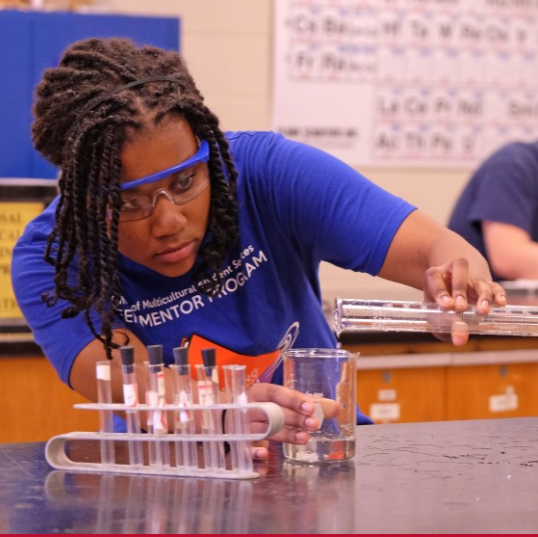


UMSL | University of
Missouri—St. Louis



CHANCELLOR SEARCH



The University of Missouri–St. Louis (UMSL) invites nominations and expressions of interest for the position of Chancellor. Reporting to the President of the University of Missouri System, the Chancellor will have a broad range of strategic and operational responsibilities to meet UMSL’s goals. In addition, the Chancellor will be expected to provide vision and leadership to develop vital research and scholarship, and effective teaching to ensure student success, all of which is supported by transformative philanthropy and positive engagement with the industry leaders, legislators, and citizens of Missouri and beyond.

As a relatively young institution, UMSL provides the chancellor with an incredible opportunity to engage with all constituent groups to celebrate the critical transformative work that is happening at UMSL every day and to galvanize the potential of the relationships that the campus can further develop. To enhance UMSL’s already strong impact, the institution is primed for a comprehensive fundraising campaign that will require a dynamic Chancellor who possesses the persuasive capabilities and leadership that resonates with key civic and industry partners, alumni and donors.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Established in 1963, the University of Missouri–St. Louis is the region’s premier public university in eastern Missouri and comes with a storied history. UMSL is a metropolitan, public research and teaching institution consistently recognized for its strong academic programs across disciplines and is considered a primary driver of the St. Louis economy. Supported by more than 650 faculty across nine schools and colleges, UMSL offers an array of degree options including doctoral and graduate degree programs, numerous bachelor and certificate programs, and is home to the only professional optometry school in Missouri.

UMSL is a Tier 1 public research institution that prides itself on creating greater access to higher education and is an institution on the move. UMSL continues to rise in the rankings with U.S. News & World Report now ranking UMSL No. 136 among all public universities in the nation. UMSL scored even higher on the 2025 list of “Top Performers on Social Mobility” and ranks No. 1 in Missouri and No. 87 nationally. Additionally, UMSL is ranked No. 1 in Missouri and No. 11 nationally for Online Education by U.S. News & World Report as well as No. 1 in Missouri and No. 5 nationally for Online Education for Veterans.

OUR MISSION: WE TRANSFORM LIVES

As the metropolitan, land-grant, research institution serving the most economically important region in Missouri, the University of Missouri—St. Louis delivers exceptional educational, research and engagement experiences that inform, prepare, challenge, and inspire. As outlined in the UMSL Strategic Plan and consistent with the goals of the University of Missouri System for plans that are transformative, collaborative, and transparent, the University of Missouri-St. Louis intends to fulfil its vision to become what it intends to be:

...a beacon of hope, a force for good, and a leader in pursuit of excellence in education, impactful research, and community service. We boldly assert that education is for everyone who is willing and able to seek it out. We honor the duties inherent in our land-grant beginnings by positioning ourselves as partners in the search for knowledge, progress, and positive change for ourselves, our communities, our world.



ABOUT THE UMSL CAMPUS

Spread across nearly 350 acres in suburban St. Louis, UMSL is a classically built campus complete with a physical infrastructure to support student needs, modern teaching and learning, and innovative research. As the university recently celebrated its 60th anniversary, the campus set forward a course to a renewed and reimagined campus that will serve both students and faculty, and the surrounding communities for decades to come. Titled “Transform UMSL,” the university has nearly completed \$110 million in renovations and additions on the North Campus to establish a cohesive academic core, including comprehensive upgrades to classrooms, laboratories, office space and community spaces. These efforts focus on modernizing and consolidating facilities to enhance the academic experience while reducing the campus footprint for greater sustainability and increased vibrancy on the campus. This transformation, funded through public and donor support, also paves the way for UMSL to redevelop 35-acres to create a North St. Louis County Workforce and Business District, benefitting both students and the surrounding community.

