

**STLBAC Announces Scholarships
For Small Business Growth Mastery Program
in conjunction with the SLU Family Firm Forum**

ST. LOUIS, MO — St. Louis Business Advisory Council (STLBAC) has announced the availability of partial scholarships for a 24-month Small Business Growth Mastery Program as part of the Family Firm Forum at St Louis University during Small Business Week.

John R. Daley, president of the Daley Institute, the developers of the Small Business Growth Mastery Program, would facilitate this intensive two-year program hosted by St. Louis University's Smurfit-Stone Center for Entrepreneurship. Daley is an alumni of St Louis University Masters of International Business.

The 24-month program provides business owners with a thorough diagnostic of their business, a strategic plan, and supervised implementation and execution leading up to a graduation for the business leaders that participate.

According to Daley, the St. Louis Business Advisory Council, a nonprofit organization, is dedicated to helping businesses in the St. Louis region increase their odds for success. He said that the ultimate goal of this program supports that mission as it helps participants take their businesses to the next level and transforms business owners into business leaders. Involving college students as interns will provide both the students and business owners with a whole new perspective.

“The bottom line is that graduates of the Small Business Growth Mastery Program build a larger business on a stronger foundation. These business owners and students also gain new knowledge, experience, and skills to lead their organizations,” Daley added.

Business owners that qualify would benefit from a highly structured 24-month growth program involving seven to twelve business owners currently operating

businesses of similar size but that are not competitive with each other, according to Daley.

He added that as a learning experience, undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in St. Louis University's business programs work alongside ten professional business coaches from the Daley Institute to guide participants to a successful conclusion. "Everyone learns," said Daley, indicating that the business owner, the students, and our staff of coaches are working and learning together.

STLBAC is currently accepting applications from businesses with revenues of 50 million or less that feel they are committed to grow in a 24-month period.

Business owners may apply for a scholarship directly from STLBAC. Scholarship funds may be applied to the fees for the program or owners can pass on the scholarship and opt to award an amount equal to the scholarship to St Louis University's Smurfit-Stone Center for Entrepreneurship.

Those business owners wishing to be considered can obtain additional information and an application by attending the **Family Firm Forum** at the St. Louis University Campus, John Cook School of Business, and Anheuser Busch Auditorium on Wednesday, May 7, 2008, between 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. or by contacting the Daley Institute at admissions@daleyinstitute.com or by calling 636-527-7627.

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