





Intense. Intimate. Inspiring.

## **The Joseph H. Lauder Institute of Management & International Studies**

Equipping yourself with an MBA from The Wharton School or a JD from Penn Law, combined with an MA in International Studies from the University of Pennsylvania's School of Arts & Sciences, is smart business.

As a pioneer in intercultural management education with international studies, language and cross-cultural proficiencies, the Lauder Institute offers students:

- Joint-degree Master of Arts in International Studies
- Regional expertise through the customized language and culture programs
- The study of global business, intercultural management, and the impact of geopolitics on business practices in the new global program
- Two-month, in-region immersion programs
- Supportive global community of students, alumni, faculty, and corporate leaders
- Dedicated Lauder faculty

During the course of the 24-month program, students learn about economics, culture, language, history, politics, and more.

# The Lauder Institute Class of 2021



## **AFRICA**

### **Anglophone**

Stephenie Akanjo  
Jonte Boysen  
Ludmila Esteves Oliveira

### **Francophone**

Jordan Anoma  
Hayley Doner  
Martin Harari  
Ryan MacDonald  
Joaquín Ormeño  
Issa Saunders



## **EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA**

### **Japanese**

Shia Li Lum  
Scott Y. Yang

### **Korean**

Ted (Wutae) Lee  
Christina S. Nam  
Sooky Park

### **Mandarin Chinese**

Jason Chen  
Alexander Cohen  
Sharon Guan  
Daniel Huang  
Leslie Peng  
Teddy Shih  
Sam Taffer  
Alyssa Toh  
Jerry Xu  
Anna Zhang

## **EUROPE**



### **French**

Chengyan Feng  
William Gallagher  
Brandon Thomas Mayhew\*  
Samaria O'Brien  
Caitlin Veator  
Alison Wawrzyniek



### **German**

Kevin Bock  
Julius Sukarevicius



## **Russian**

Miguel Armaza  
Erin Murphy



## **GLOBAL**

Guilherme dos Santos Honorio  
Bernardo Garcia  
Vivian Guo  
Matthew Lee  
Peixin Mo  
Jay (Jei Wook) Moon  
Conrado Reyna Kurtz  
Alan (Yi Heng) Wang  
Charlene You



## **SOUTH ASIA, THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA**

### **Hindi**

Lynn Bernabei  
Eshan Gupta  
Vivek Mukherjee  
Mariam Waqar

## **LATIN AMERICA**



### **Portuguese**

Kevin Ankerholz  
Nicolás Baviano Pérez-Tabernero  
Laura Lennon  
Jose Maria Ocampo  
Steven Peralta  
Margaret Roberts



### **Spanish**

Nicholas Brayer  
Joshua Carmenate  
Julie Castelbaum  
Bianca Gomiero Fernandes  
Carter William Patrick Goman  
Priyanka Juneja  
Paula Suzanne Lapciuc  
Braeden Mayer  
Anthony Morano  
Mark Nichols  
Alex Rubilar  
Iacopo Santini  
Robert Shepherd  
Thomas von Buettner

**\*JD/MA Program**





## STEPHENIE AKANJO

Steph was born and raised in Accra, Ghana and moved to New York after high school. She attended Baruch College, where she pursued a Bachelors in Economics due to her passion for driving economic development on the African continent.

After graduating from Baruch College, she joined AXA's competitive Management Rotational Program, where she rotated through Product Development, Corporate Strategy, and Operational Transformation. She played a critical role in the product development of the firm's mutual fund platform.

Focused on strengthening her strategic skill set and developing an understanding of the payments industry, Steph joined American Express as a Strategy Analyst. In this role she provided insights and recommendations to empower the Global Merchant Services to achieve operational efficiencies and drive growth. She was promoted to Business Development Manager after successfully developing the U.S. Marketing Merchant Program, leading to merchant satisfaction and a significant decrease in operational and logistics costs. Additionally, she led merchant analysis and segmentation for the firm's products.

Steph is the co-founder of Kada Essentials, a social enterprise beauty brand. Kada Essentials is focused on positively impacting its sourcing communities by ensuring that its vendors earn above market rates and are provided with development opportunities. Her goal is to create a community entrepreneurship hub, where local entrepreneurs are provided with support to operate their businesses or launch their business ideas. She is on a mission to strengthen financial inclusion, empower entrepreneurs, and encourage others to pursue entrepreneurship as a means to achieving economic stability in Ghana.

At Wharton/Lauder, Steph will be focused on Entrepreneurship and Innovation and will develop a deeper understanding on frameworks and models that drive business growth and innovation. Her goals are to lead regional programs in Africa, focused on empowering entrepreneurship and innovation and to create a start-up incubator.

In her spare time, Steph enjoys dancing to Afro-beats, sampling street food, planning her next trip, reading and watching African movies.





## KEVIN ANKERHOLZ

Kevin was born in Denver, Colorado, and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. He attended Vanderbilt University as a Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholar, graduating *summa cum laude* with majors in Chemistry and Economics and a minor in Spanish. At Vanderbilt, he was active on campus in various roles, serving as a Resident Adviser for first-year students, Treasurer of Vanderbilt Student Volunteers for Science, and an Executive Board Member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity.

Kevin spent the summer of 2011 volunteering at a medical clinic in Quito, Ecuador. Although it was his first meaningful time abroad, he embraced the language-immersion experience and developed an aptitude for working cross-culturally through collaborating with local doctors and engaging with patients. By the end of the trip, Kevin had vastly improved his Spanish and had developed a strong desire to explore Latin America. Additionally, he began to learn Portuguese through independent-study and elective coursework. In the summer of 2012, Kevin studied at La Universidad Complutense in Madrid, Spain and participated in an intensive Portuguese-language immersion course through a homestay program in Lisbon, Portugal. Kevin's adventures continued thereafter, as he volunteered in the Dominican Republic and trekked solo through Brazil, taking courses at a language school in Rio de Janeiro and attending a 2014 World Cup soccer match.

After graduation, Kevin moved to New York City to begin his finance career at Citi, working as an investment banker in the firm's Global Healthcare group. Two years later, he transitioned to the buy-side at Veritas Capital, a private equity firm specializing in investments in the government services, aerospace & defense, and healthcare technology sectors. At Veritas, Kevin executed six acquisitions (>\$10 billion of aggregate enterprise value) with a focus in healthcare software, including the carve-out of GE Healthcare's Value-Based Care business and the take-private acquisitions of athenahealth (NASDAQ: ATHN) and Cotiviti (NYSE: COTV). During his last four months before business school, Kevin worked as a consultant within Veritas' portfolio, implementing operational initiatives to help integrate the merger of Cotiviti with Verscend Technologies (another Veritas portfolio company).

At Wharton/Lauder, Kevin plans to combine his passions for investing and Latin America by learning about alternative investment strategies in the region and exploring opportunities in private equity/venture capital in Brazil.

Kevin is an aspiring polyglot and is fluent in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. His other hobbies include international travel, long-distance running, salsa dancing, Latin music, and SEC football.





## **JORDAN ANOMA**

Jordan was born in Livingston, New Jersey, to a Liberian-American mother and an Ivorian father. Shortly after his birth, his family moved back to Côte D'Ivoire where he spent the majority of his childhood. The '02 Ivorian coup d'état and civil war forced his immediate family to evacuate the country, and Jordan spent the latter parts of his adolescent years in Ghana, Togo, Cameroon, and Liberia. Consequently, Jordan developed a deep passion for business and entrepreneurship in Sub-Saharan Africa as an avenue to restore and develop emerging economies.

To further his education, Jordan attended St. Mark's School, a prestigious boarding school in Southborough, Massachusetts, to finish high school. To develop and expand his business acumen, he subsequently attended Villanova University, where he was a Finance & International Business double major and French language minor.

After graduating from Villanova University, Jordan pursued a career in banking at Capital One. Jordan joined Capital One's Mid-Atlantic Middle Market Banking group in McLean, Virginia, where he performed underwriting and portfolio management activities for a variety of middle market transactions with U.S.-based companies generating \$50 million to \$1 billion in revenue. This foundation allowed Jordan to develop technical expertise as a banker, creditor, and financier.

To specialize in global alternative investing and real assets, Jordan made a transition to Capital One's Healthcare Real Estate banking group, where he helped underwrite commercial real estate transactions and managed over \$300 million in senior debt associated with Real Estate Investment firms and Real Estate Private Equity clients.

Jordan's global upbringing has molded his worldview and passions. In his spare time, Jordan is an avid sports enthusiast and enjoys entrepreneurial activities and pursuits. He is fluent in French and plans to expand his talents and network while at Wharton/Lauder to gain a deeper understanding of how to build scalable businesses to help transform Africa.





## MIGUEL ARMAZA

Miguel was born in Rome, Italy to a family of Bolivian diplomats. He grew up moving around the world, always in multicultural environments, where global citizenship became part of his identity at an early age. Not only was he raised in La Paz, Bolivia, but he also spent several formative years living in Moscow, Russia and Beijing, China where he attended Russian schools and became proficient in Russian, while also learning the ins and outs of each country's culture.

In high school, he attended the British School of Montevideo, Uruguay and moved to the U.S. for university. He graduated from American University in Washington, D.C. with a degree in Business Administration. In college, he launched entrepreneurial ventures including the creation of one of the 50 most popular pages on Facebook which reached 2.6 million subscribers in three months. He also received a scholarship to attend the Salzburg Global Seminar in Austria to study global citizenship.

Following graduation, Miguel joined Citigroup's Analyst Rotational Development program in New York. He took advantage of the program's international focus and opportunities to work across different business units. Miguel worked in several corporate banking roles in New York and was one of three analysts selected for a one-year expatriate assignment in Dublin, Ireland to cover European clients.

Upon completion of the program, he joined Citigroup's Export & Agency Finance (EAF) team in New York, where he covered Latin American clients. Miguel was then recruited by the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG) to lead its EAF product for Latin America, and his responsibilities were later expanded to spearhead MUFG's Mexico Working Capital business. His transaction experience includes structuring a French Government Guaranteed loan for the expansion of the Panama City Metro and a loan to a power distribution company in Guatemala for the construction of 850 km of transmission lines to provide affordable energy for the region.

Over the years, Miguel has been a fintech angel investor and is actively involved in education-related efforts, including mentoring high school immigrants in New York and fundraising to provide scholarships for underprivileged children in Latin America.

Miguel's international experiences shaped his global mindset and formed his culturally-eclectic personality. At Wharton/Lauder, he is interested in studying the economic potential and entrepreneurial opportunities in the former Soviet Bloc and Latin America. He enjoys cycling and visiting at least one new location every year. He is fluent in Spanish, Russian, and English.







## NICOLÁS BAVIANO PÉREZ-TABERNEO

Nicolás was born and raised in Madrid, Spain. At home, he was exposed to a wide variety of cultures from a very young age. He had his first solo traveling experience when he was 15 years old. He attended Carlos III de Madrid University, where he graduated in industrial engineering.

At the age of 20, he was selected for a Young Talent Program at Banco Santander-Rio in Argentina. Discovering how Latin American economies tie together and how geopolitical risks affect different regions made him curious about how business is conducted between Europe and Latin America.

After graduating, Nicolás joined Management Solutions as a management consultant on the Nordics team, living in Norway for two years. He participated in projects related to credit risk modelling, capital optimization, and financial reporting. During his time in Norway, Nicolás expanded his business sense and became aware of different management and economic angles.

Straight after Norway, he joined São Paulo's office for one and a half years. The unique business development of Brazil helped him advance his career at a faster pace, leading projects for the mayor banks of the country. During this time, he also helped his firm grow by acquiring new projects and strengthening the relationships with the clients. In Brazil, Nicolás deepened his understanding of regional risks and opportunities in Latin America.

At Wharton/Lauder, Nicolás seeks to expand his knowledge and interest in Latin America, and at the same time delve into the interaction of business, politics, and society, ultimately leading change in organizations on fast-developing markets.

Nicolás speaks Spanish, English, and Portuguese, and has some knowledge of German. In his spare time, he loves travelling, skiing, and scuba diving. He has visited 30+ countries and is looking forward to visiting many more.





## **LYNN BERNABEI**

Growing up in the backyard of New York City, Lynn has always had an interest in global cultures. She embraced that interest at New York University, where she passionately pursued a regional focus in South Asia. Lynn studied South Asian studies, learned Hindi, and spent a summer and fall semester studying abroad at St. Stephen's College in Delhi, to gain first-hand language and learning experience in the region.

After graduating, Lynn joined Morgan Stanley in New York as a rotational analyst. She rotated through Strategy, Business Development, and Fixed Income, where she remained following the end of the program. During her time on the Fixed Income team, she co-managed six model portfolios across the U.S. Treasury, investment grade, high yield, and preferred sectors. The 2015-16 global commodity downturn accelerated Lynn's interest in and familiarity with the energy and metals & mining sectors, which subsequently led her to join Morgan Stanley's Equity Research division as part of the North American Metals & Mining franchise, where she helped to cover 18 gold, steel, and metals companies. She served as the lead associate for the team's gold coverage, making recommendations for overweight and underweight positioning during an eventful M&A period. She also launched coverage on the only vanadium company covered by Morgan Stanley.

Over the last seven years, Lynn has been an avid volunteer, first as an intern and now as a Junior Board member, with an organization called Asia Initiatives. Asia Initiatives believes a community's social capital is its most important asset and should be at the center of all development initiatives. Accordingly, Lynn and the Asia Initiatives team developed an innovative model of economic and social development called Social Capital Credits (SoCCs) to incentivize and reward acts of collective good within communities. With Asia Initiatives, Lynn has had the opportunity to conduct field site visits in Chennai, India and manage a project focused on creating communities for women and girls in Pune, India. She has hosted numerous fundraising events, presented Asia Initiatives' SoCCs concept, and showcased local partner organizations through panel discussions.

At Wharton/Lauder, Lynn plans to reunite her interests in business and South Asia and she is excited to explore the intersection between language, culture, politics, and business in the region. In her spare time, Lynn enjoys traveling, reading, baking, and hiking. She is an admirer of photography, film, and South Asian art.





## KEVIN BOCK

Kevin was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri. Beginning in first grade, he was exposed to a variety of languages and cultures through an elementary school language learning program. This began a lifelong passion for linguistic and cultural diversity. He later completed the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme during high school, with German as his language of study.

At Purdue University, Kevin majored in Chemical Engineering, with minors in German and Economics. Through his coursework, as well as his two summer internships working for Procter & Gamble and General Mills, he developed a love for using new technologies and innovative solutions to meet unmet needs in everyday people's lives – such as optimizing a supply chain to deliver household goods to consumers quicker and cheaper, or developing shelf-stable gluten-free tortillas for Mexican-cuisine lovers with gluten insensitivities. He also built leadership experience through a variety of extracurricular positions, including first violin in the Purdue Philharmonic Orchestra, President of Purdue Reformed University Fellowship, and Philanthropy Committee Chair for the Purdue Chemical Engineering Honors Society (Omega Chi Epsilon).

After graduating from Purdue, Kevin began full-time work as a Research & Development Engineer at General Mills in Minneapolis. He led teams on a variety of projects, including the reformulation of fruit snacks from artificial to natural colors, the development and commercialization of new Nature Valley products, and cost-savings initiatives worth cumulatively over \$5 million annually. He has two active patent applications: one for nut butter technology, and another for temperature-stable chocolate. He was also a champion for cross-cultural inclusion and community within General Mills. For example, he spearheaded the launch of the Yammer enterprise social media platform, and he represented the global research & development community to General Mills leadership as Chair of the Culture Committee.

