 2005.

Contingent Matters

In connection with certain acquisitions, variable amounts of contingent consideration are payable to the sellers based upon specified terms. All existing contingent consideration agreements are predicated upon improved operating profitability of the acquired entities, based on multiples consistent with those used to calculate the initial purchase price. The Company will record the contingent consideration when the contingencies are resolved and the additional consideration becomes payable.

Additional amounts of contingent consideration are due the sellers of UDLA based on operating results for the three years ending December 31, 2006. On the later of March 31, 2006 or 45 days after the Company receives the audited financial statements of Decon, the holding company that controls and operates UDLA, the Company is obligated to the sellers for an amount equal to 60% of six times (i) average recurring earnings

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

before interest and income taxes (EBIT) for 2004 and 2005, less (ii) 2000 EBIT; this result is reduced by (iii) 42% of certain specified debt. Excluding adjustments of non-recurring EBIT items and any other negotiated amounts, the Company would be obligated to the sellers for approximately \$81.7 million. No later than March 31, 2007, the Company is obligated to the sellers for an amount equal to 20% of four times (i) average recurring EBIT for 2005 and 2006; this result is reduced by (ii) 20% of certain specified debt and (iii), \$6.5 million. Excluding adjustments of non-recurring EBIT items and any other negotiated amounts as well as including 2006 estimates and projections, the Company would be obligated to the sellers for approximately \$18.5 million. The Company has pledged its shares of Decon, the holding company that controls and operates UDLA, to satisfy its payment obligations to the sellers. The Company cannot dispose of, place any lien on or encumber the shares without the prior approval of the sellers.

Effective April 1, 2008, the minority owners of UDLA have the right to require the Company to purchase their remaining 20% interest in Decon for a variable purchase price based on 4.5 times average recurring EBIT for certain specified periods. Effective April 1, 2009, the Company has a call right to acquire the remaining 20% interest for a variable purchase price based on 5.0 times average EBIT for certain specified periods.

Effective April 1, 2009, the minority owners of UNAB and AIEP have the right to require the Company to purchase their 20% interest for a variable purchase price based on average recurring EBIT for certain specified periods. Effective April 1, 2009, the Company has a call right to acquire this 20% interest under a similar methodology for certain specified periods.

Effective March 1, 2009 the minority owners of UAM have the right to require the Company to purchase an equity interest of 29% from the minority owners at a variable purchase price based on 4.0 times recurring EBITDA for certain specified periods. Also effective March 1, 2009, the Company has a right to acquire the same 29% interest from the minority owners for a variable purchase price equal to the greater of 4.0 times recurring EBITDA for certain specified periods or the equivalent per share valuation of the Company's initial 51% acquisition of UAM, grown at local inflation. Beginning March 1, 2013 and continuing for ten years the minority owners and the Company have similar put and call rights, respectively, on the remaining 20% interest of the minority owners, with the purchase price determined based on a similar formula.

Additional amounts of contingent consideration, not to exceed \$10.0 million, are due the sellers of KIT eLearning BV equal to four times the average of the audited earnings before interest, income taxes, depreciation and amortization for the calendar years ending December 31, 2006 and 2007. KIT eLearning BV was acquired on March 31, 2004, and is now operated as Laureate Online Education BV.

Related Party Transactions

Transactions between UI and Certain Former Owners

The Company entered into a lease agreement in October 2003 with certain former owners of UI, located in Costa Rica and Panama. In 2004, the Company entered into a new lease with the same parties for the ULACIT campus. The lease agreements enable the Company to operate UI and ULACIT at their established campuses. Both leases have initial terms of fifteen years, with additional five-year extensions available at the Company's option. The leases also contain provisions for the Company, at its option, to purchase the real estate for its fair market value at any time. Under the UI lease, monthly rental payments are based on eight percent of net campus revenues for the first two years and ten percent of net campus revenues in the third year. Subsequent rental payments will be adjusted for inflation. The Company recognized approximately \$1.1 million and \$0.8 million of rent expense under this lease for the years ended December 31, 2005 and December 31, 2004, respectively. The ULACIT lease has fixed monthly rental payments. The Company recognized approximately \$0.8 million and \$0.1 million of rent expense under this lease for the year ended December 31, 2005 and the period from October 25, 2004 through December 31, 2004, respectively.

