

The
**AMBA & BGA
Excellence
Awards**

2021

**OFFICIAL
BOOK OF
THE NIGHT**

29 January 2021



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OF
AMBA^S
BE IN BRILLIANT COMPANY



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ASSOCIATION**
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It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to our 2021 AMBA & BGA Excellence Awards, which we are hosting virtually.

On behalf of the entire AMBA & BGA team, I would like to thank you for joining us to celebrate our shared successes throughout the past year, in spite of global turbulence, and to congratulate all the shortlisted entrants and winners of this year's Excellence Awards.

We are also celebrating BGA's second anniversary. Since BGA's launch in late January 2019, the network has grown at lightning speed – we have already welcomed 150 Business Schools as BGA members and accredited 12 BGA Schools. Our AMBA-accredited Schools network has now grown to 286 Schools and we have been delighted to continue receiving positive feedback on our decision to strengthen the quality and exclusivity of the AMBA network further, by limiting the network to just 300 high-quality Business Schools worldwide.

AMBA student and graduate membership has grown to 55,000, and our BGA student and graduate network will, in time, grow to be even larger than this.

This is our largest-ever AMBA & BGA Excellence Awards, featuring 11 categories. We have had a record number of entries, representing all six continents, and the competition was stronger than ever. The entries who have made the final shortlist in each category should feel proud of their achievements.

When the world went into lockdown in March 2020, I felt confident that, within a year, our community would collectively look back on their achievements in the face of this global crisis with pride. And – as you will discover shortly, when we announce the winners of this year's Excellence Awards – the AMBA & BGA Schools network rose magnificently to the challenges caused by Covid-19, with determination and innovation.

Additionally, the students and graduates who have been shortlisted as finalists today have all used their qualifications to achieve a spectrum of impressive results, in terms of the positive impact they have made to business, education and society as a whole.

I want to thank our panel of judges for their passion and commitment. The unanimous feedback we received from this panel of experts was how impressed they were with the quality, creativity and variety of achievements among this year's entries from your Schools and students and we are proud to celebrate these with you today.

I also want to take the opportunity to thank our headline sponsor, Blue Prism, and its Chairman and CEO, Jason Kingdon, as well as our award sponsors – Advent Group, Barco and Studious Digital Education. Their support for our awards – and the business education sector – is greatly appreciated.

Have a wonderful time during the ceremony, wherever you are in the world, and I also look forward to welcoming many of you to our Virtual Global Conference, which will take place from 10-12 May 2021.

► Andrew Main Wilson, CEO, AMBA & BGA

WELCOME FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.



SPONSORS	04
RUNNING ORDER OF THE AWARDS CEREMONY	05
JUDGING PANEL	06
BEST INNOVATION STRATEGY, Sponsored by Barco	08
BEST LIFELONG LEARNING INITIATIVE, Sponsored by Studious Digital Education	12
BEST CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY INITIATIVE	16
BEST BUSINESS SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP, Sponsored by Blue Prism	20
BEST CULTURE, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVE, Sponsored by Advent Group	24
BGA BUSINESS SCHOOL IMPACT AWARD	28
BGA FUTURE LEADERS CASE COMPETITION	32
MBA STARTUP OF THE YEAR	36
MBA ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR	40
MBA LEADERSHIP AWARD	44
MBA STUDENT OF THE YEAR, Sponsored by Blue Prism	48

CONTENTS.

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PROGRAMME.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

14:00 - 14:25

Andrew Main Wilson, CEO, AMBA & BGA
Jason Kingdon, CEO, Blue Prism

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

14:25 - 15:55

THANKS AND FAREWELL

15:55 - 16:00

SHEREE ATCHESON

Advisory Board Member,
Women Who Code

CLAUDINE BLAMEY

Head of Sustainability and Digital
Strategy, Argent

SHARON CUNNINGHAM

Co-Founder of Shorla Pharma;
Winner of the MBA Entrepreneurial
Venture Award 2020 (Private Sector)

COLETTE DENNEHY

Global Esprit Recruitment Project
Manager, GSK

GERAINT EVANS

Award-winning marketing practitioner
academic writer and speaker

STEPHEN FROST

Chief Executive Officer and Founder,
Frost Included Ltd

GAYA GAMHEWAGE

Head of Learning and Capacity
Building, WHO Health Emergencies
Programme, World Health
Organisation (WHO)

