

A SCHOOL ON THE MOVE

2017-2018 DEAN'S REPORT



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

A SCHOOL ON THE MOVE

Father Paul Reinert launched Metropolitan College, offering non-degree programs for working adults. This was one of the first schools for adult learners in the country.

1963

Added extension sites throughout the metro area.

1978

1972
Began to offer undergraduate programs.

1988
Organizational Studies

Became part of the College of Arts and Sciences, renamed to Evening Division.

1990

1996
Moved out of Arts and Sciences, began granting degrees in an accelerated format.

General Studies

1996

1996
Computer Science Technology (changed to Computer Information Systems in 2010)

SPS opened additional extension sites.

1997–
1998

2004
Became part of the College of Public Service.

Moved out of the College of Public Service, moved into Brouster Hall and offered SLU's first online degree program.

2008

2008
Organizational Leadership and Development (graduate)

Applied Analytics (graduate)
2008

2010
Organizational Leadership and Technology

The Center for Workforce & Organizational Development opened in the Wool Building.
2013

2016
Security and Strategic Intelligence

All degrees offered fully online.
2017

2017
Project Management

SPS launched four new graduate certificates in
• Applied Analytics
• Evidence-Based Decision Making
• Organizational Development
• Organizational Leadership
2018

2018
Emergency Management

Cybersecurity (graduate)
2018

2018
Strategic Intelligence (graduate)

SPS partners with Collegis for marketing and recruitment.
2018

- 
- 1** DEAN'S WELCOME
 - 3** SPS BY THE NUMBERS
 - 7** ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
 - 11** INNOVATION
 - 15** IGNATIAN PEDAGOGY
 - 17** STUDENT EXPERIENCE
 - 21** PROGRAM INCUBATION
 - 25** EXPANDED SKILLSET
 - 29** PARTNERSHIPS

DEAN'S WELCOME

Saint Louis University's School for Professional Studies prepares students for today's dynamic, fast-paced workforce. Our degrees, certificates, and courses provide real-world knowledge and skills to support professional growth and advancement in any industry. Undergraduate and graduate degrees, combined with skill development courses and certifications, provide the educational resources for a lifetime of learning.

Our strategic priorities establish a road map for future growth and sustainability. We are laser focused on continuing to innovate, ensure excellence in all we do, and be an inspirational lifetime partner for education. During the upcoming academic year, we will expand our visibility in the region, enhance the student experience, optimize excellence across all of our programs, forge new partnerships, and incubate program development.

This annual report highlights select achievements from the past academic year. You will see a School on the move, following in the footsteps of St. Ignatius of Loyola, bringing education to students and challenging them to seek something greater than themselves.



Tracy A. Chapman, Ph.D.

Dean

School for Professional Studies



*“Our degrees, certificates, and courses provide real-world knowledge and skills to support professional growth and advancement in **any** industry.”*

– Tracy Chapman, Ph.D.

A young Black woman with her hair styled in a bun, wearing a black long-sleeved top and a red skirt, is smiling warmly. She is leaning against a metal railing in what appears to be a modern building with large windows and interior lights. The background is slightly blurred, showing architectural details and other parts of the building.

"I feel proud every single time I tell someone I am a student at Saint Louis University. The school has a great reputation, great instructors and seemed like it would be a challenge that would lead to a great sense of accomplishment upon graduation."

– Sharie, Organizational Studies

SPS BY THE NUMBERS | A SCHOOL ON THE MOVE

TOTAL NUMBER OF SPS DEGREE PROGRAMS:

11

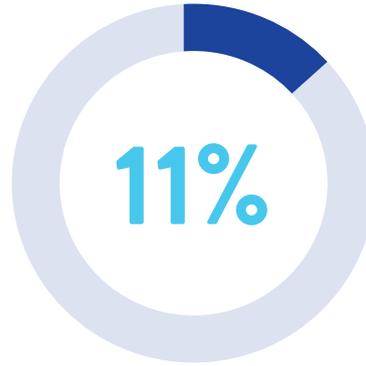
UNDERGRADUATE

4

GRADUATE

11

CERTIFICATES



TOTAL PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS PURSUING CERTIFICATES

TOTAL PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT ENROLLMENT:

ORGANIZATIONAL STUDIES 27%

COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS 17%

GENERAL STUDIES 17%

LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT 11%

APPLIED ANALYTICS 10%

SECURITY AND STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE 7%

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND TECHNOLOGY 7%

PROJECT MANAGEMENT 4%

20.4%
GRADUATE STUDENTS

79.6%
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

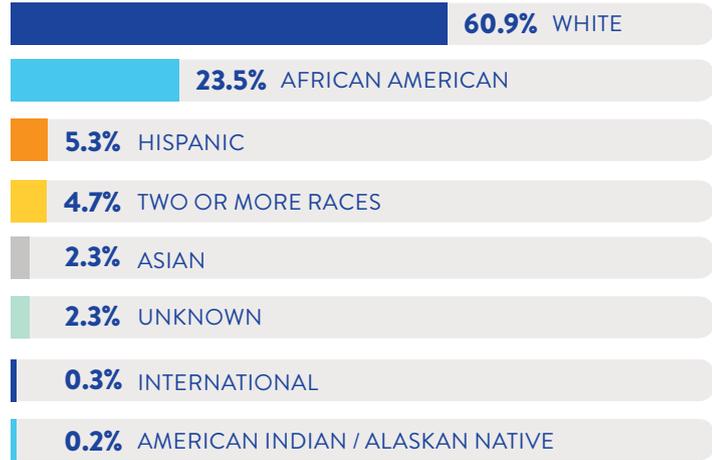
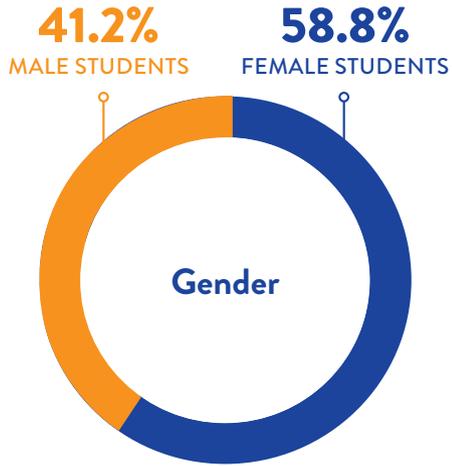


25.95%
FULL-TIME STUDENTS

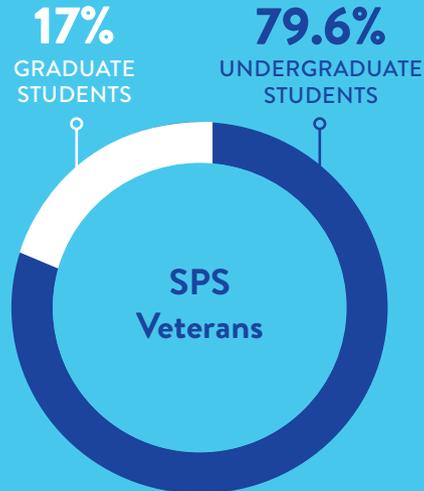
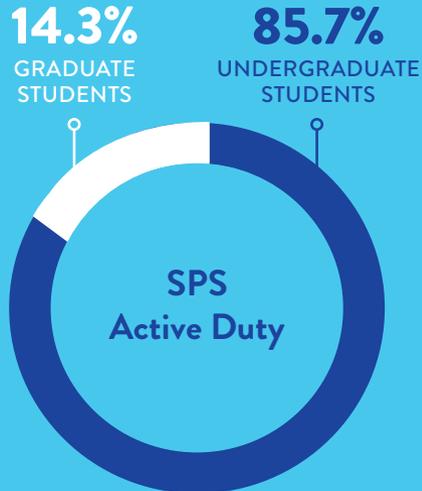
74.95%
PART-TIME STUDENTS



PROFESSIONAL STUDIES STUDENT BODY (FALL 2018)