A world-class recreation and wellness center and the inviting Millennium Student Center appeal broadly to UMSL’s student interests and offer our student body the ability to participate in safe and engaging physical spaces. Students and community members alike have a number of very unique spaces on campus, such as the Mercantile Library, a research library with unique collections that have come to concentrate on Western Expansion and this history of development and growth of the St. Louis Region, as well as the Touhill Performing Arts Center, a wonderful space that creates opportunities for the people of our region to experience, appreciate and embrace the transformational power of the performing arts.

The infrastructure for learning and teaching has seen great physical advances with completion of Anheuser-Busch Hall (Ed G. Smith College of Business), a state-of-the-art Patient Care Center (College of Optometry), comprehensive Simulation Labs (College of Nursing), and the Science Learning Building (launching the new School of Engineering in 2025, home to the UMSL Geospatial Collaborative, and a newly launched Advanced Pharmaceutical Ingredients Center. UMSL opened its doors to the newly renovated Creative Arts Building, the UMSL Innovation Center and University Libraries in 2025 and will soon open the new Richter Family Welcome and Alumni Center in fall 2026 as well as the Social Science and Business Building expansion in Spring 2027. These capital projects represent UMSL’s investment in creating modern spaces for learning and teaching that provide direct impact on the region, the students, and the greater St. Louis community.

Like many public higher education institutions, there remains significant opportunities to improve the maintenance and physical infrastructure. The Chancellor is in a great position to advocate and gain support to improve the development of resources to invest in the physical footprint of the campus, particularly in areas to transform UMSL’s capacity for continued research, engagement and student-centered housing and living activities that will significantly aid the university’s desire to grow residential student populations.





STUDENT PROFILE

UMSL serves nearly 8,000 students annually and is committed to meeting their needs in the state's largest metropolitan community, and as such, is focused on educating both traditional and nontraditional students. With strong focus on student retention and academic supports open to all students, UMSL graduates the college-educated workforce for the St. Louis region and beyond.

From its earliest days as a university, the voice of the student body has been a central driver to strategy, policy and operation. UMSL is proudly served by the Student Government Association (SGA), an elective body of graduate and undergraduate students who work toward full student participation in all areas of university life and university affairs. The SGA works with faculty, staff and administration to create and maintain comprehensive and quality academic programs, student services, and activities which contribute to the total development of UMSL students, alumni and the metropolitan, state, national and international community.

UMSL provides excellent learning experiences and outcomes to thousands of students annually whose influence on the region upon graduation is immense. While UMSL's more than 120,000 graduates can be found in all 50 states and throughout the world, their greatest impact is felt in the St. Louis region where more than 75% remain to live, work, lead and contribute to the state's most economically important region. Moreover, UMSL boasts the largest alumni network in the St. Louis region and our alumni contribute \$14.3 billion annually in overall economic impact to the state of Missouri. UMSL alumni hold positions of leadership and significance throughout the region, as evidenced by many across both UMSL's Alumni Association, and the Chancellor's Council.

UMSL enjoys collaborative partnerships with civic, business and other regional and national organizations to provide tremendous opportunities for collaboration, research, knowledge creation and to build a thriving workforce pipeline. Many UMSL alumni find remarkable career opportunities in St. Louis, close to their alma mater, as members of the regional workforce. Chief among those that employ UMSL graduates are the region's 14 Fortune 1000 companies and large private organizations.

For example, the UMSL campus houses the headquarters of Evernorth Health Services, a subsidiary of CIGNA, one of the nation's leading corporations, and we maintain strong ties to significant manufacturers and industry leaders in the St. Louis region such as Ameren, Bayer, Boeing, Clayco, Edward Jones Investments, Enterprise, Emerson, Nidec and Wells Fargo Advisors, just to name a few. The region's industry and civic leaders stand ready to welcome a new Chancellor who sees innovative partnership as a vitality to both the university and the broader economy. These relationships provide a significant potential advantage for UMSL students through intern and externships and employment upon graduation.

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

FAST FACTS

STUDENT PROFILE **7,484**
degree-seeking students

2,324 are graduate and professional degree students

94% are Missouri residents

86% of students receive financial aid

25.1 average freshman ACT score is above the state and national average

7,600+ high school students enrolled in Advanced Credit Program and/or Bridge Program

FACULTY PROFILE

UMSL's faculty includes a broad intersection of scholars with a shared goal to provide a high-quality education, lead innovative research, and elevate community engagement and service. Our 650 full- and part-time faculty are at the core of our efforts to become the nation's top urban, metropolitan research university and lead in key areas like physical and mental health, literacy, geospatial, business administration, criminal justice, ecology, public policy, supply chain, nursing, education, social work and much more.

UMSL has a long-standing commitment to shared governance. The UMSL Faculty Senate, for example, meets monthly to discuss various topics that concern the faculty and the campus community. Those meetings routinely include senior administrators. The senate recommends and implements educational policy, particularly in areas of curriculum, degree requirements, methods of instruction, research, requirements for admission, student affairs and faculty status. The University Assembly works in conjunction with the Faculty Senate as part of the shared governance process at UMSL and brings the faculty, staff, students, and administrators together to discuss a wide range of topics and exchange information about the campus community.