SARMINI GHOSH

Career Coach and Co-Founder,
Own your Talent

EHAB ABDEL HAFEZ

Head of Talent Acquisition –
Africa, Middle East and Turkey,
Johnson & Johnson

RITIKA ISRANI

Vice President, Israni Telecom Private
Limited; Winner of AMBA's MBA
Student of the Year Award 2019

KATIE LEGGETT

Sustainability Manager,
innocent drinks

VICKY LESTER

Deputy Director, The Case Centre

ROB MCCARGOW

Director of Artificial Intelligence
Technology and Investments, PwC

CARLY MORRIS

Head of Geovation, Ordnance Survey

RITA MONTEIRO

Head of Sustainability, Amazon Japan

STEPHANIE MULLINS

Associate Director, BlueSky Education

KATIE NECK

Partnerships Manager, McLaren

JUAN PABLO OTERO

Sustainability and Social
Responsibility Expert

HENRIETTA PALMER

Leading Learning Expert

CHARLIE READING

Director and Founder,
Efficient Portfolio Wealth
Management Limited

UDO RICHSON

Manager of Strategic Projects, Eli Lilly
and Company; Winner of AMBA's
MBA Student of the Year Award 2020

CAROLINE ROWLAND

CEO and Founder, Egoli Media

FRANK SALZGEBER

Head of Innovation and Venture,
ESA Space Solutions European
Space Agency

MICHELE SCHNEIDER

Director of Trading Education
and Research, MarketGauge.com
and Author

BODO SCHLEGELMILCH

Chair at AMBA & BGA and Professor
of Marketing at WU Vienna

JASON ALLAN SCOTT

Podcaster, entrepreneurial advisor,
international best-selling author and
keynote speaker

PAUL SESAY

Founder, Inclusive Companies

JOEL SPENCE

Business Development Director,
ExperienceLab

JAMES SUTCLIFFE

Managing Director,
The Founding Network

SIAN SUTHERLAND

Co-Founder, A Plastic Planet

DAVID SSEGAWA

Former Global Director of
People at Oxfam; International
Global Chief for People and
Culture, Living Goods

HARRY TUCKER

Co-Founder, PLANE Industries;
and Financial Consultant,
St. James Wealth Management

STEEF VAN DE VELDE

Board Member and Chair
of the AMBA International
Accreditation Advisory Board;
Professor of Operations and
Management at Rotterdam
School of Management, Erasmus
University (RSM)

KATE WEINBERG

Group Director of Sustainability,
OVO Energy

SUZANNA WILSON

Global Head,
Sustainable Networks and
Entrepreneurship, HSBC

*Many thanks to our
panel of judges.*

Best Innovation Strategy

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Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow (UK)

'Decision making under uncertainty: making a drama out of a crisis – transitioning a core MBA course into an online format using the Covid-19 pandemic as an integrated case study'

Graduate School of Management, MIP Politecnico di Milano (Italy)

'Immersive learning with simulations and virtual reality'

Imperial College Business School, Imperial College London (UK)

'A three-stage strategic response to the disruption in teaching provision due to the Covid-19 pandemic: stabilise, enhance and innovate'

School of Management, Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT) (China)

'Fintech MBA programme'

**TBS Business School (formerly known as
Toulouse Business School) (France)**

'Teaching through comedy: injecting humour into educational videos'

SPONSOR

BARCO

Barco designs technology to enable bright outcomes around the world. Seeing beyond the image, Barco develops visualisation and collaboration solutions to help you work together, share insights, and wow audiences.

Barco's focus is on three core markets: enterprise (from meeting and control rooms to corporate spaces), healthcare (from the radiology department to the operating room), and entertainment (from movie theatres to live events and attractions). In 2019, it realised sales of €1.083 billion EUR. Barco has a global team of 3,600 employees, whose passion for technology is captured in 400 granted patents. Its 'weConnect' virtual classroom solution began development in 2017 and was launched in 2019. So far, it has delivered more than 125,000 classroom hours to more than 250,000 participants around the world. For more information, visit Barco on www.barco.com, follow on Twitter (@Barco), LinkedIn (Barco), YouTube (BarcoTV), or like on Facebook (Barco).

<https://www.barco.com/en>



**ADAM SMITH BUSINESS SCHOOL,
UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW (UK)**

► ‘Decision making under uncertainty: making a drama out of a crisis – transitioning a core MBA course into an online format using the Covid-19 pandemic as an integrated case study’

Adam Smith Business School Professor, Denis Fischbacher-Smith recast his course ‘Decision Making Under Uncertainty’ (DMUU), setting it within the context of Covid-19, and created an avatar and a series of animated videos for its delivery in an online learning format.