At Wharton/Lauder, Kevin hopes to explore how to lead businesses and brands to meet unmet consumer needs across the globe. He's excited to study how a society's culture influences their consumption preferences and lifestyle choices – and how businesses can adapt their market strategy through deep cross-cultural consumer empathy in order to provide more effective and successful goods and services.

Outside of school and work, Kevin enjoys leading worship and Bible studies at his local church, exploring culture through cuisine, and visiting the local zoo and art museum.





## **JONTE BOYSEN**

Jonte was born in Frankfurt, Germany to a German mother and a Canadian father. With family spread across multiple continents, including numerous relatives active in foreign aid in developing countries, Jonte had many opportunities to travel and see different corners of the world at a young age.

At the age of ten, Jonte spent six months with his uncle and family in Lusaka, the capital of Zambia, to immerse himself in a new culture and learn English. Upon his return to Germany, Jonte chose to attend an international school to maintain his English and to be surrounded by a more diverse student body. Jonte left home again at 16 to experience life in Canada, completing his last two years of high-school in rural Nova Scotia.

After an internship at the European Space Agency, Jonte set out to become a connection point between engineers and the business world and decided to pursue a bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering with a minor in Business at the University of Toronto. Leveraging the problem-solving toolkit he acquired there, Jonte spent his last summer at university developing management structures and software for a small Zambian biogas company.

Upon graduating, Jonte joined Novantas, a boutique consulting company for financial institutions, to further enhance his analytical thinking, improve his storytelling, and obtain a better understanding of how leading institutions make business decisions. While at Novantas, Jonte helped some of the largest banks in the world devise new distribution and sales strategies and improve their value propositions. This work included managing numerous projects across Canada, the United States, and Australia.

In addition to his formal role at Novantas, Jonte became active in recruiting within his company and outside of it. Jonte led Canadian recruiting for his firm and served as a mentor for a charity that collects mentorship fees from students looking to enter a given industry and uses them to sponsor refugees to come to Canada.

In his free time Jonte enjoys playing and following soccer, experiencing new cultures, and reading up on global politics. At Wharton/Lauder, Jonte hopes to formalize the finance, analytics, and communication skills he developed as a consultant, enhance his ability to operate across cultural boundaries, and prepare to become a business leader in both developed and emerging markets.







## NICHOLAS BRAYER

Nick was born and raised in Miami, Florida. His global interests stem from growing up in a multinational family and being immersed in Miami's vibrant Latin culture. Nick attended French immersion primary school and studied Spanish throughout his time at the Ransom Everglades School.

Nick attended the University of Virginia (UVA), where he graduated with distinction in Systems Engineering and a minor in Applied Mathematics. Wanting to stay connected to Latin culture while at UVA, he became a salsa dancing instructor and choreographed and performed in showcases every semester. He coupled his Miami background and technology focus when he studied abroad in Mendoza, Argentina. In Mendoza, he consulted for the internationally renowned Bodega Norton Winery. Nick built regression models with Bodega Norton's engineers to improve bottling line efficiency and presented recommendations to the winery's C-suite in Spanish.

After graduation, Nick joined Deloitte Consulting in Washington, D.C., where he worked as a business technology consultant and focused on U.S. government clients. He drove enterprise strategy and large-scale analyses, helping government executives understand how technology could enable them to meet their most pressing business and mission needs. Nick's work directly improved the systems used to facilitate the United States' global trade and travel.

Outside of client work, Nick was heavily involved in various non-profit consulting fellowships. He and his team won the Deloitte Global Qlik competition for their dashboard solutions that increase Syrian refugee women and children access to primary health care: these dashboards have since been implemented in the field. Nick was selected for the Deloitte 2 International Fellowship, where he provided pro-bono consulting services to a Chilean NGO to streamline sustainability projects in lower income neighborhoods. The Fellowship culminated with facilitating in-country workshops in Spanish with the NGO's C-suite.

In Nick's spare time, he loves to salsa dance, sail, play soccer, scuba dive, and travel. He plans to choreograph salsa performances for the Wharton Dance Studio and foster a love for Latin culture amongst his classmates.

At Wharton/Lauder, Nick is excited to marry the connections between business, culture, language, and technology and learn how they apply to Latin America. His goal is to drive global innovation by integrating business, technology, and people.





## **JOSHUA CARMENATE**

Joshua was born in Miami, Florida, to a Cuban-American family. He moved to the Raleigh, North Carolina area in high school, before attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) for undergraduate studies.

At UNC, Joshua's interest in augmenting his understanding of global business drove him to pursue UNC's GLOBE program, a three-semester global exchange program with Copenhagen Business School and Chinese University of Hong Kong that included international corporate case work, visits and immersions in Europe, Asia, and North America. Joshua graduated with distinction and Beta Gamma Sigma from UNC's Kenan-Flagler Business School with a BS in Business Administration and a minor in Spanish.

Joshua's first full-time position was in TIAA-Nuveen's Private Investment Analyst Rotation Program. His first rotation included investing the two largest global farmland private equity funds, TIAACREF Global Agriculture Funds I & II (\$2+ billion funds, respectively). His second rotation included investing in mezzanine debt and equity co-investment securities in North America.

Joshua leveraged his experience to secure a position as a private equity associate at Audax Private Equity, a Boston-based North American middle market private equity firm with \$5+ billion in capital raised since founding in 1999. During his tenure at Audax, Joshua contributed to, and led several facets of, transaction execution for eight closed transactions in business services and industrials sectors. Joshua also contributed to operational strategy and execution for portfolio companies, working directly with companies' executive management teams. After nearly two years at Audax, Joshua diversified his sector experience by moving to Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe (WCAS), a New York City-based private equity firm focused on technology and healthcare sectors in North America, with \$22+ billion of capital raised since founding in 1979.

While at WCAS, Joshua became increasingly interested in the prospect of investing in emerging markets, particularly in Latin America. In 2018, Joshua departed WCAS to provide strategic consulting services to several Latin American companies, including as an Endeavor Global Fellow to the Latin American leader in retail and supply chain loss prevention service and SaaS solutions, Alto Group.

At Wharton/Lauder, Joshua hopes to gain in-depth knowledge of the opportunities and risks of investing in Latin America, improve his Spanish proficiency, and benefit from a global leadership education. In his spare time, Joshua enjoys advancing his understanding of cultures through travel, basketball and soccer, and his newfound interests in extreme sports (open water diving, snowboarding, etc.).





## **JULIE CASTELBAUM**

Julie was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Growing up, her family embarked on yearly cultural educational travels, with a mandate to articulate how each visit changed their worldview. These experiences instilled a deep curiosity and desire to understand how history, culture, and politics shape a country.

While attending Washington University in St. Louis, Julie pursued a degree in anthropology with a minor in entrepreneurship to more thoroughly explore how cultures and economies interface in a systematic way. During her time at Washington University, Julie had the opportunity to directly enroll at Uppsala University in Sweden. While living with only European students, she studied Swedish Language and the intersection between European politics and religion.

Upon graduation in 2013, Julie began working for HSBC because of the way the company's immense transnational footprint translates to its values. Julie started in the Global Graduate Development Program to understand the bank from a holistic perspective and later moved into the Global Trade and Receivables Finance space, where she helped large, multinational corporations optimize their supply chains and working capital flows. In this role, Julie not only worked on a team composed of individuals from over 15 different countries but also spoke to global clients and various HSBC entities on a day-to-day basis.

Fulfilling a career goal to work abroad, Julie moved to Mexico City in 2017 to directly support the HSBC Mexico Corporate Client COO. In this role, she helped drive the three-year business strategy and oversaw the financial results, risks, governance, and operations of the entire business. During her 1.5 years in Mexico, Julie became fluent in Spanish and fully immersed herself within Mexican work and social culture. Throughout her time at HSBC in New York and Mexico City, Julie was extremely involved in the HSBC Women's Network, which supports women's empowerment in banking, a cause she feels passionately about.

Julie's varied international experiences and enthusiasm for languages have motivated her to pursue the Wharton/Lauder degree. At Wharton/Lauder, Julie hopes to study Latin America's sociopolitical history and expand her technical finance knowledge with the goal of returning to Mexico to pursue a career closing the country's wide banking gap.





## JASON CHEN

Jason was born and raised in the Washington D.C. area. His parents, both immigrants from Taiwan, ensured that Jason's first language at home was Chinese.

Jason attended Yale University and majored in economics and English. He was actively involved with the Yale Daily News, serving as Co-President and Publisher in his junior year. In this role, he was directly responsible for the business operations of one of the largest independent college newspapers in the country. He also played four years on the club volleyball team, ran his residential college's elementary school tutoring program, and served as treasurer of his fraternity.

After graduating in 2010, Jason moved to New York, where he lived for the next nine years. He started work as a management consultant at PwC, focusing on M&A due diligence for private equity clients. In 2014, wanting more exposure to international markets and social impact, he moved to the Clinton Health Access Initiative. There, he worked to improve access to vaccines in the world's poorest countries, partnering primarily with Chinese vaccine manufacturers to increase their capacity and global supply.

In that same period, Jason also co-founded a technology startup. As traction increased, he and his co-founders jumped into the adventure full-time. They were accepted to AngelPad, one of the top accelerators in the world, and started building Vesper, a managed marketplace for office managers and services. They raised a seed round of venture capital and built the business for the next two years, ultimately achieving close to a million dollars in annual recurring revenue. However, as the market evolved, the team realized that their vision for Vesper was misaligned with market needs, and they decided to wind down the business.

Looking ahead, Jason realized that his next step was the intersection of his previous ones. He founded Tanager Global Development Advisors, marrying his love of early-stage technology with the impact of international development. He serves as a strategic advisor to seed-stage companies commercializing in emerging markets, partnering on projects with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Global Development Incubator, among others.

At Wharton/Lauder, Jason plans to better understand the investment criteria and process behind early-stage financing decisions, aiming to ultimately provide both funding and advisory support to those types of organizations he currently serves. In his free time, he enjoys running, playing fantasy sports, and watching the occasional reality television show.







## ALEXANDER COHEN

Alex was born in New Haven, Connecticut. From a very young age, he became interested in the people, languages, and cultures of other countries. He began studying Spanish in 4th grade. Fortuitously, in his 8th grade year, his elementary school, with the support of the Yale China Association, launched the first year of its continuing teacher exchange program with a sister school in China. That year's Chinese History class, taught by Mr. Guo from Ningbo, opened Alex's eyes to a country with millennia of history and an immensely rich culture and language, setting him on a new path of learning and discovery.

In high school Alex continued learning Spanish and began his study of Mandarin. In 2002, he enjoyed a memorable, motivating summer homestay and school experience in La Coruna, Spain. Unfortunately, his scheduled summer program to Beijing for the following year was cancelled due to the SARS outbreak. This turn of fate, however, would not deter Alex's conviction to explore China.

At Yale, Alex majored in Economics and continued taking Mandarin classes each semester. Alex finally made it to China the summer between his sophomore and junior year for the Columbia Summer Program in Shanghai, and quickly realized his desire to return to China after graduation. In his final two summers in college, he held internships at Shui On Land in Shanghai, a leading Real Estate Developer, and An Bang Insurance in Beijing, one of mainland's largest insurance companies.

After graduating from Yale in 2008, Alex made his way back to the land that had captivated him for many years. After some time in Shanghai, Alex was offered the opportunity to open the Southwestern branch office for a Shanghai-based wine importer. A few years after opening the Chengdu office, Alex founded an educational consulting company to provide students from Southwestern China with greater educational opportunities. Most recently, Alex joined the Free Trade Zone Management Office of the Chengdu Hi-Tech Zone, becoming the first foreigner hired by the Chengdu government. Through this working experience, he gained an inside view of the administration which was planning and guiding China's growth. Alex maintains an intense interest in the history, culture, and economy of China. At Wharton/Lauder Alex is excited to leverage his international experience with formal business training while further understanding and identifying opportunities for cross-border investment.





## **HAYLEY DONER**

Hayley was born and raised in the East Village in New York City. She completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Chicago and spent her free time volunteering as a theater teacher in public schools on Chicago's South Side, which sparked her initial passion for social impact. As an Anthropology major, Hayley developed a strong interest in the African continent and the legacies of colonialism on present day governance, culture, and political economy. During her junior year, she studied abroad in Cape Town, South Africa, where she deepened her interest in engaging with different cultures.

The summer before her senior year, Hayley interned at the Marjorie Kovler Center, an organization which helps individuals from around the world recover from political torture. There, she worked closely with clients from West and Central Africa where she used the French language skills she had developed in middle and high school. For her bachelor's thesis, Hayley continued to engage with African diaspora communities, exploring the immigration and settlement experiences of West African women in Chicago.

After graduation, Hayley knew that she wanted to contribute meaningfully to opportunities on the African continent and sought out organizations pioneering sustainable solutions to poverty. Ultimately, she took on a business development role in New York at Indego Africa, a social enterprise and design company that integrates African artisan women into international markets. In this fast-paced, start-up environment, Hayley built out the organization's business development and brand communications from the ground up, while gaining a diverse set of skills in fundraising, e-commerce marketing, and brand development.

After three and a half years, Hayley was eager to move to the African continent to gain international management experience and deepen her understanding of development challenges and opportunities. She relocated to Kampala, Uganda to join Educate!, a social enterprise that tackles youth unemployment in Africa through a cost-effective, scalable model that reforms secondary education systems to prepare youth to succeed in today's economy. As the head of Educate!'s multinational business development team, Hayley built relationships with strategic investors, led strategy and project management for multi-stakeholder grant proposals, and honed skills as a team leader, coach, and manager.

Moving forward, Hayley is interested in creating impact on a larger scale by leveraging the potential of the private sector to drive inclusive growth in Africa. In her free time, Hayley teaches Barre Method classes, plays tennis, and enjoys seeing theater.





## CHENGYAN FENG

Chengyan was born in a small coastal city in eastern China. She moved to Singapore at the age of 15, with a Singapore government scholarship, to attend secondary school. The stark contrast between her ethnically homogenous upbringing and life in a nation that thrives on diversity and multiracialism piqued her curiosity in understanding cross-cultural practices. She led several multiracial tutoring programs throughout her student years to teach children from less privileged socio-economic backgrounds. These experiences inculcated her with an inclusive mindset.

Chengyan completed her bachelor's degree in business administration, majoring in accountancy, at National University of Singapore. While at university, she studied French as a third language, which served as a conduit in deepening her appreciation for European culture, history, and literature. The desire to gain more intimate knowledge of the region had led her to pursue an exchange program with HEC Paris. By traveling extensively and immersing herself in local culture, she was able to experience and explore first-hand the differences between western and eastern worlds.

Upon graduation, she joined Temasek Holdings, a global investment company headquartered in Singapore, and spent almost four years with the in-house mergers and acquisitions (M&A) team specialized in structuring and execution of large and complex transactions. Her experience at Temasek spanned a broad spectrum of industries, geographies, and transaction types with a focus on cross-border deals. Working alongside sector teams and regional investment offices, she developed domain knowledge in M&A and skillsets in using industry precedents, appropriate governance rights and a diverse set of investment instruments to maximize returns and solve transaction execution issues. Notably, she was involved in the strategic combination of two major real estate companies in Singapore to create Asia's largest diversified real estate group. She was also a key member of the deal team in evaluating investment and equity capital injection to support the financing of a transformative acquisition by a French agricultural co-operative.