Transactions between UVM and Certain Officers and Minority Shareholders

The Company entered into lease agreements for UVM's university campuses with certain of its officers and minority owners. The leases have an initial term of ten years with an additional two-year extension available at the Company's option. During 2002, this lease was amended to include an additional three-year extension available at the Company's option, for a total term of up to 15 years. The amended lease also gives the Company the option to purchase the real estate at the fair market value of the property at the end of the lease term. Rents are adjusted monthly for inflation. For 2005, 2004 and 2003, the Company incurred approximately \$6.9 million, \$5.6 million and \$5.1 million, respectively, of rent under these leases. The lease agreements enable the Company to operate UVM at its already established campuses. The value of the contracts was determined by arms-length negotiation between the parties and based upon the then prevailing market rates, and was corroborated by an independent real estate appraisal.

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

In 2003, UVM subcontracted educational programs provided to government employees to a company partially owned by some of its officers and minority shareholders. UVM paid 50% of the revenue, net of related expenses, associated with each government contract to this company, which amounted to \$0.1 million for 2003. This was an arms-length agreement between three parties, in which one of the parties was a government agency. In December 2003, UVM officers and minority shareholders sold their interest in the entity providing this service.

Transactions between UAM and Minority Shareholders

The Company entered into lease agreements for most of UAM's university campus facilities with its minority owners. The leases have an initial term of 20 years with two additional extensions of 20 years each, available at the Company's option. Base annual rent expense under the lease agreements is approximately \$5.6 million. Rents are adjusted annually for inflation. The contracts give the Company the right of first refusal to purchase these properties in the case that the lessor decides to sell the

properties. If UAM were to elect to vacate the premises prior to the lease termination date, the agreements contain certain conditional purchase options, which if not exercised by the Company, may result in early exit penalties. The lease agreements enable the Company to operate UAM at its already established campuses. The collective value of these contracts was determined by arms-length negotiation between the parties and based upon the then prevailing market rates, and was corroborated by an independent real estate appraisal. The Company recognized approximately \$0.5 million of rent expense under these leases from December 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005.

Transactions between the Company and Affiliates

As discussed more fully in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements, on June 30, 2003, the Company completed the sale of its K-12 segments to Educate. Prior to the sale, Apollo held the rights to appoint two seats on the Company's Board of Directors. As a result of the sale transaction, these rights were reduced to one Board seat. During the fourth quarter of 2004, concurrent with Educate Inc.'s initial public stock offering, Apollo resigned its board seat.

As discussed more fully in Note 10 to the consolidated financial statements, in connection with the sale of the Company's K-12 segments, the Company entered into a three-year management service agreement with Educate. The net fee due to Educate through June 30, 2006 is approximately \$1.9 million.

Effects of Inflation

Inflation has not had a material effect on the Company's revenues and income from continuing operations in the past three years. Inflation is not expected to have a material effect in the foreseeable future. The Company historically has been able to increase tuition pricing at a rate at or above the applicable rate of inflation.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Market risk is the risk of loss to future earnings, to fair values or to future cash flows that may result from the changes in the price of financial instruments. The Company is exposed to financial market risks, including changes in foreign currency exchange rates, interest rates, equity prices and investment values. The Company occasionally uses derivative financial instruments to protect against adverse currency movements related to significant foreign acquisitions. Exposure to market risks related to operating activities is managed through the Company's regular operating and financing activities.

Foreign Currency Risk

The Company derives approximately 80% of its revenues from students outside the United States. This business is transacted through a network of international subsidiaries, generally in the local currency that is considered the functional currency of that foreign subsidiary. Expenses are also incurred in the foreign currencies to match revenues earned, which minimizes the Company's exchange rate exposure to operating margins. A hypothetical 10% adverse change in average annual foreign currency exchange rates would have decreased operating income and cash flows

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

for 2005 by \$16.4 million. The Company generally views its investment in most of its foreign subsidiaries as long-term. The effects of a change in foreign currency exchange rates on the Company's net investment in foreign subsidiaries are reflected in other comprehensive income (loss) on the Company's balance sheets. A 10% depreciation in functional currencies relative to the U.S. dollar would have resulted in a decrease in the Company's net investment in foreign subsidiaries of approximately \$69.5 million at December 31, 2005.

The Company occasionally enters into foreign exchange forward contracts to reduce the earnings impact of non-functional currency denominated receivables. The primary business objective of such activity is to protect the U.S. dollar value of the Company's assets and future cash flows with respect to exchange rate fluctuations. At December 31, 2005, the Company had one forward contract with an expiration date in 2009. The gains and losses on these contracts are deferred in accumulated other comprehensive income until the changes in the underlying financial instruments are recorded in the income statement. At this time, the deferred gains and losses will be reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income on the balance sheet to the income statement.

