



THE MAVERICK MESSENGER

The University of Texas at Arlington
College of Business Ph.D. Programs Newsletter



Words from the Dean's Office

By Dr. Wendy Casper, Peggy E. Swanson Endowed Chair, Distinguished University Professor of Management and Associate Dean for Research



Here in the College of Business we were sad to say goodbye to Dr. Terry Skantz last summer, but wish him much happiness in his retirement from UTA to spend his time on family and personal activities. Dr. Skantz was a beloved faculty member at UTA, serving as Coordinator of the Accounting Ph.D. Program for several years before taking over as Director of Ph.D. Programs in 2020. He served our Ph.D. student Programs and the Accounting department with generosity, always keeping the best interests of students at heart.

This fall we welcomed Dr. Ritesh Saini as Director of Ph.D. Programs, and I could not be more pleased that he is willing to serve in this important leadership role. Dr. Saini has extensive experience working with Ph.D. students. He served as Coordinator for our Marketing Ph.D. Program for many years, while also teaching a Consumer Behavior seminar and chairing a multitude of dissertations. I am thrilled to welcome him into this new role. He has already hit the ground running with new ideas for Ph.D. student development!

Message from the Ph.D. Director

By Dr. Ritesh Saini, Professor of Marketing and Director of Ph.D. Programs in Business

"May you live in exciting times" – as we step into 2024, this saying truly captures the spirit of the Ph.D. programs at UTA's College of Business (COB). As the new Director, I'm energized by the possibilities that our growing and evolving college presents.

At COB, our current focus is on enhancing support for our Ph.D. students. With substantial backing from the dean's office and the broader university, we've made notable progress. Our steps to increase the financial stipend and expand health insurance for our funded Ph.D. students are more than mere policy updates; they're a reflection of our dedication to creating a thriving environment for the scholars of tomorrow.

This phase of growth at our Ph.D. programs is a team effort, heartily supported by our Major Field Coordinators, the Dean's office, and every department. In unison, we are advancing the COB Ph.D. programs to stand at the forefront of business research and innovation.

I am proud to be part of this journey, guiding our Ph.D. programs towards a future rich with discovery and academic success.



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Maverick Messenger

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR STUDENTS

DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

Research Paper Publications/Presentations of our Ph.D. Students and/or Graduates

A paper by **Yuan Ji, David Rosser and Xin Zhou (Ph.D. student)**, titled “The Effects of CFO/Auditor Gender Differences on Audit Outcomes” was presented in the 2023 Annual Meeting of American Accounting Association, August 2023, Denver.

A paper by **Li-Chin Jennifer Ho and Xiaoxiao Song (Ph.D. graduate)**, titled “The Effects of Accounting Standard Choice on Analyst Forecast Behavior: Evidence from Cross-Listed Firms in the United States” was presented in the 2023 Annual Meeting of American Accounting Association, August 2023, Denver.

A paper by **Yuan Ji, Triza Nganga (Ph.D. student) and Yanfeng Xue**, titled “Sales-Based CEO Incentive and Consumer Fraud” was presented in the 2023 Annual Meeting of American Accounting Association, August 2023, Denver.

A paper by **David Bui (Ph.D. student), Nandu Najarajan and Mahmut Yasar**, titled “Friends in Need are Friends Indeed: The Effect of Directors’ External Network Connections on Supply Chain-Related Demand Information Distortions”, was presented in the 2023 Management Accounting Section Mid-Year Meeting of American Accounting Association, January 2023, Atlanta.

A paper by **Li-Chin Jennifer Ho and Joey Yang (Ph.D. student)**, titled “On the Association between Voluntary Disclosure and Earnings Management: The Role of Managerial Ability,” was presented in the 2023 Southwest Regional Meeting of American Accounting Association, March 2023, Houston.

A paper by **Roberto Gonzales (Ph.D. student)**, titled “What information can Critical Audit Matters provide ?” was presented in the 2023 Lone Star Research Conference, February, 2023, Dallas.

