



**Media Contact:**  
**Cynthia Corzo**  
**305-348-1664**  
[ccorzo@fiu.edu](mailto:ccorzo@fiu.edu)

## **FIU partners with BMI Financial Group, Inc. to create unique job opportunities for business students**

**MIAMI (April 26, 2018)** – BMI Financial Group, Inc. (BMI) has partnered with FIU to develop two unique programs that will provide support and hands-on learning opportunities for business students.

The programs will be known as the BMI Global Business Experience and the BMI Eminent Scholars Program.

“Through this investment in its community, BMI hopes to nurture and keep talented future business professionals in South Florida and develop a private-public partnership that can serve as a successful national model for corporations and universities in the future,” said Andrew Sierra, vice president, treasurer, and chief compliance officer at BMI. “Being able to contribute to the cultivation of great Miami talent in this way, is truly rewarding to us and to our community”

The BMI Global Business Experience is a blended scholarship and experiential learning opportunity. Top FIU Business upperclassmen will experience firsthand the inner workings of one of BMI’s international offices in Colombia, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, or Guatemala during a summer program. Students will work directly with the host office’s president and leadership team, who will mentor and coach students as they tackle real-world business challenges. In addition, BMI will pair each student with a mentor from its Miami leadership team, invite students to its Miami headquarters, and host events throughout the school year.

Through the BMI Eminent Scholars Program, top local freshmen admitted to FIU Business who demonstrate academic excellence and financial need will be invited to apply for a full-tuition scholarship. More than a scholarship program, BMI Eminent Scholars will receive mentorship from BMI leaders and internship opportunities, which will help prepare them for the demands of the workplace.

“We are excited to partner with BMI Financial Group, Inc.,” said Joanne Li, dean of FIU’s College of Business. “These two unique programs hold the potential to be game-changers for our students, giving them vitally needed support and invaluable real-world experiences.”

Students seeking more information about the BMI scholarships may contact Megan Meeks, FIU Business' director of corporate relations: [mmeeks@fiu.edu](mailto:mmeeks@fiu.edu) or 305-348-7953.

#### **About FIU:**

*Florida International University is classified by Carnegie as a “RI: Doctoral Universities - Highest Research Activity” and recognized as a Carnegie Community Engaged university. It is a public research university with colleges and schools that offer bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral programs in fields such as business, engineering, computer science, international relations, architecture, law and medicine. As one of South Florida’s anchor institutions, FIU contributes almost \$9 billion each year to the local economy. The university received honors in all categories of The Chronicle of Higher Education’s “2017 Great Colleges to work for.” FIU graduates are consistently among the highest paid college graduates in Florida and are among the leaders of public and private organizations throughout South Florida. FIU is Worlds Ahead in finding solutions to the most challenging problems of our time. FIU emphasizes research as a major component of its mission with multiple state-of-the-art research facilities including the Wall of Wind Research and Testing Facility, FIU’s Medina Aquarius Program and the Advanced Materials Engineering Research Institute. FIU has awarded more than 220,000 degrees and enrolls more than 54,000 students in two campuses and centers including FIU Downtown on Brickell, FIU@I-75, the Miami Beach Urban Studios, and Tianjin, China. FIU also supports artistic and cultural engagement through its three museums: Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, the Wolfsonian-FIU, and the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU. FIU is a member of Conference USA and more than 400 student-athletes participating in 18 sports. For more information about FIU, visit <http://www.fiu.edu/>.*

#### **About the FIU Foundation, Inc.:**

*Established in 1969, the Florida International University Foundation, Inc. (FIU Foundation) is registered by the State of Florida as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. As defined in Florida Statute section 1004.28, the FIU Foundation has also been certified as a Direct Support Organization (DSO) of Florida International University. Governed by a board of directors, the FIU Foundation serves to encourage, solicit, receive, and ethically administer gifts for scientific, educational, and charitable purposes for the advancement of FIU. Through philanthropy, the FIU Foundation provides the margin of excellence that makes FIU a Worlds Ahead institution. For more information, visit [give.fiu.edu](http://give.fiu.edu).*

#### **About FIU Business:**

*Florida International University’s College of Business plays a pivotal role in the development of global business leaders. The largest of FIU’s professional schools with over 10,000 students, FIU Business has unique expertise in international business, data analytics, entrepreneurship, healthcare management, and a broad range of financial services, with a faculty ranking among the Top 100 in the U.S. in UT Dallas’ survey of research productivity. In the 2018 edition of U.S. News’ Best Colleges report, the undergraduate international business program was ranked #7 in the U.S. The Master of Science in Human Resource Management and the undergraduate degree program in human resource management were both ranked #1 by HR.com in 2018. FIU Business was also ranked #16 among the Best Graduate Schools for the online graduate business programs in 2017 by U.S. News. Two FIU Business international business programs are ranked among the Top 15 nationwide by U.S. News & World Report and Financial Times. The faculty research of the Hollo School of Real Estate was ranked #1 in the U.S. and #2 globally by the Journal of Real Estate Literature for three consecutive years. More than 8,000 students are enrolled in the college’s R. Kirk Landon Undergraduate School of Business, and over 2,000 study in its Alvah H. Chapman Jr. Graduate School of Business every year. Another 1,000 business*

*professionals participate annually in one or more of FIU Business' professional and executive education programs.*