Interest Rate Risk

The Company holds its cash and cash equivalents in high quality, short-term, fixed income securities. Consequently, the fair value of the Company's cash and cash equivalents would not be significantly impacted by either a 100 basis point increase or decrease in interest rates due to the short-term nature of the Company's portfolio. The Company's revolving credit facility bears interest at variable rates, and the fair value of this instrument is not significantly affected by changes in market interest rates. A 100 basis point decrease in interest rates would have reduced net interest income for 2005 by \$0.4 million.

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

The table below provides information about the Company's financial instruments that are sensitive to changes in interest rates. The table presents cash flows of weighted-average interest rates and principal payments for the following years ended December 31. The fair value of the debt below approximates book value.

Total debt and due to shareholders

of acquired companies (in millions of US dollars):

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Thereafter	Total
	(in millions)						
Fixed rate (Chilean peso)	\$ 18.2	\$ 24.8	\$ 5.1	\$ 2.6	\$ 1.3	\$ 0.6	\$ 52.6
Average interest rate	6.3%	6.2%	6.0%	6.3%	7.8%	8.5%	
Fixed rate (Swiss franc)	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	22.8	33.9
Average interest rate	2.1%	2.2%	2.3%	2.5%	2.7%	3.0%	
Fixed rate (Euro)	0.6	0.5	0.4	1.8	0.3	1.7	5.3
Average interest rate	6.6%	6.8%	6.9%	6.9%	6.9%	6.9%	
Fixed rate (Cypriot pound)			3.0				3.0
Average interest rate			0.0%				
Fixed rate (Brazilian Real)	4.7	4.5	4.5				13.7
Average interest rate	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%				
Fixed rate (Honduran Lempira)	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.8	0.6	11.1	14.8
Average interest rate	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Fixed rate (Other)	4.3						4.3
Average interest rate	0.5%						
Variable rate (Chilean peso)	5.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.0	7.6
Average interest rate	7.8%	8.2%	8.2%	8.2%	8.2%	8.2%	
Variable rate (Swiss franc)	0.2					5.3	5.5
Average interest rate	3.9%					3.9%	
Variable rate (Euro)	3.4	3.0	2.2	2.3	2.4	12.7	26.0
Average interest rate	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	
Variable rate (Cypriot pound)	0.5	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	2.9	7.8
Average interest rate	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	
Variable rate (Mexican Peso)	5.8	0.9	0.9		1.8		9.4
Average interest rate	6.3%	3.1%	2.8%		2.8%		
Variable rate (Other)	35.7	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.2	1.4	44.6
Average interest rate	6.9%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	

The weighted-average interest rates for the variable debt were calculated using the interest rate in effect as of December 31, 2005 for each debt instrument.

Investment Risk

The Company has an investment portfolio that includes short-term investments in available-for-sale debt and equity securities. The Company's investment portfolio is exposed to risks arising from changes in these investment values.

All the potential impacts noted above are based on sensitivity analysis performed on the Company's financial position at December 31, 2005. Actual results may differ materially.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2005 and December 31, 2004

Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003

Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Board of Directors and Stockholders

Laureate Education, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Laureate Education, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2005. Our audits also included the financial statement schedule listed in the Index at Item 15(a). These financial statements and schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the auditing standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Laureate Education, Inc. and subsidiaries at December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2005, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Also, in our opinion, the related financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly in all material respects the information set forth therein.

As discussed in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements, the accompanying balance sheet as of December 31, 2004 and the related statements of changes in stockholders' equity for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003 have been restated.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the effectiveness of Laureate Education, Inc. and subsidiaries' internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2005, based on criteria established in *Internal Control- Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated March 10, 2006 expressed an unqualified opinion on management's assessment and an adverse opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting because of the existence of a material weakness.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Baltimore, Maryland
March 10, 2006

LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Balance Sheets

(Dollar and share amounts in thousands, except per share data)

	December 31, 2005	December 31, 2004 (as restated - Note 3)
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 105,106	\$ 106,854
Available-for-sale securities	4,768	3,258
Receivables:		
Accounts receivable	181,211	126,486
Notes receivable	101,764	85,450
Other receivables	14,208	3,507
	297,183	215,443
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(39,006)	(25,209)
	258,177	190,234
Inventory	5,282	4,618
Deferred income taxes	16,978	5,079
Income tax receivable	2,373	33,523
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	17,836	15,230
Net assets of discontinued operations, current		20,000
Total current assets	410,520	378,796
Notes receivable, less current portion, net of allowance of \$9,328 and \$5,846 at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively	93,844	50,384
Property and equipment:		
Land	101,993	95,153
Buildings	256,941	266,524
Construction in-progress	40,856	3,154
Furniture, computer equipment and software	223,143	161,132
Leasehold improvements	81,336	56,362
	704,269	582,325
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(130,332)	(97,163)
	573,937	485,162
Goodwill	412,114	364,973
Other intangible assets:		
Tradenames and accreditations	215,112	174,245
Other intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$14,397 and \$9,358 at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively	7,163	11,447
	634,389	550,665
Deferred income taxes	25,760	7,717
Deferred costs, net of accumulated amortization of \$14,041 and \$10,025 at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively	21,935	15,976
Other assets	19,652	16,193
Net assets of discontinued operations, less current portion	2,906	30,199
Total assets	\$ 1,782,943	\$ 1,535,092

