



# FELLOWS NEWS

January 2014

## *New and Noteworthy*

Planning is well underway for our Fellow/alumni regional dinners which will take place in six cities over the next few months. They are under the leadership of chairs **Kaitlyn Caughlin** ('11) – Philadelphia region; **Constantinos Coutifaris** ('12) – New York City region; **Dane Johnson** ('11) – San Francisco region; **Eva Liu** ('13) – Chicago; **Nikki Tyler** ('13) – Washington DC; and **Molly White** ('13) – Pittsburgh region. Please contact your area chair for the latest information on dates and locations.



**Class of 2013's Eva Liu, Karen Olson, and Danielle Sewell post-dinner in Minnesota.**

One result of the alumni meeting at this year's Symposium was a decision to restructure the Alumni Committee. It will now include two members of each class and a representative from the new Fellows class. A warm welcome to the new Committee, comprising **Dan Kruse** ('11), **Liana Humphrey** ('11), **Kaitlyn Caughlin** ('12), **Brendan Hickey** ('12), **Eva Liu** ('13), and **Molly White** ('13). **Brigid Johnson** ('14)

will be the new class representative. Our sincere thanks for all the time put in by departing committee members **Dave Adelman** ('11); **Constantinos Coutifaris** ('12); **Kyle Estep** ('12); **Dwight Hutchinson** ('13), the new Fellows representative; **Frank Sasso** ('11), **Rob Spies** ('12), and especially to **Dan Kruse** ('11) who has signed on for another tour of duty.

Several alums are interested in creating more relationship-building activities during the year. They would like to test a combined alumni retreat this summer, tentatively scheduled for June 5 to 8 in Shenandoah, Virginia. Each class will be responsible for organizing and funding their housing and activities which will include events involving all four classes. Get in touch with an Alumni Committee member if you'd like to help with the planning. Watch Facebook for updates.

The Official Fellows Facebook page is looking terrific thanks to the efforts of **Ryan Stenson** ('12). Don't forget this forum when you have news or useful articles/information you'd like to share. You can also find important documents on the page, such as minutes of the recent alumni meeting, and news of upcoming Fellows events.

Wedding bells will be working overtime this spring and fall! In May, **Michael Pavey** ('14) will be married to Katharine Burgess and **Constantinos Coutifaris** ('12) to Alison Stoffregen. **Kyle Estep's** ('12) nuptials will take place in September when he will marry Lindsey Choi. And, on New Year's Day this

year, **Linda Heath**, executive assistant in the Fund office, became engaged to Ted Quesada.

**A new McGowan baby!** Best wishes to Frank ('11) and Uma Sasso who welcomed son Nikesh Wallace Sasso on December 10, Bill McGowan's birthday. Nikesh weighed in at 7lbs, 4 oz. and is their first child. **And another!** Belated congratulations to Brooke Bollyky and her husband on the birth of their daughter Clara Elizabeth last April.

**Web site update:** the Fund has begun to work on a new website which will incorporate both the Fund and the Fellows program. We will be coming off the Google platform which will allow much more flexibility. Work will be ongoing throughout the winter and spring.

Happy New Year to all!

## ***2013 Symposium Looks to the Future***



Scenic New England was the setting for the 2013 McGowan Symposium on Business Leadership and Ethics which was held over the Halloween weekend at Dartmouth College. Hosted by Sally Jaeger, assistant dean of the Tuck School of Business, the Symposium attracted an unprecedented number of alumni – over 60% – including nine out of ten members of the class of 2011. And for the first time, the one-year-old Alumni Committee took on a substantial role throughout the weekend, starting with a welcome by **Kyle Estep** ('11) at the opening reception. **Constantinos Coutifaris** ('11) served as

the Symposium weekend Master of Ceremonies, **Dave Adelman** ('11) and his company, Reel Tributes, produced a memorable video that presented the new Fellows, and **Rob Spies** ('11), **Dan Kruse** ('11), **Frank Sasso** ('11) introduced the weekend's speakers.



Titled "The New World of Work, Are You Ready?" the Symposium took a sweeping, multidisciplinary look at emerging trends poised to impact our future, both on the job and in communities. Sue Gin McGowan, president of the McGowan Charitable Fund Board, and Professor Jaeger opened the festivities then turned the podium over to keynote speaker Marina Gorbis, CEO of California's Institute for the Future, a venerable nonprofit think tank located in Silicon Valley.

