

# Bethel University

## College of Professional Studies

Vol. 1 Issue 2

## Quarterly Alumni Newsletter

Welcome to the Winter 2020 issue of the Quarterly Alumni Newsletter for Bethel University's College of Professional Studies. Throughout the reading, you will find university updates, an alumni success story, and opportunities to get involved!

### News & Updates

#### Fall Commencement

CPS proudly welcomed 267 graduates to the Bethel alumni family following Fall Commencement in December. Of the 267 CPS graduates, 176 were undergraduates and 88 were graduate students. An impressive 41% of CPS undergraduate students graduated with Honors, having maintained an overall GPA of 3.70 or higher! [Click here](#) to view a short video featuring Bethel University graduates.

#### Dean's List

In the upcoming months, CPS will publish its first Dean's List. The list will recognize full-time students who earn a 3.70 GPA while completing a minimum of 12 graded credit hours. CPS is excited to have the opportunity to acknowledge the exceptional academic achievements of its students. The Dean's List will be published on the CPS Facebook [page](#) and Bethel University [website](#).

#### Minuteman Award

Bethel University received the Minuteman Award on October 28. The award was presented to the College of Professional Studies by the Tennessee Army National Guard in recognition of "the university's participation in the Tennessee Support, Training, and Renewing Opportunity for National Guardsmen (STRONG) Act and its contribution to the National Guard community through education." To find out more, read the full press release [here](#).

#### Fire Science Concentration

CPS is now offering a Fire Science concentration. The Fire Science concentration covers management, business, and leadership topics, as well as fire protection, risk reduction, and fire administration. The concentration is only offered with the Organizational Leadership program. Students are required to complete 27 semester hours of major courses along with 18 semester hours of concentration requirements in order to complete a bachelor's degree. Visit the Bethel University [website](#) to learn more.

### Upcoming Events

#### Alumni Trip

The Bethel University Alumni Association announced the C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien Alumni and Friends Tour. Participants will travel to Ireland and England from June 24 - July 5, 2020. Travelers will partake in historical tours through Belfast, Oxford, and Cambridge. For more information and pricing, [click here](#).

#### Leadership Seminar

CPS will be offering a 21st Century Leadership seminar on February 22 at 9 a.m. on the main campus in McKenzie. The course will provide attendees with the building blocks to form their own personal leadership skill set to address the needs and demands of successful organizations in the 21st century. To learn more, contact Dr. Mandy Fisher at [continuinged@bethelu.edu](mailto:continuinged@bethelu.edu).



## Alumni Spotlight

Dr. Lisa Piercey joined Governor Bill Lee's cabinet as commissioner for the Tennessee Department of Health in February 2019. Piercey is a board-certified child abuse pediatrician with a medical degree from East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine. After earning her medical degree, Piercey attended Bethel University's College of Professional Studies where she earned a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree in 2009.

“ The MBA program at Bethel University changed the trajectory of my career. ”

Before earning her MBA at Bethel University, Piercey worked as a general pediatrician in private practice. While she was content in her chosen career path, Piercey described herself as “searching for something.” Having grown up in a family of small business owners, Piercey recognized her interest in the marketing and business fields. Piercey chose to further her education in business at Bethel University because the program was the “most convenient” to juggle in conjunction with her busy work schedule and family responsibilities.

While completing her MBA, Piercey found that she genuinely enjoyed the business healthcare field. Her experiences led to her splitting time between the clinic and hospital so that she could continue practicing while also exploring her interest in the business realm. Ultimately, Piercey decided to pursue hospital administration fulltime after the completion of her degree.

In her role as commissioner, Piercey is responsible for all operations of the Tennessee Department of Health. The department of health aids each county in the state of Tennessee through services such as immunizations, primary care, emergency preparedness, and outbreak investigations, among other services.

Although awards are not Piercey's motivation, she has received several throughout her career. These awards include Rural Healthcare Executive of the Year, Outstanding Woman in Business, and Reader's Choice Best Pediatrician, among others. Piercey's objective for the future is to better the lives of rural Tennesseans. Piercey stated, “My goal is to do what I can and use the talents that I have been given to serve Tennesseans.”

If you would like to be featured in a future Alumni Spotlight, or if you would like to share your professional achievements with your alma mater, send an email to [webba@bethelu.edu](mailto:webba@bethelu.edu) or register online. We would love to hear from you!

## Keep in Touch

Be sure to check out the [Alumni page](#) on the Bethel University website. From this page, alumni can learn more about upcoming events, career opportunities at Bethel University, how to give back, and much more. If you haven't completed the Alumni Registration Form, [click here](#).

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