



THIS YEAR, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, celebrates 225 years of “Lighting the Way,” for the citizens of Tennessee and beyond. The Haslam College of Business is honored to be part of UT’s history and future as we strive to excel in business education and research in collaboration with our students, alumni, and corporate and governmental partners.

While statistics and rankings are just a proxy for day-to-day impacts on individuals and partner organizations, they do help showcase how the college is influencing the future of both its students and the businesses who employ them. And so—a few tidbits. Haslam MBA students saw double digit percentage increases in average starting salaries in 2019, while employment rates were strong across all of our masters programs. The MBA program received numerous accolades throughout the academic year as well, from the *Economist* (No. 21 among publics), *Bloomberg Businessweek* (No. 26 among publics and No. 16 for best learning experience), and *Forbes* (No. 27, best value).

The good news reaches beyond the graduate school to both undergraduate and executive education. The college’s undergraduate business program climbed to No. 27 in the *Poets&Quants* list, while *U.S. News & World Report* placed Haslam at No. 30 among public business schools. *The Financial Times* recognized Haslam executive education as No. 1 in the world

for facilities and program support and No. 4 among publics in its overall program ranking.

While the numbers solidly represent the fruits of faculty, students, staff, alumni, friends, and the greater business community working together, what often gains less notice are the deep commitments of time, talent, and treasure that enable such results. In this issue, we’ve chosen to highlight people and programming that create such a sense of community and excellence at Haslam.

Leaders like Sharon Pryse (*page 14*) bring people together who enrich communities here in East Tennessee and beyond. Our master’s in supply chain management online program (*page 6*) gathers students from all walks of life into an environment where new perspectives can embolden the educational process. Ralph Korpman (*page 18*) saw the value of entrepreneurial support and stepped forward to extend opportunities to more students through a gift to the Anderson Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Visionaries like Leigh Burch (*page 28*), Tyvi Small (*page 12*), and Russell Crook (*page 26*) are transforming the greater Knoxville community and supporting students in creative and impactful ways. Each of these is a fitting and inspiring example of what it means to be a Tennessee Volunteer.

And so, as the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, celebrates 225 years and sets its sight on the next 225, know that because of your efforts and those of many like you, the Haslam College of Business will continually strive to lead the way in realizing the great potential of this great university. Thank you for being a part of our story, this and every year.

With gratitude,

Stephen L. Mangum

DEAN AND STOKELY FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP CHAIR
HASLAM COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

HASLAM

M A G A Z I N E

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