

December 2024



VIDEO MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



This Saturday, December 14, 301 business students will graduate and walk at the Commencement. We are proud of their achievements and will be there cheering for them with their families.

The College continues our efforts to grow student success. We have recently appointed Dr. Francesca Ferrari to lead the business student success unit for all undergraduate and graduate students. I'm also grateful for the consistent input and advice provided by the Dean's Executive Advisory Council. [Beth DeCamp](#), whom you see in the video, is one of the Council members. In addition, the [Dean's Student Advisory Board](#) includes eight outstanding students who work closely with me for the best interest of all business students.

The College recently installed new graphic art outside the windows of the Anheuser-Busch Hall, as featured in the banner image of this newsletter. Soon, we will conclude this year and look forward to 2025. I invite you

to join us and be part of our students' future success!

[Shu Schiller, Ph.D.](#)

Dean, Professor of Information Systems
College of Business Administration
University of Missouri-St. Louis



UMSL to Honor 900 Graduates at Commencement

Three commencement ceremonies will feature alumni speakers Rebecca Boyer, Robert Sharp, and Eric'el Johnson, celebrating academic achievements.

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EIC Selects 12 Companies for 2025 Anchor Accelerator

The 2025 Anchor Accelerator cohort includes 12 founders sharing \$140,000 in funding. The program offers mentorship, resources, and Momentum Builder grants, expanding St. Louis' entrepreneurial ecosystem.

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UMSL Students Collaborate with Finland, Germany Peers

UMSL, Seinäjoki, and Aschaffenburg students collaborated on a Dot Foods business scenario, gaining international teamwork experience and presenting solutions.

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First Graduate to Complete Accelerated Master's

Keagan Bland chose to pursue information systems and technology when she transferred to UMSL, and she took a full summer course load to finish the Accelerated Master's program this winter.

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Clara López Bueno Impacting Local Business Community

López, who originally came to UMSL from Spain to continue her tennis career, landed a job at World Wide Technology after graduating with her master's in supply chain and analytics.

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Marina Prediger Joins Lenovo Brasil as Internal Auditor

In her new role, business and tennis alum performs audits focused on the internal operations of the company, providing independent insights related to risks and improvement potentials.

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Three UMSL Graduates Named to St. Louis 40 U 40

Alums Stephanie Korpala, Jessica Cross and Maggie Rapplean were honored at the St. Louis Business Journal's 40 Under 40 Class of 2024 ceremony. Jessica and Maggie are alums of UMSL Business.

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Local CEO Named UMSL Entrepreneur of the Year

Mark Tipton who is an UMSL Business alum, helped design and build the end-to-end business management software system that revolutionized the landscaping industry.

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Entrepreneur of the Year Awards Highlight Success

Five winners were celebrated at the 2024 event, receiving awards for Student Entrepreneur of the Year, Social Entrepreneur of the Year, Entrepreneur Advocate of the Year, Entrepreneur of the Year, and a Lifetime Achievement Award.

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Inaugural RISE Academy Offers Students Opportunities

The two-semester program, led by Leadership Coach Dr. Cindy Goodwin-Sak and a deep group of mentors, is focused on helping UMSL students improve their professional communication and networking skills.

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Online MBA students travel to Costa Rica for capstone

Students visited a wide array of local businesses learning their customs and practices, researched and worked on the group project. The trip also included plenty of opportunities to experience Costa Rica's vibrant culture and natural beauty.

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UMSL hosts its 10th annual STL CyberCon

The conference featured a ransomware attack case study from UHSP, cybersecurity strategies, AI's role in security, and insights from professionals and UMSL alumni, showcasing the university's leadership in the field.

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Introducing our new staff and celebrating recent promotions



Brittany Davis-Gurkan

Community Engagement & Operations Coordinator, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Center



Carla Jordan, PhD

Senior Director, UMSL University Advising Center



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