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

	December 31, 2005	December 31, 2004 (as restated - Note 3)
Liabilities and stockholders equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 30,078	\$ 20,824
Accrued expenses	106,463	108,542
Deferred revenue	279,289	225,747
Current portion of long-term debt	63,044	47,010
Current portion of due to shareholders of acquired companies	18,737	26,861
Income tax payable	31,615	15,423
Deferred income taxes	28,644	1,205
Other current liabilities	3,543	10,482
Total current liabilities	561,413	456,094
Long-term debt, less current portion	99,997	86,605
Due to shareholders of acquired companies, less current portion	46,686	29,402
Deferred income taxes	583	22,446
Other long-term liabilities	22,876	19,990
Total liabilities	731,555	614,537
Commitments and contingent liabilities		
Minority interest	72,679	37,538
Stockholders equity:		
Preferred stock, par value \$.01 per share - authorized 10,000 shares, no shares issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2005 and 2004		
Common stock, par value \$.01 per share - authorized 90,000 shares, issued and outstanding shares of 49,861 and 48,813 as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively		
	499	488
Additional paid-in capital	503,791	474,928
Retained earnings	435,554	360,371
Accumulated other comprehensive income	38,865	47,230
Total stockholders equity	978,709	883,017
Total liabilities and stockholders equity	\$ 1,782,943	\$ 1,535,092

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statements of Operations

(Dollar and share amounts in thousands, except per share data)

	2005	Year ended December 31 2004 (as restated - Note 3)	2003
Revenues			
Core operating segments	\$ 875,376	\$ 646,931	\$ 471,903
Ventures			903
Total revenues	875,376	646,931	472,806
Costs and expenses			
Direct costs:			
Core operating segments	714,906	528,307	393,050
Ventures			2,122
General and administrative expenses:			
Core operating segments	25,460	21,380	17,774
Ventures			1,756
Non-cash stock compensation expense (1)	4,588	5,718	23,050
Total costs and expenses	744,954	555,405	437,752
Operating income	130,422	91,526	35,054
Other income (expense)			
Interest income	9,322	20,582	7,280
Other income (expense)	2,467	7,597	(277)
Interest expense	(10,440)	(7,670)	(8,844)
Ventures investment loss			(8,394)
Foreign currency exchange (loss) gain	(1,503)	(956)	257
	(154)	19,553	(9,978)
Income from continuing operations before income taxes, minority interest, and equity in net (loss) income of affiliates	130,268	111,079	25,076
Income tax benefit (expense)	(19,667)	(6,798)	2,930
Minority interest in (income) loss of consolidated subsidiaries, net of tax:			
Core operating segments	(24,320)	(21,158)	(14,947)
Ventures			487
	(24,320)	(21,158)	(14,460)
Equity in net (loss) income of affiliates, net of tax:			
Core operating segments	(535)	(323)	194
Ventures			(4,055)
	(535)	(323)	(3,861)
Income from continuing operations	85,746	82,800	9,685
Loss from discontinued operations, net of income tax expense of \$1,385 in 2005, \$200 in 2004, and \$6,211 in 2003	(1,411)	(6,465)	(5,480)
(Loss) gain on disposal of discontinued operations, net of income tax expense of \$10,270 in 2005, \$3,232 in 2004, and \$32,557 in 2003	(9,152)	(13,324)	41,930
Net income	\$ 75,183	\$ 63,011	\$ 46,135
Earnings per common share, basic:			

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

Income from continuing operations	\$	1.73	\$	1.79	\$	0.23
Net income	\$	1.52	\$	1.36	\$	1.10
Earnings per common share, diluted:						
Income from continuing operations	\$	1.65	\$	1.69	\$	0.22
Net income	\$	1.45	\$	1.29	\$	1.05

(1) Composition of non-cash stock compensation expense:

Direct costs	\$	1,257	\$	2,823	\$	7,850
General and administrative expenses		3,331		2,895		15,200
Total	\$	4,588	\$	5,718	\$	23,050

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statements of Stockholders Equity

(Dollar and share amounts in thousands)