A paper by **Jennifer Bannister (Ph.D. graduate), Li-Chin Jennifer Ho, and Xiaoxiao Song (Ph.D. graduate)**, titled “Does the U.S. Market Reward Foreign Firms and Domestic Firms Differently? Evidence from Meeting-or-Beating Earnings Expectations,” was published in Journal of International Accounting Research, 2023, Vol. 22, No. 1, 1-28.

A paper by **Jap Efendi, Li-Chin Jennifer Ho, Murphy Smith, and Yu Zhang (Ph.D. graduate)**, titled “Ethical Challenges Regarding Earnings Management, Short Sellers, and Real Activities Manipulation,” was published in Research on Professional Responsibility and Ethics in Accounting, 2023, Vol 25 (March), 103-126.

UTA Awards to Ph.D. Students

Rohit Agarwal received Dr. Ramgopal Venkataraman Family Scholarship in Spring 2023.

David Bui received Samuel & Ruth Graduate Fellowship in Accounting in Spring 2023.

Triza Nganga received Dr. Li-Chin Jennifer Ho Scholarship in Spring 2023.

External Recognitions of Ph.D. Students

Xin Zhou was selected to participate in the 2023 AAA (American Accounting Association) FARS (Financial Accounting and Reporting Section) Doctoral Consortium and 2023 AAA /Deloitte Foundation/J. Michael Cook Doctoral Consortium.

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR STUDENTS

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS & OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

Jason Xianghua Wu (**Ph.D. graduate**), Kay Yut Chen, and their coauthors published a fast-track paper investigating the trust behavior of AI in *Management Science* ([paper link](#)). This paper found human-like trust and trustworthiness behavior of AI can emerge from a pure trial-and-error learning process and the conditions for AI to develop trust are similar to the those enabling human beings to develop trust. *Management Science* has been and continues to be one of the most prestigious journals in the business field. The acceptance rate for the fast track in MS is significantly lower than that of regular papers.

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT

Oyin Sodiya

Awards

- Recipient of the *Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation award* sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).
- Recipient of External Graduate Fellowship Incentive Award

Shona Smith

Conference Presentations

- **Smith, S. G. (presenter)**, Froidevaux, A., & Bell, M. P. (2023). A Social Identity Perspective on Millennials' Turnover Intentions. In Shakeri, A. & Gioaba, I. (Chairs), *Putting the Worker Age Front and Center: A Multidimensional and Nuanced View of Age in Organizations*. 83rd Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management.
- **Smith, S. G. (presenter)**, Arena, D. F., DuBois, H. T., & Casper, W. (2023). The masked worker: Identity management implications of employees with depression. In Arena, D. F. & **Smith, S. G.** (Chairs) *New Insights on the Experiences of Employees with Concealable Health Conditions*. Symposium conducted at the *Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology Annual Conference*, Boston, MA.
- **Smith, S. G. (presenter)**, Froidevaux, A., & Hirschi, A. (2023). Meaning in life and social identities as key challenges in shaping retirement decisions. *Mid-South Management Research Consortium*, University of North Texas.

Award

Ph.D. Project, Management Doctoral Students Association Teaching Award (2023)

Stephanie Brooke Escudero

Publication (first peer-reviewed article)

Escudero, S.B., Jestratijevic, I., Short, J.C., Wolfe, M.T.. (2023). B Corp certification in the age of fast fashion: Using hierarchical clustering and correspondence factor analysis to highlight social entrepreneurial advancement in the fashion industry. *Journal of Business Venturing Insights*, doi: 10.1016/j.jbvi.2023.e00412

Awards

- Won Joseph Rosenstein Award for the best student paper:
Escudero, S.B., Short, J.C., Wolfe, M.T., Chandler, J.A., (In Press). Reviewing Key Concepts in recent social entrepreneurship research: A topic modeling approach. B. Boots, B. Williams (Eds.). *De Gruyter Handbook of Social Entrepreneurship*.
- Won 25k through MavPitch

JOM proposal accepted

Escudero, S.B., Anglin, A.H., Allison, T.H., Wolfe, M.T. Crowdfunding: A systematic and bibliometric review of a multidisciplinary literature.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW BUSINESS PH.D. STUDENTS!

