



Stuart School of Business

Commencement Ceremony

May 18, 2019

12 noon

Illinois Institute of Technology

Chicago, Illinois

Commencement Program

Processional

(Audience is requested to remain seated)

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Rosemarie Mitchell

Illinois Tech Trustee; Chair, Stuart Board of Advisors

Keynote Address

Bluford Putnam

Managing Director and Chief Economist, CME Group

Undergraduate Student Address

Ethan Kristofer Castro

Candidate for Bachelor of Science

in Business Administration

and Master of Public Administration

Graduate Student Address

Michelle Mikka-Van Der Stuyf

Candidate for Master of Business Administration

Commencement Program

Recognition of Academic Degrees

John F. O. Bilson

Dean, Stuart School of Business

Names Read by

Li Cai

Assistant Professor, Stuart School of Business

Dinakar Jayarajan

Assistant Professor, Stuart School of Business

Yiwei Fang

Assistant Professor, Stuart School of Business

Joanne Howard

Clinical Assistant Professor, Stuart School of Business

Smriti Anand

Associate Professor, Stuart School of Business

The Presentation of Candidates

Doctoral Degrees

Master's Degrees

Bachelor's Degrees

Dean's Address

John F. O. Bilson

Dean, Stuart School of Business

Recessional

Keynote Speaker

Bluford Putnam

Managing Director and Chief Economist, CME Group

Bluford (Blu) Putnam is Managing Director and Chief Economist of CME Group. He is responsible for leading global economic analysis and monitoring developments in the price patterns, volatility, and correlations of futures and options markets.

Prior to joining CME Group, Putnam gained more than 35 years of experience in the financial services industry with concentrations in central banking, investment research, and portfolio management. He started his career as an economist with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and later moved to the Chase Manhattan Bank. He has served in London as Morgan Stanley's Global Bond Strategist and Kleinwort Benson's Chief Economist. Moving into portfolio management, he has held positions as Chief Investment Officer for Equities and Asset Allocation at the Bankers Trust Company in New York and President of CDC Investment Management Corporation.

Putnam holds a Ph.D. in economics from Tulane University. He has authored five books on international finance, as well as published in such academic journals as the *American Economic Review* and the *Journal of Finance*, among many others. In the past, he has served on the adjunct faculty of several business schools, including The Wharton School, New York University, and Columbia University.

Undergraduate Student Speaker

Ethan Kristofer Castro

Candidate for Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Master of Public Administration

Ethan Castro came to Illinois Tech's Stuart School of Business after graduating from Elk Grove High School in the northwestern suburbs of Chicago. While he has always put his identity as a student at the forefront of his life, he had never truly identified a passion that he believed he could turn into a career. Thus, he used his time at Stuart to explore—both the world and himself.

Alongside his core business courses and curricula, which gave him a universal set of skills applicable to almost any industry, Castro used his undergraduate years to serve and lead a variety of student organizations. He served as a member-at-large for the Illinois Tech President's Student Advisory Council, secretary of the Undergraduate Business Council student organization, and secretary for the Residence Hall Association. He was elected as a senator of the Student Government Association and served as editor-in-chief of *TechNews*, the university student newspaper. In 2018, Castro was selected for the Clinton R. Stryker Distinguished Service Award and the American Society for Public Administration honored him in 2019 at their Greater Chicago Chapter's annual award ceremony as Stuart's Outstanding M.P.A. Student of the Year for his record of academic achievement and service.

Castro credits his Stuart education and extracurricular involvement for helping him find his career path—in academia. Having lived most of his life as a student first and foremost, it only seems proper that his future would be dedicated to helping others in the exact same position find their passions and future aspirations. With a Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree, thanks to Stuart's co-terminal program, he hopes to continue his educational work in the nonprofit academic sector and perhaps even return to being a student one last time—for a doctoral degree.

Graduate Student Speaker

Michelle Mikka-Van Der Stuyf

Candidate for Master of Business Administration

As president and CEO of BizStrat Technology Corporation, Michelle Mikka-Van Der Stuyf's 25+ years of experience drives growth and innovation in web, e-commerce, software development, strategic systems for business, and mobile and touch screen solutions. With two patents, the software suite urEZsolutions™ is a springboard to constant technology innovation, resulting in four software spinoffs in 2019. Her clients range from startups to \$1 billion companies. She recently founded FlyTall, a nonprofit focused on combining talent and experience for success, and serves on the boards for Illinois Technology Foundation, Lewis University, and Triton College, bringing industry needs to academic curricula.