	Common Stock	Additional Paid In Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total Stockholders Equity
Balance at January 1, 2003 as previously reported	\$ 403	\$ 257,926	\$ 246,843	\$ (19,244)	\$ 485,928
Restatement of 2002 financial statements to correct value of deferred tax asset (see Note 3)			4,382		4,382
Balance at January 1, 2003 as restated	403	257,926	251,225	(19,244)	490,310
Options exercised for purchase of 953 shares of common stock, including income tax benefit of \$4,638	10	19,230			19,240
Issuance of 40 shares of common stock in connection with the Employee Stock Purchase Plan		422			422
Issuance of 2,823 shares of common stock in connection with the conversion of debentures	28	43,531			43,559
Issuance of 581 shares of common stock in connection with acquisition of minority interest in Sylvan Ventures LLC	6	5,148			5,154
Issuance of 256 shares of restricted common stock to employees	3	(3)			
Non-cash stock compensation (includes \$4,066 in discontinued operations)		27,116			27,116
Other equity activity		152			152
Comprehensive income:					
Net income for the year ended December 31, 2003			46,135		46,135
Foreign currency translation adjustment				33,979	33,979
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities				63	63
Reclassification adjustment for foreign currency translation adjustments realized in net income				7,402	7,402
Total comprehensive income					87,579
Balance at December 31, 2003 (as restated - Note 3)	450	353,522	297,360	22,200	673,532
Options exercised for purchase of 1,505 shares of common stock, net of 153 replenished shares, including income tax benefit of \$5,801	15	25,289			25,304
Issuance of 14 shares of common stock in connection with the Employee Stock Purchase Plan		151			151
Issuance of 2,500 shares in connection with acquisition	25	88,810			88,835
Non-cash stock compensation (includes \$1,436 in discontinued operations)		7,154			7,154
Other equity activity	(2)	2			

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

Comprehensive income:					
Net income for the year ended December 31, 2004			63,011		63,011
Foreign currency translation adjustment				24,988	24,988
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities				42	42
Total comprehensive income					88,041
Balance at December 31, 2004 (as restated - Note 3)	488	474,928	360,371	47,230	883,017
Options exercised for purchase of 998 shares of common stock, net of 44 replenishment shares, including income tax benefit of \$10,454					
	10	24,755			24,765
Non cash stock compensation modification for former employee					
		923			923
Non-cash stock compensation					
		3,665			3,665
Other					
	1	(480)			(479)
Comprehensive income:					
Net income for the year ended December 31, 2005			75,183		75,183
Foreign currency translation adjustment				(8,417)	(8,417)
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities				52	52
Total comprehensive income					66,818
Balance at December 31, 2005	\$ 499	\$ 503,791	\$ 435,554	\$ 38,865	\$ 978,709

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2005	2004	2003
Operating activities			
Net income	\$ 75,183	\$ 63,011	\$ 46,135
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization of fixed assets	36,291	30,317	25,087
Amortization	14,474	11,241	5,834
Loss (Gain) on disposal of discontinued operations	9,152	13,324	(41,930)
Non-cash stock compensation expense - continuing operations	4,588	5,718	23,050
Non-cash stock compensation expense - discontinued operations		1,436	4,066
Acceleration of original issue discount on note receivable repayment		(12,722)	
(Gain) loss on assets sold	(1,011)	16	7,894
Gain on conveyance of land as purchase consideration		(5,169)	
Minority interest in consolidated subsidiaries	24,320	21,158	14,460
Equity in net loss of affiliates	535	323	3,861
Deferred income taxes	11,499	1,992	(6,471)
Other non-cash items	(2,459)	50	1,557
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Receivables	(62,008)	(66,702)	(16,058)
Income tax receivable	15,676		
Inventory, prepaid expenses and other current assets	(2,400)	12,922	4,814
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(19,402)	(271)	8,537
Income tax payable	(9,782)	(15,411)	(44,709)
Deferred revenue and other current liabilities	46,404	63,109	22,768
Net cash provided by operating activities	141,060	124,342	58,895
Investing activities			
Purchase of available-for-sale securities	(6,704)	(54,331)	(54,573)
Proceeds from sales or maturity of available-for-sale securities	5,064	69,097	67,068
Change in investment in and advances to affiliates and other investments		4,115	(739)
Proceeds from sale of land		13,107	
Purchase of property and equipment, net	(109,144)	(100,779)	(81,078)
Proceeds from repayment of related party note receivable		55,006	
Proceeds from sales of discontinued operations, net of cash sold	22,654		96,371
Cash loaned in exchange for notes receivable	(6,214)	(23,178)	
Proceeds from repayment of notes receivable	333	2,697	
Cash paid for acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(69,781)	(75,762)	(53,711)
Payment of deferred consideration for prior period acquisitions	(25,832)	(4,303)	(8,178)
Expenditures for deferred costs	(10,279)	(9,918)	(5,108)
Change in other long-term assets	1,860	(2,764)	(2,919)
Net cash used in investing activities	(198,043)	(127,013)	(42,867)
Financing activities			
Proceeds from exercise of options	14,311	19,503	14,602
Proceeds from issuance of common stock		151	422
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	187,463	77,777	22,090
Payments on long-term debt	(159,883)	(66,939)	(39,482)
Cash received from minority interest members			2,263