The level of dedication and commitment to education and scholarship should be attractive to any aspiring Chancellor who seeks to collaborate with the faculty and elevate the impacts they can make together.



STAFF PROFILE

The commitment to success and impact is also shared with UMSL's nearly 1,000 full- and part-time staff, who together are focused on supporting the academic experience of our students in their respective areas to ensure that the university continues to carry out its mission to transform lives through higher education. This includes staff who lead our instructional support services, information technology, university libraries, business and fiscal operations, enrollment management, marketing and communications, facilities and much, much more.

The UMSL Staff Association fosters a spirit of unity and cooperation among all employees at UMSL and serves as a conduit to university administration to bring forward ideas and recommendations related to support staff in their work.



UMSL ALUMNI

With more than 75% of our 120,000 alumni living in the area, UMSL is the primary supplier of the St. Louis region's workforce. The success of UMSL's alumni is paramount to our regional and state success. In addition to our more than 90,000 alumni in the state, we also have a growing network of more than 30,000 alumni across the nation and globe. Our alumni are driven and compassionate citizens and understand the challenge of today's workforce and continually seek to support the university's educational excellence. The Chancellor's Council is comprised of alumni and some non-alums who are top leaders in the region and serve to advance the university at the direction of the Chancellor. The Office of Alumni Engagement and UMSL Alumni Association work diligently to advance the priorities of campus units and to produce engagement, volunteerism and giving opportunities for alumni at all stages of their careers and lives, from new alumni celebrations to Advocacy Days in Jefferson City, the state's capital, to Golden 50th reunions and regional alumni-owned business tours.

There clearly exists a rich network of successful alumni with which the next Chancellor will engage and partner to ensure long-standing success for the campus and its students and programs.



ALUMNI PROFILE

2,441 degrees awarded last academic year

119,000+ UMSL Alumni

81,800+ alumni live and work in Missouri, providing more than **\$14.3 billion** in economic impact to the state

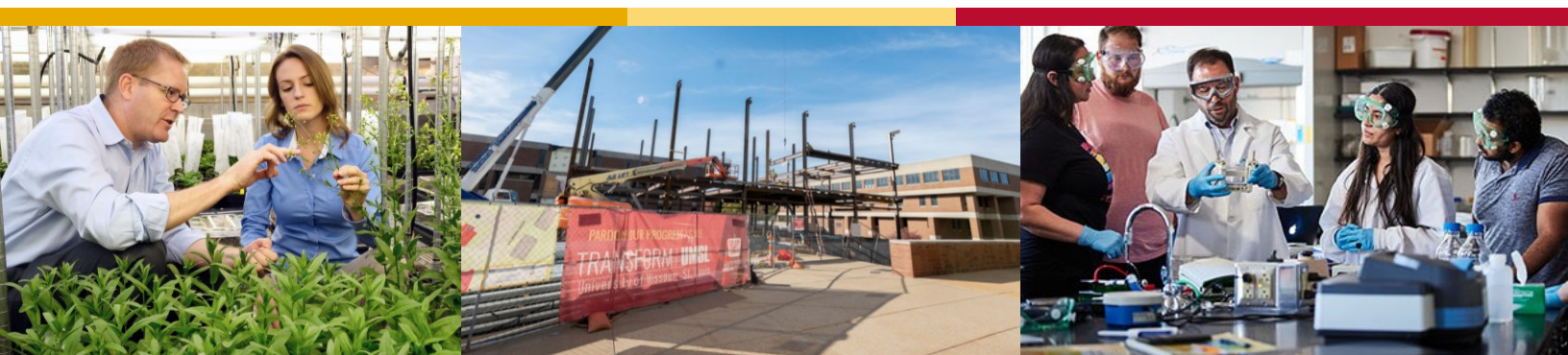
\$54,100 is the average starting salary of UMSL graduates

RESEARCH PROFILE

As the only public research university in eastern Missouri, UMSL has a responsibility to initiate and support innovative research, scholarship and creative works that enhance educational success and economic activities as well as lead to an improved understanding of the human condition. We affirm the unique research role of the University of Missouri in the state's higher education system and UMSL's focused efforts to successfully execute that important mission in the St. Louis region.

UMSL's Office of Research and Economic & Community Development provides leadership and support in the development, execution and operation of programs in sponsored research, technology commercialization and economic development at the university. Research awards and expenditures at UMSL have continued to increase year over year and reached an all-time high of \$88M and \$67.7M in FY25, respectively. During the same period, faculty submitted more than \$130M in research proposals.

Additionally, UMSL maintains a strong focus on community engagement and economic development. Through our role as an Anchor Institution, UMSL leverages the university's place-bound assets—both educational and operational—to advance the well-being of the communities that call St. Louis home.