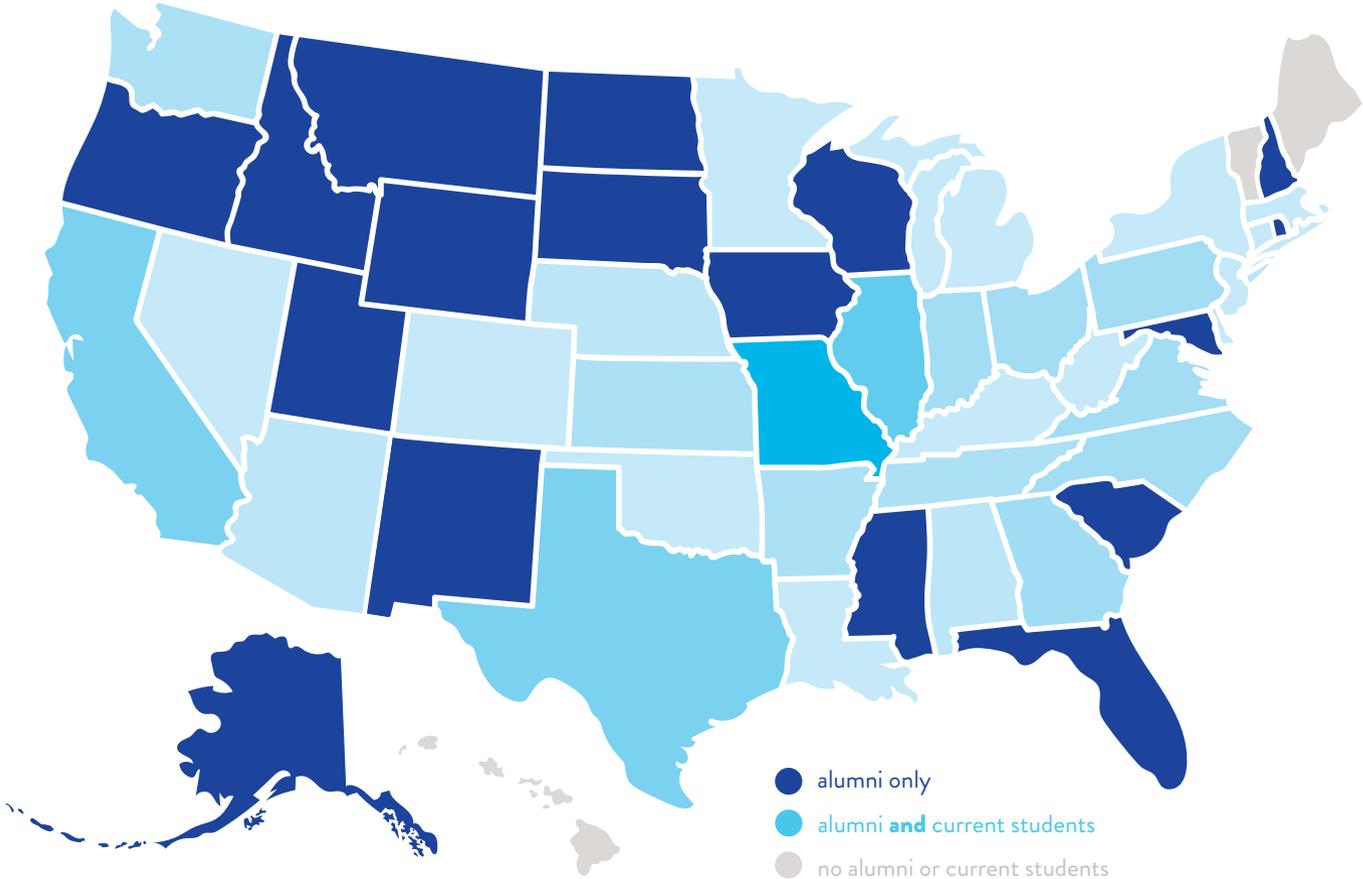


SPS MILITARY STUDENTS (FALL 2018)



3,057
TOTAL SPS
ALUMNI

3,003 alumni live in 47 states



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE | A SCHOOL ON THE MOVE

A man with short brown hair and a light beard is smiling. He is wearing a light blue checkered dress shirt and a solid blue necktie with a gold tie clip. He is standing in front of a large stone archway, with green foliage visible in the background.

“The School for Professional Studies provides a highly supportive staff and variation of skilled faculty which enables me to pursue an education that is immediately applicable to my career. The online nature of the classes allows me the flexibility to balance work, school and family life. I truly enjoy the enthusiasm of the staff and their desire for me to succeed.”

– Daniel, Security and Strategic Intelligence

FACULTY GAIN TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR SLU ONLINE

Responding to student demand, the School for Professional Studies now offers all of its programs entirely online. This online education environment provides us the ability to reach students who do not have the luxury of coming to campus for classes, while ensuring they feel part of the SLU learning community.

For our seasoned instructors, the transition to online teaching is a new and exciting opportunity. Faculty are embracing the support provided by SPS to attend regional and national meetings, to connect with colleagues experienced in teaching online, and to learn first-hand about effective online teaching practices.

A five-module Foundations in Online Teaching course prepares faculty for the online classroom. Modules encompass an introduction to SLU's Jesuit, Catholic mission; strategies to actively engage students and promote learning in the online environment, research-based practices to effectively teach adult learners, and an overview of the digital instructional tools and resources.

"We want to help our faculty transform their courses from good to great. We give them the time and space to explore tools that nourish student engagement. Best of all, Faculty Foundations provides a unique opportunity for our faculty to connect, share their teaching experiences, and discuss what it means to be a member of the SPS community."

– **Claudia Dicken, M.A.**
Adjunct Instructor

The Foundations course was designed by Chris Tobnick, the School's instructional developer, and Claudia Dicken, a long-serving adjunct faculty member, in collaboration with SPS faculty. Chris' 17 years of experience supporting online course development is an invaluable resource for SPS faculty.



Upon completion of the Foundations course, faculty are provided a 'sandbox' in the Blackboard learning management system to continue to explore digital teaching and learning tools. Chris continues to work with faculty members to apply the innovative online teaching strategies they have learned to their individual courses.

"Our faculty have drawn upon their years of experience teaching online and combined it with the knowledge they gained by completing the Foundations in Online Teaching course to produce online coursework that is: (a) engaging; (b) provides flexibility in learning and discussion activities, and (c) provides opportunities to interact with their instructors and classmates in synchronous and asynchronous modes, as needed and desired."

– **Srikanth Mudigonda, Ph.D.**
Associate Professor and Director of the MS Applied Analytics Program
President of the SPS Faculty Assembly (Fall 2016 – Summer 2018)

92

FACULTY COMPLETING THE
FOUNDATIONS COURSE

312

TOTAL SECTIONS OFFERED
IN 2017-2018

209

ONLINE COURSE SECTIONS
2017-2018

90

FACULTY TEACHING ONLINE
2017-2018



*"SLU is a prestigious local university,
and with the School for Professional Studies,
I can accomplish my education goals while
still working."*

– Mike, Computer Information Systems

INNOVATION | A SCHOOL ON THE MOVE

A woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a bright pink button-down shirt over a black top and a pearl necklace, is smiling warmly at the camera. She is standing in front of a large, historic brick building with Gothic-style architecture, including arched windows and a prominent steeple. To the left, a large fountain with multiple jets of water is visible. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

"I chose SLU because I could earn my degree, at an affordable price, from a top-rated Jesuit university. As a wife and mom of three young children, the class schedule is conducive to my busy lifestyle. I am able to take all of my classes online, which makes it that much easier to balance work, school and family activities."