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

Change in long-term liabilities	(1,085)	1,335	(2,682)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	40,806	31,827	(2,787)
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash	3,765	(10,026)	(19,538)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(12,412)	19,130	(6,297)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	117,518	98,388	104,685
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 105,106	\$ 117,518	\$ 98,388
Cash and cash equivalents classified as:			
Continuing operations	\$ 105,106	\$ 106,854	\$ 92,145
Discontinued operations		10,664	6,243
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 105,106	\$ 117,518	\$ 98,388

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Laureate Education, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Dollar and share amounts in thousands, except per share data)

Note 1 - Description of Business and Basis of Presentation

Laureate Education, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) is focused exclusively on providing a superior higher education experience to over 217,000 students through the leading global network of accredited campus-based and online universities and higher education institutions (higher education institutions). The Company's educational offerings are delivered through three separate reportable segments: Campus Based - Latin America (Latin America), Campus Based - Europe (Europe) and Laureate Online Education. The campus-based segments of Latin America and Europe own or maintain controlling interests in eleven and ten separately accredited higher education institutions, respectively. The Latin America segment has locations in Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Panama, Costa Rica, and Honduras. The Europe segment has locations in Spain, Switzerland, France and Cyprus. The Laureate Online Education segment provides career-oriented degree programs to working adult students through Walden E-Learning, Inc. (Walden), Laureate Online Education BV, and Canter and Associates (Canter).

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States that require the Company's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts and related disclosures. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Certain amounts previously reported for 2003 and 2004 have been reclassified to conform to the 2005 presentation. As discussed more fully in Note 3, certain business components are classified as discontinued operations in the accompanying consolidated financial statements. The 2004 consolidated financial statements have been restated to present a non-strategic business in Europe as discontinued operations.

On May 17, 2004, the Company changed its name from Sylvan Learning Systems, Inc. to Laureate Education, Inc. The Company began trading under a new NASDAQ ticker symbol, LAUR, on May 18, 2004.

Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies

Principles of Consolidation and Investments in Affiliates

The various interests that the Company acquires in its affiliated companies are accounted for under three methods: consolidation, equity method, or cost method. The Company determines the method of accounting for its affiliated companies on a case-by-case basis based upon its ownership percentage in each affiliated company, as well as its degree of influence over each affiliated company.

Consolidation. Affiliated companies in which the Company owns, directly or indirectly, or otherwise controls more than 50% of the outstanding voting interests are accounted for under the consolidation method of accounting. Five subsidiaries of the Company consolidate not-for-profit, non-stock universities that are controlled through majority voting interests of their respective Boards of Directors. The Company also has a substantial economic interest in the net assets of these not-for-profit universities. Under the consolidation method, an affiliated company's results of operations are reflected within the consolidated statements of operations. Earnings or losses attributable to other stockholders of a consolidated affiliated company are classified as minority interest in (income) loss of consolidated subsidiaries in the Company's consolidated statements of operations. Minority interest adjusts the Company's consolidated net results of operations to reflect only its share of the after-tax earnings or losses of an affiliated company. Income taxes attributable to minority interest are determined using the applicable statutory tax rates in the jurisdictions where such operations are conducted. These rates vary from country to country. Transactions between the Company and its consolidated affiliated companies are eliminated in consolidation.

Equity Method. Affiliated companies in which the Company owns, directly or indirectly, or otherwise controls more than 50% or less of the outstanding voting interests, but over which the Company exercises significant influence, are accounted for under the equity method of accounting. Significant influence with respect to an affiliated company depends on an evaluation of several factors including, among other things, representation on the associated company's board of directors,

ownership percentage and voting rights associated with the Company's holdings in the securities of the affiliated company. Investments accounted for under the equity method are included in Other Assets in the consolidated balance sheets. Under the equity method of accounting, affiliated companies' results of operations are not consolidated within the Company's operating results. However, the Company's share of the earnings or losses of these affiliated companies is classified as equity in net income (loss) of affiliates in the consolidated statements of operations.

