**MBA Research’s Codes—What Do They Tell Us?**

Each performance indicator statement is preceded by—as well as followed by—multiple codes, as in the following example:

**EC:070 Explain the role of business in society (CS) LAP-EC-070**

**Performance Indicator Number/Code**

The code immediately preceding the performance indicator statement is the statement’s performance indicator number or code (in this example, EC:070). The performance indicator code is somewhat akin to a person’s social security number—a unique identifier used as shorthand for the longer full statement. MBA Research uses performance indicator codes most frequently to pull test questions from its test-item database. Performance indicator codes are often referenced on tests and in MBA Research’s curricular and instructional materials. The alpha-numeric performance indicator code consists of:

* A two-letter abbreviation for the instructional area in which the performance indicator appears (e.g., EC, which stands for the Economics instructional area)
* A random three-digit numeral (e.g., :070)

 **Curriculum Planning Level Code**

Every performance indicator statement is followed by a two-letter code in parentheses. This code identifies the curriculum-planning level to which the performance indicator has been assigned. In our example, that code is CS, which means that this performance indicator is at the Career Sustaining level.

**LAP Number/Code**

Many performance indicators are also followed by a code beginning with LAP (short for Learning Activity Package), which indicates that MBA Research has developed a lesson module for that particular performance indicator. The LAP number or code (e.g., LAP-EC-070) references the two-letter abbreviation for the instructional area, along with a three-digit number. Historically, the three-digit number in the LAP code indicated the order in which the LAPs for a particular instructional area were developed. MBA Research is currently transitioning, however, to a LAP numbering system in which the number appearing in the LAP code is the same as the number in the performance indicator code.