– Marissa, Organizational Studies

INNOVATION: A CORE COMPONENT OF SPS

Innovation is part of the School for Professional Studies landscape. SPS faculty are committed to adopting new strategies into their courses to enhance student engagement. As a result, each faculty member redesigned courses to incorporate more multimedia and student learning technologies.

SPS innovation also includes the addition of a new Winter Session designed to provide students an opportunity to accelerate their progression. In three short months, Winter Session evolved from ideation to implementation, including five courses in four weeks and 80 students – double the enrollment estimate. As a result of this SPS led innovation, Winter Session is now part of the regular SLU academic calendar.

Adjunct faculty bring a wealth of relevant, current, and diverse experience to our students. As leaders in their fields, they provide students opportunities to apply new knowledge to real-world situations. Students learn directly from individuals working in the fields and careers to which they aspire, with industry roles spanning from a 2-star general working overseas, to a retired FBI agent, to a CEO of a Fortune 500 company to a social worker specialized in behavioral health.

SPS FACULTY EXTEND KNOWLEDGE ACADEMIC YEAR 2017–18

8

PUBLICATIONS

14

PRESENTATIONS

25

CONSULTATIONS

12

SCHOLARSHIP
ENGAGEMENTS

10

FULL-TIME FACULTY

93

ADJUNCT FACULTY



This year we welcomed two new faculty members.

Mr. Shawn Steadman joined SPS as a full-time faculty member and director of the bachelor's in Emergency Management program. Mr. Steadman brings extensive experience in emergency management including serving as a crisis manager for the state of Missouri incident management team. Shawn is completing his Ph.D. in Aviation Management at SLU, has a Master's degree in Architecture from Washington University, and a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Rockhurst University.

Dr. Randy Robertson joined the School in May as a new full-time faculty member and director of the bachelor's in Project Management program. Dr. Robertson earned his Ph.D. in technology management from Indiana State University and an MBA and B.S. in Psychology from Bowling Green State University. Dr. Robertson's teaching experience spans 21 years. His work experience encompasses the banking and aerodynamics industry.

IGNATIAN PEDAGOGY | A SCHOOL ON THE MOVE



CULTIVATING THE IGNATIAN ETHOS

Ignatian pedagogy is a teaching model that seeks to develop students of competence and compassion. By employing a systemic, sequential and purposeful teaching plan, Ignatian pedagogy embraces the unique qualities in each student and encourages them to decide what is truly good for themselves and society through a process of discernment.

This learning process facilitates students' understanding of information in a personally relevant and appropriated manner. It encourages student responsibility, independence, attentiveness, reverence and devotion to reveal truth and wisdom.

The SPS professors serve as models to “women and men for others” both in and out of the classroom. Our professors view teaching as a vocation and a service to others and make use of novel teaching methods and technologies as they arise. They provide a rigorous and challenging interdisciplinary education that utilizes clear and specific evaluation methods. It is their commitment to embrace the five principles of the Ignatian pedagogical paradigm:

- **Context** — understanding student life and culture
- **Experience** — providing intellectual and affective learning opportunities
- Reflection of **meaning** for self and others
- **Action** — the external expression of learned content
- Evaluation of **student growth**

By following the Ignatian pedagogical paradigm, faculties accompany students in their intellectual, spiritual and emotional development and through the consideration of the context of students' lives, create an environment where students recollect their past experiences and assimilate information from newly provided experiences. Professors help students learn the skills and techniques of reflection, which shapes their consciousness, and they then challenge students to action in service to others. The evaluation process includes academic mastery as well as ongoing assessments of students' well-rounded growth as persons for others.

“SPS is engaged in a school-wide project that intentionally aims at cultivating an Ignatian ethos for students, staff, faculty and administrators. SPS now requires all students to take HUM 1500: Engaging the Human Experience, a course specifically designed to introduce students to Ignatian andragogical practices in the Jesuit tradition of the arts and sciences. Staff, administrators, and faculty meet twice a semester for professional development that integrates Ignatian values with such issues as diversity, professional development, hiring, and collegiality. Full-time and adjunct faculty all receive training in online instruction with the Foundations course which includes a unit on Ignatian andragogy. And an entire course is currently under development on Ignatian Thought and Practice. In addition, a new SPS faculty reading group devoted to Ignatian texts has started and meets twice a semester. Finally, both faculty and staff now have representation on university-wide Mission committees.”

– **Craig A. Boyd, Ph.D.**

Professor of Philosophy and Director of Faculty Development

STUDENT EXPERIENCE | A SCHOOL ON THE MOVE



"I like SPS because it is convenient for me. I have a family and I work full time, and when all is said and done, I am able to get my work done. There are deadlines, but they can be done on my own time. I also love the idea that if I want to, I can come to campus and be a part of a community that is always changing and growing."

– Andrew, Organizational Studies

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Ensuring students continue to have a quality educational experience was key as the School transitioned to the online environment. In addition to faculty professional development, additional resources were put in place to support student learning.

Student Readiness: The School partnered with SmarterMeasure to provide students with a nationally recognized tool to assess their readiness for online education, identify at-risk students, and provide remedial resources for those students who are less ready for the online learning environment. Students are provided with detailed, individualized results and recommendations to prepare for success.

