

EMERSON LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

2025 *IN REVIEW*

LEADING FOR DIGNITY



CHAIFETZ
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
EMERSON LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE
SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



**JINTONG
TANG**

Director, Emerson
Leadership Institute

At the heart of the Emerson Leadership Institute (ELI) and the Chaifetz School of Business is Dignity-Based Leadership: a philosophy grounded in the belief that every person has inherent worth and deserves to be treated with respect and value. As SLU's hub for leadership development, ELI exists to cultivate leaders who place human dignity at the center of organizational life and decision-making. Please [WATCH THIS VIDEO](#) of a fireside chat on Dignity-Based Leadership if you are interested in learning more.

Throughout 2025, under Dean Nickerson's visionary leadership, ELI advanced this mission by designing and delivering impactful leadership programs that served both Saint Louis University and the St. Louis region.

SERVING SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Throughout 2025, ELI expanded dignity-based leadership development across SLU, while targeted initiatives including a Leadership Retreat for SLU Libraries & Museums, a Leadership Development Module for Co-Op3 Students, and the Leadership Academy for Business Students, supported leaders and emerging professionals at multiple stages of their journeys. In partnership with the Provost's Office and Human Resources, ELI also advanced efforts to build leadership capacity among leaders across the university.

SERVING THE ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY

ELI continued to strengthen leadership across the St. Louis region through signature programs and partnerships. The Be Heard: Women in Leadership Conference, the Leadership Speaker Series featuring Bob Chapman, and Executive Education for the Archdiocese of St. Louis each advanced dignity-based leadership beyond campus, equipping leaders to lead with purpose, respect, and care in their organizations and communities.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



12.05.25

LOOKING AHEAD

On December 5, the Chaifetz School of Business continued its tradition of gathering faculty, staff, students, and corporate and community partners for a joyful holiday celebration. These moments invite us to reflect on what we have accomplished together, and more importantly, to look ahead.

In 2026, the Emerson Leadership Institute will carry dignity-based leadership forward, continuing to develop students and leaders with not only deep expertise in their chosen fields but broad humanistic capabilities to care for and lead people.

As we look to the future, our commitment remains clear: to build organizations and communities where dignity is recognized, honored, and lived every day.

Jintong Tang, Ph.D.
Mary Louise Murray Professor of Management
Director, Emerson Leadership Institute

BUILDING OUR TEAM

As Faculty Affiliates, Rob Boyle and Suzy Hartmann help further ELI's mission to advance dignity-based leadership through education, professional development, and community engagement, cultivating ethical, innovative, and purpose-driven leaders who honor human dignity and drive positive change. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.



ROB BOYLE



SUZY HARTMANN

UNIVERSITY OUTREACH

JANUARY 17

Jintong presented ELI programs (the Dignity-Based Leadership Development Program and the Be Heard Conference) to DICE.

MARCH 4

Jintong was invited to speak at the Women's Panel on "Moving Forward Together! Women Educating and Inspiring Generations" at the School of Medicine.



03.04.25

UNIVERSITY OUTREACH

MARCH 28

Units from across the campus sponsored the Be Heard Conference:

- DICE
- School of Medicine
- CCE
- Mike Medart Women in Leadership Grant

APRIL 23

Promoting gender equity across SLU, the [ELI](#) hosted the [joint Provost-Faculty Senate Gender Equity Committee end-of-the-year meeting](#).



04.23.25

OCTOBER 2025

ELI had the privilege to provide a Leadership Retreat for SLU Libraries & Museums. Heartfelt thanks to Dean [Jennifer Nutefall](#) for her unwavering commitment to advancing her leadership team. A special appreciation to [Suzy Hartmann](#) for skillfully facilitating the retreat and making the learning stick. And a deep gratitude to ELI's corporate partner – Barry Wehmiller – and Executive-in-Residence – Brian Wellinghoff – for hosting the site visit for a real-world example of Dignity-Based Leadership in action.



10.15.25

UNIVERSITY OUTREACH

NOVEMBER 2

The Dignity-Based Leadership Academy for Business Students launched. One of the participants, [Nejla Hodzic](#), shared a thoughtful recap of her key leadership lessons learned. Please watch her [VIDEO HERE](#).



11.02.25

NOVEMBER 11

ELI proudly co-sponsored the Office of Vice President for Research's 2nd Annual Scholarship Funding Showcase. Your curiosity, collaboration, and dedication to advancing research at SLU made this year's showcase truly meaningful.



11.11.25

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP

JANUARY 24

Barry-Wehmiller and ELI co-presented the Dialogue on Dimensions of Dignity, featuring panelists Harvard professor Donna Hicks, Dean Jackson Nickerson, Vice President Rochelle Smith, and Vice President David Suwalsky. [VIDEO](#)

FEBRUARY 21

The Chaifetz School Leadership Team, along with Provost Lewis, visited The Gund Company again, to learn about their continuous improvement and human-centered leadership.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP

FEBRUARY 28

Emerson President and CEO Lal Karsanbhai and Senior VP Nick Piazza visited the Chaifetz School of Business.