Gorbis's thought-provoking address introduced the concept of "social structuring" which she sees as a powerful emerging trend. Through deft use of wide ranging examples, Gorbis demonstrated how connective and computational technologies are bringing people together in virtually all aspects of life so that old ways of doing things can be restructured and new ones invented. The site Kickstarter, which uses crowd sourcing to fund a wide variety of new ventures, is but one example. However, Gorbis noted, as consequential as this trend may be, its power ultimately will be determined by how human beings do or do not collaborate.

Afternoon breakout sessions took a closer look at two specific areas that will dramatically affect the decision-making of future managers: trends in workplace technology and the emergence of corporate wellness programs, a holistic approach to employee healthcare intended to control costs and increase employee

productivity. These highly interactive sessions were led by Professor Alva Taylor, associate professor of strategy and management at Tuck, and Joe O'Brien and Jane Ruppert, president/CEO and vice president of health services, respectively, at the Chicago-based company, Interactive Health.

In keeping with tradition, the location of next year's Symposium was revealed at the close of the day's activities. **Dwight Hutchinson** ('13) and **Victoria Lord** ('14) announced that the 2014 site will be the Booth School of Business at the University of Chicago, running from November 6-8, helpfully avoiding a collision with Halloween.



Taking a break!

Early Saturday morning, new Fellows and alumni headed out to the Dartmouth Outing Club which boasts some of Dartmouth's most spectacular fall views. They were joined at the DOC by representatives of the American Heart Association, sponsor of this year's Fellows project, and project coaches Professor John Mather, Head of the Masters Programs at Carnegie Mellon's Tepper School of Business, and **Mukund Kulashekaran** ('11), of the Boston Consulting Group. Paul Kalil and Dr. Robert Suter of AHA introduced the new project which is focused on developing a business case for a portfolio of national programs designed to eliminate heart disease. It will run over two years, involving the Fellows Class of 2015 as well, and result in actionable plans for AHA that will most certainly save lives.

After lunch, new Fellows split into two work groups while alumni convened in a nearby room. Guided by members of the Alumni Committee, this first ever

multi-class alumni meeting set the tone for future alumni engagement by discussing the role of alumni in the Fellows program, alumni-specific Symposium activities, and Alumni Committee structure.



Fellows and alumni closed the weekend at the annual Tuck School of Business Halloween party. Board members were treated to a view of the Halloween attire (below) before the group headed out. In the best tradition of McGowan Fellow excellence, **Adam Weneker** ('14) (back row, far right) captured the party's Most Creative Costume prize for his impersonation of a Google Map.



“If you're not changing constantly, you're probably not going to be accommodating the reality of your world.”

-- *Bill McGowan*

## **SYMPOSIUM GALLERY**



**Class of 2011 reunion!**



**Four Tuck generations: Mukund Kulashakaran ('11), Rob Spies ('12), Karen Olson ('13), Brian McKenzie ('14).**



Brownie repurposing!

## ***From the Desk of the Executive Director***

As you may know, the reach of the McGowan Fund extends well beyond the McGowan Fellows Program. To help you know us better as an organization, I am pleased to offer insights into the work of the McGowan Fund.

While I take great pride in the Fellows program, I am equally proud of other initiatives that we have supported. There are many stories about efforts that have worked and of those that have not! One benefit in the field of philanthropy is that we can take risks, whether exploring new therapies for patients or education programs for underserved youth.

Stories that I love telling are those of McGowan Fund successes! We could talk about grant making strategies and processes, but nothing beats a story of lives improved and projects taken to scale.

One such project began four years ago when Rush University Prevention Center applied for a three-year clinical research grant that would attempt to reverse disease in two cohorts of patients diagnosed with metabolic syndrome. (Metabolic Syndrome is defined as five existing factors that lead to diastolic heart failure including obesity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, high triglycerides, and high blood sugar.)

Project Eat, Love, Move (ELM), a Proof-of-Concept Study of a Behavioral Lifestyle Intervention for Metabolic Syndrome Remission was designed to provide a two-year group intervention, targeting mindful eating, active living, and chronic stress. Each week, patients exercised together, learned to shop for healthy food, and prepared and shared a meal. The Rush team comprising Rasa Kazlauskaitė, MD; Jennifer Ventrelle, MS; Bradley Appelhans, PhD; Eisuke Segawa, PhD; Nicole Woodrick; Michelle March, MPH; Jason Ong, PhD; Stephanie Fitzpatrick, PhD; Patricia Normand, MD; and Lynda H. Powell, PhD recruited patients from outpatient clinics. Goals and metrics were established for each patient so weekly progress could be tracked. The primary outcome measure was remission of metabolic

syndrome, defined as less than three of the five standard metabolic syndrome diagnosis criteria.