Student Learning: Through a partnership with Smarthinking, SPS students now have on-demand, online access to tutors and writing center support. Students can connect with an expert tutor for a drop-in session 24 hours a day, schedule an appointment in advance, submit writing for detailed review, or ask a question offline.

Student Success: Academic advisors expanded their role by transitioning to academic coaches.

"As a working adult, it was important to find a program that fit my busy lifestyle. At Saint Louis University, I received the benefits of a prestigious, Jesuit university combined with the convenience, value and personalization I was looking for."

– Troy, Organizational Studies

In addition to effective academic support resources, scholarships are critical to SPS student success. Through generous donors, students benefit from access to nearly 20 scholarships.

We were fortunate to add a new endowed scholarship this year as a result of a generous gift from Nathan and Catherine Merrick. The Nathan and Catherine Merrick Endowed Scholarship supports a student pursuing an Organizational Studies degree.

"SLU has proven to me that they really care about each and every student."

– Tawanda, Organizational Studies



Brouster Hall





BELIZE STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIP

SLU's sister school in Belize, St. John's College, offers a wide variety of liberal arts and science courses at the United States junior college level. SJC encourages their instructors to continue their education, including earning bachelor's and master's degrees. Through the support of the Canisius /Jesuit Apostolate Scholarship two SJC computer science instructors are currently enrolled in the Computer Information Science degree program. Providing SJC instructors with advanced education in the computer science area will assist them in supporting SJC students and ultimately employers in Belize. St. John's College's programs in computer science are among the college's most in-demand programs, equipping students with the skills and knowledge needed to assist organizations with meeting diverse information processing needs. The programs prepare students for careers in information management and also provide a foundation for baccalaureate study.

Saint Louis University and Belize 2020 partner to provide opportunities for at-risk children and families in Belize. Belize 2020 is a community of volunteers, contributors, academics and business people working to advance the spiritual, educational and economic lives of the people of Belize through entrepreneurship and Ignatian spirituality.

PROGRAM INCUBATION | A SCHOOL ON THE MOVE



“Returning to graduate school at age 50 was daunting. I needed to be sure that my education would serve my purpose, my passion and my career. For two years prior to enrolling at SLU, I scoured the country for a program that inspired me, would challenge me and would serve me as I continued to grow in my career. Going back to school at this point in my career and life was a leap – SLU made it a leap into a very rewarding future.”

– Claire, Leadership and Organizational Development

PROGRAM INCUBATION

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

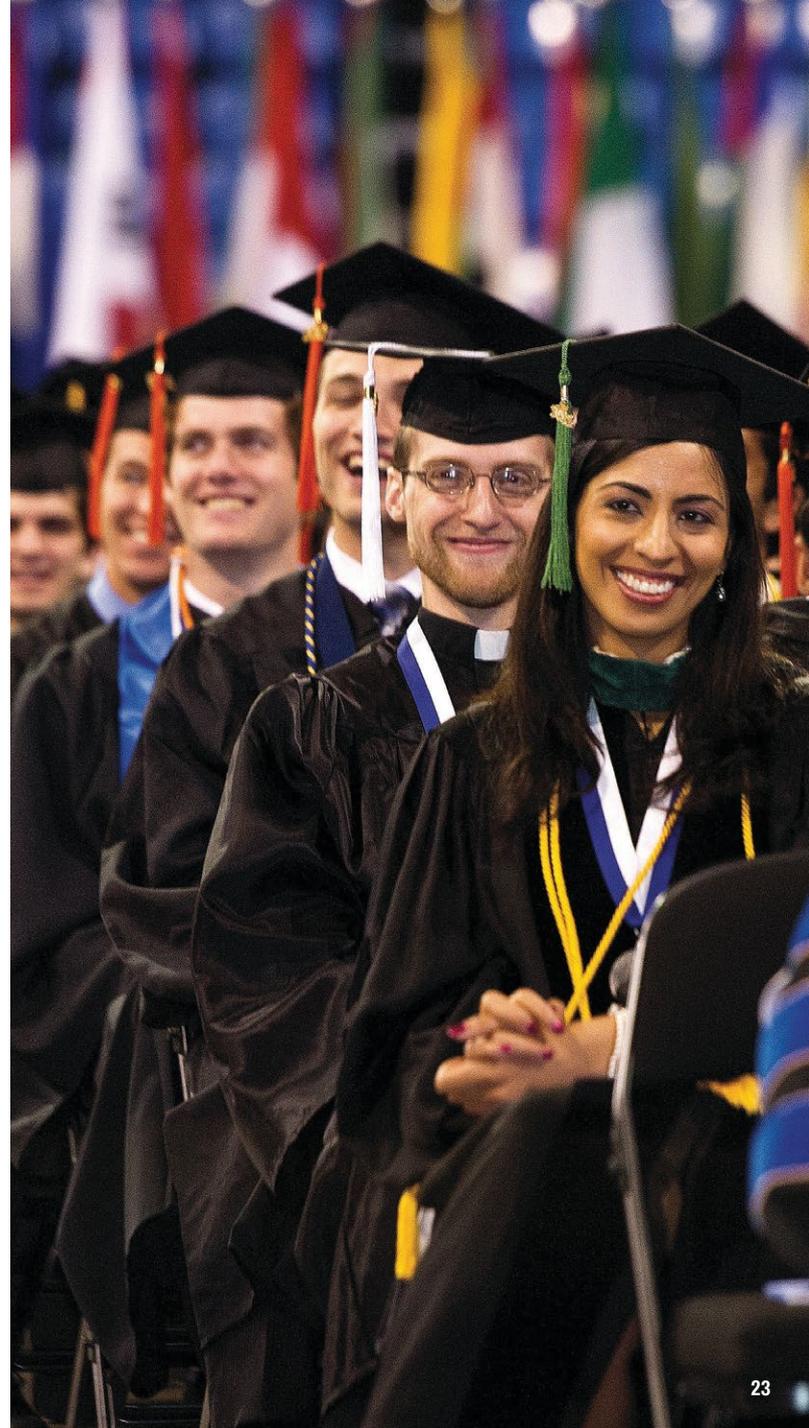
Project managers integrate leadership and management competencies to influence stakeholders and deliver project success across all industries and businesses. In response to a clear need for expertise in project management skills across multiple disciplines, from technology to manufacturing, real estate to construction, and sales management to service, SPS added a bachelor's in project management degree to its portfolio. Enrolling its first students in 2016, the program attracts applications from a range of backgrounds.