ADVANCEMENT AND PHILANTHROPY

UMSL has an integrated development and advancement function and collectively, it serves to promote the vision, mission and strategic goals of the University of Missouri–St. Louis by strengthening awareness, engagement and financial support among constituents vital to the university's success as an exceptional public metropolitan research institution.

UMSL's University Advancement division and campus leadership are preparing for the launch of a comprehensive fundraising campaign – the university's first campaign in over a decade marking a critical step towards reinvigorating a philanthropic culture and set of actions for UMSL and its current and future donors. FY25 fundraising set an all-time record at \$46.7M with more than \$22M being directed to scholarships and student success supports and \$20M to program support. Overall, philanthropic growth has increased 135% from Fiscal Year 2020 to 2025 while endowment growth has increased 62% to \$140M over that same period. Building on that momentum, the campus is making a significant effort to catalyze new philanthropic strategies and goals and looks to the next Chancellor to serve as the face and voice of the university, engaging new levels of philanthropic activity, cultivating more corporate giving and partnership opportunities, and engaging its maturing alumni at higher frequencies and thresholds than ever before.



UMSL POINTS OF PRIDE

- UMSL is a Tier 1 national research university, according to U.S. News & World Report – ranked No. 136 among public universities.
- U.S. News ranked UMSL’s PhD in Criminology & Criminal Justice 11th nationally and it has been ranked as high as #5
- U.S. News & World Report ranked UMSL No. 87 (No. 1 in Missouri) among the nation’s “Top 100 Performers for Social Mobility” ranking – meaning that the university does an outstanding job of graduating students with extreme financial need.
- U.S. News & World Report ranked UMSL No. 1 in Missouri and No. 11 nationally for “Best Online Bachelor’s Programs.”
- U.S. News & World Report ranked UMSL No. 1 in Missouri and No. 5 nationally for “Best Online Education for Veterans.”
- More than 94 percent of UMSL’s most recent graduates are employed, volunteering or continuing in higher education post-graduation.
- UMSL alumni contributed more than \$14.3 billion in economic impact across the state.
- The Ed G. Smith College of Business holds dual AACSB accreditation in business and accounting, placing it among the top 2% of business schools internationally.
- UMSL’s Online MBA program ranked No. 1 in Missouri and No. 33 nationally in U.S. News & World Report’s rankings of Best Online MBA Programs.
- U.S. News & World Report has ranked UMSL’s undergraduate international business program among the top 25 nationally in 22 of the past 23 years.
- Washington Monthly has named UMSL one of America’s “Best Colleges for Student Voting” for five years in a row.
- UMSL is one of four universities in the U.S. to have an Educational Partnership Agreement with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency to create a geospatial career pipeline.
- College of Education students gain practical experience while training in more than twenty districts, fifty schools and fifty agencies throughout the region.
- U.S. News & World Report ranked UMSL’s Doctor of Nursing Practice Program in the Top 100 nationally in 2025.
- The School of Social Work is among U.S. News & World Report’s Top 100 “Best Schools for Social Work.” It is the largest in the state with both BSW and MSW programs.

UMSL Triton Athletics

The UMSL Tritons proudly compete in NCAA Division II athletic programs in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Its nineteen varsity sports—Men: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Swimming, Tennis, Track and Field; Women: Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Volleyball, Track and Field—are led by Athletics Director Dr. Holly Shelley.

- Among all of UMSL's 270 student-athletes the average GPA was 3.45, 42 received Straight A's, and 32 received All-GLVC Honors.
- UMSL sent six teams to NCAA Championships, had seven All-Americans and matched a school record with 187 student-athletes earning academic all-conference recognition during the 2024-25 academic year.



3.45

DEPARTMENT GPA

187

ACADEMIC ALL-GLVC HONOREES
(3.30 GPA OR ABOVE)

1

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP
WOMEN'S SOCCER

1

GLVC COACH OF THE YEAR
TROY HALTERMAN

42

STRAIGHT A'S

ALL 19
SPORTS
ABOVE A 3.00 GPA

2

GLVC PLAYERS OF THE YEAR
TROY GLOVER
WILMA ZANDERAU

3

FRESHMEN OF THE YEAR
ALAYNA SANTEL
LOGAN MAYO
MAYAN COVARRUBIAS

32

ALL-GLVC HONOREES



2024-25 BY THE NUMBERS

441-252-12

OVERALL DEPARTMENT RECORD (.634)

6

TEAM NCAA APPEARANCES

WOMEN'S SOCCER
VOLLEYBALL
MEN'S BASKETBALL
WOMEN'S SWIMMING
MEN'S GOLF
WOMEN'S GOLF

7

ALL-AMERICANS

1

SWEET SIXTEEN FINISH
MEN'S BASKETBALL

THE COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

Our nine colleges and schools, as well as our joint engineering partnership, are anchored by our award-winning faculty and nationally ranked programs, offering each student a high quality and invaluable educational opportunity.