Cost Method. Investments in equity securities that do not have readily determinable fair values and are not accounted for under either the consolidation or the equity method of accounting are accounted for under the cost method of accounting. Under this method, the Company's investment is carried at its cost and its share of earnings or losses of these companies is not included in the Company's consolidated statements of operations. However, a series of operating losses or other factors may indicate that a decrease in value of the equity investments has occurred which is other than temporary. These impairment losses are included in other expense in the consolidated statements of operations.

Cash Equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

Investments in Marketable Securities

Available-for-sale securities are carried at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses, net of tax, reported in other comprehensive income (loss). The amortized cost of debt securities in this category is adjusted for amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts to maturity. Such amortization is included in investment income. Realized gains and losses and declines in value judged to be other than temporary on available-for-sale securities are included in investment and other income. The cost of securities sold is based on the specific identification method. Interest and dividends on securities classified as available-for-sale are included in investment and other income.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company's financial instruments consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, accounts and notes receivable, available-for-sale investments, accounts payable, due to shareholders of acquired companies, and short and long-term debt. The fair value of these financial instruments approximates their carrying amounts reported in the consolidated balance sheets.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

The Company uses estimates to determine the amount of the allowance for doubtful accounts necessary to reduce accounts and notes receivable to their expected net realizable value. The Company estimates the amount of the required allowance by reviewing the status of past-due receivables and analyzing historical bad debt trends. Actual collection experience has not varied significantly from estimates, due primarily to credit policies, collection experience, known and inherent risks in the receivable portfolio, and a lack of concentration of accounts receivable. The provision for credit losses on tuition finance receivables is charged to earnings in amounts sufficient to maintain the allowance for uncollectible accounts at a level the Company believes is adequate to cover the losses of principal and accrued interest in the existing portfolio. The Company charges-off receivables deemed to be uncollectible to the allowance for doubtful accounts. Accounts and tuition finance notes receivable balances are not collateralized. Other long-term notes receivable balances are primarily collateralized by assets or stock of the financed entity.

Inventory

Inventory, consisting primarily of computer software and educational, instructional, and marketing materials and supplies, is stated at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) or market value.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment is stated at cost. Included in property and equipment are the direct costs of developing or obtaining software for internal use. Repairs and maintenance costs are expensed as incurred. Assets under construction are reflected in construction in-progress until they are ready for their intended use. Interest is capitalized as a component of cost on major projects during the construction period.

Depreciation of buildings and furniture and equipment is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets for reporting purposes and an accelerated method for income tax reporting purposes. Leasehold improvements are amortized using the straight-line method over the lesser of the lease term or the estimated useful life of the asset as determined at inception of the lease. Depreciation and amortization periods are as follows:

Buildings	33-50 years
Furniture, computer equipment and software	3-15 years
Leasehold improvements	4-20 years

The Company conducts approximately 66% of its operations at leased facilities and recognizes rent expense on a straight-line basis over the terms of the leases. Before entering into a lease, an analysis is performed to determine whether a lease should be classified as a capital or an operating lease.

Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

Goodwill consists of the cost in excess of fair value of the identifiable net assets of entities acquired in purchase business combinations. Other intangibles include student rosters, accreditation, tradenames, non-competition agreements and curriculum acquired in purchase business combinations. The Company uses the income approach to establish accreditation, tradename and student roster asset values. Accreditations and tradenames are valued by the relief from royalty method, estimating the amount of royalty income that would be generated if the assets were licensed in an arms length transaction to a third party. The Company uses the discounted cash flow method to establish acquired student roster asset values. The resulting asset value reflects the present value of the projected earnings generated by the student roster. The cost of intangible assets with determinable useful lives is amortized over estimated useful lives ranging from 2 to 7 years. Goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles are evaluated annually for impairment and on an interim basis if events or changes in circumstances between annual tests indicate that the asset might be impaired.

Goodwill is potentially impaired when the carrying amount of a reporting unit's goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, as determined under a two-step approach. The first step is to determine the estimated fair value of each reporting unit with goodwill. The reporting units of the Company for purposes of the impairment test are those operating components for which discrete financial information is available and for which operating results are regularly reviewed by segment management. Components are combined when determining reporting units if they have similar economic characteristics. Generally, each country in which the Company operates is a reporting unit for purposes of the impairment tests.

The Company estimates the fair value of each reporting unit by estimating the present value of the reporting unit's future cash flows. If the recorded net assets of the reporting unit are less than the reporting unit's estimated fair value, then no impairment is indicated. Alternatively, if the recorded net assets of the reporting unit exceed its estimated fair value, then goodwill is potentially impaired and a second step is performed. In the second step, the implied fair value of the goodwill is determined by deducting the estimated fair value of all tangible and identifiable intangible net assets of the reporting unit from the estimated fair value of the reporting unit. If the recorded amount of goodwill exceeds this implied fair value, an impairment charge is recorded for the excess.