The Saint Louis University project management program offers a unique, tailored, disciplined and professional path to industry-leading project management expertise demanded by corporate, government and nonprofit organizations. Expert faculty members impart valuable insights and practical experience through industry-aligned courses such as Project Selection and Scope, Contract Supplier Administration, Communication-Stakeholder and Quality Management, Fundamentals of Contract Management, and Proposal Management. This approach provides every student with the breadth of knowledge and skills required to successfully lead projects in this global, interactive and independent business world.

For individuals needing to add specific project management skills, not necessarily a full degree, the Center for Workforce and Organizational Development offers courses leading to the Project Management Professional (PMP)[®] certification. Courses are taught by industry experts during the day and night and can be taken in-person at SLU's campus or virtually.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Disasters, natural, man-made and technological, require the service of educated, competent and professional emergency managers and homeland security experts. Whether it is working in the area of business continuity, local, state or federal government agencies, the private sector or community stakeholders, the demand continues to increase as the public demands the skills of professionals to assist communities in mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from crisis situations.





The Bachelor of Science in Emergency Management focuses on improving community resilience to minimize both the short- and long-term effects of disaster situations. This program encompasses all of the sectors recognized by the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a comprehensive, multi-discipline program including communications, firefighting, public health and medical, search and rescue, hazardous materials, law enforcement, military, social services, and business continuity, among others.

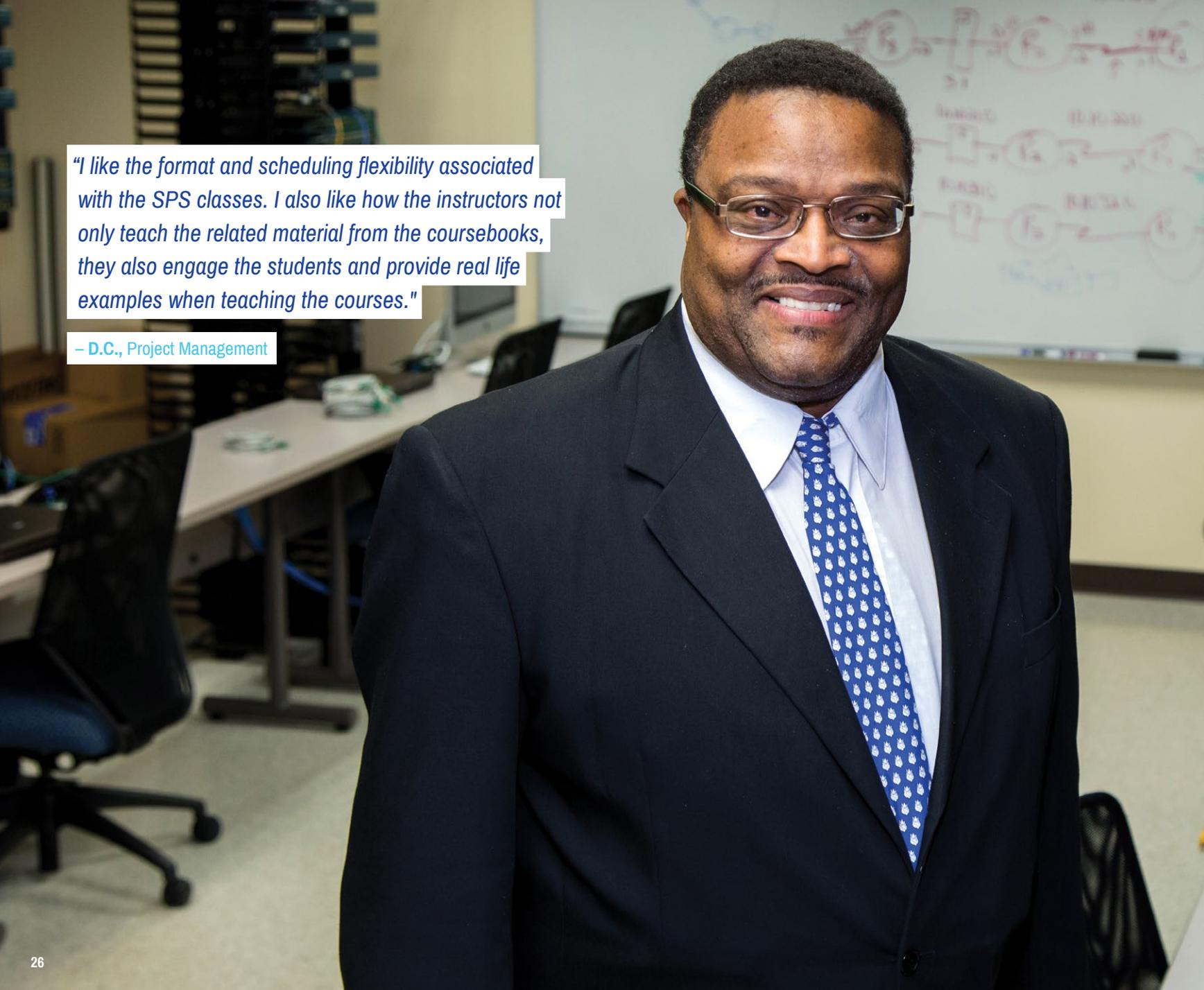
Skilled professionals prepare students to serve their communities and effectively manage disasters. The Jesuit values of ethics and care for the whole person play a significant role in SLU's Emergency Management program. Preparing professionals to work in high stress, high risk situations demanding quick decisionmaking while maintaining ethical decision making and understanding the consequences of their judgment sets SLU's program apart.