Having witnessed the growing presence and influence of Asian investors in global arena, she hopes to develop her international investment acumen and explore avenues to create value with private capital. At Wharton / Lauder, she wants to improve her language skill, deepen regional knowledge of Europe, and expand her global perspective.

In her spare time, Chengyan plays the violin and hopes to return to an orchestra to perform. She also enjoys learning guitar, cooking Chinese food, practicing yoga, and traveling.





## **BIANCA GOMIERO FERNANDES**

Bianca was born and raised in Brazil. Her parents were of Italian and Portuguese descent which led to her curiosity about different cultures. At age sixteen, Bianca spent six months living and studying in Bossier City, Louisiana. In that same year she also started studying Italian.

The transformative experiences of living in a different country motivated Bianca to pursue the opportunity to apply for a full-time scholarship at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas. There, as the first in her family to attend college, she obtained a dual degree in Finance and International Business, with a focus on Middle Eastern Studies. Bianca divided her time between deepening her knowledge in her region of choice by studying Arabic and French, and becoming involved in the school's community by joining several organizations. After graduation, Bianca spent a period of time working in the United States at Freescale Semiconductors, where she oversaw from a financial perspective the manufacturing operations of the company's different factories around the world.

Looking for an opportunity to explore Latin America and to learn Spanish, Bianca then joined LATAM Airlines, the region's largest airline, in Santiago de Chile. In that job, she was responsible for managing the regional business' financial statements. She later became responsible for the revenue strategy of a variety of routes within Latin America. The desire to continue to explore the region led Bianca to cross borders and move to Buenos Aires, Argentina where she joined OLX Group, an e-commerce part of the Naspers Group. There she was responsible for building new pricing structures and finding new opportunities for user-generated revenue in nine countries across Latin America. Then, ten years after leaving her home country of Brazil, Bianca returned to Sao Paulo to join Uber with the responsibility of expanding Uber's food delivery platform, Uber Eats, throughout the country. During her time at Uber, Bianca helped lead the launch of 35 cities and was responsible for the platform's operations on the Southern part of Brazil.

At Wharton/Lauder Bianca plans on better understanding the challenges and opportunities within the region of Latin America. Furthermore, she wishes to understand what can be learned from other regions from an economic, political, and business perspective. Ultimately, she plans to use her experience in a career focused on corporate strategy in emerging markets.





## WILLIAM GALLAGHER

Born and raised in Denver, Colorado, William's upbringing was anything but international. Despite growing up in a monolingual environment, he found an early love of languages when he took his first French course at nine years old. Thus, began his lifelong journey to learn -- to varying degrees -- French, Mandarin, and Spanish, and seeding a passion for the intersection of culture, geopolitics, and economics.

William earned his bachelor's degree *magna cum laude* from Duke University in Asian & Middle Eastern Studies, with minors in French and Economics. During his undergraduate years he spent academic terms in both Paris and Beijing, improving his language skills while studying the shifting geopolitical dynamics of each country. Coursework in economics during this time solidified his interest in how differing cultural frameworks affect economic policymaking and business environments across the globe.

After graduating from Duke, William joined Gap Inc.'s Rotational Management Program based out of San Francisco and New York City. He spent periods in three of Gap Inc.'s brands (Gap, Banana Republic, Old Navy) in each of the core product functions: production (sourcing), inventory management, and merchandising. During his production rotation, William led a project evaluating the environmental impact of fabric shedding during wash cycles. This project, as well as exposure to other supply chain sustainability initiatives, piqued his interest in sustainability innovation in the consumer goods space.

In order to enhance his financial acumen and gain international work experience, William next took a role on the Gap Inc. Greater China's inventory management team in Shanghai. During his time there he managed the Gap Outlet Men's and Women's divisions, accounting for 60% of the brand's revenue in the country. In this role William created frequent sales and inventory forecasts to inform pricing actions, adjust inventory buying strategies, and track to company financial targets.

In his spare time William enjoys debating current events with friends, hiking and skiing the beautiful mountains of his home state, and engaging with the theater community.

At Wharton/Lauder, William plans to enhance his understanding of the entrepreneurial environments of the U.S. and Europe, as well as dive more deeply into sustainability innovation in the consumer goods space.







## **BERNARDO GARCIA**

Bernardo was born and raised in Guadalajara, México. As a kid he had the opportunity to do several summer programs in the U.S., mainly in Boston and San Diego. At the age of 12, he went to Dublin to spend a year working on his English and getting to know more about European culture and history.

Bernardo received a degree in Industrial Engineering at Tec de Monterrey, Guadalajara. During this time, he became passionate about courses in process optimization and strategy & planning which led him to pursue summer internships in a process excellence team in Jose Cuervo. In his sixth semester, he participated in a study abroad program in Fudan (Shanghai, China) and became fully immersed in Chinese culture, taking courses in Chinese history, politics, and economics. He also travelled to multiple countries in South East Asia.

After graduating, Bernardo moved to Miami to work for McKinsey & Co. There he did the two things he was passionate about- doing strategy work and having exposure to multiple cultures through his work with many Latin American countries. At McKinsey, he worked with 15+ banks across seven Latin American countries and his main focus was on sales productivity, digital banking, and customer experience.

Bernardo grew very interested in the digital world and the impact that great products and processes had on people's lives and that is why, after two years, he decided to move to Uber to focus his work on this. He joined the Customer Experience Strategy & Planning team for U.S. & Canada. At Uber, he worked across different businesses including Rides, Eats, and Freight.

He started his journey by launching and managing a phone support operation that was supported by 1,500+ full time agents across four sites globally (Philippines, U.S., Colombia, and Morocco) and served +3M drivers. Afterwards he launched an operation to acquire small restaurants, which later became one of Uber's main channels of acquisition, bringing 1,000+ new restaurants every week. Finally, he led an effort to reduce support operating costs and, in total, managed projects that amounted to \$40+ MM USD in savings.

Bernardo's passion for exposure to multiple cultures and big challenges brought him to Wharton/Lauder. There he plans to continue to expand his knowledge of different cultures across the globe so he can apply these learnings in his future endeavors.





## **CARTER GOMAN**

Carter was born in Texas and raised in Connecticut, and has citizenship in Canada, Ireland, and the U.S. Growing up, Carter spent every summer in Canada, sparking his interest in the world outside of the U.S. In elementary school, Carter began studying Spanish, and traveled to Spain for the first time in high school.

Hoping to continue exploring these interests, Carter attended the Honors College at the University of South Carolina, majoring in International Business, Finance, and Economics, and minoring in Spanish. While at South Carolina, Carter was able to spend a summer studying Spanish language and culture in Bilbao, Spain, an experience that led him to write his senior thesis on the Basque country. During college, Carter also served as an intern for Governor Nikki Haley, and worked in international trade for the South Carolina Department of Commerce.

After graduating in 2014, Carter joined Bank of America Merrill Lynch, underwriting various financings for large corporate clients in the healthcare sector. In 2015, Carter began working for BNP Paribas in acquisition finance and debt capital markets. During his time with BNP, Carter not only worked on several significant financings for U.S. clients, but also used his knowledge of Spanish to serve as the lead analyst for Latin American transactions. Following his time at BNP, Carter worked for Enhanced Capital, an investment firm with a unique expertise in leveraging private capital to achieve public policy goals. At Enhanced, Carter worked on investments in renewable energy development, historic real estate rehabilitation, and operating businesses located in underserved areas across the U.S. A significant portion of his time was also spent investing in Puerto Rico, providing much needed capital to the Island in the wake of Hurricanes Maria and Irma. Carter is also a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charterholder.

Outside of the office, Carter has served as a mentor for a high school student in New York City through Minds Matter, volunteered as an English teacher at a military base in Peru, and served as a pro-bono consultant for a healthcare technology startup in Uganda. Carter enjoys reading, being active, attempting to learn the guitar, and has his advanced scuba diving license.

At Wharton / Lauder, Carter hopes to further his understanding of Latin America and Spanish and continue building on his interests at the intersection of emerging markets, economic development, and private investment.





## SHARON GUAN

Sharon was born in Chengdu, China but grew up in the Chicago suburbs. She developed an early appreciation for the power of education through her own experience balancing and sharing her two cultures with peers be it in language translation or in food exploration. These teaching and learning moments quickly expanded into a long-term commitment to empowering individuals in her communities.

After graduating from Northwestern University with a degree in Economics and French, Sharon joined Accenture where she led clients to create sales and pricing strategies, the core of which stood technology-enabled solutions. Her work took her across the United States as well as several countries in Western Europe. Simultaneously, she sought ways to more directly contribute to the development of her communities and the people within them. She planned engagement opportunities with local associations as the Local Market Impact lead for the Chicago office and became deeply involved in Skills to Succeed, Accenture's volunteer program providing trainings to under-resourced community members. She helped to nationally scale the program's flagship internship initiative and later defined an analytics technology strategy for the program's umbrella organization, Accenture Corporate Citizenship, to amplify its mission of preparing three million people for the workforce by 2020.

Through this work, Sharon became aware of the vast skill and opportunity gaps that exist in the current job market - gaps that extended well beyond a lack of technical or quantitative skills to encompass deep-seated soft skill and development disparities. Armed with this knowledge and a desire to instill change, she joined NoStigmas, a nonprofit focused on peer-to-peer mental health support. As its Community Engagement Strategist, she structured a plan for the organization to better service the needs of its 65,000 community members.

Sharon is excited and honored to join the Wharton/Lauder community to further her interest in edtech and soft skills acquisition. Outside of class and work, she can often be found on her yoga mat, behind a camera lens, or aggressively window shopping for home decor.





## VIVIAN GUO

While Vivian was born in Maryland, her earliest childhood memories are of living with her grandparents in Shijiazhuang, China. She returned to the Boston area for school but traveled to China every summer with parents who were determined to help Vivian stay connected to her roots. This early exposure to different cultures sparked a deep and long-standing fascination with international affairs.

Vivian attended Middlebury College, majoring in International Politics and Economics and minoring in History. Wanting to explore a completely different part of the world, she studied Arabic and spent a semester in Amman, Jordan. Traveling in the region, particularly through the West Bank and refugee camps like Zaatari, Vivian developed an enthusiasm for international development. She also interned at an international law firm in Beijing to sharpen her professional Chinese. In college Vivian worked four jobs, was a presenter for program that worked to bring an international perspective to local high schools, and served as Chair of the Senior Committee.

Following graduation, Vivian joined the Global Macro group within Franklin Templeton Investments as a research associate. The interdisciplinary education at Middlebury served Vivian well in this role which focused on macroeconomic and political analysis from a pragmatic, policy-driven angle. Vivian's research coverage began in Asia but gradually expanded to the Middle East and Latin America. She was able to learn extensively about political and historical drivers of economic performance across countries and explore global trends such as populism and fundamentalism.

For the last two years at Templeton Global Macro, Vivian also took on the role of ESG lead, the first within her team. In this capacity she developed and implemented a sovereign sustainable investment process for all \$120 billion of the group's assets under management. Vivian was energized by this work because it connected finance to her interests in international development. It also spurred her desire to pursue a career in impact investment.

For work, Vivian has traveled to six continents, and has had the opportunity to engage with some of the world's top policy makers and thinkers. At Wharton/Lauder, she hopes to strengthen this global education, with a particular emphasis on the intersection between private business and economic development. In her free time, Vivian looks forward to cooking various international cuisines for her fellow students to try.





## ESHAN GUPTA

Born in northern India, Eshan moved to Bangkok, Thailand at age six, and relocated to Dubai, United Arab Emirates at age 14. After completing his International Baccalaureate, he moved to the United States for college. Growing up as a part of the expatriate community alongside other “Third-Culture Children” in cosmopolitan cities across different regions fostered in him a lifelong appreciation for intercultural learning.

Throughout his education, Eshan maintained a global perspective. In high school, he held various leadership positions in Model United Nations, which entailed traveling to Egypt, Greece, and the UNESCO in France. This early and continued exposure broadened his awareness of international socio-political issues. Later, while attending the University of Michigan’s Ross School of Business, he explored these themes at a deeper level through projects such as consulting the Ministry of Labor in Ireland on youth unemployment and researching poverty solutions in Togo for The World Bank. All along, Eshan complemented his education with his passion for language study, enabling him to achieve full fluency in Hindi, Spanish, and Arabic.

After graduating in 2015, Eshan joined PwC’s Advisory practice in Chicago, IL as a consultant, where he managed digital transformations and e-Commerce in the cosmetics, education, and healthcare industries. In 2017, he transitioned to Galt & Company – a boutique consulting firm – where he specialized in conducting geographic assessments and developing internationalization strategies for his clients. Most recently, Eshan’s job took him to Madrid, Spain, where he spent several months helping an American pharmaceutical company identify growth opportunities to expand its portfolio and increase profitability in Europe. Outside of work, he has enjoyed cooking and furthering his love for dance with a professional dance company. He has also volunteered actively with Syrian and Iraqi refugee families in the Greater Chicago area.

Each of Eshan’s diverse experiences has played an integral role in shaping his identity as a global citizen, which, in turn, has influenced the aspirations he holds today. While his connection to India has transcended distance and time, through this program, he seeks to examine the Indian business landscape from an academic lens. With a keen interest in transnational management, the digital revolution, and economic development, Eshan’s overall goal is to better understand the dynamics in emerging markets, the role of technology, and the impact of multilateral organizations on international business.





## MARTIN HARARI

Martin was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he attended an international French school. From an early age, Martin was engaged in a multicultural environment, as he had the opportunity to share experiences with people from different francophone countries and to become deeply involved in the Jewish community in his hometown.

Motivated by the mechanisms that made different cultures interact and cooperate, Martin sought an undergrad education in Communication Sciences at Universidad de Buenos Aires. His studies in Social Sciences provided him with a valuable framework to understand and act upon social trends. Martin applied his social skills to an entrepreneurial venture, a Real Estate company that he founded with a trusted family friend, where he managed to sell corporate properties for a sum of eight million dollars in two years.

With the aim to pursue an international career in business, Martin looked for a position at Parexel International, a clinical research organization that operates worldwide. At Parexel, Martin led a team composed of people from 10 countries on four continents that delivered services in United States, Canada, and Japan.

As he understood that an international career would demand a stronger quantitative skillset, Martin completed a Master's in Finance at Universidad Torcuato di Tella. This additional educational experience provided him with a robust analytical framework and also transformed his career perspective. He decided to leverage the intersection between financial and social knowledge to enhance innovation in business. In 2016, Martin joined Accenture, an organization that is transforming itself onto a digital disruptor.

At Accenture, Martin helped the biggest financial services companies in Latin America transform their businesses. He led teams that delivered management advice on topics related to artificial intelligence, ecosystems development, API economy, digital transformation, and user experience. Martin also became an active member within Accenture's community as he has taught courses for new members, collaborated on social impact initiatives, and produced consulting assets that have been shared worldwide.

At Wharton/Lauder, Martin plans to deepen his expertise in the field of innovation and disruptive business models for financial services. He is passionate about the growth of fintechs, especially in Africa, where digital progress is enhancing financial inclusion and encouraging the development of new and creative companies within the industry.

In his spare time, Martin enjoys playing soccer, practicing yoga, and playing flamenco on the guitar.





