

# highlights

for enterprising students and creative enterprise



## The Next Generation of Business Leaders

### Expansion to Catapult Careers

Saunders College of Business breaks ground this fall on its \$19 million renovation and expansion to Max Lowenthal Hall, home of RIT's Saunders College. This expansion adds more than 35,000 square feet and almost doubles the building's current footprint, and made possible by a transformational \$7.5 million gift from serial entrepreneur and philanthropist **E. Philip Saunders**, a \$4.7 million grant from New York State as part of the Higher Education Capital Matching Grant Program, and the help of many RIT friends and alumni. There will also be significant renovations on the existing facility made possible through a \$1.8 million gift from alumnus Chance Wright.

The expansion and renovation transforms the learning environment for students across academic departments as it adds collaborative student spaces, flexible case analysis rooms, and applied research labs -all that support experiential-based, interdisciplinary learning and research. Plans for the four-story expansion also includes an auditorium and adjacent reception areas, a food venue, and a large, multi-functional event space with a catering kitchen and outdoor patios with expansive views of campus.

New event spaces provide more applied learning opportunities for students in the international hospitality and service innovation (IHSI) department, that joined Saunders College in 2019, as well as accommodate distinguished speakers, conferences, receptions, and lectures, for the entire college.



Design by LaBella Associates



## BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY UNLOCKED

### experience | unlocked

- Strong business and industry connections
- Real-world learning experiences
- Over 95% career outcomes rate

### innovation | unlocked

- Top STEM university resources
- Highly-ranked technology-infused business programs
- Strong interdisciplinary innovation and entrepreneurship center

### passions | unlocked

- Students create their own brand
- Programs customizable across 9 RIT colleges
- Global campuses and resources

### connections | unlocked

- Dedicated and accessible advisors and faculty
- Low student-faculty ratio
- 25,000 Saunders Business alumni





Jacqueline Mozrall, Ph.D.  
Dean of Saunders  
College of Business

“This building expansion and renovation will transform the educational environment and present a new era for business education and the next generation of business leaders. Enhancing interdisciplinary collaborations, elevating applied education and research, and expanding community engagement with the Rochester region and beyond. We are so grateful for the generous gifts from E. Phillip Saunders, Chance Wright, and other RIT friends and alumni, who have made this possible” said Dean Jacqueline Mozrall.

The building expansion and renovation project is scheduled to be completed in less than two years after the start of construction, officially opening to welcome students in fall of 2023.

## STEM-Designated Graduate Portfolio

The expansion is also fueling contemporary facilities to support Saunders’ master of science in accounting and analytics, master of science in finance, and master of business administration (MBA) that recently became STEM-designated, bringing the total number of STEM-designated programs to seven. Now a majority of the graduate portfolio integrates science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) to better prepare all students for the future of business, while allowing international students to work up to three years in the U.S.A.

The **masters of accounting and analytics program**, previously known as masters of accounting, was revised as the field has become more dependent upon the access and analysis of data in driving decision making. Program Director **Rong Yang** led the development of the new curriculum, based on expert opinion shared through various forums, including employer focus groups and the **Saunders Accounting Advisory Board**.

To better prepare finance professionals who are confronted with diverse data streams, innovative software products,

and an increased requirement for quant literacy, the **master’s of finance** program offers extensive exposure to these domain-related areas. Graduates of the **MBA program** have the opportunity to develop strong skills in managing and leading in business today – at the intersection of business and technology – understanding how to most effectively integrate technology to drive business. These graduate programs are taught by top business faculty, with strong applied research and industry experience, including professors in the **top 1%** for management information systems.



Bryan Reinicke, Ph.D.  
MBA Program Director

View more Saunders highlights at [saunders.rit.edu/highlights](https://saunders.rit.edu/highlights)

## Saunders Hosted Mr. Wonderful



ABC’s Shark Tank Kevin O’Leary, aka Mr. Wonderful, was the keynote speaker of the **11th J. Warren McClure Lecture Series** in April. Mr. Wonderful is known from a range of shows, including Discovery’s Project Earth and CBC’s Dragons’ Den, as well as launching O’Leary Financial Group, O’Leary Fine Wines and author of three number #1 best-selling books.

More than 1,700 registered for the virtual event as part of the **marketing-focused** lecture series. Mr. Wonderful talked to RIT students, faculty, staff, and community members about the new, productive, digital America. He closed with a discussion, that included select Saunders V.I.P. attendees.

**Click here for videos from Mr. Wonderful’s presentation.**

[saunders.rit.edu/mcclure](https://saunders.rit.edu/mcclure)



# RIT

Saunders  
College of  
Business

Saunders College of Business is one of nine colleges at Rochester Institute of Technology and is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International (AACSB). Recognized and ranked internationally, Saunders is home to nearly 2,500 undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in programs across RIT Global Campuses in Rochester, New York, Croatia, Dubai, Kosovo, and China. Saunders College works in partnership with RIT’s entrepreneurial Venture Creations incubator

and top-ranked Albert J. Simone Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship to integrate business education with RIT’s world-leading technical and creative programs. With over 25,000 alumni worldwide, Saunders College offers undergraduate (BS), master’s (MS), master of business administration (MBA), and Executive MBA (EMBA) programs where students gain real-world business experiences through a tradition of applied learning, cooperative education, and capstone programs.

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Rochester Institute of Technology  
Saunders College of Business