At the end of the first two years, 54% of patients achieved remission of metabolic syndrome, exceeding the goal of 50%! Also notable was the fact that many patients were able to discontinue use of pharmaceuticals controlling the disease. Participants lost on average 2.6% of body weight and saw improvement in self-reported vitality, social support, and symptoms of depression.

Year Three of the study focused on participant sustainability. We also funded a fourth year of sustainability study, upon strong recommendation from the National Institute of Health review. We knew that funding one additional year to prove that patients could sustain results for 24 months could lead to a large NIH grant. This grant would enable the researchers to scale the project nationally, touching and saving the lives of many more cardiac patients. We determined that a fourth year of investment far outweighed any risk.

I am so happy to share that we recently learned that the NIH approved a one-year \$754,169 grant to take the project national, believing our preliminary evidence that behavioral lifestyle intervention is capable of reversing metabolic syndrome and is sustainable for participants. As a result of this effort, we hope that one day we will see doctors prescribing lifestyle intervention strategies as a treatment option along with the prescription of surgery and/or pharmaceuticals. Knowing that the McGowan Fund was instrumental in helping people take control over their health and well-being – and perhaps saving lives – makes for a wonderful day!

***--Diana Spencer***

## ***Out and About***

We recently caught up with our new Fellows and alumni to see what they were up to.

### **Welcome New Fellows!**

#### ***Kartik Bandhuvula***

University of Michigan  
Stephen M. Ross School of Business



“This summer I did my internship with Hewlett Packard in Palo Alto, CA. I was in the corporate strategy and alliances division, in an internal consulting role. We were evaluating a potential partnership for HP. I was the only one on the team engaged fulltime on the

project and worked very closely with a director and VP. It was really interesting to see firsthand the responsibilities and pressures that go with being a high level employee. It was also the first time I was involved in a strategy role. I’ve mostly worked in engineering development so it was a nice change. It was a long internship – 12 weeks – and after that I spent a couple weeks traveling in Brazil. I visited San Paulo, Rio, and Iguacu and a few other cities which were pretty spectacular.

“My career goal right now is to go into product management at high tech company. I’m very passionate about high tech, which is where I worked before beginning my MBA. What I find exciting is that a product manager has all the responsibility – you “own” the product, bring it to market, and make all the major decisions.

“In the upcoming months I’m looking forward to closing a major deal as part of the investment fund I lead at Ross. I’m also going to volunteer at some of the small technology startup companies around here to see what it’s like to work in that environment and

to get more breadth of experience. And if my job situation works out, I’d love to travel this summer to Asia, Japan or China, countries I’ve never seen even though I lived in India for many years.”



**While at NVIDIA (where I worked before Ross), I volunteered for our company's community outreach project to transform History Park in San Jose, CA. Here my co-workers and I had just finished building a wooden shed.**



**Hard at work in class!**

***Tyler Barrack***  
**Northwestern University**  
**Kellogg School of Management**



“This summer I interned with the Strategy and Development group of the Chicago Cubs. It was the ideal internship – I’m very passionate about the sports industry and there are few more well-known teams than the Cubs. Because I was able to add an independent study onto

the front end of the internship, I got to work with the team for about five months and really immerse myself in the business operations of the team. I completed seven different projects, many of which had to do with the \$500 million renovation of Wrigley Field and its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I had a ton of autonomy, made great contacts, and really learned about sports management in a more contextual sense. Plus attending some 40 games this summer was a great perk. Later in the summer I spent three weeks in Italy leading a Kellogg trip for 20 first year MBAs. We went to Milan, Rimini, and Rome and after that I went on to Switzerland to travel with some friends.

“In the fall, I’ll be joining the Boston Consulting Group in Chicago. I just love the city and really want to establish myself here and connect with more sports people. I also want to get more experience in marketing and consumer goods – BCG specialties – which I believe are very complementary with sports management. In about five years I’d like to transition to a sports organization and in the future hope to lead one. I also plan on continuing my involvement with organizations that deal with homelessness. It’s an issue that’s very important to me.

“I’m looking forward to several things in the coming months. I’ll be going to Scandinavia for about 10 days after Christmas for the World Junior Hockey Championships. This is a big deal for Canadians (like me!). I’m also avidly following my younger brother’s sports career – he’s well on his way to becoming a professional golfer. And “Special K,” Kellogg’s spring musical comedy show, is coming up. I was an actor and last year but this time I’ll be a writer, director – running auditions and putting everything

together – and also acting. Of course, it goes without saying that I’m really looking forward to seeing the Toronto Maple Leafs make the playoffs!”



