

Executive MBA program admits most diverse class ever

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The Executive MBA program at Tulane University's A. B. Freeman School of Business recently admitted the most diverse class in program history, with increased percentages of minority, female and military veteran students.

“More than other programs, the Executive MBA enhances learning by connecting students with peers from different backgrounds, industries and functional areas, creating opportunities for professional development and career advancement,” said Ira Solomon, dean of the Freeman School. “The diversity of the class leads to a more valuable educational experience, so we are especially proud of this outstanding cohort.”

This year’s New Orleans EMBA class is 50% female, the highest percentage in program history, and comprises 32% underrepresented minorities. In addition, 14% are U.S. military veterans.

Students in the class average 18 years of work experience and 23% have advanced degrees. While 45% of the class is from the Greater New Orleans area, the rest of the class is drawn from across the region, including 14% from the Baton Rouge/Gonzalez area, 5% from Lafayette and 9% from Texas.

“The 2022 MBA class is the most diverse group that I’ve been part of,” said Terry Tahal, who was recently promoted to refinery manager at Domino Sugar Chalmette Refinery. “In just a few months, I have gained knowledge from my classmates about their industries, culture and international experiences that I can apply to both my personal and professional life. I look forward to continuing to share with and learn from this EMBA cohort through the rest of the program.”

A wide variety of industries, organizations and roles are represented in the class. Students come from traditionally strong regional industries such as energy, natural resources and health care as well as newcomers like the motion picture industry.

“This EMBA journey has been both intimidating and empowering,” said Amy Mitchell-Smith, producer with Cienega Pictures in Baton Rouge. “As a film producer, I am the ultimate entrepreneur and storyteller, and my EMBA peers have shared that they are learning from me in these areas. I know that the Tulane EMBA program and my peers here are making me a better leader.”

The next EMBA cohort will begin in January 2022. For more information, visit emba.tulane.edu.