MARCH 28

Barry-Wehmiller and The Gund Company conducted the Leadership Development Workshop at the Be Heard Women in Leadership Conference.



03.28.25

APRIL 25

Barry-Wehmiller and the Gund Company, two of ELI's closest partners, received the Distinguished Corporate Partner Award at the Chaifetz School of Business Excellence Awards Ceremony.



04.25.25

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP



10.24.25

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2025

ELI had the privilege to provide the Dignity-Based Leadership Development Program for the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Deep gratitude to [Delaney Clement](#) for her inspiring commitment to growing and empowering her teams, and to Dean [Jackson Nickerson](#) for carving out time to teach and uplift this cohort.

NOVEMBER 3-4

Jintong and Jackson were invited to attend the Barry-Wehmiller University Partners Summit.

FALL 2025

The Gund Company, Barry-Wehmiller, and the Chaifetz School of Business co-developed a new graduate course, Dignity-Based Leadership, to be offered as an experimental course in Spring 2026.



11.04.25

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



4TH ANNUAL BE HEARD WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

MARCH 28

The 4th Annual Be Heard Women in Leadership Conference drew more than 200 registered participants from local universities, industries, and communities.

[PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR THE BE HEARD RECAPS.](#)

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



The Leadership Speaker Series featured Bob Chapman, Chairman and former CEO of Barry-Wehmiller, speaking on Truly Human Leadership, followed by a fireside chat with his coauthor, Raj Sisodia of Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico, and Dean Jackson Nickerson. We are grateful to all attendees who champion leadership that honors the dignity of every person. Here is a [QUICK VIDEO RECAP](#).

EXCEPTIONAL RESEARCH

JANUARY 1

Jintong was appointed as the Deputy Editor-in-Chief for Asia Pacific Journal of Management (ABDC A journal) for a three-year term 1/1/2025 – 12/31/2027.

MARCH 2025

Jintong was appointed as a Guest Editor for the Special Issue on Entrepreneurship and SMEs in Times of Geopolitical Crisis by Long Range Planning (ABS 4 and ABDC A* journal).

APRIL 3

Jintong was invited to present her latest entrepreneurship research to the University of Leicester.



04.24.25

APRIL 24

Jintong & Ben Benmamoun received the Scholarly Works Honorable Mention from the Office of the Vice President for Research.

APRIL 25

Jintong received 3 research awards at the CSB Excellence Awards Ceremony: Diamond Publication Award, Best Paper of the Year Award, and Three-Year Research Award.



04.25.25

EXCEPTIONAL RESEARCH



MAY 30

Jintong Tang was awarded Editorial Contribution Award & Author Service Award for her contributions to Asia Pacific Journal of Management by Springer Nature.

JUNE 20

Jintong presented her research and Co-Chaired the “Meet the Editors” Plenary Session at the Asia Academy of Management Special Conference in Bangkok.



SEPTEMBER 2025

In the 2025 edition of the [Standardized Citation Indicators Database](#), published by Elsevier and curated by Stanford University, 10,933,183 authors across 22 scientific fields and 174 subfields were included. Once again, Jintong Tang was ranked among the top 2% of most-cited scientists worldwide for single-year research impact (calendar year 2024) in the Business and Management field. Jintong has consistently been ranked in the top 2% annually since 2019, when the database was first released.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

THE EMERSON LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE & EDWARD JONES DEAN'S SPEAKER SERIES PRESENT

THE LEADERSHIP SPEAKER SERIES

EDWARD FESER

PRESIDENT OF SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

7:30-9:30am January 21, 2026

Pere Marquette Gallery
DuBourg Hall, Saint Louis University
221 N Grand Blvd

FIRESIDE CHAT

JACKSON NICKERSON JASON PURNELL MARK MUNSELL

RICHARD A. CHAIFETZ SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

A large portrait of Edward Feser, President of Saint Louis University, is featured on the right side of the graphic. The background is a dark blue image of a building at night.

SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY 21, 2026

[The Leadership Speaker Series featuring President Edward Feser](#)

[Please click here for more information and registration.](#)

MARCH 6, 2026

5th Annual Be Heard – Women in Leadership Conference

And MORE...

QUOTE FROM OUR DONORS

“Just helping the school that helped me a long time ago.” - Mike Medart

SUPPORT US

[Click here](#) to support the Emerson Leadership Institute and help us create dignity-based leadership programs.



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ELI'S 2024 IN REVIEW

Click here to to view the [Emerson Leadership Institute's 2024 in Review.](#)

ELI'S 2025 MID-YEAR REVIEW

Click here to to view the [Emerson Leadership Institute's 2025 Mid-Year Review.](#)