# **DOLAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

### A Message from the Dean

Today more than ever the business world is in need of ethical leaders who are able to adapt to and succeed in a global environment. At the Dolan School of Business, we echo this need in our Jesuit mission and vision of educating women and men for others. Competitive forces both domestically and abroad produce markets that are in constant flux. As a result of rapid change of technology, entrepreneurial insight, and dynamic innovation, organizations are seeking leaders who can anticipate such forces and act accordingly. An education from Fairfield's Dolan School of Business makes this possible by providing:

*Faculty who are both national scholars and highly engaged and informed teachers in the classroom.* As thought-leaders in their disciplines, Dolan School faculty members use scholarly research to inform their teaching. As a result, students benefit from lectures and course activities that bring real world issues into the classroom.

*Curricula that challenge and inspire students while also providing them with the necessary tools to become true leaders in organizations.* At the undergraduate level, business education is purposively infused with a broad and rich arts and sciences university core curriculum. This results in forming engaged students who are critical thinkers, informed participants in the larger society, and highly competent contributors to both profit and not-for-profit endeavors. Regarding graduate study, Dolan's Executive DBA, MBA and various specialized MS programs afford students opportunities to study advanced business topics and master quantitative skills. Thus, Dolan students are sought after for positions in public accounting, analytics, finance and investing, human resources, and marketing.

Personal and professional development opportunities tailored to complement one's academic experiences. A rigorous academic curriculum is paramount for success; however, it is also important to develop one's character for the business world. Workshops, seminars, lectures, and experiential activities ranging from field trips to mock interviews to study abroad options are some of the many resources available to further enhance students' personal and professional capabilities.

Businesses are looking for informed, dynamic individuals who have the skills and confidence to be not only decision-makers but also "game changers"! If you are forward-thinking, highly motivated and open to challenges, then an education from the Dolan School of Business is definitely for you. I look forward to welcoming you to our community.

**Zhan Li, DBA** Dean, Dolan School of Business

# **School Overview**

The Dolan School of Business was established in 1978, having been a Department of Business Administration within the College of Arts and Sciences. In 1981, in response to a stated need by the Fairfield County business community, the School began its master of science in financial management program. The certificate for advanced study in finance was initiated in 1984. In 1994, in response to unprecedented market demand, the School introduced the Master of Business Administration program that now has concentrations in accounting, analytics, cybersecurity, economics, finance, management, and marketing. Also offered are Master of Science degrees in accounting, business analytics, finance, financial technology, management, and marketing analytics and strategy. Starting Fall 2023, the Dolan School introduced its first doctorate degree, the Executive Doctorate of Business Administration.

The School received full accreditation of its graduate and undergraduate programs by AACSB International (the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) on March 6, 1997. In 2000, the School's advancement was recognized further by a generous \$25 million gift from Charles F. Dolan, founder and chairman of Cablevision Systems Corp. and a long-time friend and trustee of the University, for whom the School is now named.

The School is housed in a state-of-the-art, 85,000 square foot building with 36 classrooms, 10 new innovative labs and centers, and leading-edge technology. The building has a 300-person event hall and meeting areas for student activities and unrivaled offices for faculty and staff. The facility, which opened in 2019, makes the School's building and facilities among the best in the nation and reflects the continual development and unlimited potential of the Dolan School of Business.

### **Mission Statement**

We are committed to the Jesuit tradition of educating the "whole" person to be a socially responsible professional who has careerready competencies and is prepared to serve others. We provide an environment that facilitates outstanding faculty who balance their commitment to meaningful and relevant teaching, service, and intellectual contributions. We foster a learning community that engages diverse students through reflective dialog. We design innovative curricula and programs shaped by involvement with alumni, business leaders, and corporate partners. We emphasize the *magis* in all that we do: inspiring tomorrow's leaders through educational excellence.

In carrying out its mission, the School typically admits graduate students who have an average of one to two or more years of professional experience. Generally, the School admits graduate students with an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.00 accompanied by a GMAT score of at least 500<sup>1</sup> (GRE also accepted). Moreover, the School requires all students seeking admission to its graduate programs to demonstrate that they either have performed satisfactorily at the undergraduate level in prerequisite courses, or will take those courses at the University or elsewhere.<sup>2</sup>

In addition, the admission process requires complete, official transcripts of all undergraduate work, two recommendations, and a self-evaluation of work experience. A committee on graduate admissions reviews the applications and selects those who will be accepted to the program.

The School offers on-line and in-person classes<sup>3</sup> to serve the needs of part-time and full-time graduate students from the regional business community as well as the national and global professional community. Class sizes are small, 20 to 25 students on average, with an emphasis on close interaction between the individual and the faculty member. The School is dedicated to the use of the latest classroom teaching technologies and it has a balanced emphasis between individual assignments and group work in a variety of different classroom formats, such as lectures, case work, experiential exercises, business projects, and research papers.

