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# AACSB recognizes Georgia Southern University College of Business alumnus as 2018 Influential Leader

MARCH 2, 2018

Georgia Southern College of Business alumnus Lt. Gen. Leslie C. Smith ('85) was one of 29 people recognized as a member of the 2018 Influential Leaders class by the the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International, the world's largest business education network.

Smith, who was recently promoted to a three-star lieutenant general in the U.S. Army, was recognized during the AACSB International 2018 Deans Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, in early February. Those recognized were considered business pioneers from 13 industry sectors and have careers that address today's most pressing social, economic, environmental and educational challenges.

Those selected for the 2018 Influential Leaders class were recognized across three categories, including Alumni Business Leaders Working in Nonprofit or Community-Based Organizations, Alumni Business Leaders Advancing Diversity and Inclusion and Business Leaders Influencing Business Education.

AACSB International celebrated the positive impact business school graduates are making in communities around the globe as part of the 2018 Influential Leaders Challenge. As an annual initiative, the challenge honors notable alumni from accredited schools whose inspiring work serves as a model for the next generation of business leaders.

"Each honoree from the 2018 class of influential leaders reflects the mindset, knowledge and passion that impactful business leaders must embody to impart positive change in today's society," said Thomas R. Robinson, president and CEO of AACSB. "We would like to thank Lt. Gen. Smith for demonstrating the true excellence and leadership we wish to see in the world, and we congratulate Georgia Southern's College of Business for their role in helping to mold a new generation of global business leaders dedicated to driving impact that results in global prosperity."

After graduating with an accounting degree in 1985, Smith entered the U.S. Army as a chemical officer. In 2001, he assumed command of the 83rd Chemical Battalion, where elements of the Battalion deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Following command, he served on the U.S. Army staff in the G-8 as the deputy division chief and as chief of the NBC Branch for the Full Dimensional Protection Division.

In 2005, Smith assumed command of the 3rd Chemical Brigade at Fort Leonard Wood and later served as the G-3, 20th Support Command, and from 2008 to 2010, the 25th chief of Chemical and Commandant of the U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear School. In 2010, he became the fourth commander of the U.S. Army 20th Support Command (CBRNE – Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosives).



*College of Business alumnus Lt. Gen. Leslie C. Smith ('85)*

Prior to his current position in the U.S. Army, Smith was commanding general of the U.S. Army Maneuver Support Center of Excellence at Fort Leonard Wood. In 2017, he was named the Georgia Southern University College of Business Alumnus of the Year. Smith has received 22 medals, awards and badges throughout his years of service to our country. He has an impressive record having earned the expert parachutists' badge, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Bronze Star with an Oak Leaf cluster and the U.S. Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf cluster.

Smith currently serves as inspector general to the Office of the Secretary of the U.S. Army.

### **About AACSB International**

As the world's largest business education alliance, AACSB International —The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) — connects educators, students and business to achieve a common goal: to create the next generation of great leaders. Synonymous with the highest standards of excellence since 1916, AACSB provides quality assurance, business education intelligence and professional development services to almost 1,600 member organizations and more than 795 accredited business schools worldwide. With its global headquarters in Tampa, Florida; Europe, Middle East, and Africa headquarters in Amsterdam, the Netherlands; and Asia Pacific headquarters in Singapore, AACSB's mission is to foster engagement, accelerate innovation, and amplify impact in business education. For more information, visit [aacsb.edu](http://aacsb.edu).

### **About Georgia Southern University College of Business**

The Georgia Southern University College of Business is one of eight colleges at the University and accredited through AACSB-International. The College offers four graduate degree programs, nine undergraduate degrees and ten certificate programs. The College of Business is known for producing career-ready professionals, utilizing theoretical and practical knowledge, through an engaging learning environment, research and service.

### **About Georgia Southern University**

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research institution founded in 1906, offers 142 degree programs serving more than 27,000 students through nine colleges on three campuses in Savannah, Statesboro, Hinesville and online instruction. A leader in higher education in southeast Georgia, the University provides a diverse student population with expert faculty, world-class scholarship and hands-on learning opportunities. Georgia Southern creates lifelong learners who serve as responsible scholars, leaders and stewards in their communities. Visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu).

# Clothing Closet helps students dress for success

MARCH 2, 2018



Georgia Southern University's Office of Career and Professional Development recently hosted the sixth annual Clothing Closet on the Armstrong Campus in Savannah. During the event, more than 370 students selected individual garment pieces, shoes and accessories to comprise one business outfit, free of charge.

"The Clothing Closet is truly a unique event at the Georgia Southern Armstrong Campus," said Office of Career and Professional Development Director Glenn Gibney. "Over the past six years, through the generosity of our campus and

Savannah community, we have been able to provide an event where any student can select a complete professional outfit for interviews and work after graduation."

Clothing, shoes and accessories were donated throughout the year by faculty and staff within the University and by members of the Savannah community. This year, a financial contribution from the event's first corporate sponsor, MembersFirst Credit Union, allowed the Office of Career and Professional Development to purchase new accessories, including jewelry, belts and wallets, for students.

"The Clothing Closet was a fantastic experience," said doctor of physical therapy (DPT) student Jared Hanna. "All of the Georgia Southern staff were more than willing to help. From sizing to outfit layout, everyone was kind and purposeful in making sure we had the right clothes for the right occasion."

Staff members spoke to students about the importance of appropriate dress in the workplace and answered questions about matching clothing and building an ensemble.

"I think that this program is a fantastic opportunity for students to feel beautiful and professional before their big interview day," said Megan Eisenberg, also a DPT student.

Dressing for success is key to any interview, noted Gibney.

"At the end of the day what we're looking to do is help students create their personal and professional brand that they present to potential employers," he said. "This complements their great education."

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