Rafael Hernandez - FINA



Rafael Hernandez is an accomplished real estate professional and U.S. Army Major who has now embarked on a research-focused PhD program at The University of Texas at Arlington. Currently based in Fort Worth, Rafael holds a multifaceted role as an Account Executive at the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. With over 11 years of commercial real estate experience, he held positions at organizations like Walker & Dunlop in the Greater Boston Area, Bellwether Enterprise Real Estate Capital in New York City, and Cushman & Wakefield also in Manhattan. His educational background includes MS degrees in Construction from Columbia University and Real Estate Development from New York University, an MBA in Finance from the University of Denver, and a BS in Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences from Texas A&M University. Rafael's personal interests include family events and long-distance running.

Elia Salvador - FINA

I am a PhD student at UTA, born in El Salvador, currently teaching at GPISD and Dallas College. I overcame language barriers when I came to the US at the age of 14. I am the first in my family to achieve a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Spanish/Education. I inspire newcomers to seize opportunities in this nation. Also, I am a real estate broker and investor.



Jafrin Akter Juthi - FINA



I am from Bangladesh. I earned my B.B.A. and M.B.A. degrees with a major in Finance and Banking from Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka, Bangladesh, in 2019 and 2021, respectively. I joined UTA in the Fall of 2023. I am a first-year Ph.D. student in the Department of Finance and Real Estate. I am looking forward to a wonderful Ph.D. journey.

Reginald Gray - FINA

Reginald Gray has over 16 years of experience in higher education in applied economics, product research and development, and intellectual property expertise in the protection and valuation of copyrights, trademarks, and licensed software properties. Gray has created and sold a series of educational and evaluation software applications under the banner of Goldminds EDUC LLC, and its cousin the i3deas Company LLC, also co-founded by Gray.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW BUSINESS PH.D. STUDENTS!



Chunyang Yang (OPMA)

I am currently in the PhD program in the Department of Operations Management. My bachelor's degree was in Economics and Trade, and I earned my Master's in Information System Management. I had around 10 years industrial experience after graduating from Master's.

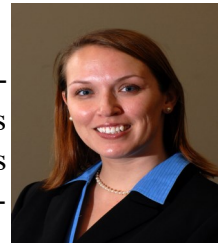


Linda Anderson (MARK)

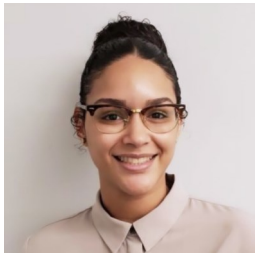
Linda Anderson, currently in her first year as a Marketing Doctoral student at UTA, brings more than 15 years of expertise as a Marketing Communications Manager. Alongside her extensive corporate background, she has dedicated over a decade as an Adjunct Assistant Professor, instructing various levels of marketing. Widely acknowledged as a natural autodidact, Linda is committed to lifelong learning, exemplifying a continual pursuit of knowledge.

Terra McGhee (ACCT)

After working in industry and public accounting for six years, I began teaching Accounting at UTA in 2007. I run the Accounting Internship Program in the College of Business and joined the doctoral program in Accounting in 2023. When I'm not in the classroom as a student or an instructor you can find me attempting to keep up with my three small children and alarmingly large puppy.