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

The impairment test for indefinite-lived assets, consisting of accreditation and tradenames, requires a new determination of the fair value of the intangible asset. The Company generally uses an income approach to determine the fair value of these assets. If the fair value of the intangible asset is less than its carrying value, an impairment loss is recognized for an amount equal to the difference. The intangible asset is then carried at its new fair value.

Deferred Costs

Deferred costs include the direct cost of internally developing proprietary educational products and materials that have extended useful lives and are licensed or sold to higher education institutions or used at Company-operated institutions. These costs are capitalized and amortized over the estimated useful life of the products and materials, which approximates five years.

Deferred costs also include direct costs incurred for services to higher education institutions licensing distance learning graduate programs. These costs are capitalized when incurred and expensed when the related revenue is recognized.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets with Determinable Lives

Long-lived assets, including amortizable intangible assets, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset or group of assets may not be fully recoverable. These events or changes in circumstances may include a significant deterioration of operating results, changes in business plans, or changes in anticipated future cash flows. If an impairment indicator is present, the Company evaluates recoverability by a comparison of the carrying amount of the assets to future undiscounted net cash flows expected to be generated by the assets. Assets are grouped at the lowest level for which there are identifiable cash flows that are largely independent of the cash flows generated by other asset groups. If the assets are impaired, the impairment recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the fair value of the assets. Fair value is generally determined by estimates of discounted cash flows. The discount rate used in any estimate of discounted cash flows would be the rate required for a similar investment of like risk.

Assets to be disposed of are reported at the lower of carrying value or fair value, less estimated costs of disposal.

Revenue Recognition

Tuition revenue is recognized ratably on a straight-line basis over the months that contain the period of instruction, and is reported net of scholarships and other discounts. Dormitory revenues are recognized over the occupancy period. Tuition paid in advance or unpaid and unearned tuition included in accounts receivable is recorded as deferred revenue.

Revenue from the sale of educational products is generally recognized when shipped and collectibility is reasonably assured.

Direct Costs

Direct costs represent divisional costs of operations, including selling and administrative expenses that are directly attributable to specific operating units.

Advertising

The Company expenses advertising costs as incurred. Advertising expense for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003 was \$56,548, \$50,170, and \$50,210, respectively. Of these amounts, \$1,005, \$4,699, and \$14,033 were included as a component of discontinued operations in 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Pension Benefit Plans

One of the Company's universities, UVM, has a funded noncontributory defined benefit pension plan that covers substantially all of its employees. The plan provides defined benefits based on years of service and final average salary.

Stock Based Compensation

The Company records compensation expense for all employee and director stock-based compensation plans using the intrinsic value method and provides pro forma disclosures of net income (loss) and net earnings (loss) per common share as if the fair value method had been applied in measuring stock compensation expense. Under the intrinsic value method, stock compensation expense is defined as the difference between the amount payable upon exercise of an option and the quoted market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant or measurement date, or in the case of issuances of restricted stock, the quoted market value of unrestricted shares of common stock on the date of grant. Any resulting compensation expense is recognized ratably over the vesting period, or over the period that the restrictions lapse.

The Company records compensation expense for stock options granted to non-employees who are not directors in an amount equal to their estimated fair value at the earlier of the performance commitment date or the date at which performance is complete, determined using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. The compensation expense is recognized ratably over the vesting period.

The Black-Scholes option pricing model was developed for use in estimating the fair value of traded options which have no vesting restrictions and are fully transferable. In addition, option valuation models require the input of highly subjective assumptions, including the expected stock price volatility. The weighted average estimated fair values of stock options granted during fiscal years 2005, 2004, and 2003 were \$14.98, \$14.44, and \$7.45, respectively.

Edgar Filing: LAUREATE EDUCATION, INC. - Form 10-K

The following assumptions were used in calculating pro forma stock compensation expense for the years ended December 31:

	2005	2004	2003
Average risk-free interest rate	4.0%	3.3%	2.5%
Expected dividend yield	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Expected lives	2.5-6.5 years	4-6 years	4-6 years
Average expected volatility	29.8%	46.0%	52.7%

The 2005 assumptions have been updated to reflect the Company's current assessment of the assumptions needed to calculate the fair value of stock options in accordance with SFAS 123R.

For purposes of pro forma disclosures, the estimated fair value of the options is amortized to expense over the options' vesting periods. The Company's pro forma information is as follows for the years ended December 31:

2005