**Here’s me on the Cubs field with Edmund Rucci, the other Kellogg MBA who interned at the Cubs.**



**Home turf!**



**Jackson Dunlap**  
University of Pennsylvania  
Wharton School



“Last summer I interned with McKinsey & Company in their Philadelphia office. I was part of a team of six that worked on C-level strategy for a large consumer goods company that had multiple units. We analyzed where to invest and then recommended a strategic orientation. We worked with senior management, so I was involved with some high-impact projects, which was pretty exciting. After that I spent an amazing week in Barcelona.

“I just accepted a position with McKinsey in the same office as my internship so I’ll be staying in Philadelphia after graduation. Career-wise, in the shorter term, I see myself in a public sector role or in the private sector, solving public sector societal issues. Further down the road I’d like to be leading an organization that addresses inequality or improves opportunities for underserved populations – particularly young people. It would also be fun to be the mayor of a smaller city!

“At Wharton, I serve as president of the student government. Student government there is an independent 501c3 (Wharton Graduate Association) and we’re responsible for about 100 student clubs, all conferences, and about 40 or 50 student body or public-facing events. And I get to deal with auditors! We’ve got Philly Fight Night coming up in March and April which pits Wharton students up against law students in real boxing matches; Final Friday which is a string of events for the graduating class; a summer Olympics; and a formal gala. There’s never a dull moment! I have learned a lot in the role and enjoy the challenge of building relationships and getting buy in from all sorts of people to make things happen.

“With my job offer signed, a lot of pressure will be off so I can spend more time getting to know my Wharton professors better and building closer relationships with them and my colleagues. I’m also taking a Wharton ski trip to Colorado in February.

A big interest of mine is adventure travel. Most recently I spent a month volunteering in an eco-tourism destination in St. John where the cabins were built into the side of the coastline, taught rappelling at a youth camp in Colorado where you have to convince kids to go over the side of a cliff (no rock walls here!), and with my brother rode across Croatia on mopeds that didn’t go more than 40 mph. We’ll see what’s next!”



**Before business school I worked with students in the Philadelphia Public Schools as a mentor. Here I’m with some of the students.**



**A welcome to everyone in my cluster at a Thanksgiving dinner I organized.**

**Brigid Johnson**  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Tepper School of Business



“I have just accepted a job at Amazon as a product manager for technical products. Next summer I’ll be moving to Seattle and have already bought a house! My very first one! I’m pretty familiar with Amazon because I interned there last summer. I was working under the Amazon Web Services group for the Silk (web browser on the Kindle) doing market research for product development.

“The highpoint of the summer was meeting the people at Amazon. Everyone was intelligent and absolutely driven to find the right solution for customers. I truly enjoyed learning about the business model there. And my favorite thing to do while I was in Seattle was to rent a speed boat and drive it around Lake Washington. Seattle is such a beautiful place.

“I’m looking to grow a career on two different fronts. I plan to stay in the technology field and look forward to designing products that will help businesses grow and make things easier for people. Secondly, I enjoy developing people and I see myself in the roles of manager and mentor. One of the goals I am working toward is growing the female presence in the technology world. Through mentorship I hope to promote the careers of young women coming into the tech field from MBA programs and to provide a support system for them. I’ve already started working toward this mission. Last year I hosted a career workshop for the Women in Computer Science club at the University of Illinois. They invited me back to deliver their annual keynote address. This experience was one of the most memorable I have had while in business school. I’m going back again for this spring and I hope to keep an ongoing relationship with them.

“In addition to moving into my new home in Seattle next summer, I am excited about a trip I’m taking with my family to Hawaii. My grandfather, General

Johnson, was stationed in the Pacific during his term and I am always excited to go back to visit my father’s favorite spots for shaved ice and to watch the surfers.

I was so happy to get the McGowan Fellowship! MCI has a history in our family. My Dad worked there and was largely responsible for 411 (remember the number lookup service?) and desk services. He especially admired Bill McGowan as a leader. He’s said that Bill was always willing to listen to anyone with a good idea – their place in the organization absolutely didn’t matter. Dad once dropped by Bill’s office for a 15 minute pitch and Bill was so intrigued they ended up spending over an hour hammering out different angles to consider. Dad really grew as a result of his contact with Bill, especially in terms of leadership and about how to get valuable results. I’m thrilled to be carrying on the McGowan tradition!”



**Taking Dad boating on Lake Washington.**



**My keynote address for Women in Computer Science at U of I.**

**Michelle Kirby**  
Duke University  
Fuqua School of Business



“I interned last summer in Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of the Congo) with DKT which is a social marketing NGO that focuses on family planning. They sell and market reproductive health products and offer trainings in clinics for

clients and also medical personnel who might not have an extensive background in this area. There aren't many importers bringing these products into the Congo, so DKT bridges both the product and information gap, creating more demand.