College of Arts and Sciences

UMSL's College of Arts and Sciences creates the next poets, conservation biologists, symphony soloists, psychological scientists, historians, criminologists, chemists, sculptors, painters, communicators, space explorers and speakers of French, Japanese and Spanish. As the largest college of the University of Missouri–St. Louis, CAS provides a global student body access to an affordable, quality education with expert faculty. A strong focus on research and scholarship has students exploring the latest thought and theory, while giving them access to ground-breaking studies through undergraduate and graduate research opportunities. Emphasis on the arts and sciences working in communion leads to graduates with a holistic understanding of their fields, creating the best scholars for academia and professionals for the world.

Ed G. Smith College of Business

UMSL's Ed G. Smith College of Business educates and graduates business leaders and entrepreneurs with unparalleled drive, business savvy and superior management skills. Our 34,000 alumni shape the global and local workforce, with 80% living in the St. Louis region and driving the advancement of local industry. Part of the largest public research university in eastern Missouri, we provide our students access to an affordable, excellent education with expert faculty. Programs focus on core business principles, the latest research and teaching through real-world consulting, creating exceptional business professionals.

College of Education

UMSL's College of Education is a hub of innovation, where scholars, practitioners and education-focused entrepreneurs converge to problem solve, incubate and develop ideas and modes of practice that propel the entire field of education forward. The college provides a plethora of undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degree programs that prepare and sustain competent, dedicated and highly trained teachers for a variety of traditional and non-traditional educational settings. The college also prepares administrators, counselors, school psychologists, behavior analysts, educational scholars and entrepreneurs. One of the state of Missouri's largest developers of educators, the college is consistently recognized for its excellence in teacher preparation. Its innovative Studio School model – which has the college partnering with more than thirty local schools allows for collaborative practicum experiences that enrich future teacher's learning while also strengthening the St. Louis region.





College of Nursing

Since its founding in 1981, the UMSL College of Nursing has grown exponentially and has been at the forefront of delivering quality, affordable nursing education to the St. Louis region and beyond. Born out of a desire to meet the ever-growing need for a competently trained, professional nursing workforce, today more than eight hundred students call the College of Nursing home. The college has developed innovative partnerships with local health-care agencies to deliver state-of-the-art clinical experiences to its students and prides itself particularly on its impact on the local region, as nearly 90 percent of its alumni stay and work in St. Louis after graduation. Offering traditional BSN, RN to BSN and doctorate-level degrees in multiple formats including online off-campus and accelerated options – the college is a recognized leader in delivering compassionate, innovative, evidence-based care that quite literally results in a healthier St. Louis.

College of Optometry

The only optometry program in-state and one of a handful across the country, UMSL's College of Optometry trains the nation's optometrists and vision experts. Graduates of the program have practiced in nearly all 50 states and have taken their optometric expertise to other countries as well. Thanks to rigorous admission standards and faculty who are award-winning scholars and practitioners in their areas of expertise, the program prepares graduates to deliver compassionate patient care while instilling a sound background in the biomedical, optical, behavioral and clinical sciences, including an understanding of the health-care delivery system. A state-of-the-art, on-campus Patient Care Center, plus more than one hundred externship sites and multiple community partnerships provide students with a wide range of enriching clinical learning experiences. The Optometry Scholars Program offers an exclusive opportunity for students to develop research experience while being paired with faculty members who share their interests. Small class sizes and a fully supportive, familial atmosphere are hallmarks of the program.

Graduate School

Many of St. Louis' business leaders, influential public servants and entrepreneurs have one thing in common – an advanced degree from UMSL. In addition to relevant, challenging courses, Graduate School students participate in guided and independent research experiences, internships and assessment exams.

The Graduate School focuses on a careful balance of independent critical thinking and the ability to meet the many student requirements that vary according to background, abilities and interests. Composing a fifth of the student body, graduate students make a critical contribution to the university's mission as a public metropolitan research institution. Through thirty-three master's, fifteen doctoral and two education specialist offerings, the school provides evolving programs that advance careers and contribute to the region's economy and social advancement.