“When emergency managers aren’t responding, we are actively writing plans, coordinating with our partners, and developing processes to train and exercise all responding personnel. At the same time, we are mitigating any potential disasters or man-made incidents (terrorism) to lessen the impact if there is an incident. Most of us are on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week standing by with “go-kits” ready to deploy wherever the next incident occurs.”

– Wm. Shawn Steadman, CEM®, MEP, PCP

Director of SLU's Emergency Management/Homeland Security Program

EXPANDED SKILLSET | A SCHOOL ON THE MOVE

A man with short dark hair, wearing glasses, a dark suit jacket, a light blue shirt, and a blue patterned tie, is smiling at the camera. He is standing in a classroom or office environment. In the background, there is a whiteboard with handwritten diagrams and text, and a desk with a computer monitor and other items. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

"I like the format and scheduling flexibility associated with the SPS classes. I also like how the instructors not only teach the related material from the coursebooks, they also engage the students and provide real life examples when teaching the courses."

– D.C., Project Management

CENTER FOR WORKFORCE AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Today's educational experience no longer ends with the completion of a degree. The Center for Workforce and Organizational Development (Workforce Center) provides the in-demand skills necessary for career advancement by offering cutting-edge technology training and certification prep courses to organizations across the country. The curriculum includes over 400 instructor-led, hands-on courses, including Cyber Security, Project Management, Agile/Scrum, Big Data, Microsoft, Application Development and much more. The instructors are industry-experts with years of real-world experience. The Center offers a wide array of class options in blended formats. Students can take day or evening classes, in-person or virtually, and choose from novice to advanced courses. A large part of the curriculum focuses on certification boot camps and certificate programs ranging from 36 to 90 hours.

Benefits of engaging with the Center include:

Customized private training for groups of four or more — the client chooses the curriculum, location and dates. Flexible payment methods including corporate training vouchers, tuition assistance programs, and Microsoft SATVs. Individualized learning plans and progress reports for students. Specialized services for students under the GI Bill / Vocational Rehab / Trade Adjustment Act (TAA).

In addition to collaboration with employers, this year the Workforce Center launched the Transformative Workforce Academy (TWA), which was created to improve the Saint Louis community and make jobs and training available to disadvantaged populations. These populations provide an opportunity for Saint Louis University to put its mission statement to use in a practical manner.

"Our goal is to provide our students with exceptional service, world class instruction and the skills they need to succeed in their career today, tomorrow and in the future!"

— Katherine Cain

Executive Director of the Workforce Center

343+

COURSES HELD IN FY2018

1,993+

REGISTRATIONS

1,437+

UNIQUE STUDENTS ATTENDED CLASSES

HAVE SERVED OVER

400

COMPANIES SINCE OPENING IN 2013

OFFERED OVER

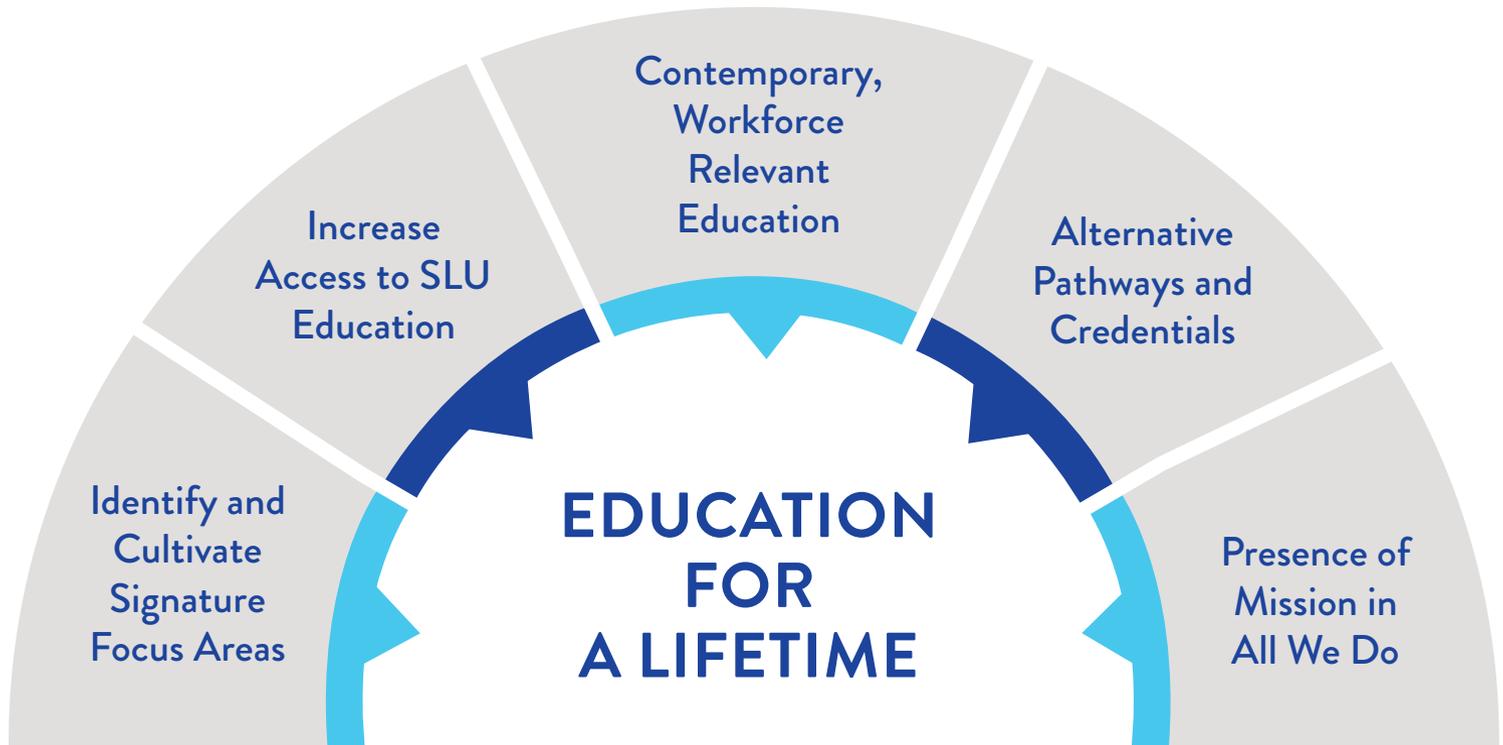
50

CERTIFICATE PREP PROGRAMS

(Cybersecurity, Project Management, Agile, ITIL)

SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

A Lifetime Partner for Education



PARTNERSHIPS | A SCHOOL ON THE MOVE



"I researched many programs before ultimately choosing SLU. The MA in Leadership and Organizational Development was unique and offered an extremely relatable curriculum to my career and future aspirations. The professors have great real world experience and the peer to peer engagement helped broaden my perspective. The flexibility of the program allowed me to maintain my obligations to my family and career while being active and engaged in the program."

– Eric, Leadership and Organizational Development

PARTNERSHIPS

An organization's success is built on a culture of encouragement and support and an environment that nurtures collaboration, growth, and empowerment.

In the School for Professional Studies, we understand the importance of equipping people for success. We partner with organizations to provide their employees with opportunities for professional growth. A highly educated and skilled team adds value to each individual as well as the company as a whole.

The School for Professional Studies at Saint Louis University offers affordable opportunities for employees of partner companies and organizations to earn a world-renowned Saint Louis University education. With our affordable tuition and company tuition benefits, employees are empowered to reach their goals and advance their careers.

PARTNERSHIP IS A WIN-WIN

A partnership with the School for Professional Studies gives organizations and employees a variety of benefits, including:

- Employee growth
- A tuition deposit waiver that makes the admissions process easy
- A liberal transfer policy to put students further on the path to completion
- Tuition reductions that make the already affordable School for Professional Studies even more financially manageable

The School for Professional Studies equips students with the resources they need to be successful on their journey, including a writing center, academic coaching, the Pius Library, and more.

OUR PARTNERS:

• BANK OF AMERICA

• BJC HEALTHCARE

• BOEING

• BUCKINGHAM ASSET MANAGEMENT

• BULL MOOSE TUBE

• CENTENE

• ED ASSIST

• GL GROUP

• MALLINCKRODT

• MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT

• MERCY HOSPITAL SYSTEM

• SAINT LUKE'S

• SCOTTRADE

• WORLD WIDE TECHNOLOGIES

SAINT LOUIS  UNIVERSITY™





SLU ONLINE

BACHELOR'S & MASTER'S DEGREES

[SLU.EDU/ONLINE](https://slu.edu/online)

3840 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108

314-977-2330 | sps@slu.edu