As an active executive team member with TechSavvy and National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT), Mikka-Van Der Stuyf provides corporate and industry support to cultivate diversity in STEM and develop future talent. She is also active in a variety of initiatives with AnitaB.org, Illinois Institute of Technology, ARA, and Chicago Innovation. Degrees in computer science, airway science, math, and now business have equipped her with the knowledge to cultivate technological change that matters. A career including CTO and VP of North America for a global software company, coupled with her innovation-focused Illinois Tech M.B.A., provides her with the tools for her next big venture!

Mikka-Van Der Stuyf has been featured in *Voyage Chicago*, *Chicago Business Journal*, Bizwomen Mentoring Monday, and on WGN Radio. Her background includes technology work for Potbelly, Morton's Steakhouse, Target, Apple, Starbucks, and PCS Wireless, and she has evolved into strategic customer-facing business intelligence projects with Microsoft Dynamics, web-based management portals, and customer ERP systems. Married, with two college-bound teens, ages 14 and 17, there is never a dull moment.

Mentoring, keynoting, presenting, speaking, and serving on panels all contribute to paying it forward for this year's Stuart Commencement Graduate Student Speaker.

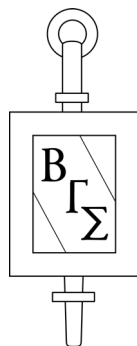
Stuart School of Business Faculty

John F. O. Bilson†	Charles Hamilton†
Smriti Anand†	Joanne Howard
Hamid Arastoopour	Dinakar Jayarajan†
Weslyne Ashton†	Sang Baum Kang†
Siva K. Balasubramanian†	Nasrin Khalili†
Martin Bariff†	Andrew Kumiega
Tomasz Bielecki	Ronald S. Landis
Li Cai†	David Richardson
Roland Calia	Nik Rokop
Arjun Chakravarti	Michael Rybak†
Gregory Chaudoin†	Mohammad Shahidehpour
Ricky Cooper†	Priyanka Sharma
Elizabeth J. Durango-Cohen†	Khairy Tourk
David Ehrlich	Philip Troyk†
M. Krishna Erramilli†	John Twombly†
Yiwei Fang†	Benjamin E. Van Vliet†
Eliezer Geisler†	Liad Wagman†
Bruce Gockerman	Haizhi Wang†
Joel Goldhar†	Darsh Wassan
Ghazale Haddadian†	Tao Wu

Honored Guests

Jon Gorman, *Stuart Board of Advisors*
James Hill, Jr., *Illinois Tech Trustee, Stuart Board of Advisors*
Jim Holden, *Stuart Board of Advisors*
Ellen Jordan, *Illinois Tech Trustee*
Patricia Turnbull, *Stuart Board of Advisors*

Beta Gamma Sigma



Beta Gamma Sigma is the international honor society serving business programs accredited by AACSB International—the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Founded in 1913, it became the exclusive honor society recognized by AACSB in 1921. Beta Gamma Sigma has over 754,000 members, selected from 540 chapters in AACSB-accredited business schools around the world.

Membership in Beta Gamma Sigma is the highest recognition a business student anywhere in the world can receive in a business program accredited by AACSB International. Membership requirements include that a student must be in the top 10 percent of a baccalaureate business program or the top 20 percent of a master's business program. Doctoral students are eligible for membership after completing all requirements for the doctoral degree.

The 2019 Induction Ceremony, held on May 10, 2019, recognized faculty and student inductees. Alumni, faculty, students, and Illinois Tech administrators joined in celebrating this tremendous honor.

In the Commencement Ceremony today, Beta Gamma Sigma members will wear honor regalia including a blue and gold stole, blue and gold honor cords, and a gold key lapel pin.