Aylime Bueno (MANA)



Hi, my name is Aylime Bueno (she/her). I was born and raised in New York City, where I earned my B.A. in Psychology from Lehman College, City University of New York (CUNY). Before pursuing a Ph.D. in Management at the University of Texas at Arlington, I completed two years of doctoral training in Industrial-Organizational (I/O) Psychology. My research and practice interests are primarily centered around workplace discrimination, diversity, equity, and inclusion issues and exploring the intricate nuances of the Latino/a/x/e identity and experience in organizational settings. During my free time, I enjoy experimenting with new recipes, exploring local restaurants and cuisines, and spending quality time with my loved ones.



Angie Cabrera (MANA)

I am a Colombian/Mexican international student in the Management Doctoral program. My main interests are international business, entrepreneurship and human resources.

CURRENT STUDENT NEWS

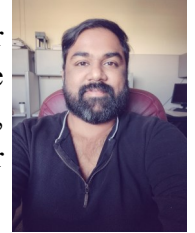


Kaiyue Liu (INSY)

Recently I got my first paper accepted at HICSS 57. I will be presenting it in early January 2024.

Abhilash Vimal (OPMA)

My wife and I celebrated our 5th anniversary of being together recently. I started my third year in the PhD program and recently passed my written doctoral comprehensive exams. I have started working on my dissertation. It's also been 2 years since we adopted our precious son, our Labrador "Buddy". We brought him home from the Arlington Animal Shelter in September 2021, and he has become a truly inseparable part of our family over the past 2 years.



Zahra Babazadeh (MRKT)

My name is Zahra, and this is my third semester being at UTA. Currently, I am working on a study at the intersection of psycholinguistics and marketing. Specifically, my data is gathered from brands social media and how they need to reach out to their audience when posting a caption on social media. Hopefully, I will be attending the AMA 2024 summer and can't wait to meet outstanding scholars from other schools!



Manhui Jin (MRKT)

This semester, I attended the ACR2023 conference in Seattle to present a competitive paper titled "Relative Effectiveness of Human versus AI Recommendations: A Meta-Analytic Investigation".

Mahmud Rahman (ACCT)

I have been nominated to participate in the 2024 Doctoral Student Consortium at the Financial Accounting Reporting Section (FARS) Mid-Year in Denver, Colorado.



Long Thai Bui (ACCT)

David presented his second-year paper on the mitigation effect of director information network on the Bullwhip effect on firm performance at the AAA MAS and JCAE conferences in January.

Roberto Gonzales (ACCT) I am currently working on my proposal.



Yilun Lu (FINA)

I was selected to receive a fellowship award under the Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program (DDETFP) sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

CURRENT STUDENT NEWS - CONTINUED

Joy Ibedionu (MANA)



Joy presented a paper at the 2023 UTA Social Change conference titled, “The Effect of labor market discrimination on the career resilience of black African Immigrants”.

She is also the first author of a paper currently accepted for the 2024 African Academy of Management Conference, Cape Town, South Africa titled, “Customer Mistreatment and African Immigrant Employees” which she co-authored with Ifeyimika Ogunyomi, Ph.D.

She is the first author of a paper currently under review for publication titled, “Perceived Exploitability of Migrant Applicants: The Role of Immigrant Hierarchy and Acculturation Strategies”, which she co-authors with Jason Lambert, Ph.D., and Ekundayo Akinlade, Ph.D. She recently presented this paper at the 2023 Midwest Academy of Management, Chicago.

Hayden Dubois (MANA)



After successfully passing his comprehensive exams in August, Hayden published "Bisexual Authenticity and Job Attitudes: The Impact of Seeing Similar Others at Work" in the Journal of Vocational Behavior (DuBois & Arena, 2023). Additionally, he received an acceptance of his paper title "Belongingness, Connectedness, and Engagement: The Impacts of an LGBTQ+ Residential Learning Community" at the Journal of LGBT Youth (Ash, Williams, & DuBois, 2023). Along with his co-author Shona Smith, they published a book chapter, “Bridging the Gap: A Look at Allyship Research and Practice” (DuBois & Smith, 2023).