“I came into the internship with one focus but it shifted after I had been there a while. I was initially charged with creating an incentive structure for DKT staff to motivate more sales of four specific products. But the more I learned the more it seemed as if I was peeling layers off an onion! I realized that the sales issue couldn't be solved right away by just more money. We needed to be looking at data about individual sales goals, how these goals were set, and the tracking systems.

“I discovered that data was available but not very accessible and by the time it reached the top layers of the organization, the granularity had been almost totally lost. So I switched my focus to creating a sales reporting tool so that there was more detailed information more easily available. DKT was really amazing, giving me full access to data, people, really anything I wanted. I've continued a relationship with them and I'm now working on a second version of the tool.

“I'm really committed to remaining in international development. I would love being a country director in social enterprise or with a well-developed NGO that is starting a new country operation – I really like startup operations. I'm pretty cause agnostic but like working with organizations that operate one of two levers: they try to become more economically productive and save money or become more efficient, giving more for the same amount of money. In the

nearer future I could see being a country director in South Africa, for example, maybe working on water issues, and farther down the road perhaps working for an organization like the Gates Foundation.

“I'm really looking forward to the holidays this year. My husband Bill and I have close friends who have been working in India and we'll be spending New Year's Eve with them. We haven't seen them in many years. I'm also excited about working on an impact investing consulting team at school. We're exploring social impact bonds and I really enjoy being team leader. I'm also co-president of Net Impact at Fuqua and we have a huge conference coming up on February 12. It's a pretty full plate and I'm making plans for spring break!



**Making the rounds for DKT in the Congo.**



**Can you believe this is a sweet potato?**

**Victoria Lord**  
University of Chicago  
Booth School of Business



“I’m concentrating my MBA studies in strategy, analytics, and managerial and organizational behavior. This summer I interned in Seoul, Korea at Samsung’s Global Strategy Group which is an in-house consultancy for all Samsung companies worldwide. My project focused on marketing sizing as well as developing

a market entry strategy for a new electronics component. The internship was a great learning opportunity and a fascinating experience, both for its cross-cultural nature and for the glimpse it afforded me into how a global marketing leader approaches strategic questions.

“After graduation I plan to return to Florida to continue my career in consulting; I will be joining either the Boston Consulting Group or McKinsey and Company. My family and my husband’s family live in central Florida and though we’ll be in Miami about four hours away we’re thrilled to be moving closer to home. I’m also looking forward to being back in a consulting role since I greatly enjoy helping clients think through their strategies and most pressing business questions.

“On a more personal level, I have a deep interest in social enterprise and supporting basic human needs. I am using my time at Booth to explore how I can combine my passion for business with my interest in these areas. I am an active member of the Board of Fellows program, through which I work closely with the board of directors at Goldie’s Place, a Chicago non-profit that focuses on homelessness. As a fellow, I attend board meetings to learn more about the role of board members and how non-profits are governed. I also worked with two classmates to develop a repeatable process and templates to aid staff members in developing “success stories” that communicate outcome measures and qualitative results for fundraising purposes. The board fellow role is very

rewarding as it allows me to use my skills and MBA experience to contribute to the broader Chicago community, specifically the homeless individuals that Goldie's Place serves. It also allows me to build a stronger brand for Booth by giving board members, most of whom are Chicago-based executives, insight into Chicago Booth and our community’s passion for giving back. My involvement with Goldie’s will continue through this year and I intend to deepen my involvement with non-profit organizations after graduation.”



Me with two board fellows colleagues at Goldie’s Place.



This my Booth team for a leadership competition. We didn’t win but had a great day.

**Brian McKenzie**  
Dartmouth College  
Tuck School of Business



“I had a fantastic summer interning for ArcLight Capital Partners, an energy-focused private equity firm based in Boston. I worked on a number of transactions spanning wind and hydropower to midstream oil and gas assets and really learned a lot. My wife Stephanie and two

daughters, Audrey and Georgia, spent the summer in Toronto with her family and I visited every other weekend. It was great to have the last three weeks of the summer off before starting school. We spent about a week of that at our family cottage in the Georgian Bay area, which was a lot of fun.

“My ultimate career goal is to change the way people consume electricity around the world. I can’t say that I want to be the CEO of a specific utility company or a partner in a specific investment firm because what I have in mind doesn’t exist yet. For the immediate future, I have signed on to Brookfield Asset Management, a \$200 billion alternative asset manager focused on real estate, infrastructure, and power. I’ll be working with the power and utilities M&A team, based in Toronto.

