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ECONOMICS PROFESSOR AWARDED ENDOWED CHAIR

Submitted by Frank Campailla
MIDDLETOWN

Quinnipiac University's School of Business has named Christopher Ball of Middletown, associate professor of economics, the Istvn Szchenyi chair in International Economics.

Ball joined Quinnipiac in 2003. He earned a doctorate in economics from Texas A&M University in 2003 and a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Alabama in Huntsville in 1994.

Szchenyi was a famous economist and major reformer of Hungarian politics. He founded the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and supported construction of the first bridge connecting Buda to Pest to unite the two cities into one, Budapest. The bridge is named Szchenyi Bridge.

The chair is named after Szchenyi to recognize Quinnipiac's international relations program with Hungary, which builds a bridge between the U.S. and Hungary as the Szchenyi Bridge connects Buda to Pest. Ball leads several initiatives to support international relations:

*Hungarian American Business Leaders Program to provide scholarships for Hun-

gary's top business students to study at Quinnipiac for three years and gain work experience at U.S. companies. The first two students arrive in fall 2009.

*Foreign lecture series to expose Quinnipiac students and faculty to international leaders in various fields, such as Gza Jeszenszky, former Hungarian ambassador to the U.S., who lectured at Quinnipiac.

*MBA (Master of Business Administration) trip to Hungary for 10 Quinnipiac MBA students to visit Hungary for 10 to 15 days for lectures, cultural experiences, company visits and networking events with Hungarian business leaders.

*Hungarians Beyond the Borders Scholarship for Hungarians in countries neighboring Hungary to come to Quinnipiac to complete MBA requirements.

*Quinnipiac's School of Business is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International and featured in "Best 296 Business Schools: 2009 Edition," published by Random House/The **Princeton Review**.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: (B&W) □ Christopher Ball