



## Pi Across America Celebrates Second Year March 14<sup>th</sup> (3:14) observe Pi's 3.14...

Phoenix, AZ - For the second year in a row, Pi Across America is challenging students of all ages to celebrate one of math's most intriguing and storied numbers. March 14 is "Pi Day" (3:14 equals pi's 3.14...). And, weeks after this symbolic day is the beginning of April, which is "Math Awareness Month." Educators and others are encouraged to plan a pi celebration during "Pi Day" and "Math Awareness Month."

Pi Across America's website, [PiAcrossAmerica.org](http://PiAcrossAmerica.org), contains information about pi, including pi facts and pi history, a pi bibliography, suggested pi activities, puzzles, word problems and even an interactive link to the first two million digits of pi. All of this information is complimentary to the public. Pi Across America is sponsored by University of Phoenix as a resource to educators and others.

An informal survey of schools reveals that there are many different celebrations of the number pi. For example, students can try serving apple pie in a square baking dish and have the formula to calculate the area of a circle – pie are squared (area =  $(\pi)r^2$ ). Some schools hold "pi bees" and reward the students who can recite from memory the most digits of pi.

One campus holds a "pi mile" mini-marathon over a 3.14-mile course. Other schools build "pi chains" – loops of colored paper with each color representing one of the ten digits of pi. At other campuses, students chalk the number pi on the walkways. For younger grades, a pi scavenger hunt lets children seek all things that are round.

The only rule is that the Pi Across America celebration should be in honor of the very special, endless or irrational number that has been computed beyond a trillion digits and has yet to repeat itself.

"University of Phoenix is proud to offer Pi Across America as a complimentary educational resource to teachers, parents and students," said Bill Pepicello, President of University of Phoenix. "Holding a pep rally for pi is a great way to show students that the study of mathematics may include fun, intrigue and history that goes back thousands of years and touches many cultures around the world. Come join the fun!"

### About University of Phoenix – sponsor of Pi Across America

University of Phoenix is constantly innovating to help students balance education and life in a rapidly changing world. Through flexible schedules, challenging courses and interactive learning, students achieve personal and career aspirations without putting their lives on hold. As of November 30, 2007, 325,000 students were enrolled at University of Phoenix, the largest private university in North America. University of Phoenix serves a diverse student population, offering associates, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs from more than 195 campuses and learning centers in the U.S. as well as online throughout the world.