“I chose Brookfield because I think their platform, which is focused on hydro and wind power as well as related power infrastructure, is well positioned for the future of the power grid I envision. I also believe the organization is nimble enough and has the resources to be a leader in the next generation of power generation and transmission.

“I just finished a difficult fall term where I was commuting from Hanover to Boston twice a week to finish the last term of my dual-degree (business and international affairs) at the Fletcher School at Tufts. Time was tight as I was finishing my thesis and traveled quite a bit. I attended the COP 19 Climate Change Negotiations in Warsaw, Poland, in November, and then went to Spain for a Tuck Global Consultancy project where I advised a Spanish power

generator on how to navigate the significant changes to the Spanish renewable energy policies that occurred over the past year.

“I continue to serve on the board of directors of Stepping Stones International, a wonderful organization that works with orphaned and vulnerable adolescents in Africa. I’m very excited that SSI is working on moving into Zambia and Ethiopia over the coming year and I’m trying to place a group of Tuck 1<sup>st</sup> year students on a team there. For their Tuck First-year Capstone project, they would work on the market entry strategy to those two countries.

“I’m really looking forward to being back in Hanover, at Tuck, full-time! My daughter, Audrey, celebrates her 4<sup>th</sup> birthday on January 11<sup>th</sup>. My wife is busy planning her princess party! My younger daughter, Georgia is now 18 months old. She’s running around and starting to say so many words!”



**Michael Pavey**  
Georgetown University  
McDonough School of Business



“This past summer I interned with Agora Partnerships, which is based in Nicaragua. They work with all kinds of early-stage businesses in Latin America that help solve critical community problems. Agora connects these entrepreneurs to investors.

I was charged with experimenting with crowd funding to see if projects could be supported this way. I really learned a lot, for example that 30% of funding through platforms like Kickstarter comes from an entrepreneur’s inner circle – their family and friends. It’s not just a case of posting a project and waiting for the money to come rolling in. I really enjoyed my time there and before returning home took a week off to travel in Nicaragua with my girlfriend. During that trip she became my fiancée!

“What I’d ultimately like to do is run my own business. I’m still considering a few ideas for what exactly that that business will be about but I know it will have a technology component and will make a difference. I’m thinking perhaps something involved with education.

“Right now I’m planning a leadership transition for the Entrepreneurship Club at Georgetown. I was voted in as president after I promised to get a career trek going for the Club. I’m really proud of having made that happen in November. Club members were able to go to New York and meet with various start-up companies and entrepreneurs, learning from them and growing their networks.

“I’m especially looking forward to my Georgetown Global Business Experience, which is just getting underway. I’m part of a team that is consulting for a U.S. energy company regarding business in China. We’ll spend the next three months working on the project and then in March we’ll actually go to Shanghai. And, of course, I’m also looking forward to my wedding in May!”



Here I am at the Google campus in Mountain View, CA, with the EVP of the Entrepreneurship Club (I am president). Google was one of a number of companies we visited as part of club activities.



Participating in a community planning event in London.

## *Tiana Veldwisch*

Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Sloan School of Management



“This summer I interned at Biogen Idec in Cambridge. They’re a biotech company that’s produced drugs for MS and hemophilia. I was on a tech development team that worked with a group of 300 scientists who take products from the R&D level and scale them up for manufacturing. The

internship was helping these scientists justify the purchase of a lot of expensive capital equipment by working with them to figure out exactly what tools were the best ones to use and why. I really enjoyed it because I come from a technical background and the project was a bridge between the purely technical and the product’s business context.

“After my internship, I went up to Vermont in August for the Tough Mudder run that raises money for the Wounded Warrior Project. It’s 11 miles of obstacle course with running up and down hills, monkey bars, cargo nets, mud, and lots more. A couple thousand people run in heats over two days. I spent the spring and summer training, and this summer I nailed it! I completed every single obstacle for the first time. [Ed note: This is the premier adventure challenge series in the world.]

“In the future, I see myself working to solve problems in healthcare, specifically for low-resourced or underserved populations. I’d like to lead teams around the obstacles and may end up running my own company.

“I’m really looking forward to a trip overseas next March. I am taking a class in global health that is an “action learning” class, meaning we look at issues and then go overseas for a “boots on the ground” experience at a clinic, pharmacy, or company that delivers medical services. We’re charged with coming up with actionable solutions for them. I’m not sure where I’ll be assigned but it probably will be Africa.