Pierre Laclède Honors College

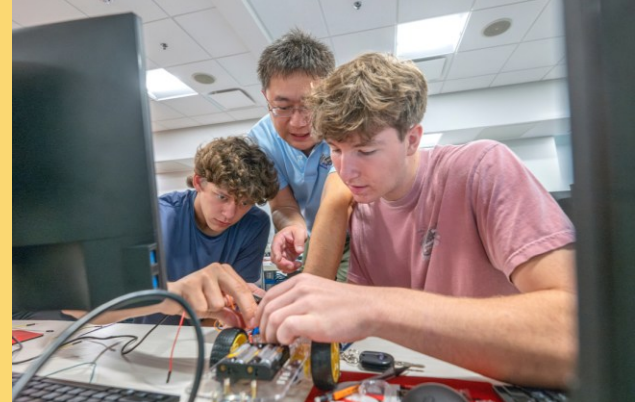
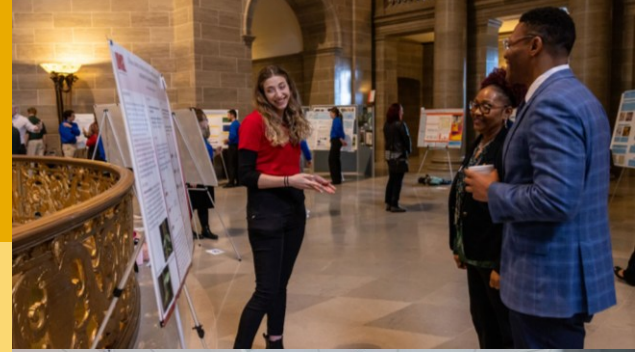
Honors College students' standout among their peers. Through small class sizes, discussion-based learning and extensive faculty interaction, undergraduate students find ways to complement their degree by accepting academic challenges and becoming creatively involved in the learning process. Unlike UMSL's other colleges, the Honors College has no academic departments and grants no degrees. Instead, it brings together a cross section of students and teachers in a distinctive curriculum, designed to meet a portion of the students' general education requirements. The Honors College provides interesting and innovative seminar courses, full-service academic advising, a First Year Experience program, a writing program and an internship program. Students also enjoy a full social calendar thanks to the student association and living and learning communities for residential students.

School of Engineering

The UMSL School of Engineering provides degree opportunities in civil, electrical and mechanical engineering to meet the need for more trained engineers in the St. Louis region and across the state. Students can expect new facilities, including state-of-the-art laboratories, active learning classrooms and modern collaborative spaces designed to foster creativity, community and discovery. This also includes high-caliber faculty that teach and engage with St. Louis industries, support staff and student success resources. As a public, urban research university, UMSL is deeply connected to the industries and people of St. Louis. Our engineering programs are built to meet the needs of today's workforce while opening doors for tomorrow's possibilities.

School of Social Work, and Psychological and Brain Sciences

The UMSL School of Social Work, Psychological and Brain Sciences (SSWPBS) is committed to advancing education, research and engagement in areas that support individual and community well-being. With award winning faculty, three community-facing mental health clinics and partnerships with over 400 community agencies, SSWPBS serves as a hub for applied learning, clinical training, research, community engagement, and service delivery.



THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI SYSTEM

The University of Missouri–St. Louis is one of four campuses of the greater University of Missouri System, each with a distinctive identity. The University of Missouri System has a budget of over \$5 billion, educates more than 70,000 students, and with 30,000 employees is the state of Missouri's second largest employer. The UM System consists of system administration and four universities: the University of Missouri (MU or Mizzou) including MU Health, MU Extension, the University of Missouri–Kansas City (UMKC), the Missouri University of Science and Technology (Missouri S&T), and the University of Missouri–St. Louis (UMSL)

The UM System has attractive, classic campuses, exceptionally well located, in each of the state's two largest cities, the University of Missouri–St. Louis and the University of Missouri–Kansas City. It also contains two historic campuses: the University of Missouri, the state's only AAU, public research-intensive university; and the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, an advanced, high growth, technological research university.

The campuses are linked programmatically and economically to ten research parks and business incubators that are distributed statewide. The University of Missouri System serves Missouri as the state's land-grant university and Missouri's only public research and doctoral-level institution. It has a unique mission to advance the opportunities for success and well-being for Missouri, the nation, and the world through transformative teaching, research, innovation, engagement and inclusion.



University of Missouri System

PRESIDENT MUN Y. CHOI

Mun Y. Choi, PhD serves as the 24th president of the University of Missouri — a dual role as chancellor of the University of Missouri and president of the University of Missouri System. In this role, he oversees the academic, business and financial aspects of the four universities, as well as a health care system and statewide extension program.

In partnership with the University of Missouri Board of Curators and university leadership, President Choi introduced a new collective vision systemwide shortly after he arrived in Columbia: to advance the opportunities for success and well-being in Missouri, the nation and the world through transformative teaching, innovative research and meaningful engagement.

As President, he has helped transform the perception of higher education's value with the university community, alumni, legislators, and Missourians.

Across the four universities, several areas marked have historic records and stronger collaboration:

- Highest level of state support in 35 years
- Highest six-year graduation rates for all students
- Highest research and development expenditures
- \$6.5 billion in annual economic impact to the state of Missouri, a 15-to-1 return on taxpayer investments
- Restored the university's credit rating with both Moody's Investors Service and S&P Global Ratings, which placed the System in the top 10% of public higher education institutions rated by these agencies
- Meaningful extension and engagement activities to better serve Missourians in agriculture support, education, health care and broadband access

THE POSITION

The University of Missouri-St. Louis community is seeking an energetic and dynamic chancellor who: **leads with integrity, empathy, and collaboration; champions students, faculty, and staff; effectuates UMSL's mission of transforming the lives of its students; and boldly advocates for the institution while building a sustainable future.**

The chancellor serves as the chief executive officer of the University of Missouri-St. Louis and reports to Mun Choi, president of the University of Missouri System. The chancellor provides strategic, academic, administrative, and external leadership of Missouri's premier urban public research university.



KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Strategic and Institutional Leadership

- Articulate and advance a clear, compelling vision aligned with UMSL's mission as a metropolitan, land-grant, community-engaged R2 research institution, ensuring long-term stability and impact
- Lead active planning to address enrollment challenges, demographic shifts, and funding constraints, while positioning UMSL for future growth and relevance
- Champion data—informed decision making to guide strategy, resource, allocation, and institutional effectiveness in alignment with principles of shared governance and partnership with UMSL's faculty, staff, students and alumni

Academic Excellence and Student Success

- Foster a culture of academic quality, engaged research, innovation, and experiential learning that balances teaching, scholarship, and community impact
- Advance student success, access, and completion, with a specific commitment to UMSL's large population of first-generation, working, Pell-eligible, veteran, and culturally varied students
- Support high-impact student programs, basic needs and mental health services, success coaching, bridge and college access, and workforce aligned pathways

Faculty and Staff Leadership

- Uphold and strengthen shared governance, ensuring faculty and staff voices are incorporated meaningfully into institutional decision making
- Invest in faculty and staff excellence through competitive compensation, research support, faculty line replenishment, in-service experiences, and intellectual vitality
- Address elements of faculty/staff morale, recruitment, retention, and pay equity recognizing faculty and staff as foundational to student success

Community Engagement and External Relations

- Serve as the institution's chief ambassador, authentically telling UMSL's story and strengthening its reputation locally, regionally, and nationally
- Deepen partnerships with St. Louis' civic, business, non-profit, governmental, and educational partners, advancing UMSL's role as an urban anchor institution
- Advance UMSL's Carnegie Community Engagement Classification, ensuring engagement remains central to institutional strategy
- Actively pursue strong relationships and solicit advice and support from UMSL alumni

Advocacy, Philanthropy, and Resource Stewardship

- Advocate effectively for UMSL within the University of Missouri System, the state of Missouri, and with external stakeholders
- Provide visionary yet pragmatic financial leadership, navigating constrained public funding while identifying innovative revenue opportunities
- Lead and support philanthropy, fundraising, and alumni engagement to attract resources aligned with institutional priorities, including launching a comprehensive campaign

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

The successful chancellor will show evidence of the following leadership attributes and personal qualities:

Leadership and Interpersonal Style

- Collaborative community-building, with a deep respect for shared governance and institutional history and culture
- Visible, accessible, and approachable to students, faculty, and staff
- Human-centered leader with strong listening, relational, and trust building skills
- Resilient and composed, maintaining credibility and momentum in political and financially complex environments
- Decisive and motivating executive capabilities to drive impacts across the university's missions

Values and Mindset

- Unwavering commitment to student success, access and excellence
- Deep appreciation for UMSL's distinctive mission
- Integrity driven, transparent, and ethical leadership
- Respect for the institution's array of disciplines, perspectives, and leadership pathways
- Optimistic, forward-thinking, and energized by the opportunity to lead a young, ambitious, and evolving institution

Strategic and External Orientation

- Politically astute with the capacity to navigate state, system, and regional dynamics affecting an urban, public university
- Compelling communicator and storyteller, effective with public audiences, donors, legislators, and campus stakeholders
- Highly effective advocate with the confidence and gravitas to represent UMSL's distinctive needs and strengths

Preferred Professional Experience and Qualifications

While no single career pathway defines success in this role, the ideal candidate will demonstrate many of the following experiences and qualifications.

- An earned terminal degree or equivalent credentials appropriate for leadership of a complex, comprehensive research university
- Demonstrated progressive senior leadership experience within higher education or business such as CEO, COO, Chancellor/President, Provost, Vice Chancellor/Vice President, Dean or comparable executive role
- Demonstrated success and/or strong willingness to working within complex governance structures, including university systems and shared governance environments
- Demonstrated experience leading or working closely with a public, urban, land-grant, research active (R2) institution
- Demonstrated commitment to data-informed leadership and institutional effectiveness
- Demonstrated familiarity with emerging higher education challenges, including AI, workforce alignment, online education, and enrollment strategy
- Demonstrated understanding of and appreciation for the distinctive role of urban, in-person and hybrid delivery campuses

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The UMSL community is seeking a chancellor who leads collaboratively with *integrity*, and *empathy*, who is *visible*, and *transparent*, who *builds trust* and accountability through *decisive leadership*, and who **moves the campus forward**. The following are some of the challenges and opportunities awaiting the next chancellor:

