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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

University of Chicago plays host to Maryland Entrepreneur

Lutherville, MD (April 25, 2013) - The United States' economic twists and turns haven't stopped some from pursuing their dreams of entrepreneurship. Paco Rodriguez, President and Co-Founder of Maryland based **SAGE Dining Services®** understands how hard it's been to grow a successful business through these tough economic times. He created SAGE in the basement of his Baltimore home and grew the company into a multimillion dollar success story.

This Sunday, Rodriguez will meet with budding entrepreneurs on the University of Chicago campus. He will discuss how he took an idea and turned it into reality with the Beta Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Kappa Psi, a professional business fraternity.

Despite numbers being down for start-ups, the rate for new business creation remains higher than pre-recessionary and long-term levels, according to the annual Kauffman Index of Entrepreneurial Activity. Rodriguez says determination and hard work made his idea a reality.

"SAGE's success did not happen overnight. We recognized the need for students to experience and appreciate quality food," says Rodriguez. "SAGE is not your typical dining program. With a focus on scratch cooking, we developed a program for schools that made great-tasting, high quality food a reality. Every day, we strive to make our food better than the previous day's and bring students food they want to eat."

Over the years, SAGE has grown from its initial four schools to representing nearly 200 schools across the country.

About SAGE Dining Services®

SAGE Dining Services®, established in 1990, is the leading food service provider for independent schools and colleges throughout North America. SAGE's unparalleled expertise in nutrition, sustainability, and culinary trends produces exceptional dining experiences that delight the senses, inspire minds, and foster community. Learn more at sagedining.com.