“My job situation is a bit up in the air, but I know I’ll be staying in the Boston area. If the timing works out, I’d like to do the Trek Across Maine this summer, before starting my new job. It’s a 180-mile bike ride, raising money for the American Lung Association. I’ve done it a few times with colleagues from my former company, and this year we’re hoping to get together a really big team.”



**I captained a team that walked for the American Liver Foundation, a cause important to me because my mother has liver disease.**



**I’m on a committee for Sloan Women in Management. At this alumni breakfast I introduced the speaker.**

**Adam Wenneker**  
Columbia University  
Columbia Business School



“I really enjoyed my summer internship at Pennybacker Capital, a real estate private equity firm in Austin, Texas. I had no real estate experience, but took the position because I wanted to take a chance doing something really different. Before starting my MBA, I was with

Accenture in operations and strategy consulting, which didn’t involve being a decision-maker. This internship was different because it was all about deal-making: buying and selling real estate. It’s an entirely different mindset – people are paid on performance, which is pretty black and white. It was fascinating work and I’m happy to have made a real impact there.

“One deal that really stands out for me is when I purchased a distressed mortgage note from the FHA which involved a crime-ridden apartment building in a gentrifying neighborhood. I was able to purchase the note at a steep discount, foreclose, and start renovations on the building. The return was great -- I paid \$3 million and projected to sell for \$10 million after stabilizing it. It also helped the neighborhood by taking an eyesore and making it an attractive place to live. After the internship, my wife Erin and I took a trip to the Dutch Caribbean Islands of Curacao and Bonaire. The beaches and snorkeling were terrific!

“At school I’m very involved with I-Prep where I serve as president. It’s a service organization that provides career advice, mostly for individuals in the 35 to 55 age range. Some have been unemployed for a long time or have never had a job at all. Others may have legal and/or financial problems. Qualified business school student volunteers provide resume review services, mock interviews, and professional coaching. We have the largest volunteer force on campus and see dozens of people each week, so it keeps me busy.

“I just accepted a position at Booz & Company in strategy consulting. I’d like to take on projects where I can build up expertise in sectors I find especially

interesting, like technology, education, and media. Sometime down the road I’d like to run an organization as a general manager or be in a chief operating officer role. Exactly what that might be depends on what happens at Booz. The end goal is to reach the top of an organization where I can build something meaningful and make a difference in the world.

“I’m really looking forward to the end of the semester! This has been my toughest one yet. My wife Erin and I will be spending Christmas with family in Oklahoma. Erin works as a guest services manager at New York Presbyterian Cornell Hospital and has a pretty unusual job. She essentially manages the hospital stays of celebrities and millionaires. They are housed on a secured floor in rooms that are more like apartments than hospital rooms. She does everything from scheduling nursing staff to acting as a concierge to the stars! We recently had a great time at the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day parade. This year there was very high winds and we saw the balloons crashing into buildings as they caught the wind from cross streets. Rather scary!

“After graduation, I have a unique vacation planned. Erin and I will take a cross country road trip, stopping at all the attractions we have always wanted to see but couldn’t build a vacation around, such as the Grand Canyon and Mount Rushmore. It will be fun to be a tourist in my own country!”



**Pumpkin making with BSchool co-horts.**



# Alumni

2013

## *Tom Arnett*

Carnegie Mellon University  
Tepper School of Business

“I’m a Research Fellow in the K-12 Education team at the Clayton Christensen Institute for Disruptive Innovation. The Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan think tank dedicated to improving the world by applying the theories of disruptive innovation, developed by Harvard professor Clayton M. Christensen, to better understand society’s most pressing problems. We work to shape and elevate the conversation surrounding these issues through rigorous research and public outreach. My research and public engagement activities are focused on blended learning, teacher training and preparation, and the changing roles of teachers in blended learning environments.

“I love the nature of my work. Every day I get to think about how the world works and improving our education system. I also work with a great team of people who are smart, passionate, dedicated, and kind. And I’m really excited about publishing my first white paper and starting on a book.

“Our family moved to the Bay Area last spring. We live in a small town just south of San Jose called Morgan Hill. Our house is five minutes from my parents and we feel really lucky to be able to spend so much time with them. Our oldest, Joey (3), started preschool this fall. Our second child, Moses (2), is a happy little guy who loves scooting around on his tricycle. Our baby, Naomi (1), learned to walk in October and now is constantly on the move.”



## *Kilkil Shah*

Georgetown University  
McDonough School of Business

“I’m the alum that’s still in school. I’m in my last year, finishing up my MBA/International Affairs dual-degree. Recruiting will be picking up this spring and I’m pursuing a job in infrastructure development, focusing on developing countries.

