Is Ethics Education of Future Business Leaders Adequate?'

By: Curtis C. Verschoor, CMA, Editor of Strategic Finance (Aug 2003)

The Accounting and business scandals that have afflicted corporate America in the last two years have led people to ask whether business educators should be blamed for not teaching ethical principles at the university level. Business school faculty claim that it is not their fault, and that they were preparing the students for ‘real world’ challenges.

A survey by the Aspen Institute of MBA students’ ethical attitudes has produced some interesting and surprising results. The survey, which covered 1700 MBA students from 12 prominent business schools across the country, and in Canada and England, looked at students’ views of the role of a company in society, how their attitudes are shaped by their MBA experience and what messages they are receiving from business schools about acceptable values and behaviors.

MBA students, these days, are not sure if the education they are receiving is preparing them for the ethical issues they may face later in their careers. Many students feel they will have to make decisions that conflict with their personal values. Almost 20% of the students surveyed believe they are not being prepared at all to face this challenge.

For more information on this study please click on the link below:
(Scroll down to page 2 of the Street Wise Journal for the article)

http://proquest.umi.com/pqdlink?did=384292831&Fmt=7&clientId=5258&RQT=309&VName=PQD