## **GUILHERME DOS SANTOS HONÓRIO**

Guilherme was born and raised in São Paulo, Brazil to a family of migrants from the countryside. He has a passion for different cultures that was sparked when he started to study English at age seven, leading to a strong involvement with the Japanese community in the city and later pursuit of an international career.

He pursued a degree in Chemical Engineering at Universidade Estadual de Campinas (UNICAMP). At UNICAMP, he was elected Communications Director for the Junior Enterprise Nucleus, representing the 20+ Junior Enterprises on campus and heading a team of 60+ students across different majors to organize Brazil's largest campus recruitment fair, develop a national media presence, and implement marketing strategies.

He was granted a scholarship to study at Seoul National University for one year, where he learned how to thrive in a culture completely different from his own. He also had internships focused on globalization at Hyosung and at EC21, a consultancy and B2B global marketplace, where he connected Korean companies with business partners across the globe.

Upon graduation, Guilherme joined McKinsey's São Paulo office and worked with clients throughout a variety of sectors and roles, from Aerospace to Agriculture and from strategy to operations, focusing on leveraging global know-how and expertise to solve problems. Later, he was invited to join insurtech Agentero, a Silicon Valley early-stage startup, as a Product Manager in their San Francisco headquarters, where he led product development from conceptualization to execution.

Guilherme was selected to represent Brazil on the Japanese government "Ship for World Youth" leadership development program sailing the South Pacific for six weeks alongside 240 participants from around the world. He participated in an intensive International Cooperation course, witnessing grass-roots projects implemented across the region. He also gave workshops on entrepreneurship to other participants and locals at the Solomon Islands. He is passionate about languages and is fluent in Portuguese and English, conversational in Japanese, and has a basic grasp of Korean and Italian. In his spare time, he plays taiko drums and is a backpacking enthusiast, having explored more than 20 countries.

At Wharton/Lauder, he aims to deepen his understanding on how enterprises, governments and NGOs cooperate and deal with tech disruption and social change on a global level – and how he can use businesses to solve problems in this context.







## **PRIYANKA JUNEJA**

Priyanka was born and raised in South Carolina. As a first generation Indian-American, she grew up identifying with two very different cultures, constantly searching for their intersectionality. Through this introspection, she became fascinated with learning as much as possible about her two cultures as well as others around the world.

Priyanka's high school required that students take French or Spanish classes. She thought to herself, why not both? Though she would one day love to continue learning French, after taking both languages she realized that she wanted to focus on learning Spanish first. This decision led to her minoring in Spanish at the University of South Carolina where she also triple-majored in International Business, Finance, and Global Supply Chain and Operations Management. Just for fun, also spent a semester taking Russian. In her third year, she had the opportunity to spend six months in Spain, advancing her Spanish and falling head over heels for the Hispanic culture.

After graduation, Priyanka moved to Charlotte and joined Bank of America through their Operations Leadership Development Program. She spent the next five years in various roles across the Global Technology and Operations line of business. Her most recent role was as a Business Support and Communications Manager where she was responsible for the end-to-end communication plan and content for Continuing Risk Education programs, delivered to over 30,000 employees globally.

While at Bank of America, Priyanka also became the first non-Hispanic chair of the Hispanic Organization for Leadership and Advancement, Bank of America's second largest affinity group. During her time as chair, she worked with HR to directly recruit and advance Hispanic talent in the bank, pioneered a Spanish language program, and partnered with local Hispanic non-profits in the Charlotte community.

In her spare time, Priyanka writes a travel blog called Champagne Flight that helps women balance travel with their hectic schedules, combining her three biggest passions: travel, writing, and women empowerment. She also loves trying new restaurants, kickboxing, and ending the day reading a great book.

At Wharton/Lauder, Priyanka hopes to obtain fluency in Spanish while gaining a stronger understanding of the Latin American economy and business environment. She plans to be an integral player in Latin America by contributing to the region's development and growth.





## PAULASUZANNE LAPCIUC

PaulaSuzanne Lapciuc was born and raised in Miami, Florida, a nontraditional cosmopolitan mecca where the United States meets Latin America. Raised by Colombian and Peruvian parents, she was exposed to Latin American culture and business practices and spent many summers visiting Central and South America and Puerto Rico to see extended family and accompany her parents on business trips. On these trips she was often exposed to a great deal of poverty and was struck by the inhospitable living conditions. It was the impact of these early experiences that led her on a path to be a community activist in college.

In search of a diverse experience, PaulaSuzanne attended Columbia University where she designed a course of study in Human Nutrition. During her time at Columbia, PaulaSuzanne volunteered in Washington Heights, promoting nutritional awareness to low-income communities. She still grapples with the multidimensional challenge of attempting to effect change through awareness and education when such efforts are premised on modifying both consumer and market behavior.

Looking for post-college volunteer opportunities and a network of similarly minded social justice-oriented peers, PaulaSuzanne was drawn to the synergistic connection between housing and health. She was hired as a development associate at Atlantic Pacific Communities (APC), one of the largest developers of affordable housing in Florida. This professional pursuit lent itself to a tangible goal: to develop cutting-edge, attractive, safe homes for low-income communities and to articulate public-private policies that function as much to economically empower as to house those communities.

PaulaSuzanne was exposed to Puerto Rico early in her career. In 2016, PaulaSuzanne analyzed the financial and leasing viability for two 100,000+ square foot shopping centers, which were owned by her employer at the time, Gator Investments. Six months after Hurricane Maria, she travelled to Puerto Rico and was introduced to Morgan Reed Group, a real estate company investing in real estate in Puerto Rico. She also met with the former Secretary of the Puerto Rico Housing Department, Miguel Vivoni to discuss the housing shortage. Although she was still working at APC, she was committed to returning to Puerto Rico. Before starting at Wharton/Lauder, she returned to San Juan and spent two months working with Morgan Reed Group on the application process for a new round of affordable housing developments being funded by the Federal government.

At Lauder, PaulaSuzanne looks forward to expanding her knowledge on Latin American culture, economy, and business practices.





## **MATTHEW LEE**

Matthew was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, but he grew up in Seoul, Korea. He attended a local school in Seoul during elementary school, spent a semester in Los Angeles, and then transferred into an international school back in Seoul prior to university. Matthew believes that these frequent transitions during his formative years are what encouraged him to embrace an open perspective and helped him appreciate the value in diverse mindsets from a young age. Matthew received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administrations, from Haas School of Business at University of California, Berkeley.

Matthew's diverse work experience actually began even prior to his university education. In 2007, Matthew interned at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and gained firsthand experience on the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) negotiations between the U.S. Army and the Korean government. During university, he interned with Booz & Company covering projects in various fields, including, but not limited to: healthcare, technology management, and international trade. He also worked at SeAH Steel, a Korean steel pipe conglomerate, as a Strategic Planning team member. Matthew's final internship during university was with Goldman Sachs. He worked in the Investment Management Division at Goldman Sachs Asset Management (GSAM) as part of a rotational program in Seoul, Korea, where he learned from the Equity investment team, Fixed Income investment team, and the sales team. After the internship, Matthew returned to the firm as a member of the Korea Institutional Sales team based in Hong Kong.

Matthew covered numerous types of Korean institutions such as the central bank, pension funds, and insurance companies. He pitched all ranges of investment products, including traditional assets like global equities or bonds and alternative asset classes such as private equities and hedge funds. His team weathered through several difficult market cycles and conditions but Matthew saw the Korea team successfully double in assets and grow during his rewarding time with the firm.

At Wharton/Lauder, Matthew plans to prepare for his next career path in commodities, especially in metal, by comprehensively learning more about the global economy and interacting with bright minds from all over the world. During his spare time, Matthew enjoys NBA basketball, golf, cooking, and all forms of music.





## **TED (WUTAE) LEE**

Ted was born in Seoul, South Korea and moved to the U.S. in elementary school. Living in nearly 10 different rural towns and urban cities prior to college, the exposure to wide spectrum of sociocultural environments across Asia and U.S. naturally cultivated his keen interest in global affairs and intercultural communications.

During his time at Harvard College, where he concentrated on Applied Mathematics with a focus in International Studies and graduated *cum laude* with Honors, Ted began to refine his global interests towards international business and finance. In doing so, he actively participated in the Harvard International Relations Council as a board member and interned at Blackstone Group, Viking Global Investors and McKinsey & Company across Hong Kong, U.S., and South Korea.

Upon graduation, Ted joined the Blackstone Advisory Partners in Hong Kong where he primarily covered cross-border transactions on behalf of outbound Korean clients as well as Blackstone Private Equity Group's investments into Korea. These investments included Blackstone's first standalone investment into Korea for Simone Ltd, an ODM-based global high-end handbag manufacturer, and Acushnet Holdings, a holding company for world-renown golf brands, Titleist and Footjoy.

After his analyst years with the team, Ted joined his Senior Managing Partner also from the Blackstone team to co-found Altamira Partners, a Singapore-based investment management firm, to execute healthcare investments and manage assets on behalf of CHA Healthcare, a global healthcare provider with a focus on fertility and maternal care.

For the years immediately prior to enrolling in Wharton/Lauder, Ted served as the primary working-level contact to lead transaction advisors in executing several buyouts and significant minority stake investments. He also coordinated cross-border strategic partnerships and post-merger integration initiatives across Asia, Australia, North America, Eastern/Western Europe, and the Middle East. Through his extensive involvement in the investment executions and daily operations of portfolio companies, Ted spearheaded both inorganic and organic growth of assets under management.

Additionally, Ted is a passionate believer in helping promising social enterprises grow and has previously solely advised and completed Series A and capital expenditure fundraising for SPROUTS, a Uganda-based social for-profit selling ceramic water filters to provide locals access to clean water.

In his spare time, Ted enjoys golf, cooking, and traveling.





## LAURA LENNON

Laura grew up in an internationally-minded home, both personally and professionally. Her mother, an international flight attendant, is the daughter of Sicilian immigrants. Her father, a proud Irish-American raised outside Boston, oversaw global operations for an international adhesive company.

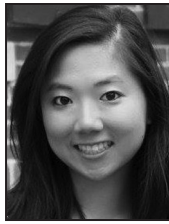
Laura attended Boston College, where she majored in History with a minor in International Studies. Through student-led opportunities, Laura participated in many long-term volunteer opportunities, both domestic and abroad, which permitted her to travel repeatedly to Honduras throughout her undergraduate education. In the midst of Honduras' governmental crisis in 2009, Laura was in El Progreso studying the impact of recently issued microloans on gender dynamics which opened her eyes to the power of economic development. In 2010, she studied abroad in Buenos Aires at Universidad Catolica de Argentina.

Passionate about returning to Latin America in a professional context after graduating, Laura joined Endeavor Chile's office in Antofagasta as a Princeton in Latin America Fellow. There she helped launch the newly established office in the country's hub of copper mining. After a year as a fellow, she accepted an offer as a full-time staff member to oversee the diligence efforts in order to find the brightest companies innovating in Chile's mining industry. In 2014, she joined Endeavor Chile's main office in Santiago Chile where she served as a Key Account Manager to Endeavor Entrepreneurs in which she supported and advised founders on their strategic planning, expansion, and fundraising. Through Endeavor, Laura worked alongside of Chile's most successful start-ups and with many talented mentors and investors. In 2017, Laura joined AccuHealth, a Chilean digital health startup as Chief of Staff to assist in their expansion into the U.S. market.

At Wharton/Lauder, Laura is focused on the Latin America region and is studying Portuguese to further explore the interconnectedness of business, policy, and sustainable growth in Latin America.

Laura loves to travel and explore new places, specifically through music and food. She enjoys running, yoga, and hiking, with a specific interest in summiting volcanoes. Her greatest joy comes from bringing people together and connecting friends with similar interests and experiences.





## SHIA LI LUM

Shia Li was born in Chicago to a Singaporean father and Japanese mother, and spent her childhood across Singapore and Tokyo. She attended international schools during this time, gaining an early appreciation and interest for different cultures. When she was 14, her family moved to suburban New York, where she quickly assimilated to American culture.

Shia Li earned her Bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College, where she majored in Biology and minored in History. Outside the classroom, Shia Li spent many hours in the boathouse and on the Connecticut River as a coxswain on the Women's Rowing Team. Through rowing, she realized how personally motivating and meaningful she finds working in a close-knit team environment to be. Accordingly, she decided to explore consulting as a career path and joined Datamonitor Healthcare Consulting as an intern in both London and in New York, contributing to a variety of cases for pharmaceutical clients such as product launch strategies and market landscape evaluations.

After graduation, Shia Li joined Bain and Company in Boston as a management consultant. She spent most of her 2.5 years at Bain working on strategy and performance improvement cases, across a wide variety of industries including health insurance, grocery, telecommunications, and automotive manufacturing.

Recently, she spent six months in the Bain Tokyo office, where she was not only able to work in a Japanese business environment for the first time, but also gained valuable experience working on a global transformation case spanning several countries and continents. Her experience in Tokyo reaffirmed her desire to be fully proficient in business Japanese and furthered her interest in learning how historical, social, and cultural factors shape the way in which people make decisions and conduct business across different countries. She hopes to use these learnings to manage multicultural teams in the future.

In her spare time, Shia Li enjoys running, shopping, watching hockey, and traveling. She is an avid Chicago Blackhawks fan, and her most recent travels before starting at Lauder include exploring Poland and Peru.





## RYAN MACDONALD

Ryan was born in Chicago, Illinois and grew up in the suburbs of Boston, Massachusetts. His international interests began in high school when he took part in a global encounter trip to Ecuador and was introduced to foreign ways of life and the topic of international development. Expanding on his interest in foreign culture, Ryan took part in his high school's exchange program to Toulon, France, an experience that sparked his passion for French language and culture and furthered his curiosity in global matters.

To explore this interest, Ryan studied Economics and French & Francophone Studies at the University of Notre Dame, where he graduated *cum laude* with a bachelor's degree. At Notre Dame, Ryan co-founded the French club with classmates and was a member of the men's boxing club, participating in an annual tournament to fundraise for poverty alleviation efforts in Bangladesh. He broadened his perspectives on world affairs by spending a semester studying eurozone economics and policy at Sciences Po Paris, where he received a certificate in Social Sciences and Humanities.

After graduation, Ryan joined PwC as a management consultant in Chicago. Working with cross-cultural teams in China and India, Ryan advised Financial Services clients throughout North America and the United Kingdom. Through his work covering the FinTech and InsurTech spaces, Ryan developed an appreciation for technology and financial innovation. While advising F500 companies on how to adjust their business models to these emerging technologies, Ryan developed an interest in extending this technology as a vehicle for financial inclusion and social impact in the developing world.

At Wharton/Lauder, Ryan plans to develop a deeper, more nuanced understanding of Africa's emerging markets and explore the social and economic impacts of financial innovations and disruptive technologies. He also intends to expand his knowledge of investing for a double bottom line, with a specific focus on Sub-Saharan Africa. Ultimately, Ryan plans to use his experiences at Lauder toward a career focused on social impact and international development.

In his free time, Ryan enjoys boxing and watching football and basketball. Ryan is also an avid fan of music and film and is a frequent concert-goer.







## BRAEDEN MAYER

Braeden was born and raised outside of Dallas, Texas. He attended the University of Texas at Dallas, where he was a McDermott Scholar. He graduated *magna cum laude* with a B.S. in International Political Economy with an emphasis on Latin America. While attending UT Dallas, Braeden spent a semester in Nicaragua studying the intersection of two of his favorite topics: baseball and politics. His thesis on the political history of baseball in Nicaragua explored how cultural attitudes toward the sport and the organizational structure of baseball itself changed throughout Nicaragua's turbulent history.

