

## **Entrepreneurship Programs at Belmont, Simmons Gain National Top 25 Ranking**

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Entrepreneurship programs at Simmons College School in Boston, MA, and Belmont University in Nashville, TN, have been named among the top 25 entrepreneurship programs in the nation by *Entrepreneur* magazine and The Princeton Review, which jointly surveyed more than 2,300 schools. The sixth annual ranking reveals the nation's Top 25 undergraduate and Top 25 graduate programs for entrepreneurship. Belmont ranked 23rd in the undergraduate category, and Simmons ranked 22nd in the graduate category.

The schools were evaluated based on key criteria in the areas of academics and requirements, students and faculty, and outside-the-classroom experiences.

Amy Cospers, VP/editor in chief at *Entrepreneur*, said, "Each school that made the list demonstrates excellence in one or more areas—whether in regards to course offerings, the success of students post-graduation, sponsored mentorship programs or other important factors. Schools that made the ranking are an excellent research starting point for prospective entrepreneurship students."

Belmont's program also received the National Model Undergraduate Program of the Year by the United States Association of Small Business and Entrepreneurship earlier this year.

"Belmont made the commitment to create a quality program in entrepreneurship, and I am proud that we have been able to make so much progress in only five years," said Dr. Jeff Cornwall, director of Belmont's Center for Entrepreneurship and holder of the Jack C. Massey Chair in Entrepreneurship. "To be singled out from the hundreds of universities across the country is a testimony to the support we have gotten from the students, alumni, faculty, staff and administration of Belmont and the Nashville business community."

The Simmons School of Management is the first, and leading, business school in the country designed for women. Earlier this month, the Simmons MBA program was profiled in the *Financial Times*, which highlighted the school's cutting-edge mission to educate women for power and principled leadership.

"We're very proud of our national recognition," said Simmons School of Management Dean Deborah Merrill-Sands. "We've built a dynamic program with an innovative curriculum and active engagement of entrepreneurs and associated professionals that ensures a real-world, intense learning experiences for students who want to launch and grow new ventures."

The results of the survey, along with the analysis, appear in the October issue of *Entrepreneur*, which hits newsstands on Sept. 23.