“After three amazing years in grad school I’m looking forward to getting back into the ‘real world’. The McGowan Fellowship really allowed me to explore my interest in international development. I was able to take an internship in Kenya last summer in impact investing and had an amazing experience, learning a lot in the process. I look forward to using this background and what I learned in the classroom to improve the infrastructure in developing countries so they can continue to grow and develop.

“I’m spending my winter break in India, attending a friend’s wedding, visiting family, and going to a yoga and meditation ashram for a week. Looking forward to a relaxing and fun-filled trip!”

## *Molly White*

Duke University  
Fuqua School of Business

“I began working at Heinz last August where I’m on the Ketchup brand team. I’ve gotten the chance to work on several exciting and giant initiatives. Watch grocery store shelves at the end of December to early January for specially labeled ketchup bottles referring to our Super Bowl Sweepstakes. I managed the execution of the 10MM bottles that will soon be on retailer shelves.

“My husband Kevin and I are settling into our reversed roles. With me back at work he’s in his first year of the MBA program at Tepper at Carnegie Mellon. We’ve been in touch with **Brigid Johnson** (’14) who is the McGowan Fellow there.

“Some sad news: I recently lost my little doggy, Newton. It was a tough time for us as it was so unexpected and we were so close. But, we are gradually healing from the loss and planning to adopt another doggy after Christmas. On a happier note, I’m really looking forward to two spring weddings and exploring more of my new city.”



*Show us your Heinz!*



**Me and my husband Kevin in Santorini.**

## 2012

### *Kyle Estep*

**Northwestern University  
Kellogg School of Management**

“While I live near Philadelphia, I’m a senior consultant in Deloitte Consulting’s Strategy and

operations practice in McLean, VA (i.e. Washington, DC). Most of my work focuses on advising healthcare clients as they weather this unprecedented period of change in the industry. However, I still like to think of myself as a “generalist” consultant. I’m really enjoying the syncopated rhythm of the work and lifestyle, combined with the quality of the people I work with. I’ve yet to work with the same team twice, so I’m constantly expanding my network and finding new mentors to learn from.

“On the personal front, I got engaged in August during a lake-side family vacation. My fiancée, Lindsey, and I had friends and family at the lake to celebrate, so it was definitely the highlight of 2013! We are busy wedding planning and will be getting hitched in September 2014. My goal for this year is making through the wedding planning process!”

### *Rob Spies*

**Dartmouth College  
Tuck School of Business**

“I work at Vistaprint, an e-commerce printing company. I manage our consumer product portfolio which includes products like invitations and announcements, holiday cards, and wall calendars. November and December are an exciting time of year for me because I manage our seasonal go-to-market campaigns like Black Friday /Cyber Monday and our general holiday campaign. We are just off a record weekend with Black Friday which comes with things to celebrate and some challenges which have to be worked through (sorry to our manufacturing plant!)

“What I really like about my job is that we’re a fast-growing company and I have a lot of opportunity to work on important initiatives that are top on the agenda for our most senior leaders in marketing. On the home front, my wife and I are about a week away from finishing a major renovation on our house. So long to our low ceilings and pink bathroom! I’m really looking forward to our McGowan reunion in June and to taking some time off, hopefully for a trip to France.”

2011

***Brooke Bollyky***

**Georgetown University  
McDonough School of Business**

“I’m currently working for the Boston Consulting Group. What I really like about my job is that there is always something new: new challenges, new clients and new fun problems to solve. My big news is that my daughter, Clara Elizabeth, was born April 2013. Watching her grow is a lot of fun. She has new tricks every week and keeps me pretty busy!”



***Frank Sasso***

**Northwestern University  
Kellogg School of Management**

“I’m the CFO of Kaufman Development, a commercial real estate development, investment, and property management company in Columbus, OH. My role includes equity and debt structuring, investor relations, investment analysis, budgeting/forecasting, and day-to-day accounting functions. I love being part of a small firm where I have the ability to make a significant impact on just about everything we do. I feel a strong sense of ownership. It’s also great to be part of an organization that emphasizes wellness and philanthropy, two concepts that we weave into all aspects of our communities.



“On December 10, Uma and I welcomed a new addition to our family: Nikesh Wallace Sasso. We could not be happier and really appreciate all the words of wisdom and well wishes from our McGowan Family. Niko looks forward to meeting you all at next year’s symposium and I’m looking forward to hanging out with him and teaching him about the world. Other than that, we have a serious home renovation in progress, which is highly recommended when you have a newborn . . . ”

Mark your calendars now for the 2014 Symposium weekend!  
University of Chicago’s Booth School of Business  
November 6-8, 2014