He presented three of his projects at the annual SIOP and AOM conferences in Boston. In October he completed his research internship at State Farm and began his new role as the Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Program Manager at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, the fourth ranked cancer research and treatment hospital in the world and Harvard Medical School research institute.

Patricia Guerrero (MANA)



Patricia successfully passed the comprehensive exams and has been recently selected as the 2023-2024 Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar.

“Si Se Puede: Supporting Latina Faculty Workers to Succeed in Academia” symposium presented at the 2023 Academy of Management Conference.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SPRING & SUMMER 2023 PH.D. GRADUATES!

Rohit Agarwal (ACCT)

Rohit joins the University of South Carolina Upstate as an Assistant Professor of Accounting .

Joey Yang (ACCT)

I work as an Assistant Professor of Accounting at the University of Mary Washington (Fredericksburg, VA) starting from August 2023. My plan is to get the tenure here.

Yi Zheng (MARK)

Yi is busy adapting to his new role at Eastern Kentucky University and finding time for his research.

Xiaqing He (INSY)

I am grateful for what UTA and our Department of Information Systems have provided me. After graduation, I am teaching business analytics courses, which I find both interesting and helpful for supporting students' future careers. For my research, I am working on my dissertation and my work has been accepted by the HICSS conference. In this process, I am so thankful to my dissertation chair, Dr. Nerur, and my dissertation committee members for their support. For my life, I am planning on a trip to my home country to visit my mother, whom I haven't seen in almost four years. I am grateful to UTA, my department, my dissertation chair and committee, and my family.

Jiang Hu (INSY)

I am currently an assistant professor in the college of business at Texas A&M University San Antonio. This semester, I am teaching two courses: Business Computer Application and Cybersecurity. In October, I attended and presented my research in the Conference on Information Systems and Technology (CIST 2023) in Phoenix, Arizona. This research is developed by me, Dr. Jennifer Zhang and Dr. David Arena.

Marla White (MANA)

Marla successfully defended dissertation entitled, "Separate, And Not Equal: How the Implicit Links Between Social Class, Race, and Leadership Differentially Impact Evaluations of Women Leaders" on June 27th. Committee: Wendy J. Casper (co-chair), Alison V. (Hall) Birch (co-chair), Sabrina D. Volpone, Derek R. Avery.

Marla started a new job as an Assistant Professor at Virginia Tech Pamplin College of Business in Fall 2023.

Publications

- **White, M. L.**, Wayne, J. H., Casper, W. J., Matthews, R. A., Odle-Dusseau, H., & Jean, E. L. (2023). The authentic self in work and family roles and well-being: A test of self-determination theory. *Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology*. doi.org/10.1111/joop.12473
- Wong, E. M., Crawley, R., Butler, S., Olson, A., Mchiri, A., Gandhi, S., Caligiuri, M. D., & **White, M. L.** (2023). Resolving conflict and fostering cooperation: A cross-cultural experiential exercise. *Management Teaching Review*. doi.org/10.1177/23792981231163303
- Hyde, S. A. *, **White, M. L.** *, & Casper, W. J. (2023). What about Me? When diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts result in unintended consequences. In Castro Christiansen, L., Biron, M., Budwar, P., Harney, B. (Eds.) *Global Human Resource Management Casebook, 3rd edition*. Taylor and Francis: Oxfordshire.

ALUMNI FEATURE

Interview with Dr. Omar Itani - UTA Ph.D. Marketing Alumnus (2017)



1.Can you briefly introduce yourself and describe your current professional role?

Hello, I am Omar Itani. I earned my PhD from the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) in 2017. Currently, I hold the position of Senior Assistant Professor at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, where I am actively engaged in research and teaching within my field of expertise. My professional journey has been focused on contributing to the academic community and nurturing the next generation of leaders and scholars.

2.What was the focus of your doctoral research at UTA?