The School designs individual programs of study for students, enabling them to meet their educational goals and professional objectives. These program designs are completed upon matriculation, and each semester students may update or amend their plans in consultation with the respective Graduate Program Director. The School's faculty members have extensive professional business experience to accompany their strong academic preparation, which includes earned doctorates and, in nearly every case, previous academic work in the liberal arts and sciences, scholarly contributions and ongoing research interests, and continuing professional involvement in their chosen areas of expertise. They are dedicated to teaching excellence and their strong business and academic backgrounds give them a unique ability to bridge the gap between theory and practice.

- <sup>1</sup> GMAT/GRE requirements and waivers vary by program. Please direct questions to the Senior Assistant Dean of Graduate Programs to learn more.
- <sup>2</sup> Prerequisite requirements specific to each program are included in the Dolan School of Business' Admission section in this catalog.
- <sup>3</sup> Modality varies by program.

### **Vision Statement**

Dolan develops innovative, principled, and globally-minded business leaders for a better world through transformative experiences of modern Jesuit Catholic education.

### Degrees

- Executive Doctorate in Business Administration
- · Master of Business Administration
  - Master of Business Administration
    - Accounting Concentration
      - Taxation Specialization
    - · Analytics Concentration
    - Economics Concentration
    - Finance Concentration
    - Management Concentration
      - Global Strategy, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship
        Specialization
      - Strategic Human Resources Specialization
    - · Marketing Concentration
      - Marketing Analytics Specialization
  - · Master of Business Administration, Cybersecurity
- · Master of Science in Accounting
- Assurance Specialization
  - · Business Analytics Specialization
  - Taxation Specialization
- · Master of Science in Business Analytics
  - Accounting Specialization
  - Artificial Intelligence Specialization
  - Financial Planning and Analysis Specialization
  - · Healthcare Specialization
  - · Leadership Specialization
  - · Marketing Analytics Specialization
  - Quantitative Finance Specialization
- Master of Science in Finance
  - Accounting Specialization
  - Business Analytics Specialization
  - Corporate Finance Specialization
- · Master of Science in Financial Technology
- · Master of Science in Management

- · Master of Science in Marketing Analytics and Strategy
  - Business Analytics Specialization
  - Finance Specialization
  - Management Specialization
  - Product Management Specialization
- Graduate Certificates
  - Business Intelligence
  - Business Analytics
  - Business Essentials
  - · Financial Planning and Analysis
  - Marketing Analytics and Strategy
  - Strategic Human Resources in the Global Environment
- · Certificate of Advanced Study (Post-Master's Degree)
  - Accounting
  - Taxation

### **Career Development**

The Dolan Career Development Center provides professional development services that enrich graduate students' academic experiences and inspire tomorrow's business leaders. These opportunities allow students to learn about themselves and the business world from practitioners, as well as apply what they're learning in the classroom.

## **Individualized Career Coaching**

The Dolan Career Development Center's team is available to meet with graduate students during Drop-in Hours or by appointment.

Common topics:

- Career Exploration
- · Resume, cover letters, and LinkedIn profile reviews
- · Interview preparation
- · Internship and job search strategies
- Networking
- · AI in the job search
- · Salary negotiation and job offers assistance

#### **Employment Services**

Hundreds of employers work with the Dolan Career Development Center and University Career Center to offer on-campus interviews, collect resumes and list positions through **Stags4Hire**.

#### Networking

We offer many networking opportunities for students to meet with alumni, employers, and community partners including the Accounting Welcome Back Social, Stags in Analytics, Stags in Business, Stags in Finance, Stags in Management, and Stags in Marketing. These are mutually beneficial opportunities that allow students to learn about potential careers, internships, and job opportunities while employers look for potential talent.

#### **Interview Preparation**

Mock Interviews are an invaluable opportunity to get instant feedback to improve interview skills. Throughout the academic year, students receive

several opportunities to meet with center staff, recruiters, and alumni to hone their interview skills.

# **Internships and Co-Ops**

The Dolan School of Business views practical experience as an important part of your academic program. An internship or co-op will give graduate students the opportunity to apply classroom theories to real-world situations and use on-the-job experiences to enrich your academic program while giving you a competitive edge in the job market.

# **Programs and Events**

#### Professional in Residence (PIR)

PIRs are highly accomplished leaders from the public, private, or nonprofit sector selected to enhance the academic environment of the Dolan School by mentoring students and conducting mock interviews.

#### Stags in the City

Employer site visits provide students with an opportunity to explore a company or organization. Site visits expose students to different work environments and enable students to learn about career transitions directly from company employees. Previous site visits include Henkel, PwC, and VMLY&R.

#### Leadership Coaching

Fairfield Dolan offers personalized leadership coaching for graduate students. Leadership coaching supports the Fairfield Dolan mission of developing ethical leaders by offering personalized sessions. The sessions' content complements the services offered by the Career Development Center.

#### Money Talks: Financial Planning for College Students and New Graduates

This two-part seminar teaches students and newly minted graduates financial life skills that are not taught in the classroom. Participants will be challenged to think how they can hit the ground running once they receive their degree and place themselves on sound financial footing.

#### **Excel Workshop Series**

This three-level workshop series provides students with the technical skills needed to hit the ground running in their next internship or job: Introduction to Excel, Intermediate Excel, and Advanced Excel.