During his final semester, Braeden moved to Washington, D.C. to pursue a career at the intersection of the public and private sectors. He accepted a job with Marathon Oil's government relations office, where he was responsible for analyzing legislative and regulatory developments affecting the upstream oil and gas industry. Braeden subsequently joined Edelman, the world's largest public relations agency, supporting a variety of energy clients on public policy initiatives.

In 2015, Braeden was awarded a Fulbright to Panama, where he spent the year as a teaching assistant at Universidad Tecnológica Oteima. When he wasn't in the classroom, Braeden conducted sustainable development and primate rehabilitation research in the Panamanian jungle. It was there he first became interested in the role of the private sector in promoting economic development in emerging markets.

After finishing his Fulbright, Braeden joined Brunswick Group, the leading financial and corporate communications firm. He advised blue-chip companies in developing communications strategies during business-critical moments, including transformational M&A, proxy contests with shareholder activists, and corporate crises. Braeden seconded to the firm's Abu Dhabi office in 2017, where he led the development of a new practice area and advised on one of the region's largest transactions.

Outside of work, Braeden enjoys volunteering. For three years prior to attending Wharton, he taught a U.S. history and civics class entirely in Spanish to assist immigrants studying for the U.S. citizenship exam at the Central American Resource Center of D.C. 70+ of Braeden's students have gone on to become U.S. citizens. Braeden also serves as an adviser to Open for Business, a coalition advocating for LGBT+ inclusion in emerging markets, and Project Alianza, a non-profit promoting education on Nicaragua's coffee plantations.

At Wharton/Lauder, Braeden plans to expand his knowledge of the Spanish language and Latin American politics, culture, and business with the aim of pursuing a career in economic development consulting.





## **BRANDON THOMAS MAYHEW**

A native of Pasadena, California, Brandon has long maintained an interest in international affairs, politics, business, history, and foreign languages. He expects to practice corporate law.

Brandon completed his DipHE at the University of St Andrews, where he read for Economics and International Relations. He then received his B.A. in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics from Washington and Lee University.

Before entering law school, Brandon was a management consultant in Booz Allen Hamilton's defense and intelligence group in Washington, D.C. He worked with both civilian and military clients, primarily focusing on global satellite and communications programs. His additional work experience includes the British Broadcasting Corporation, an MP in the United Kingdom's House of Commons, and a winery in Los Olivos, California (as seen in Sideways).

He spent a semester abroad during college in Accra, Ghana and in high school was as an exchange student in Chengdu, China. He was also a double participant in Middlebury Language Schools for French. He is currently learning Spanish on the side and trying, fruitlessly, to keep up his Latin.

On a personal note, he enjoys American history, rowing, French, philosophy, wine, the outdoors, Spanish, genealogy, skiing, golf, engineering, and fishing.





## PEIXIN MO

Peixin was born in Jingmen, a small town in China's Hubei province. Days shy of her second birthday, she moved to the U.S. when her parents were granted the opportunity to pursue graduate studies abroad. She lived in Houston, TX until middle school, at which point her family relocated to the Middle East (Oman) for an expatriate position, and later again, to Southeast Asia (Brunei). Oscillating between multiple cultural identities, Peixin soon cultivated a strong appreciation for commonalities over differences.

Post-high school, Peixin sought an education that would build on her global citizenship and found her way to the University of Pennsylvania's Huntsman Program. Through Huntsman's dual-degree curriculum, Peixin studied the intersection between business, history, policy, culture, and language, with a particular focus on Arabic and the Middle East. She graduated *magna cum laude* with a B.A. in International Studies and a B.S. in Economics (Finance). She was an active leader across a variety of student groups, but her passion lay in serving Penn's multicultural Greek life, building bridges and connections across disparate communities on campus. Penn sculpted Peixin's continued enthusiasm for intercultural understanding.

After Penn, Peixin found her next home at Deloitte Consulting, where she specialized in organizational strategy and transformation. She advised clients on executing large-scale change, designing future workforces, building optimal organizational structures, managing cost reductions, developing leaders, and establishing desired culture, amongst others. Peixin served multiple industries but found a particular affinity in enabling hospital systems to adapt to recent healthcare industry changes. At Deloitte, Peixin applied her interdisciplinary background to drive business strategy.

Peixin then sought the opportunity to return to her beloved alma mater for further personal and professional development through the Lauder Program. At Wharton/Lauder, Peixin plans to build on her undergraduate foundations as well as her Chinese and Arabic language skills to develop a deeper, more nuanced understanding of global business. Her ultimate aspiration is to serve the international business ecosystem by driving greater cross-border alliances between developed and emerging economies.

Beyond her professional focus, Peixin has cared deeply about education and equal opportunity since a young age. She has taught middle school as a full-time volunteer in Southeast Asia and, in the U.S. She also works with Horizons National to establish summer learning programs for underprivileged children.





### **JAY (JEI WOOK) MOON**

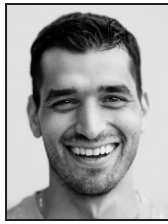
Jay was born in Seoul Korea, and raised in a family of avid travelers that inspired him to pursue an international experience. At age 15, he moved to the U.S. to attend boarding school, where he joined a diverse student body and learned English and Chinese. These early experiences instilled in him an appreciation for cultural diversity and other languages.

Jay attended Johns Hopkins University and earned his degrees in Applied Mathematics, Philosophy, and Visual Arts. While in school, he became passionate about international monetary research while working for a Senior Fellow at the Cato Institute. Jay's work on monitoring black market exchange rates and commodity price fluctuations around the world led him to appreciate subtle and far-reaching affect of sociocultural nuances on financial systems. His team's analyses on troubled currencies were quoted by various publications including Bloomberg and WSJ.

After graduation, Jay spent his investment banking career focused on the healthcare sector. He kick-started his career in New York by focusing on M&A advisory and equity offerings between companies in East Asia and the U.S. During this time, he witnessed how disparate cultural and legal systems between individual nations can create unexpected obstacles that hinder potentially lucrative transactions. These experiences sparked his interest in cultural differences in corporate governance and its affect on individual player's behaviors.

At Wharton / Lauder, Jay plans to further develop his language, managerial, and cultural skills to complement his investment banking skill set, which has bolstered his understanding of economics, statistics, and finance. In his spare time, he enjoys playing soccer, running in Central Park, or attempting to golf.





## ANTHONY MORANO

Growing up as an Italian American, Anthony's weeks began and ended with a ceremonious Sunday dinner of steaming bolognese sauce. By cooking with his mother, not only was Anthony able to taste test the sauce, but he was also able to enjoy twice as many croquettes as his siblings. Anthony's taste buds sharpened in parallel with his business acumen. As a freshman in high school, Anthony borrowed his neighbor's snow plow and organized his friends to start a snow removal service.

In 2008, Anthony graduated a semester early from Emory's Goizueta Business School. By proving himself during his summer internships at Bear Stearns and J.P. Morgan, Anthony was offered a Prime Brokerage Analyst position at J.P. Morgan at the peak of the recession. After excelling throughout the rotational program in consulting, risk, equity, and fixed income, Anthony was entrusted with covering the highest revenue producing client. Due to his ability to identify opportunities to help his colleagues and his analytical capabilities, he was awarded number one analyst in his class.

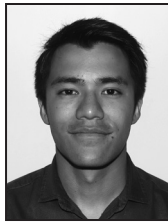
In 2011, Anthony saw an opportunity to make meaningful changes in Latin American healthcare when he met Alejandro Vega (Lauder '09) who had the idea to found Huli. Huli provides cloud-based solutions to physicians to improve the patient experience from appointment booking to health records and billing. Without knowing Spanish, Anthony moved to Costa Rica to spearhead this initiative as COO. Anthony's commitment to the idea and his tenacity towards its execution resulted in shaping Huli into the "second largest internet company in Costa Rica (The Economist)." Today, Huli has helped over two million patients, is valued at over \$20 million, and employs 80 people across Mexico, Costa Rica, and Panama.

In 2014, Anthony returned to the dinner table to pursue his lifelong passions for food and culture by creating a non-profit that promotes diversity through food media. Through the Culinary Heritage Co, Anthony researched and documented culinary traditions in hundreds of homes throughout the world. As executive director, Anthony has collaborated with grantors, international NGOs, tourism boards, and farmers within seventy-two international communities. The content behind the digital marketing strategy led by Anthony, organically reached over 10 million people.

Passionate about sustainable opportunities and launching new businesses, Anthony aspires to continue to develop social impact ventures as an operator and investor.

In his free time, Anthony never turns down an opportunity to play sports like basketball.





## VIVEK MUKHERJEE

Vivek was born in Manipur, a politically unstable and psychologically distant small state that borders Myanmar in India's north-eastern region. When he was 12, the disruptions to daily life from political upheavals compelled his parents to send him to an all-boys boarding school in Gwalior (India), The Scindia School. Coming from Manipur, this was the first time his worldview expanded, from state to national. When he was 16, he was selected for a summer exchange program to The Woodbridge School, in the UK, and his worldview expanded again. He became fascinated by the differences in economic, cultural, and social contexts and how they shape our interactions.

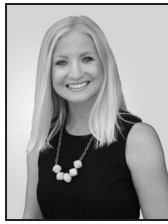
As part of New York University Abu Dhabi's (NYUAD) first graduating class, he studied with approximately 140 students from over 40 different countries. In addition to spending three years in Abu Dhabi, he studied abroad in Buenos Aires, Accra, Berlin, and New York. At NYUAD, he learned that we can move beyond our individual differences and foster a greater collective understanding by sharing our culture, knowledge, and ideas. In all his interactions, he strives to bring his multi-cultural experiences to learn from each other.

After graduating in 2014, he joined the Strategy and Operations arm of Deloitte Consulting LLP in New York. At Deloitte, Vivek's experiences ranged from designing strategy workshops for Fortune 100 companies to helping a unicorn start-up's operations expand internationally. From all of his experiences, closest to his heart were the social impact projects. For instance, he helped Youth Centers in Belfast assess their impact in order to evaluate programming and fulfil the requirements for the new government funding process. He experienced first-hand the importance of cross-sector collaboration and commitment in achieving results.

Focusing on the South Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa track at Lauder, he looks forward to deeply exploring the intersections of global business, culture, and politics with a hope to establish a career at the crossroads of business and social impact.

In his free time, you can find Vivek painting, mostly abstract topics in acrylic paint, cooking and hosting a dinner party, playing tennis and soccer, or running.





## ERIN MURPHY

Erin was born in New Haven, Connecticut. She attended The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she double majored in Journalism and Mass Communication and in International Studies and minored in Russian language. At UNC, she was heavily involved in human rights policy work, specifically advocating for genocide and mass atrocities prevention and human trafficking prevention. Erin studied in Russia, Croatia, Serbia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, and she spent summers in Kyiv, Ukraine volunteering at a children's home and interning with an anti-trafficking NGO.

After university, Erin won a Fulbright Scholarship to Moldova, where she taught journalism at Cahul State University and conducted research on emerging trends in human trafficking in East Europe. Presented with a unique opportunity to then work in Nepal, Erin spent a year based in Kathmandu working as an independent consultant for development aid and women's empowerment organizations ranging from INGOs like the United Nations Development Programme to grassroots NGOs, such as Community Action Centre-Nepal.

Erin moved to Prague, where she served as outreach and development officer for Transitions, a media development NGO and political and economic magazine covering the formerly communist states of Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Next, she helped launch the India-based NGO Khusi Hona's operations in Nepal. Serving as the organization's director of operations, she designed and implemented education, sanitation, micro-enterprise, and disaster response programming in India and Nepal.

In 2015, she founded Dignity Collective, a social business that employs vulnerable women in Nepal. To date, Dignity Collective's first three eco-friendly, luxury products have paid fair wages to 46 artisans.

From 2016-2019, Erin taught sixth grade at Carlthorp School, an independent day school in Santa Monica, California. This community served as an excellent place to grow personally and professionally, and the greater Los Angeles area proved to be an ideal place for Dignity Collective's launch. Erin's goal while in the Wharton-Lauder program is to scale and improve Dignity Collective's operations in South Asia and expand to East Europe.

Erin serves as a board member of the Los Angeles Fair Trade Fashion Show and of SEVA Service Learning, a non-profit that she and her husband co-founded with a mission of taking U.S. teachers to Nepal to design their own service projects. She teaches and practices Yoga and enjoys trekking, running, cycling, scuba diving, wine tasting, and eating good food with good company.







## CHRISTINA S. NAM

Christina was born and raised in Queens, NY, which is considered one of the most ethnically diverse urban areas in the world. She credits her hometown for her interest in cross-cultural experiences and her ability to integrate into diverse communities. Born to two Korean immigrants, Christina recalls translating legal documents for her parents from a young age and English being a secondary language in most of her surrounding communities.

Christina used her time at Johns Hopkins University, where she doubled majored in Cognitive Science and History of Art, to pursue a multitude of interests and assuage her curious nature. As an undergrad she interned as a lab assistant studying schizophrenic rats and at a legal defense firm. She also volunteered at the Baltimore Museum of Art, worked at her school's Intellectual Property Office analyzing student-led biomedical patents, and used her free time to sub her favorite Korean dramas. However, she considers taking a course on East Asian Art after 1945 to be her most transformative undergraduate experience. The course led her to spend the summer between her sophomore and junior year studying how ramifications from the Korean War stalemate have affected modern commerce relations between the U.S. and South Korea, as well as inter-regional relationships in East Asia.

After a brief foray into Public Relations, Christina spent the last few years with the Strategy and Advisory Solutions Group and the Finance department at Morgan Stanley. In her roles, Christina served as a strategic adviser to senior management by diagnosing business shortfalls and interpreting data trends across high-priority field-strategic initiatives. Her cross-functional work managing incentive policies, designing diversity metrics, as well as building out business requirements for new reporting platforms has developed her ability to work collaboratively and lead teams.

As a Wharton/Lauder student, Christina plans to garner a deeper understanding of the differing cultural perspectives and geopolitical nuances that determine how global organizations operate and what it will take to compete on an international scale. During her off-time, Christina volunteers as a Youth Catechist and Peer Leader at her local church and serves as a mentor for Minds Matter. When asked for a fun fact, Christina believes she reached her peak "coolness" in high school when she wanted to work for the FBI's art department.





## MARK NICHOLS

Mark was born in Connecticut to American and English parents, who soon moved the family to become Christian missionaries in Khayelitsha, Cape Town's largest slum. There, they ran a vocational skills training center. Though they returned to the U.S. before Mark started middle school, the experience piqued his interest in international experiences, and provided a foundation to think about how social impact organizations can best structure themselves.

In an effort to better understand this question, and to prepare for an international career, Mark studied Economics at Tufts University, focusing on international development. He helped launch a program sending undergraduate students to conduct monitoring and evaluation for NGOs in Matagalpa, Nicaragua, and spent a summer doing so himself. He also focused on social entrepreneurship, interning with a team at the Aspen Institute to research initiatives supporting high-impact small businesses in emerging markets.