During my doctoral research at UTA, I focused on the role of boundary spanners, specifically salespeople and frontline employees, in the domain of relationship marketing within the marketing strategy field. I investigated how these individuals serve as intermediaries, examining their actions' impact on business-customer relationships and the strategies they employ to enhance these relationships and optimize performance. My work contributed to a deeper understanding of marketing strategy, particularly in the context of relationship marketing.

3.What were the most rewarding and challenging aspects of your PhD journey?

The PhD journey was immensely rewarding as it offered invaluable mentorship from experienced faculty, pushing me beyond my perceived capabilities, and fostering lifelong relationships with classmates and peers. Faculty mentors enriched my academic growth, revealing untapped potential. The self-discovery, pushing beyond my expectations, not only contributed to my academic success but also enhanced my self-confidence. Meeting classmates and peers, who became lifelong friends, created an intense sense of friendship, and provided essential support throughout the journey and beyond.

Nonetheless, the primary challenge lay in the path of self-discovery and overcoming the numerous hurdles inherent in the pursuit of a PhD. These challenges encompassed managing a substantial workload, navigating research setbacks, and preserving a work-life equilibrium, all of which required unwavering determination and resilience.

4.How did you balance academic responsibilities with other life commitments during your time in the program?

The PhD journey is akin to a marathon, where success hinges on a multifaceted approach. Regular exercise and sports activities are not just about physical well-being but also contribute to mental resilience, crucial for enduring the long academic race. Staying connected with fellow PhD students creates a robust support network, sharing experiences, and fostering a sense of friendship. Equally important is working closely with faculty mentors, drawing from their expertise and guidance. Moreover, setting clear goals and maintaining a consist focus is paramount in the marathon-like PhD journey, ensuring that the path to completion remains well-defined and achievable.

(Interview with Dr. Omar Itani continues on the following page)

ALUMNI FEATURE - CONTINUED

Interview with Dr. Omar Itani (continued)

5. How did your experience at UT Arlington prepare you for your current career?

My experience at UTA played a pivotal role in molding my current career. The university's faculty provided a solid foundation for my scholarly and academic journey. They equipped me with essential theoretical and quantitative skills crucial for rigorous research and academic excellence. Furthermore, UTA's faculty nurtured the development of vital soft skills necessary for a professor, encompassing effective communication, mentorship, and leadership. This comprehensive education, guided by the dedicated faculty, empowered me to confidently lead and mentor the new generation of leaders and scholars, allowing me to create a significant impact in my academic field.

6. Can you describe any ongoing or future research projects that excite you?

I am genuinely enthusiastic about upcoming research opportunities driven by a study delving into B2B digital platforms and associated business interactions. My excitement lies in exploring how businesses are adapting to digital platforms post-pandemic, particularly the enduring impact of social media in B2B interactions. Investigating the strategies and technologies employed to maintain a human touch in these digital relationships, along with the ethical implications, promises to advance our comprehension of evolving business practices in the digital era.

7. What advice would you give to current COB PhD students at UTA?

For current COB PhD students at UTA, my advice is to fully leverage the resources available to you. The experienced faculty is invaluable in shaping your academic and scholarly journey, so do not hesitate to seek their guidance and mentorship.

Develop your theoretical and quantitative skills diligently, as they form the foundation of your academic excellence. Equally important are the soft skills—communication, mentorship, and leadership—essential for a successful professor and researcher.

Cultivate strong relationships with your peers as they can provide invaluable support and a sense of comradeship during your PhD journey.

Remember, pursuing a PhD is like running a marathon. Set clear goals and stay focused on them, and maintain your determination and resilience throughout the journey.

Additionally, embrace self-learning as a way of life. Continuously seek knowledge and stay curious. With the guidance of faculty and a well-rounded skill set, you will be well-prepared to make a meaningful impact in your field.

