



**EAST MEETS WEST AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY DURING SODEXHO USA'S
SECOND GLOBAL CHEF EXCHANGE**

Top chef brings authentic Indian specialties to Chicago students and faculty

EVANSTON, Ill., April 26, 2004 - Sodexo USA, foodservice provider at Northwestern University, announced today the kickoff of the second Global Chef Program exchange, a month-long international chef residency that sends Sodexo executive chefs from around the world to other countries, giving customers a taste of authentic international cuisine.

The program begins this week as Placid Gomes, originally from Bangladesh and currently Universal Sodexo's top chef in Oman, begins a four-week visit to the Northwestern campus and other area Sodexo-run schools, working with local chefs to prepare authentic Indian cuisine for students, faculty and staff. During the first week of his visit, Chef Gomes will also travel to Creighton University in Omaha, Neb. and Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago.

"Last year's Global Chef exchange was a success, so I am thankful we are able to bring in a second, fabulous chef to Northwestern. We are honored to have Chef Gomes visit us from Oman," said Paul Komelasky, Sodexo USA area manager at Northwestern. "He has traveled a long way to be here and we hope he finds this program a rich experience as I know we will enjoy the very best Indian cuisines he will prepare."

Chef Gomes has been with Sodexo for 14 years and is the head chef for Universal Sodexo in Oman. He has successfully managed multi-national kitchens, and has planned and prepared meals for different tastes including hotels in Bombay, India, hospitals in Ibn Al Bitar, Iraq and for the Sultante of Oman. With years of training and catering experience, Chef Gomes is an expert in bringing Middle Eastern tastes to Western palates. During the month of May, students will taste Indian dishes such as sheek kabob, jinka tikka (grilled jumbo prawn with Indian spices), chicken tikka makhani and kashmiri pulav rice (steamed rice with mixed dried fruits).

Students at Northwestern aren't strangers to seeing international cuisines as part of their daily menu. Sodexo USA's Campus Services Division offers nucuisines™ at the university, a unique dining experience that delivers several international influences through a variety of ethnic food stations and bistro cuisine.