After graduating in 2014, he worked in Washington, D.C., and the Netherlands for the consulting arm of Triodos Bank, a Dutch sustainable bank. There, he advised banks in low- and middle-income countries to develop strategies, products, and services for small businesses and social enterprises. More recently, he developed a focus on supporting European impact investors to balance financial and impact goals, particularly those looking at expanding access to finance for women entrepreneurs. He enjoyed the challenge of working across a broad range of cultures and business environments, with clients located in Cambodia, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Liberia, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Tanzania, and Vietnam. He also explored the Netherlands in his spare time.

A Spanish speaker since studying abroad in Madrid for his junior year of high school, Mark aims to deepen his understanding of Latin America as a region while at Wharton/Lauder. More broadly, he wants to further his understanding of a wide variety of enterprises and market contexts, with the long-term goal of supporting enterprises addressing issues of environmental sustainability.





## **SAMARIA O'BRIEN**

Samaria was born in Monaco, Monaco and grew up in a multilingual family speaking French, Italian, and Spanish. When she was young, she moved to Orlando, Florida where she continued developing a global perspective by completing the International Baccalaureate program. As a result of her family experiences and academic studies, Samaria is fluent in French and Italian and proficient in Spanish.

Intrigued by global affairs and international relations, Samaria pursued degrees in Political Science, Business-Economics, and Italian at the University of Notre Dame. During her time there, she was active in Model United Nations, Student Government, and studied abroad in Rome. While at Notre Dame, Samaria developed an interest in healthcare through her internship with Cardinal Health, a multinational pharmaceutical and medical supplies company. Following this, she worked in Business Development at Allscripts, an electronic health records firm, where she explored the role of technology in healthcare and community health. Her work at Allscripts fueled a passion for using technology to optimize patients' lives.

After graduating from Notre Dame in 2016, Samaria joined Accenture's Digital practice in Chicago. During her time at Accenture, she focused on digital transformation, product strategy, and product management for healthcare and media companies. Through her work for cutting edge clients, she gained strong skills in planning, managing, and executing digital e-commerce initiatives. At Accenture, Samaria also spearheaded a successful program to provide pro bono mentorship to local Chicago startups. Being part of Accenture gave Samaria unmatched resources to develop a strategic understanding of the varying ways technology can be used as a conduit for accelerated innovation.

At Wharton/Lauder, Samaria plans to explore models of innovation in renowned startup ecosystems such as Paris and Berlin. More broadly, she seeks to acquire a stronger understanding of the French and European economies which will be vital to her goal of pursuing a multinational career in technology. In her spare time, Samaria loves to weight lift, blog, read non-fiction, and wine taste.





## JOSE MARIA OCAMPO

Jose Maria was born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia. After graduating from high school, he moved to Washington, D.C., where he attended Georgetown University and graduated *cum laude* in Economics with a minor in Finance.

During his undergraduate years, Jose Maria was an active member of the Latin American Student Association. As Executive Vice President, he oversaw a Latin American speaker series that brought important political and economic leaders of the region to Georgetown's campus. The Student Association also organized the first Latin America Career Conference. Additionally, Jose Maria's interest in emerging market investments led him to take leadership roles at Zeeba Investments, the largest student-run emerging market investment fund on campus. At Zeeba, Jose Maria was a member of the Latin America Desk, then became Chief Economic Officer and finally co-Managing Partner.

After graduating from Georgetown, Jose Maria moved to New York to join Credit Suisse's Latin American Investment Banking Group. After a year in New York, he moved to Santiago, Chile and eventually back to his home town of Bogotá. During his time in Credit Suisse, he, alongside a Managing Director, led the re-opening of the investment banking office in Santiago. He was also in charge of running the hiring process for a full-time staff of six people. Throughout his three-and-a-half years at Credit Suisse, Jose Maria advised clients across the airline, industrials, and oil & gas industries in Latin America, performing both financial and strategic analysis on mergers, acquisitions, leveraged buyouts, equity offerings, and financings.

After leaving Credit Suisse, Jose Maria joined Clever Leaves/Northern Swan as a shared Investment & Business Development Associate of the venture capital-backed medical cannabis company. During his time at Clever Leaves/Northern Swan, Jose Maria led the structuring of the largest micropropagation lab in Colombia, the negotiation of a 700-hectare cultivation joint-venture with one of the country's largest agro-industrial groups, and the analysis of several expansion opportunities in the region.

At Wharton/Lauder, Jose Maria plans to focus on the socio-political factors that have historically limited the value generation and business integration in cross-border deals in Latin America.

In his spare time, Jose Maria enjoys playing golf and squash, riding road bicycles, and discussing Colombian politics.





## **LUDMILA ESTEVES OLIVEIRA**

Ludmila was born and raised in Juiz de Fora, a city in Minas Gerais, Brazil. Her parents' determination and work ethics have always inspired her to live by their examples of commitment, honesty, and selflessness. Studying in a catholic school based on Ignatian principles allowed her to put those values into practice through her volunteering work and youth leadership forums. As a child, Ludmila was an avid reader: books were one of her ways to discover and explore the world beyond Brazil's countryside. English and Spanish classes were also her safe place, adding new layers to her understanding of the world and fueling her passion to explore as many cultures as she could.

At Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora, Ludmila majored in Law, aiming a greater understanding of political and legal institutions in order to enhance them. Amazed by university's diversity of people and activities, she was actively involved in campus life. Ludmila joined AIESEC's Local Committee, where she became VP of Sales, worked at the school's pro-bono legal practice and earned an internship at the Federal Tax Attorney's Office. She was an Academic Research Fellow, focused in intellectual property as well as a teaching assistant for Contracts class. Passionate about bringing people together, she was also co-president of the Graduation Committee. These experiences shaped Ludmila's understanding of her purpose and abilities, leading her to the private sector, where she aimed to foster the competitiveness and development of the Brazilian national industry.

During her senior year, she was recruited by Votorantim's Companhia Brasileira de Alumínio as a trainee. Her first position was in the commercial area, unfolding the new business strategy to the sales team and permeating a much-needed cultural transformation. After the company's spin-off, she was invited to build a new Performance area in the Supply Chain structure. She deep dived in the logistics operations, co-creating short and long-term strategies, and led the logistics workstream in CBA's business transformation process.

In her spare time, Ludmila enjoys running, beer tasting, and travelling. She has visited 20+ foreign countries to date and is looking forward to seeing many more.

At Wharton/Lauder, Ludmila plans to broaden her international perspectives and awareness of different economic and political systems, further developing her leadership skills. She thus expects to continue generating impact by leveraging her understanding of intercultural settings to foster competitiveness and development in emerging markets.





## JOAQUÍN ORMEÑO

Joaquín was born in Lima to an entrepreneurial family that, through frequent work trips, exposed him to Peru's geographic and cultural diversity. Joaquín's upbringing was complemented with a bilingual education at Lima's American school where he gained interest in global affairs and languages. He studied French and Chinese after school hours, and with that same passion he pursued a career that has taken him to multiple Emerging Markets ("EMs").

Joaquín graduated from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service with honors in International Economics and proficiency in Mandarin Chinese. Through leadership roles such as the Presidency of the Latin American Club or experiences such as a semester abroad in Beijing, Joaquín polished his knowledge of EMs.

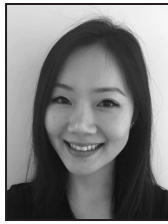
After graduation, Joaquín joined Citibank's Latin America Debt Capital Markets desk in New York, where he structured debt solutions for governments, financial institutions and corporate clients. He printed landmark debt offerings such as the inaugural bond of the largest airline in Latin America and the Republic of Ecuador's 2014 successful issuance post default in 2008.

Wanting more exposure to growth markets, Joaquín joined the largest EM-focused fund where he rotated between different roles: private equity with retail focus in Lima; clean energy project finance in Istanbul; and impact investing in Dubai. After participating in projects that took him to Côte d'Ivoire, the DRC and India, it was the African continent which caught his attention given its lack of ties with Latin America.

He joins Lauder's Francophone Africa track to explore Africa-Latin America inter-continental opportunities. At a moment where the hype of EMs has diminished, Joaquín is certain that there is still much value to be created within the South-to-South corridors of exchange and that Lauder is an ideal place to build such bridges.

Joaquín still maintains strong links with his country. He is the website manager for Help Peru, an organization that collects funds in New York for social impact initiatives in Peru. He is also developing a fundraising strategy for a multimedia tool to help protect Lima's immaterial heritage. During his spare time, Joaquín enjoys cooking and hosting dinner parties that showcase dishes from the countries where he has lived.





## **SOOKY PARK**

Born in Seoul, South Korea, Sooky moved to Southern California at the age of seven, making her parents the first of their respective families to emigrate from their home country. While acclimating to a new environment and language, Sooky quickly developed a keenness for a universal one -- music.

Throughout her childhood, music played a critical role in helping her accept differentness as an Asian American immigrant as something to be valued, opening her eyes to diverse perspectives, people, challenges, and unlikely commonness among even the most heterogeneous communities. Her experiences ultimately inspired her to pursue her passion at Northwestern University, where she graduated with a B. Mus. in Piano Performance, and a B.A. in Psychology and Business.

It was during this time Sooky's international interests expanded. She picked up Mandarin and spent a semester abroad in Beijing studying business and economics. Eager to further her learnings in how different cultural contexts affect the way local businesses run, she then spent a summer in Korea working for a technology startup and quickly saw the numerous challenges of scaling a business across borders.

Upon graduation, she joined Sears Holdings, curious to discover differences in the inner workings of a traditional American company. As Chief of Staff to the CMO, she became fascinated by the intersection of people, data and technology, and moved to New York, in digital strategy and analytics roles for technology based advertising agencies. She helped manage international client relationships and internal teams to deliver innovative solutions for various Fortune 500 brands. Most recently, her focus has been on conversational AI and voice technology.

At Lauder/Wharton, Sooky looks forward to strengthening her abilities to analyze real-world problems and applying them internationally, both within and beyond the classroom. As she explores topics of entrepreneurship and technology, she is also eager to refine her Korean language proficiency and learn more about the East/Southeast Asia region and uncover insights on how to further interconnectedness on a global scale through business.







## LESLIE PENG

Leslie was born in New Jersey and raised outside of Seattle, Washington. At an early age, she was exposed to various facets of global trade through of her family's manufacturing business in Guangzhou, China. Seeing firsthand how commerce connects people around the globe, Leslie is eager to further study trade and international development.

Leslie studied at the University of Southern California Marshall School of Business with a focus on global supply chain and operations. During this time, Leslie was an engaged leader on campus for various student organizations. Leslie graduated with Departmental Honors from USC Marshall for her thesis on supply chain performance and consumer behavior.

After graduation, Leslie was accepted into Boeing's Business Career Foundation Program (BCFP). In this leadership development rotation program, Leslie led a range of projects in business jet sales contracts, supply chain, finance, and acquisition policy. She was awarded the 2018 BCFP Alumni of the year for her exceptional contributions to the program, career achievements, and community leadership.

Following the BCFP, she joined Boeing's Commercial International Strategy & Business Development team as the country manager for Canada. Canada is one of Boeing's largest Commercial and Defense markets, as well as its longest international partner (100 years) and one of its largest international supply bases. In this role, she led commercial engagements with Canadian government and industry to enable strategic partnerships, economic development, and the fulfillment of Boeing's defense sales requirements in Canada.

In 2018, Leslie was promoted to Americas Regional Director with responsibility for Boeing's commercial business development and strategy for Canada, Central & South America. She led the analysis for strategic insights of commercial industrial trends in key, emerging markets in the Americas to guide market capture strategy for the Latin America market. Her responsibilities also included driving alignment on commercial business development objectives amongst Boeing's senior leadership constituents and key industrial partners and government officials in the Americas region. Additionally, Leslie helped drive the integration of companywide global strategies and alignment on Boeing's future global footprint - an experience that further fueled her passion for international strategy.

Outside of work, Leslie is focused on supporting the arts community. In Seattle, she served on the Board of Directors for the Village Theatre and for Early Music Seattle. Her board service has focused on education and outreach to underserved communities as well as advocating for equal access and diversity in the arts community.





## STEVEN PERALTA

Steven was born in New York City. At a young age, his family visits to urban and rural Latin America sparked his interest and curiosity in the region and in other cultures.

As a 2011 NSLI-Y Scholar, a scholarship granted by the U.S. Department State Bureau of Education, he studied and lived in Istanbul, Turkey in high school. His experience in Turkey led him to dedicate his undergraduate years to learning about development and business in emerging markets. To date, Steven has lived in nine countries across five continents and traveled to 35+ nations.

Steven attended Dartmouth College, Class of 2015, where he studied International Development as a Geography Major. While at Dartmouth, Steven interned for ESPN during the 2014 FIFA World Cup, where he worked on a digital marketing campaign for its Latin American division in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico. At Dartmouth, Steven participated in service trips to the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua, created an educational initiative in South Africa, co-led an educational college access trip to Texas, and spent a quarter teaching English in India. Steven also enhanced his global perspective by studying abroad in Rome, Italy; Prague, Czech Republic; and Salvador, Brazil. During his international studies, he was exposed the subtleties of business across diverse markets and also studied Portuguese and Italian. Interested in leadership development, Steven utilized his undergraduate career to enhance his abilities, participating in different leadership and management programs at the Rockefeller Center at Dartmouth, the Harvard Business School, and Yale SOM.

After graduating in 2015, Steven worked at The Vanguard Group, where he rotated through different strategy, finance, audit, and management roles. Steven worked with the international business and corporate strategy teams, researching and analyzing the institutional and retail investment ecosystems in Brazil and Mexico. Interested in the Latin American and U.S. Hispanic markets, Steven later joined the Research & Analytics team at the Spanish language network, Univision. He worked closely with management to estimate and value potential media property acquisitions and build ratings model to forecast network performance. At Univision, he also co-founded an insights platform catering to the larger company and was a Marketing Communications Lead for Univision's young professionals' affinity organization.

In his spare time, Steven enjoys traveling, dancing salsa, and staying physically active (calisthenics, running, hiking). At Wharton/Lauder, Steven plans to further enhance his leadership and strategic abilities and deepen his global business acumen.





## CONRADO REYNA KURTZ

Conrado was born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He is the son of an Argentinean mother and Brazilian-German father and all his grandparents had different nationalities/backgrounds.

During high school, Conrado received a merit-based scholarship and was a class representative. He was also a competitive sailor, part of Brazilian National Sailing team, and a two-time winner of the Brazilian Optimist Team Championship while serving as team captain.

His passion for crossing borders and understanding different cultures began early. From working at a ski resort in Colorado, to an intensive German course in Munich, to representing Brazil in a sailing championship in Trinidad and Tobago, Conrado has long been fueled by a desire to see as much of the world as possible in order to understand what unites us, and, equally as important, what makes us all unique.

Conrado attended Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) and majored in Production Engineering with emphasis in Economics. In his fourth year, he was awarded a Brazilian Government scholarship and was admitted for a year abroad at University College London (UCL) where he took courses mostly in Finance and Engineering. After College, Conrado pursued a career in management consultancy. In 2015, he joined the Strategy& (formerly Booz & Company) office in Sao Paulo as an Associate. In 2016, he joined The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) office in Rio de Janeiro.

At BCG, he focused on strategic projects for Oil & Gas, mining and insurers firms. Following his goal to pursue an international career, he alternated projects in Brazil with staffing overseas. During his first year, he was staffed for five months in Spain, helping to set up the digital transformation for a global Oil & Gas firm, including the definition of the organization model and hiring strategy for 150+ new employees. During his second year, he went to Chile, where he lived for five months focused on optimizing the planning and technical functions for a \$30B+ global mining company.