GOOD NEWS FROM ALUMNI

Jason Xianghua Wu (OPMA, Summer 2021)

From Sep 12, 2023, Jason Xianghua Wu started a new position as a tenure-track assistant professor (lecturer in Australia) at the University of New South Wales, Sydney. In the 2024 [QS World University Rankings](#), UNSW is ranked 19th globally (joint 2nd in Australia) and ranked 45th in the world for academic reputation.

Mike McDaniel (MANA, Spring 2021)

Mike is in his third year as an Assistant Professor at LSU Shreveport teaching capstone strategy classes and several MBA classes. He has published three journal articles (in the Journal of Business Venturing Insights and the Journal of Small Business Strategy) and a book chapter on servant leadership. He has presented several papers at the Academy of Management and USASBE, and has won two LSUS faculty research development grants and one \$10,000 research grant funded by Villanova University. He stays busy providing consulting for several companies, teaching English to graduate students in China, and serving on his university's committees for entrepreneurship pitch competitions, strategic planning, and assurance of learning. Spare time is spent sailing, biking, and playing disc golf!

Yan Lang (OPMA, Summer 2022)

Yan is an Assistant professor of Supply Chain Management at SUNY Oneonta.

Sheryl-Ann Stephen (FINA, 2007-2008)

I was promoted to Full Professor of Finance in the Lacy School of Business at Butler University.

Lee Brown (MANA, 2013 – 2014)

Brown, L. W., Liou, R. S., & Hasija, D. (2023). Emerging market multinational corporations' cross-border mergers and acquisitions and political distance: Does corporate political activity matter?. *Thunderbird International Business Review*, 65(5), 533-546.

Al-Shammari, M. A., Brown, L. W., Banerjee, S. N., & Harris, C. M. (2023). Who Needs the Government? An Analysis of Managerial Ability and Corporate Political Activity. *Group & Organization Management*, 10596011231194666.

DeLeon, J., & Brown, L. W. (2023). Understanding social media presence and financial success in digital competition. *Journal of Strategy and Management*.

Brown, L. W., & Harris, C. M. (2022). Specializing in Politics: Effects of Specialization, Social Capital, and Human Capital on Corporate Lobbying. *Human Performance*, 35(5), 345-358.

Jinsuk Yang (FINA, 2016-2017)

Jinsuk was promoted to Associate Professor.

Marilyn Macik-Frey (MANA, 2006 - 2007)

Marilyn joined the faculty of Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana, in 2007. She is tenured and was promoted to full Professor in 2016. She became Interim Dean in 2015 and Dean in 2016 and continues to serve in that role. She was recently selected to be the President of the Southern Business Administration Association (SBAA), a group of Business School Deans and Administrators who serve in business schools primarily in the Southern United States.

Dan Chen (MANA, Summer 2022)

Dr. Dan Chen started working as an assistant professor in the management and marketing department at Texas Woman's University in Fall 2023.

Our paper: "Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Employee Selection: How Algorithm-Based Decision Aids Influence Decision-Making in Application Screen" was designated one of the top 10% Best HR Division Conference Papers at the Academy of Management 2023 Annual Meeting (Authors: Dr. Dan Chen and Dr. George Benson)

GOOD NEWS FROM ALUMNI - CONTINUED

Rajat Mishra (OPMA, Fall 2013)

Dr. Rajat Mishra graduated with PhD in operations management in Fall 2013 under the supervision of Dr. Greg Frazier. Dr. Mishra has been employed at Stephen F Austin State University, a recently added institution of UT system. He got his tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in 2020. He has been an active researcher publishing in reputed journals like International Journal of Production Economics and Operations Management Research. He has been co-editor and reviewer for several reputed journals. He has developed several courses in different modalities for his college. He represents his college in faculty senate where he has been working in committees like professional welfare, elections and ethics as a member and often as chair too. He visits UTA a couple of times in a semester to keep in touch with friends and professors and to re-live the memories.

Robert Vinaja (INSY, 1999)

Robert Vinaja was promoted to Instructional Associate Professor of Computer Information Systems at Texas A&M University-San Antonio in 2023.

