UMSL | Ed G. Smith College of Business University of Missouri–St. Louis

AUGUST 2025 NEWSLETTER



UMSL College of Business begins a new era

The college is now named the Ed G. Smith College of Business, honoring the alumnus and marketing leader. This milestone boosts scholarships, experiential learning and workforce development, advancing student success and economic mobility.



DBA graduate becomes the first with a geospatial focus

As the co-founder of Pinnacle Business Strategies, Bennett began his journey in the geospatial field by enlisting in the United States Air Force after high school. Known for his decisive nature, once Bennett commits to a path he dives in wholeheartedly.



Ryan Bowman hits ground running with Terrace Wealth

Bowman, a U.S. Army veteran and finance graduate, recently launched his own firm, Terrace Wealth. After two tours in Iraq and earning a BSBA in 2013, Bowman built a successful



Alum Sandra Van Trease Named Director to Watch

Sandra Van Trease, retired BJC executive, was named a 2025 "Director to Watch" by Directors & Boards magazine for her exemplary board leadership across several

career in financial planning. His new venture combines his professional expertise with a mission to support fellow veterans. organizations. A long-time donor and advocate, Van Trease continues to support UMSL through service and mentorship.

Make a Difference. Be a Mentor.

RISE Academy is kicking off its second year, and we're looking for alumni mentors who want to give back in a meaningful way. As a mentor, you'll support a small group of motivated UMSL students as they build confidence, sharpen professional skills, and prepare to pitch big ideas. It's a low-time commitment with high impact, and a chance to form real connections with the next generation of UMSL leaders. Interested? **Let us know by applying here.**

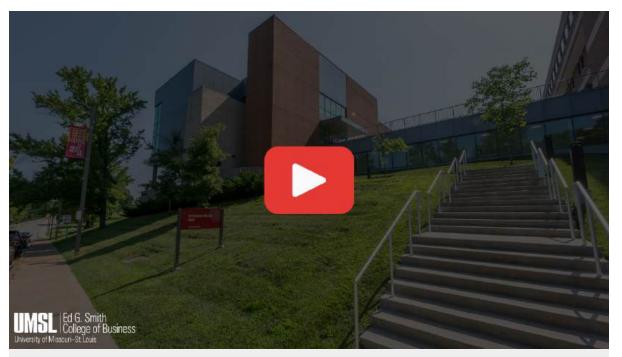
NOW ENROLLING FOR OUR SHRM & PMP PREP COURSES

Looking to take the next step in your career? UMSL's executive SHRM and PMP certification prep programs are designed to help professionals like you succeed. Whether you're pursuing a career in human resources or project management, our expert-led courses provide the knowledge, tools and support you need to excel confidently on your certification exams. Learn more about Executive Education at UMSL here.

SHRM Info

PMP Info

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



A new name. A bold future. We are beyond excited to share that the College has been named the Ed G. Smith College of Business after accomplished alum and marketing industry leader Ed G. Smith. This naming is unprecedented and will propel the college – already a leader in social mobility and workforce development for Greater St. Louis – toward even greater levels of success. In the next few months, we will share more information about how this support will deepen the college's impact and accelerate outcomes for students. Enjoy the new video and learn more about the Ed G. Smith College of Business!

Shu Schiller, PhD

Dean, Professor of Information Systems Ed G. Smith College of Business University of Missouri–St. Louis

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