At Wharton/Lauder, Conrado looks forward to deepening his knowledge about Global business, especially how large capital investments are made across the Globe. He is keen on analysing how global markets such as industrial commodities operate and are influenced through political and economical swings.

Conrado is passionate about traveling and enjoys playing soccer and surfing. He speaks English, Portuguese, Spanish, intermediate French, and basic German.





## MARGARET ROBERTS

Margaret was born and raised in Austin, Texas. Her exposure to and interest in international cultures started early, when she spent a month in a Spanish language immersion program in Costa Rica at age 12.

Inspired by the city's renaissance post Hurricane Katrina, Margaret moved to New Orleans to attend Tulane University, where she majored in Economics and International Development, minored in Spanish and contributed to the rebuilding efforts through volunteer work with various NGOs. Margaret served as the treasurer of the environmental club and spent a semester in Buenos Aires, Argentina, concentrating her coursework on human rights and interning with Transparency International.

During her senior year in college, Margaret worked with Kiva and a local non-profit to help women and minority entrepreneurs formalize small ventures through loans and workshops. This sparked her passion in financial access and led her to seek out field work in micro-credit, spending seven months after college in Paraguay supporting women entrepreneurs to design business models and gain access to credit. She then interned at an impact investment advisory firm in San Francisco, Imprint Capital, where she created an evaluation process to measure the social impact of the firm's investments.

To gain more international context, Margaret spent two and a half years in rural Kenya working with One Acre Fund, a social enterprise that provides over half a million smallholder farmers with impactful products and services on credit. During her time there, she led the collections strategy in Kenya and helped to scale One Acre Fund's mobile repayment platform through M-Pesa.

Impressed by seeing the transformative role that digital financial services were playing in the development of East Africa, Margaret wanted to deepen her understanding of the sector and moved to São Paulo, Brazil, where she spent one and a half years at Creditas, a financial technology start-up dedicated to lowering lending costs for Brazilians.

Outside of her duties at work, Margaret is active in women empowerment initiatives, having acted as a group leader for a women's leadership group in Kenya and as a mentor for women in both Kenya and Brazil. She loves to compete in triathlons, explore new cities by bike, and cook Tex-Mex for friends.

At Wharton and Lauder, Margaret plans to dive deeper into how technology can drive and expand social impact in emerging markets.





## ALEX RUBILAR

Alex was born in Provo, Utah to a Chilean father and American mother, spending his early years in Atlanta, Georgia before moving to Schenectady, New York. From his occasional trips to Chile to visit relatives, Alex developed a love for the language and culture, particularly its vibrant music.

Wanting to serve his country, Alex enrolled in the United States Military Academy in 2007. Between his sophomore and junior years at West Point, he left for two years to serve as a volunteer missionary. Alex was assigned to work near the city of Concepcion in south-central Chile, where he experienced the 2010 earthquake which measured 8.8 on the Richter Scale. There he witnessed the physical destruction, subsequent societal breakdown, and imposition of martial law. Alex reapplied and was readmitted to West Point, returning in the summer of 2011. He graduated in 2013 with a Bachelors of Science in Economics and a commission into the Army infantry.

Shortly after graduating, Alex married Kristen Fuentes, whom he had met after returning from Chile. Alex then underwent an additional ten months of infantry training at Fort Benning which included the Army's two-month long Ranger School.

Alex was assigned to the 2nd Cavalry Regiment in Grafenwoehr, Germany where he served as a combat engineer platoon leader and a company executive officer (second-in-command of a 96-person organization). He then managed the transportation logistics for his parent organization's deployment to Moldova and Romania. Offered the chance to lead a rifle platoon (35-man team), Alex leapt at the opportunity. During their three years in Germany, Alex and Kristen had two children, Aaron (4), and Olivia (2), both of whom are now very opinionated.

Before leaving Active Duty in the spring of 2019, Alex served as a Company Commander at the Western Hemisphere for Security Cooperation. There he was responsible for administrative and operational aspects of a team of 207 people, including 50 partner nation instructors from 14 Latin American countries. He also developed a passion for teaching human rights law while at the Institute. Alex enjoys spending time outdoors with his wife and children, listening to soundtracks and classical music (Mahler and Sibelius, mostly), and trying new foods. Through the Lauder program Alex hopes to bridge his military experience and familiarity with the Latin American region to find ways to run profitable businesses that simultaneously support the respect for human rights.





## IACOPO SANTINI

Iacopo was born in Mexico City to Italian parents and moved to Indianapolis, Indiana where he spent his formative years. He is fluent in Italian and Spanish and remains closely connected to his Latin and Italian cultural roots. Iacopo has always been interested in how various societal and cultural norms are institutionalized, pushing him to focus his high school honors thesis on evaluating how and why Europe and the U.S. differently structure their professional sports leagues.

Iacopo attended the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania for his undergraduate studies where he graduated *summa cum laude* concentrating in finance. While at Penn, he studied abroad at Bocconi University in Milan. At school, he was actively involved in volunteering as a director of the West Philadelphia Tutoring Project, an organization that brings Penn students to West Philly schools and runs an on-campus after-school program to boost community engagement and improve tutee academic performance.

Since graduation, Iacopo has worked at Bain Capital Credit in NYC in the Private Credit Group, focusing on underwriting private debt and equity placements in U.S. middle market companies. He also has experience: managing a friendly restructuring and lender takeover of a portfolio company; investing additional growth capital; and helping refinance the asset-backed loan to support business turnaround. These projects have driven Iacopo's interest in exploring a transition to operationally-focused roles, where he can gain the skillset needed to achieve his goal of leading a company.

At Wharton/Lauder, Iacopo plans to deepen his understanding of Latin American economies and cultural practices and to advance his business Spanish to a native level. He also plans to focus his academic studies on business operations and entrepreneurship.

In his spare time, Iacopo enjoys endurance sports (marathon, biking, triathlon), reading, cooking, and European football.





## ISSA SAUNDERS

Issa was born and primarily raised in Nassau, Bahamas to a Bahamian father and a Jamaican mother. She spent much of early childhood visiting with her mother's family in Jamaica, establishing from birth an appreciation for cultural nuance and the beauty and challenges of difference.

In the Bahamas, Issa attended international schools where she was able to foster her interest in foreign languages. By the time she graduated high school, Issa was proficient in Spanish and French.

Issa attended Yale College where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. While in university she continued her study of languages, taking classes in Spanish, French, and Arabic, including a summer term in Paris. During this time, she engaged in an international approach to her scholarship, spending a semester at studying in the faculty of Politics at the University of Cape Town. While there, she deepened her understanding of the impacts of macro-level policy on the lives of South Africans by working at the community news outlet of UCT's Centre for Social Science research. Back at Yale, Issa continued this diverse exploration through her studies of the Middle East culminating in her senior thesis on the failure of the January 25 revolution in Egypt.

Prior to graduation, Issa interned at an early stage startup in Dubai, solidifying for her a long-term interest in entrepreneurship. Upon graduation, Issa moved to Washington, D.C. where she gained deep knowledge of the U.S. healthcare system while working at The Advisory Board Company. From there she moved to the Midwest where she further immersed herself in American culture, exploring the country's deep manufacturing history while working in management at McMaster-Carr.

At Wharton, Issa intends to study the private sector approach to innovation through entrepreneurship. At Lauder she hopes to explore how entrepreneurial ecosystems are built and maintained across the developing world so that she might strengthen those in the Caribbean.

In her spare time, Issa enjoys connecting with people through dance, language, and good food.





## **ROBERT SHEPHERD**

Robert was born in Atlanta, Georgia and raised in Jacksonville, Florida. In high school, he participated in a student exchange to Zaragoza, Spain and hosted foreign exchange students on two separate occasions. He also traveled to his school's partner orphanage in the Dominican Republic. These experiences sparked his interest in foreign languages and cultures, which in turn influenced his study and career goals.

After high school, Robert moved to Washington D.C. to attend Georgetown University, where he double majored in International Business and Finance while continuing to study the Spanish language. He took on an active role in student government and worked at the campus coffee shop for all four years of college.

Following graduation in 2015, Robert moved to Santiago, Chile with a Princeton in Latin America fellowship to work at Endeavor Chile. At Endeavor, a non-profit that provides strategic support and mentorship to high-impact entrepreneurs, Robert was an Associate on the Entrepreneur Selection and Growth team. Collaborating with members of Endeavor's extensive network of local business leaders and entrepreneurs, he formed lasting contacts in the Chilean business world.

Robert later joined the strategy consulting practice at EY Chile. There, he performed strategy projects with local and multinational companies across different industries, including financial services, higher education, telecommunications, and automotive retail. He became involved in entrepreneurship and innovation initiatives at the firm and also volunteered with local entrepreneurship-focused non-profits outside of work.

During his four years in Chile, Robert worked almost entirely in Spanish, save for occasional meetings with foreign clients and counterparts. He traveled extensively throughout Chile and other countries in the region, gaining a nuanced understanding of local cultures and ways of doing business.

At Wharton/Lauder, Robert plans to expand his knowledge of business in Latin America and around the world, in order to prepare himself for a global career. Robert enjoys traveling to new countries and spending time outdoors - running, hiking, and skiing with friends.







## TEDDY SHIH

Teddy was born in the U.K., and has since lived in Taipei, Vancouver, and Los Angeles. This global upbringing fostered his appreciation for diversity as he witnessed the best each culture had to offer, and strengthened his sense of independence as he learned to adapt to constantly evolving environments. Between the Din Tai Fung soup dumplings and Tim Horton Timbits, he fell in love with the people and languages around him, becoming fluent in Chinese and English while picking up French and Spanish on the side.

It was the same desire for diversity that drew him to UCLA, where he graduated *summa cum laude* with a major in Business-Economics and minors in Accounting and French. During the summers in college, Teddy interned at IBM Taiwan in Business Operations and KPMG in Audit. His responsibilities ranged from organizing a partner Cloud Computing summit to translating financial statements from Chinese to English. The combination of a large academic institution and internships abroad allowed him to explore the intersection of business, technology, and the arts. It further confirmed what he had always assumed to be self-evident – that he learned most when exposed to different disciplines and environments. This naturally led him to enter consulting upon graduation, further fueling his growth through various industries and project types.

For the last three and a half years, Teddy has worked at Deloitte Consulting in Strategy & Operations with a focus on analytics for Technology companies. His passion for technology stems from the people closest to him – his parents are founders of an IT company in Taiwan, and his brother a PhD student in Computer Science at Stanford. Most recently at Deloitte, he led marketing analytics efforts around lead routing at Google Cloud. He drove alignment for the go-to-market strategy from a technical perspective and led a 12% improvement in lead quality for the rapidly growing \$4B business unit. Juggling competing priorities from Marketing and Sales stakeholders across geographies impressed upon him that 1) technical know-how is simply table stakes 2) he needs to better understand regional nuances in order to be a more effective global leader.

At Wharton/Lauder, Teddy is excited to broaden his perspective, refine his leadership skills, and further improve his Mandarin Chinese. He hopes to combine his consulting experiences with the learnings from Lauder to explore cross-border opportunities in technology across Asia and North America.





## **JULIUS SUKAREVICIUS**

Julius was born in small industrial city, Panevezys, in Lithuania. Having grown up in a fast-changing post-soviet country, he has been interested in economics and global issues since his early years. He moved to Vilnius to pursue a degree in economics from ISM University of Management and Economics, where he was among the top students in terms of academic performance. Having taken several elective finance courses, Julius decided to further his knowledge in finance by enrolling at Stockholm School of Economics for a two-year Master in Finance program.

After graduation, Julius joined J.P.Morgan Asset Management in Frankfurt, Germany as a client portfolio manager covering the whole fixed income product range for both institutional and wholesale clients in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. As a product specialist, Julius was responsible for communicating company's views, outlook, and engaging with existing and prospective clients to drive business growth. In two years, he built up a strong understanding of fixed income markets, macroeconomics, and the way the asset management business operates in the region. During this time, he also earned the CFA designation. His excellent performance and drive were soon noticed by colleagues in the London office who offered Julius the opportunity to move to London and join the Emerging Market Debt Team.

Working almost three years in London as an investment specialist, Julius helped grow the Emerging Market Debt platform to around \$35 billion. Specializing in the Emerging Market Corporate Debt strategy, he acted as the main product specialist for the largest investment fund in its universe of over \$2 billion and for several large multi-billion-dollar segregated mandates. Using his in-depth product and market knowledge, he was responsible for actively engaging with various distribution channels and internal teams to drive growth of the business. He also worked on several high-profile projects such as co-writing the one of the most widely distributed weekly fixed income pieces that reached over 50,000 clients.

At Wharton/Lauder, Julius hopes to focus on innovative solutions that the asset management industry will need to undergo in the future. In the long term, he plans to contribute to these changes in Europe.

In his spare time, Julius is a competitive tennis player in various leagues and tournaments. He also enjoys running, trying out new restaurants, and travelling.





## **SAM TAFFER**

Sam was born and raised in New York City. From a young age, he has been fascinated by other cultures, seeking to bridge the gaps between nations. In fourth grade, Sam started learning Japanese and quickly developed an interest in East Asian languages and cultures. He added Mandarin Chinese to his language studies in tenth grade, participating in summer homestay experiences in Japan and China to expand his learning and perspective.

Sam attended Washington University in St. Louis, where he double-majored in International and Area Studies and Political Science and minored in Chinese Language and Culture. He quickly became involved in the international community, organizing cultural expos, panel discussions, and international film festivals as President of Sigma Iota Rho, the International Studies Honor Society. Sam was fortunate to receive the Ansehl Award for Excellence in Chinese and a Washington University Study Abroad scholarship during his time on campus, facilitating a semester abroad at Fudan University in Shanghai.

During his time at Fudan, Sam continued his Mandarin studies while interning on a Chinese marketing team at the global beverage company, Diageo. The Diageo internship experience revealed the power of technology to connect people, becoming a new way to break down barriers. Sam returned to St. Louis in the Fall to write his honors thesis on Chinese foreign direct investment in the United States, exploring the fraught relationship between Chinese tech firms and American politics.

After graduation, Sam joined Capital One, where he worked as a product manager in the company's Digital Innovation department. Leveraging technology to link underserved customers with accessible financial services, Sam led design and software development teams to release web-based products like a virtual credit card generator and an integrated billpay and account servicing app. In his time as a product manager, Sam conducted over 100 customer empathy interviews, seeking to strengthen ties between customers and Capital One. In many ways, technology became a language unto itself, building connections across the world.

Sam's international experiences have become a core part of his identity. At Wharton/Lauder, Sam plans to augment his understanding of China's role on the global stage. He aims to combine his passion for Chinese with his experience in technological innovation to make a positive impact in his career.

In his spare time, Sam enjoys playing tennis, biking, hiking, and cooking. A proud New Yorker, Sam loves baking bagels and hosting friends for a New York-style brunch.





## CAITLIN VEATOR

Caitlin grew up in Potomac, Maryland, a suburb of Washington, D.C. Given the multi-cultural nature of her family, she became interested in new languages and cultures from an early age. In high school, Caitlin completed the International Baccalaureate program, which challenged her to think more and more globally.