Beta Gamma Sigma

2019 Illinois Tech Stuart Beta Gamma Sigma Inductees

Faculty Inductee

Khairy A. Tourk
Professor of Economics

Beta Gamma Sigma Professor of the Year

Elizabeth J. Durango-Cohen
Associate Professor of Operations Management

Doctoral Inductees

Shengsi Li
Miaomiao Pan
Tianyu Zhao

Master's Inductees

Marisela Cadenas Facundo	Michelle Mikka-Van Der Stuyf
Xuxu Chen	Ryan Patrick O'Keefe
Denghui Cheng	Jaykumar Babubhai Patel
Hang Deng	Rittika Roy
Daniel Joseph DeRose	Jingyi Shi
Devika Dhir	Ajinkya Govind Shrikhande
Maria Claudia Escobar Jaruffe	Abhishek Singh
Christopher John Hoffmann	Yaroslav Vergun
Chia-Chun Lee	Yuang Wei
Haoran Ling	Xiufeng Xu
Yiqing Liu	Yijun Zhao
Chen Liu	Lei Zhou
Yue Lyu	

Bachelor's Inductees

Evelyn Cardiel
Ethan Kristofer Castro
Madina Tahmas

Candidates for the Doctoral Degree

Doctor of Philosophy in Management Science

Xinyi Ge

Dissertation: “Optimal Execution Strategy with Time-varying Intraday Patterns of Liquidity Parameters”

Advisor: Ricky Cooper, Ph.D.

Shengsi Li†

Dissertation: “Sharpen Factor Investing with a Closer Look at Profitability”

Advisor: Li Cai, Ph.D.

Shouhao Li

Dissertation: “Information of Market Efficiency, Volatility, Volume, and Trend from Limit Orderbook”

Advisor: Ricky Cooper, Ph.D.

Miaomiao Pan†

Dissertation: “High-Frequency Trading and Its Impact on the U.S. Equity Market”

Advisor: Ricky Cooper, Ph.D.

Junkai Qian

Dissertation: “Momentum, Volatility, and Risk-based Allocation”

Advisor: Ricky Cooper, Ph.D.

Jingqi Zhang

Dissertation: “On the Flow and Performance of Mutual Funds”

Advisor: Li Cai, Ph.D.

Tianyu Zhao†

Dissertation: “Two Essays on Corporate Finance and Capital Market”

Advisor: Haizhi Wang, Ph.D.

Candidates for Master’s Degree

Master of Business Administration

Michael Agne

Dhafer Dakhel M. Aldawsari

Ahmed Mohammed M. Alotaibi

Mohammed Abdullah

M. Alshehri

Noor Talal T. Alsulamei

Albara Abdulaziz Alwegaisi

Sabah Fatima Asif

Archana Prakash Belani

Marisela Cadenas Facundo†

Michael Castaldo

Linnette Vonda Chew

Moire Elizabeth Corcoran

Ersay Erbay

Ikbal Erbay

Maria Claudia Escobar Jaruffe†

Siyuan Han

Hailah Idreess I. Hejrini

Christopher John Hoffmann†

Mohammad Ibesh

Ayesha Khalid

Catherine Lanigan

Abeer Faisal A. Mansho

Vidya Mantrala

Michelle Mikka-Van Der Stuyf†

Adam Michael North

Carmen Adetokunbo Otubusin

Cozette Adefunmilola Otubusin

Monica Pedraza

David Jacob Pollack

Anjuli Rabindranath

Brigid Kathleen Reidy

Benjamin E. Shaffer

Yuwan Sun

Chao-Hsiang Tsai

Haonan Zhao

Fan Zou

Yizhi Zou

Master of Science in Management Science

Sanchia Cynthiana Harsha

Giyoon Kwag

Kai Lyu

Xiqiao Ouyang

Abhishek Singh†

Master of Science in Sustainability Management

Roxan Afkar

Jingyan Huang

Tian Lan

Sukrit Mishra

Jiashen Xu

Jingyu Yang

Candidates for Master's Degree

Master of Science in Marketing Analytics

Marisela Cadenas Facundo†	Tianli Ren
Hang Deng†	Rittika Roy†
Devika Dhir†	Karan Sanjay Shah
Astha Kathil	Shreyash Sanjeev Shah
Zuoyin Li	Konrad Sniezek
Chen Liu†	Jasmin Dorothea Sturzebecher
Anupriya Narayanan	Himank Sahai Varshney
Anand Nayak	Wenyan Wang
Venkata Hari Krishna	Yuang Wei†
Bharadwaj Pudipeddi	Tianshuo Yu
Yu Qiao	Yingmei Zhang