- It will be vital for the next chancellor to further **define UMSL's brand** and reputation within the higher education marketplace. The St. Louis metropolitan area has multiple universities from which students may choose higher education opportunities, both undergraduate and graduate. Working collaboratively with faculty and staff colleagues, community members, business leaders, and alumni it will be important to define and market UMSL's unique niche within its marketplace.
- To remain ever more competitive, the chancellor must assert the importance of UMSL remaining **strategic and innovative in course offerings and degree programs**. This will assist in maintaining a vital array of options to meet the needs of its students and ensure their success. It will also assist in placing resources appropriately, as well as increasing enrollment in high impact programs.
- The UMSL student body represents a **distinctive character** (large numbers of first-generation students, of whom many are Pell eligible and work while attending classes, and veterans). The chancellor will need to begin to fully grasp the inherent strength of UMSL's distinctive student-centered values.
- As the next Higher Learning Commission site visit will occur during 2028, an opportunity exists for the chancellor to work with campus colleagues and community leaders to develop the institution's **next Strategic Plan**—perhaps for the next five to ten years—which will emphasize a clear vision for the university's future.
- UMSL will soon embark on a **capital campaign ("Transform UMSL")**. It will be essential for the chancellor to work with the Office of University Advancement and campus leaders to provide impetus and leadership for that campaign.
- As UMSL is inextricably linked to the surrounding St. Louis community, the chancellor will need to quickly **understand the local civic, business, and economic environment** and how UMSL functions in, and can influence, those areas.
- The Chancellor will need to work closely with campus leadership to **continue developing a sustainable, long-term budget model** that supports the university's strategic priorities. This includes making decisions about areas for investment and areas for optimization, ensuring financial stewardship while positioning UMSL for continued growth and sustainability.
- The institution is proud of its **R2 research designation**, particularly as it has brought about a strong discovery and innovation connection with the St. Louis community and the state of Missouri. The chancellor will seek to solidify UMSL's balance in teaching, research and community engagement. Broadly, stakeholders agree that the next chancellor must understand and honor this balance and align UMSL's priorities accordingly.
- Concern has been expressed by some about **overall morale issues** affecting faculty and staff. Many of those matters are often connected to compensation and benefits. The chancellor should be prepared to listen to the concerns expressed and explore possible resolution.
- As a member of the University of Missouri System, it will be important for the chancellor to become familiar with the **roles and responsibilities** of the Board of Curators, President, and Chancellors.



APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

Representing **AGB Search**, Senior Executive Search Consultants **Sally Mason** and **Garry W. Owens** will be assisting the University of Missouri-St. Louis Chancellor Search Committee. Should prospective nominators or potential candidates have questions or wish to seek additional information, they are encouraged to email Executive Search Associate, Jennifer Ferrera at jennifer.ferrera@agbsearch.com to arrange a confidential conversation with either Dr. Mason or Dr. Owens prior to submitting materials.

Applicants should submit materials electronically, which should include: 1) a **letter of interest** based on the Leadership Profile, addressing specifically elements in sections labeled: *Challenges and Opportunities*, *Position Overview*, *Key Responsibilities*, *Characteristics*, and *Professional Experience and Qualifications*, in each of which describing the candidate's relevant experience in light of UMSL's needs; 2) a **current curriculum vitae**, and, 3) **names and email addresses of five references** (*please specify your professional relationship with each*). References will be contacted in the latter stages of the search.

[APPLY HERE](#)

All application materials should be submitted through the AGB Search portal system by **July 1, 2026**, for best consideration. Please direct any questions, as well as nominations or expressions of interest to: UMSLChancellor@agbsearch.com. All candidate names will remain confidential until the finalist is named publicly.

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ABOUT ST. LOUIS – MISSOURI'S GATEWAY TO PROSPERITY



St. Louis was founded, designed and built more than 250 years ago to serve as the centerpiece of a vast inland empire – a feat early St. Louisans surpassed. The city developed quickly and became the “gateway” to western American expansion.

St. Louis today is an exciting metropolitan region with more than 2.8 million people. As a large metropolitan area with access to a diverse and talented workforce, opportunities abound here.

The St. Louis region's diversified economy is home to corporate headquarters and major business divisions across a wide range of industries. Global businesses find success here because they can recruit and retain talent across a wide spectrum of competencies and industries. Fifteen Fortune 1000 companies — seven of which are in the Fortune 500 — are headquartered in the St. Louis metro area, along with eight of Forbes' largest private companies in America.

With a central location, infrastructure capacity, favorable cost structure and high-quality cultural and educational institutions, St. Louis' \$150 billion regional economy is broad and growing.

The multi-county region comprises hundreds of notable and diverse neighborhoods as well as dozens of world-class cultural and entertainment attractions.

Historic. Progressive. Diverse. St. Louis is an important national, economic and social asset.

St. Louis is Missouri's gateway to prosperity.