Caitlin attended Dartmouth College in Hanover, NH. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a Bachelor's Degree in Government and a minor in French. While in college, she studied abroad twice: she spent one academic quarter studying French in Paris, France, and another studying German in Berlin, Germany. She was also a Research Assistant in the Government department, where she particularly enjoyed helping to edit a book on the perception of women running for political office.

After graduation, Caitlin moved to Boston, Massachusetts to work in financial services market research. She analyzed marketing materials and websites for global asset managers, with a focus on the U.S. and the U.K.

Seeking further international exposure and increased opportunities for entrepreneurship, she transitioned to working for a startup that had created an online marketplace for independent consultants and freelancers. She began with a role on the Client Strategy team, where she helped clients and consultants scope engagements and negotiate contracts. Focusing on the Industrials sector, she was exposed to companies' most pressing challenges – including everything from sizing the market for ultrasounds in a new geography to international M&A integration work. She then transitioned to a role focused on the company's software strategy – using the existing software platform to connect employees with work that existed within their own companies. She remains passionate about using technology to connect people to interesting and impactful work around the world.

At Wharton/Lauder, Caitlin hopes to improve her French and German language skills and gain a deeper understanding of the global business and economic environments. She is particularly interested in furthering her understanding of the changing labor and privacy landscape throughout the world and its impact on commercial strategies.

In her spare time, Caitlin enjoys reading, movies, hiking, and of course, traveling.





### **THOMAS von BUETTNER**

Born and raised in Curitiba, Brazil, Thomas grew up under the influence of his German and Italian family. His exposure to different cultures at home and in his home region – due to strong immigration of different European nationalities – fostered his cultural awareness.

Thomas attended the Universidade Tecnológica Federal do Paraná, where he majored in Mechanical and Industrial Engineering. Eager to solve complex problems, he switched gears and nurtured a strong curiosity about the relation of politics as an enabler for economic development, ultimately leading him to the foundation of an NGO to help improve the Brazilian democracy.

After graduation, Thomas began a consulting career with McKinsey & Company in the Salvador/Brazil and Southern Brazilian offices. Among other projects, he worked on: commercial due diligence for Private Equity firms in Brazil and Colombia; an operational and sales-channel turnaround for a telecommunications company; a growth strategy for an advanced industry to increase its market share in five continents; and a go-to-market strategy for the largest Latin American bank. At McKinsey, Thomas spent most of his time working with international teams, including more than 15 nationalities.

During his externship from McKinsey, he spent a year in Bogotá as the Head of Operations at Rappi, a Colombian delivery startup, where he led more than a thousand people across seven Latin American countries to implement projects that helped the company reach a +3 billion dollars valuation. This experience showed him the importance of a “local understanding” to successfully earn approval and support from a cross-cultural team, an ability he expects to continue developing during his Lauder studies.

After Wharton/Lauder, Thomas plans to return to McKinsey and work closely with financial institutions and private equity firms in Latin America to help structure regional financial markets and create new jobs in the region, as he believes economic development in his home region is strongly tied to those sectors.





### ALAN (YI HENG) WANG

Alan was born in Qingdao, China and spent his childhood in Beijing, China. During summer vacations, he remembers exploring abandoned iron mines with his grandfather in a Chinese steel town. He heard vivid stories of how the construction boom in China generated massive wealth—and how subsequent overcapacity decimated many industrial towns. These personal experiences later shaped his interests in industrial manufacturing.

Later, he immigrated with his family to Vancouver, Canada when he was nine years old. Having spent his formative years in the cultural melting pot of Vancouver, Alan gained an appreciation for cultural diversity and curiosity for international affairs. After high school, he decided to attend the University of Pennsylvania to pursue a liberal arts education and learn from classmates with diverse cultural backgrounds.

At Penn, Alan majored in Mathematics and Economics. As a Benjamin Franklin Scholar, he explored his intellectual curiosity in a variety of humanities and social sciences. Alan co-founded a social impact club, Penn Enactus, to build ventures that empowered disadvantaged members of the community through entrepreneurship. He worked with refugees from Myanmar and empowered them to lead ethnic cooking lessons in Philadelphia. During university, Alan spent a summer at the Embassy of Canada in D.C. as a fiscal policy analyst and subsequently pursued a summer internship at the Boston Consulting Group in Chicago.

After graduation, Alan Joined BCG Chicago and worked primarily with industrial goods clients on a variety of functional topics. During his three years at BCG, he had the opportunity of working across different industrial towns in the U.S. Midwest as well as in the Netherlands and in China. Alan became passionate about leveraging digital innovation such as e-commerce, digital marketing, and big data analytics to drive disruptive innovation at legacy industrial manufacturing firms.

At Wharton/Lauder, Alan looks forward to developing both his interpersonal leadership skills and self-awareness to guide future teams in fast-changing and uncertain environments. He seeks to gain a deep understanding of the intercultural nuances and challenges facing global business leaders.

Alan is fluent in mandarin Chinese and enjoys snowboarding, playing volleyball, and badminton in his spare time. Before coming to Philadelphia, he also adopted two cats and looks forward to introducing them to the Lauder community.





## MARIAM WAQAR

Mariam was born in Gujranwala, Punjab, Pakistan, and comes from a Punjabi Jat family. When she was six, her father, who at the time was serving as a Diplomat within the Pakistani Foreign Service, was posted to the United States. From that point forward, Mariam and her three siblings were raised in the D.C./Maryland/Virginia (DMV) area. Ultimately, being raised in the middle of two cultures, and not entirely feeling whole in either, contributed to the third-culture experience that drives, to this day, her desire to experience difference of perspective.

Mariam attended George Mason University in Fairfax, VA on a partial Asian & Pacific Islander Scholarship, and studied Biology/K-12 Education. As a globally minded student, she traveled to El Salvador to study gang violence, and to Indonesia, where she served as a Critical Language Scholar from the U.S. State Department, studying at Universitas Negeri Malang.

Upon graduating *cum laude*, she received a Fulbright Award to return to Indonesia, but elected to teach domestically instead, as a licensed K-12 Educator. While teaching, Mariam was faced with the rewarding, yet taxing, task of being a teacher, mentor, friend, and counselor to her group of 120 kids. While attempting to offer her students a gamified exam review experience, Mariam began learning Swift 2 coding. This exercise unveiled a love for application development and led her to Deloitte.

For the three years that followed, Mariam worked on myriad projects including Robotic Process Automation engineering for NASA, the development of an organic growth strategy for a non-profit partner in Chile, managing off-shore teams in India during a COTS software customization, and most recently, on product management/UX design for the Digital Studio. Mariam also led global pro-bono consulting trips in Panama and Nicaragua that focused on implementing sustainable technologies to further enable efficiency within the organization.

Mariam's core values are authenticity, acceptance, and empathy. At Wharton/Lauder, she hopes to explore global entrepreneurship, sustainable international supply chain, and search for market opportunities that have become prime for disruption. Going forward, Mariam plans on immersing herself in the fields of finance, product, and entrepreneurship to become a global technology leader. Mariam published her first book, "What The Finance" in 2018, which debuted as an Amazon best seller in its category. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with her family and is an amateur guitarist.





## ALISON WAWRZYNEK

Alison was born in the Chicago suburbs. Her love of travel began on her first trip outside of the U.S. with her high school French class. Since then, Alison has made languages and intercultural exploration key foundations of her academic life and career.

Alison attended Boston College and graduated with Bachelors of Arts degrees, *summa cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa, in Economics and French Language and Literature, with a minor in German. Alison was member of BC's Gabelli Presidential Scholars Program, which provided both a full-tuition scholarship and numerous opportunities to study and engage globally, including a summer teaching position in Rabat, Morocco, research grants in Berlin and Munich, Germany, and social development seminars in Managua, Nicaragua. For her senior thesis, she conducted original econometric research evaluating the impact of social factors on new business development in post-Reunification Germany, using cultural lenses to understand entrepreneurship.

In 2014, Alison moved to Dresden, Germany, after being awarded a Fulbright Fellowship English Teaching Assistantship grant. She spent a year as an elementary school English teacher in Freital, Germany and as a cultural liaison through the U.S. State Department's MeetUS program, working in high schools throughout Brandenburg and Sachsen. Her Fulbright experience reinforced her dedication to developing an international career and gave firsthand insight into social and political challenges in modern Europe.

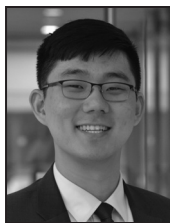
Alison then joined L.E.K. Consulting, and was based in both the Boston and Paris offices. Her work at L.E.K. focused on global growth strategy development and M&A transactions for aerospace, retail, and technology companies. Through her experiences at L.E.K., Alison explored her deep curiosity about the intersections of technology and consumer behavior across international markets and cultures.

In her free time, Alison loves the fine arts and is a classically-trained dancer and singer, as well as an aspiring studio artist. She is passionate about women's mentorship and advocacy, and founded the Gabelli Presidential Scholars Women's Network and organizes an annual women's summit at Boston College. She was also a leader in the L.E.K. Boston chapter of Inspire, managing volunteer consulting engagements for local Boston nonprofits, and taught mental health education in Boston public high schools with Peer Health Exchange.

At Wharton/Lauder, Alison is excited to further explore the international and cultural dynamics of business in the technology and consumer sectors. She hopes to gain deeper understanding of how businesses scale to meet the needs of diverse consumers and workforces across the globe.







## **JERRY XU**

Jerry was born in Shanghai, China and was raised in the suburbs of Detroit, Michigan. At age 13, he pursued an opportunity to attend a local international school, where he joined a diverse student body and was introduced to international literature, history, and politics. The experience allowed Jerry to develop his curiosity about other countries and cultures. During this time, Jerry remained connected to his Chinese heritage by studying Mandarin Chinese in school and frequently visiting his family in China.

While at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business where he studied Business Management, Jerry immersed himself in the school's startup scene and founded Startup High School, an organization focused on introducing basic entrepreneurship concepts to local high school students and connecting them to the emerging startup scene in Detroit. His work culminated in a high school business pitch competition that connected hundreds of metro-Detroit high school students with local Detroit businesses and startups.

After graduation, Jerry joined BNP Paribas' internal consulting team in New York City, working on projects that helped streamline, transform, and grow the bank's businesses and their supporting functions. There, Jerry had the opportunity to travel to and work across multiple geographies, including consolidating the bank's San Francisco retail business with the investment banking business based in New York, creating an enterprise data management team in Sao Paulo to cover operations in Latin America, and developing a global strategy for the deployment of the bank's newly created sustainable loans. These experiences provided Jerry with an opportunity to experience and learn about the various cultures, politics, and working habits in multiple regions.

At Wharton/Lauder, Jerry seeks to deepen his understanding of the culture and politics of East Asia, sharpen his Chinese language skills, and learn about ways to create and lead sustainable businesses and social enterprises.

In his spare time, Jerry enjoys playing volleyball, playing guitar, and volunteering for different community service projects.





## CHARLENE YOU

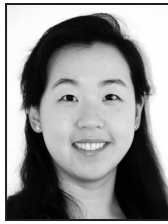
Charlene was born in Queens, New York to Chinese immigrant parents. Growing up in Bergenfield, New Jersey, she traveled back and forth between the U.S. and China extensively as a child, staying with her grandmother in China for months on end until high school. Immersed in a variety of cultures and languages both through her travels and as a result of the environment she grew up in, Charlene came to learn the value of diversity – in backgrounds, experiences, and thoughts – very early on in her life.

After graduating as Valedictorian of her high school, Charlene attended the University of Pennsylvania, where she double-majored in Communications and French. Spurred by her curiosity and passion for various languages and cultures, she spent a summer interning in Beijing, working as a translator and blogger for CCTV and Sina.com, as well as a semester studying abroad in Lyon, France during her undergraduate years. On campus, she was also heavily involved in community building and mentorship through Stamped travel magazine, iCARE, and other organizations.

Charlene joined A.T. Kearney, a global management consulting firm, in the fall of 2011 after graduation. The projects she most enjoyed at the company were focused on strategy on a global scale: building market growth strategies for a French chemicals company while collaborating with other project teams in India and Turkey; conducting workshops for an international prestige beauty company to transform its supply chain while working with teams across Europe, Asia, and the Americas; or creating a U.S. business plan for a Japanese golf club manufacturer backed by a Chinese PE firm with the project based in Tokyo.

At Wharton/Lauder, Charlene will sharpen her business acumen while gaining a deeper understanding of global business. Already fluent in French and Mandarin Chinese, she will focus her efforts on studying how international geopolitics, business, social movements, and economic trends impact each other and reverberate on a global scale. Ultimately, she hopes to use the skills she gains in these two programs to further connect the world through business.





## ANNA ZHANG

Born in Columbus, Ohio and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, Anna grew up in a bilingual household speaking Mandarin Chinese and English. Throughout her childhood, she frequently visited her extended family in Beijing, which fostered her interest in the differences between Eastern and Western mores.

Her trips allowed her to witness the radical growth Beijing experienced over the past few decades. To broaden her understanding of China, she volunteered at two welfare schools in the Golog Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Qinghai, China in high school. The income and opportunity disparity between large cities and rural areas left a deep impression on her and remains an issue she is focused on.

Anna earned her Bachelor of Science in Economics at the University of Pennsylvania where she graduated *magna cum laude*. At Penn, she increased her understanding of modern China by taking business Chinese classes and completing a summer internship in Beijing. At the same time, her coursework developed her interest in finance, notably in relation to capital markets. She combined both interests by being an active member of the China team and Philippines team of Penn Microfinance.

After graduation, Anna joined PIMCO, an investment management firm, as part of the Institutional Client Management team in the New York office. She primarily worked with the firm's non-profit (i.e. endowment, foundation, and healthcare) and single family office clients by preparing portfolio reviews on performance, attribution, and positioning across product strategies. To broaden her experience beyond U.S. clients, she also joined the Official Institutions group, covering the firm's global central bank, sovereign wealth fund, and supranational clients.

In her spare time, Anna engages in non-profit work, especially in terms of providing individuals access to education and capital. Through the PIMCO Foundation, she served on the Grant Review Committee, participated in pro bono projects, and mentored disadvantaged youths. She is on the Young Professional Board of Nomi Network, an organization dedicated to ending human trafficking by providing economic opportunities to women in at-risk communities in India and Cambodia. She is also an active microfinance lender through Kiva.

At Wharton/Lauder, Anna looks forward to studying how organizations are developing in and adapting to the rapidly changing East and Southeast Asia landscape. Using this knowledge, she hopes to help build out Asia's capital markets and ensure efficient and equitable access to capital.





## **UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

### **Non-Discrimination Policy Statement**

The University of Pennsylvania values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds. The University of Pennsylvania does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, creed, national or ethnic origin, citizenship status, age, disability, veteran status or any other legally protected class status in the administration of its admissions, financial aid, educational or athletic programs, or other University-administered programs or in its employment practices. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to the Executive Director of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs, Sansom Place East, 3600 Chestnut Street, Suite 228, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106; or (215) 898-6993 (Voice) or (215) 898-7803 (TDD).

Preparing leaders to speak the global languages  
of business, culture, and politics. *Fluently.*

---





The Joseph H. Lauder Institute of  
Management & International Studies  
University of Pennsylvania  
Lauder-Fischer Hall, 2nd Floor  
256 South 37th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6330  
p 215.898.1215 f 215.898.2067

[www.lauder.wharton.upenn.edu](http://www.lauder.wharton.upenn.edu)



The Lauder Institute  
Wharton · Arts & Sciences  
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA