

# School of Business

*Reinventing Business*

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THE CAMPAIGN FOR USD

## Institute for Finance, Education and Research: \$300,000

### Background

The School of Business is seeking \$300,000 to establish the **Institute for Finance, Education and Research**. The Institute for Finance Education and Research (IFER) will serve as a bridge between academia and industry in the field of finance. The institute will promote and sponsor innovations in teaching, research and the application of financial knowledge in the global corporate and investment communities. The institute's mission is to connect students, alumni and faculty with the finance community to transform fundamental knowledge into applicable practices that benefit today's global economy. It is designed to serve as a hub for the many events, training courses and research projects that are being pursued by our faculty and students.

### Objective

Launched only a few years ago, the finance major is the largest major in the School of Business, with more than 400 students. At the MBA level, more than half of all full-time students declare an emphasis in finance. Additionally, the school recently added a Master of Science in Finance and the first cohort began in August 2015. The finance faculty members have been actively working to prepare students for the highest-level jobs in corporate finance, investment banking and private wealth management. Although the School of Business has had wonderful success placing students in such jobs in New York, San Francisco, London and other financial centers, it needs to greatly expand these opportunities. The Institute for Finance Education and Research will bring executives to classes, panels and interview workshops, as a way to connect students to

experts in the industry, and prepare them for job searches and careers.

### Impact

The institute will also provide support to, and coordinate the efforts of, a number of exciting initiatives the finance faculty has been pursuing. For instance, a new Student Finance Association, which meets regularly, hosts guest speakers and helps with career advice. The School of Business also recently received gifts to establish two separate student investment funds. Students learn portfolio management skills and make recommendations for asset allocation using real funds. In addition, the faculty offers a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) training program designed to prepare students for the Level I CFA exam.

Furthermore, students have participated in, and won, investment competitions that encompass dozens of schools. These disparate activities are all intended to serve students as they seek jobs at premier financial services firms. The Institute for Finance Education and Research will serve as a hub that provides coordination and leverage.

### For More Information

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