Master of Science in Finance

Utkarsh Agarwal	Fusong Liang
Chloe Therese Algan	Haoran Ling†
Mohammed Abdullah	Boning Liu
M. A. Alnitaifi	Qiwen Liu
Sarh Nabeel M. Alsaigh	Xiaoxiao Luo
Andreea T. Beca	Mahmoud Mbarak
Jiannan Cen	Aiman Moizuddin
Shoubin Chen	Ricardo Morales Torres
Xuxu Chen†	Ritika Sanjiv Nayak
Denghui Cheng†	Yujian Ning
Daniel Joseph DeRose†	Ryan Patrick O'Keefe†
Wenhao Fan	Jaykumar Babubhai Patel†
Chenhao Gao	Bastien Martin Baptiste Segot
Peng Gao	Krish Sudhakar Shetty
Ivan Alejandro Garcia Chavez	Trishala Prakash Shetty
Siyuan Han	Jingyi Shi†
Tingyu Han	Ajinkya Govind Shrikhande†
Xiaoting Huang	Surbhi Singh
Jin Jiang	Surabhi Jayesh Sutaria
Keli Jin	Madina Tahmas
Chia-Chun Lee†	Xuantao Tang

† Beta Gamma Sigma

Candidates for Master's Degree

Anirudh Thota	Jiaqing Xu
Yaroslav Vergun†	Xiufeng Xu†
Swetha Vijayakumar	Yaping Xu
Tianma Wang	Bin Yang
Tianshi Wang	Chi Zhang
Yihua Wang	Hengyao Zhang
Yuning Wang	Jinglin Zhang
Charles Pearson Wolfe	Tongchen Zhang
Yichen Wu	Chenhao Zhou
Qingling Xiong	Lei Zhou†

Master of Mathematical Finance

Ziheng Guo	Wenqing Wan
Guoliang Ji	Jiahe Xu
Jayaprakash Kutala	Zhiyuan Xu
Wei Jie Lai	Yun Zhang
Yiqing Liu†	Zhao Zhang
Yiwen Lu	Yijun Zhao†
Yue Lyu†	Tianxiang Zheng
Chun Ou Yang	

Master of Public Administration

Ethan Kristofer Castro	Ting Li
Yiliang Chen	Liang Liang
William Henry Crozier	Jinye Lin
Yixin Ding	Jiayu Liu
David L. Disselhorst	Shiyun Liu
Beth A. Giltmier	Cornelius McCaster
Robin Michelle Hackett-Bradley	Jeremiah Wahid Muhammad
Gladis Herst	Beth Anne Ontrop
Allan Huang	Jing Yang
Isaac Andre Lambert	Yang Yang
Meng Li	Tianyi Zheng

† Beta Gamma Sigma

Candidates for Master's Degree

China Scholarship Council Cohort

Liang Cai	Wenli Quan
Kaiduo Chen	Shaokun Wang
Xi Ding	Yifan Wang
Chao Gu	Zhongyi Wang
Jiawei Gu	Zhuoran Wang
Luyang Han	Zihan Wang
Shanshan Han	Yunyun Wu
Jingwei He	Zengxin Xing
Shuyuan Jia	Jiankan Xu
Xiangpei Kong	Yijun Yang
Guodong Li	Yizhong Yao
Yongxin Li	Ye Yu
Tao Lyu	Ran Zhang
Ziyue Qin	Yiou Zhou

Candidates for Bachelor's Degree

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Chriselda A. Bell	Jason Alexander Morris
Irvin Berriel	Rohit Pandit Okhandiar
Evelyn Cardiel†•	Yuezhong Qiu
Ethan Kristofer Castro†§	Scott M. Reardon
Nicholas G. Chavez	John Morgan Reeves•
Ronald E. Corbin	Estevan Ernesto Rosas
Dominic Cutinello	Annie C. Simmons
Aracely Figueroa	Jiaxin Sun
Malik Howze	Madina Tahmas†*
Jason Jung	Nina N. Tamras
Anastasios Manolis	David Tang
Frank B. Miller	Bowen Wang
Aiman Moizuddin	Wenzhang Zhu
Ricardo Morales Torres	Roman D. Zwarycz

Congratulations to the Stuart School of Business Class of 2019. Your education has prepared you to be a leader in society, to create change in your organizations, and to make a positive impact in your workplaces, communities, and professional disciplines. You have made everyone at Stuart very proud and we wish you every success.

John F. O. Bilson

*Professor of Finance
John and Mae Calamos Stuart School
of Business Dean Endowed Chair*

† Beta Gamma Sigma § Summa Cum Laude • Magna Cum Laude * Cum Laude

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY
Stuart School of Business



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Photos from today's ceremony will be available to view and purchase at
gradimages.com as soon as 48 hours after the ceremony.