Patti Collette Miles (OPMA, 2008)

I graduated with my PhD from UTA in December of 2008. Since that time I have been working at the University of Maine. Recently I was promoted to Full Professor and named the Associate Dean of the Maine Business School. I am also pretty involved in an interesting research project with the US Navy Seals. To date, our team has five publications about the power of grit, resilience, and hardiness. It is really great stuff!

Kamphol Wipawayangkool (INSY, 2010 - 2011)

Kamphol Wipawayangkool is an Associate Professor of Management Information Systems in the College of Business Administration at Sam Houston State University. He was the recipient of the COBA Teaching Award, 2023. He was selected as a Center for Community Engagement (CCE) Fellow, 2023-2024. He was also nominated for the SHSU David Payne Academic Community Engagement (ACE) Award, 2023. ACE is a teaching method that combines community engagement with academic instruction. This pedagogy encourages students to use the skills, knowledge, and dispositions learned in the classroom to collaborate with community partners to contribute to the public good.

Scott Wysong (MARK, 2000 - 2001)

In 2023, I received the Haggerty Excellence in Teaching Award for the Satish & Yasmin Gupta College of Business at the University of Dallas.

Franklin Velasco (MARK, 2017 - 2018)

Franklin was recently appointed as Department Head for Innovation and Outreach Programs with Industry at Universidad San Francisco de Quito (Ecuador).

Nima Vafai (FINA, Summer 2021)

Nima has published two papers recently:

1- Vafai, N., & Rakowski, D. (2023). The sources of portfolio volatility and mutual fund performance. International Review of Financial Analysis, 102985.

2- Velazquez, M., Gormus, A., & Vafai, N. (2023). The Dynamic Dependency between a Cryptocurrency ETF and ETFs Representing Conventional Asset Classes. Journal of Risk and Financial Management, 16(9), 412.

Yashar Dehdashti (MARK, 2016 - 2017)

Yahar got tenured and promoted to Associate Professor of Marketing.

ABOUT THE MAVERICK MESSENGER



Thank you for reading the fourth issue of The Maverick Messenger, a newsletter by the UTA College of Business Ph.D. Programs! The purpose of this newsletter is to share updates about our Ph.D. programs and news about our current students and alumni every fall and spring semester. If you would like to be included/excluded from the mailing list, please email us at BusinessPhD@uta.edu.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to the following contributors for sharing recent updates and insights into changes at the College of Business. Welcome to our new Ph.D. students, and thank you for writing a short biography and providing a picture we could use! We appreciate our current students and alumni who shared their recent accomplishments with us. Congratulations to our recent Ph.D. graduates.

CREATORS



William Wright was in charge of collecting information for the fourth newsletter. He graduated in 2007 from UTA with a Bachelor's in Art History and a Minor in Communication.

He has been the Ph.D. Coordinator for the College of Business since July 2019. Working with the Ph.D. Director, Major Field Coordinators, and Ph.D. students gives him a great enjoyment throughout the week. While not at work he enjoys movies, photography, reading, gardening, and watching TV.



Hanh Phan was the editor and designer of this newsletter.

She is a Ph.D. Candidate from the Department of Finance and Real Estate. She works as a Student Associate for the College of Business Ph.D. Programs. In her free time, Hanh enjoys yoga, swimming, and spending time with family and friends.

RESOURCES

The contributing faculty and students provided all the photos used. We got all of the other graphics images from PNG Tree, an online platforms that partners with designers to create an expansive graphic resource database.



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DOCNET Event at the University of North Texas, October 5th, 2023



From left to right: Dr. Ritesh Saini (**Ph.D. Director**), William Wright (**Ph.D. Coordinator**), **Ph.D. Students:** Devika Sharma (MARK), Noura Kone (FINA), Mahnaz Paydarzarnaghi (FINA), Hanh Phan (FINA), Roberto Gonzales (ACCT), and Andi Li (FINA)