

THE PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

# MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION



EDUCATING THE NEXT  
GENERATION OF  
GLOBAL LEADERS





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## PLU SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

The PLU School of Business seeks to educate students based on a model that combines critical elements of professional education with a commitment to justice and social good.

All PLU School of Business graduate programs place a strong emphasis on innovation and leverage an industry-driven curriculum that prepares students for success in their chosen fields. The programs are designed to develop leaders who have effective communication and critical-thinking skills.

PLU Business graduate students learn real-world business practices through integrated coursework that builds on subjects including accounting, data analytics, finance, human resource management, marketing, marketing research, operations, production management, strategic management, and/or technology.

# ABOUT OUR LOCATION

PLU's park-like campus is nestled in a wooded neighborhood seven miles south of downtown Tacoma.

We're also right off the major Interstate 5 corridor, so the metropolitan hubs of Seattle, Tacoma, and Olympia are nearby, along with must-see attractions such as Mount Rainier National Park; Tacoma's waterfront Point Defiance park and zoo; and hiking, biking, and water activities.



# WHY PLU

- The PLU School of Business is ranked among the best in the world—with the credentials to prove it.
- PLU was one of the first small, private comprehensive schools to obtain the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation, and has maintained this gold standard of approval continuously since 1971.
- Our Business programs are personal and individualized, and our classes are taught by award-winning and dedicated faculty members experienced in the business world and trained in leading-edge practices.

## PLU DIFFERENCE

- Ranked one of the top business schools in the nation by The Princeton Review.
- Strong and supportive Executive Advisory Board provides insight from the business community.
- The Executive Leadership Series brings executives to campus to share their expertise and insight.
- Student chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, the national business honor society.
- Small classes
- STEM-designated programs
- Globally focused
- Dedicated faculty
- Programs open to students from all academic backgrounds.

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The PLU Master of Business Administration (MBA) is founded on the cornerstones of leadership, creative innovation, global awareness, and ethical responsibility. This transformative degree focuses on strategy and innovation and works to develop the next generation of global business leaders within their chosen career field.

## FORMAT

Our MBA is flexible to meet the needs of our diverse population and can be completed in a full- or part-time status. Classes are offered in the late afternoon and evening to allow students to continue to work or pursue internships. The degree can be completed in as few as nine months or extended over 21 months based on the number of classes taken each term. We want our students to fit the degree into their lives rather than revolving their lives around school.

The diversity of our student's employment and academic backgrounds result in lively discussions and networking opportunities. Regular visits from industry executives in the classroom enhance the experience.



# CURRICULUM

- Global Business Perspectives (includes the 10-Day International Experience)
- Accounting for Decision Making
- Legal, Ethical and Social Responsibilities of Business
- Marketing Management
- Organizations, Leadership and change management
- Understanding and Managing Financial Resources
- Supply Chain and Information Management
- Quantitative and Managerial Decision Analysis
- Business Strategy and Innovation



## AREAS OF EMPHASIS

The MBA program offers optional areas of emphasis for students who would like to add a level of distinction to their degree.

Earn an emphasis in:

- Entrepreneurship & Closely Held Enterprises
- Healthcare Management
- Supply Chain Management
- Technology & Innovation Management



# INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Successful business leaders are global citizens who understand the value of diverse perspectives. Our MBA students walk away with a truly global business perspective.

A unique part of our MBA program is a “Global Business Perspectives” course which includes an embedded 10-day faculty-led international experience. These experiences include visits with business leaders, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, MBA colleagues from local universities and participation in cultural activities. Recent destinations include Peru, Germany, and China and participation costs are covered by PLU.

Students will gain a truly global business perspective and a predisposition for action and innovation. Below are some of our most recent student experiences.





# ALUMNI STORIES

## Anna Loomis '14: MBA TO CFO



Anna Loomis has shouldered a lot of strategic planning and big-picture thinking that's vital but often unseen, serving back to back as chief financial officer for two major nonprofit health care systems in the Pacific Northwest — first for Tacoma-based MultiCare and more recently for Legacy Health in Portland.

She was named the CFO of the Year for her work with MultiCare by Puget Sound Business Journal.

Loomis spent 15 years with MultiCare, the largest community-based, locally governed health system in Washington state. The nonprofit also is the largest private employer in Pierce County. She wore many hats, culminating in her role as CFO the last four years of her tenure.

To take the leap for her CFO role, she decided to go back to school. Pacific Lutheran University's Master in Business Administration offered the high-caliber graduate studies and the flexibility she needed to thrive.

The intentional focus on globalization and innovation sets PLU graduate students apart. "We educate the next generation of graduate students," Juanita Reed, the program director said, adding that taking students abroad helps them gain new perspective to practically apply what they've learned in the classroom.

Loomis says the new perspective she garnered abroad is valuable to her job today. She gained insight into the medical industry from Army doctors in her MBA cohort, the group who traveled with her to Peru. ([Continue with the full story](#))



## Andrew Miller '14 leverages his PLU MBA to help Tulip Town adapt during COVID-19

A graduate of PLU's MBA program, Miller is CEO of Spinach Bus Ventures, a group of five longtime friends that bought Tulip Town in June 2019, anticipating a return on their investment once the tourists arrived in the spring.

But next year when the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) struck, the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival was canceled, and Tulip Town's new owners suddenly faced the possibility of going out of business in their first year. "We knew we were going to have to flip the switch and do some things differently. So, in about 72 hours, we completely rewrote our business plan for 2020," Miller recalled.

Miller drew heavily on lessons he had learned while enrolled in PLU's MBA program. He also solicited advice from PLU business school dean Mark Mulder. "I use a lot of research every day up here, and there are other farms that do, as well," Miller said.

"The most important lesson I took away from this was that you absolutely have to lead with your values. When you lead with your values, and you figure out what's most important and can create community and connection around that. It helps every step of the way, especially in stressful times." ([Continue with the full story](#))

# ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

We welcome applicants from any academic and career background. There are no prerequisite courses required for admission. Successful applicants will demonstrate a strong academic background and strong communication skills. Our rolling admission process includes a holistic review of each application. Applications are accepted for summer, fall, or spring terms. Applicants should prepare to submit:

- Online application
- Application fee
- Personal Statement
- Résumé
- Letters of recommendation
- Transcripts
- Optional GMAT or GRE scores
- International students: TOEFL- iBT or IELTS scores

Fast Track admission may be available for PLU students and alumni. This process allows applicants to apply using a simplified process that does not require GMAT/GRE scores. For more information about Fast Track contact the program director.

**AACSB  
ACCREDITATION**



The PLU School of Business was the first small, private comprehensive university to obtain AACSB accreditation more than 40 years ago. AACSB is the gold standard business accreditation organization and less than 5 percent of universities worldwide have achieved this elite distinction. Our accreditation increased the value of your degree and ensures you are receiving the highest level of business education.

# Connect with Pacific Lutheran University

We invite you to get in touch with us for more information and to ask any specific questions you may have about our MBA program.

[Request more information](#)

[Attend an information session](#)

[Schedule a phone appointment](#)

[Start an application](#)

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