This unique and radical approach integrates academic content with cutting-edge pedagogy by using comics, storyboarding and visualisation to address uncertainty. Combining this with practical insights around the development of a new business generates a unique, immersive learning experience that speaks about the challenges of setting up a business, developing microlearning units and working in teams during a pandemic.



**IMPERIAL COLLEGE BUSINESS SCHOOL,
IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON (UK)**

► ‘A three-stage strategic response to the disruption in teaching provision due to the Covid-19 pandemic: stabilise, enhance and innovate’

Imperial College Business School’s entry comprises a three-stage strategic response to the disruption in teaching provision brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. Namely, to stabilise, enhance and innovate.

The strategy aims to minimise the risks and negative outcomes caused by the disruption in teaching provision due to Covid-19 Pandemic while ensuring Imperial College Business School emerges well placed to embrace subsequent new strategic opportunities. This strategy, which was developed by its Edtech Lab – an award-winning team led by David LeFevre – details an edtech-focused response to enable the delivery of the School’s campus-based modules in an online and multimodal format.



**SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT,
HARBIN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
(HIT) (CHINA)**

► ‘Fintech MBA programme’

The rapid development of the digital economy and emerging technologies such as big data, AI and fintech has brought about a series of unprecedented changes to the social economy.

In order to cultivate innovative management talents to meet the needs of economic and social development, Harbin Institute of Technology School of Management

opened China’s first fintech MBA programme in 2018, which is committed to cultivating senior financial management talents with knowledge of fintech and forward-looking ideas in the field of finance. This project won third place in the ‘Top 10 Financial MBA programmes of Chinese Business Schools in 2019’.



**GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF MANAGEMENT, MIP
POLITECNICO DI MILANO (ITALY)**

► ‘Immersive learning with simulations and virtual reality’

The pandemic caused by Covid-19 has accelerated ongoing disruption in the education

industry. Confronted with this emergency, the Graduate School of Management at MIP Politecnico di Milano started to invest in innovative simulation, game engines, and virtual reality applications, while developing traditional digital content for engaging and interacting with students and alumni.

The School has pushed ahead with innovative uses of digital technology to promote learning by experience. Completed by integration with popular learning platforms, the School developed effective solutions for health and safety training in particular, both for corporate customers and students, promoting safety in the workplace and its own School – an important aspect during the Covid-19 pandemic.



**TBS BUSINESS SCHOOL (FORMERLY
KNOWN AS TOULOUSE BUSINESS
SCHOOL) (FRANCE)**

► ‘Teaching through comedy: injecting humour into educational videos’

At a time of unprecedented worldwide demand both for quality e-learning resources and for cheerfulness, TBS Business School is addressing both through its collaboration with acclaimed comedian, Sammy Obeid, (former teacher, graduate of Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkeley and host of *100 Humans* on Netflix).

The School has released more than a dozen humorous educational videos (each with an instructor’s note), both before and during the Covid-19 crisis. It is continuing its production in parallel with conducting research into the role of humour in business education and outreach to business academia so that others can adopt and build on its experience.



Best Lifelong Learning Initiative

SPONSORED BY: **STUDIOUS**
DIGITAL EDUCATION

EGADE Business School, Tecnológico de Monterrey (Mexico)

Facultad de Economía y Negocios, Universidad Anáhuac México (Mexico)

Hult International Business School (US)

International Institute of Business (IIB) (Ukraine)

Mannheim Business School, University of Mannheim (Germany)

Thammasat Business School, Thammasat University (Thailand)

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STUDIOUS DIGITAL EDUCATION

As institutions grapple with delivering high-quality online learning experiences for students, Studious provides a highly sophisticated asynchronous learning offering to supplement face-to-face teaching.

Founded by Business School faculty in response to the need for high-quality digital resources, Studious Digital Education was set up to tackle the problem of student engagement. It does so by creating interactive, gamified and accessible learning content designed for the digital native generation. Packed full of case studies, videos and activities, content is delivered in a style like that of Netflix, TikTok and Spotify.

Studious' mobile-led app, Ryze, provides an enhanced learning experience for students, available whenever they want it, at a pace they control.

Studious is an award-winning social enterprise that provides premium e-learning courses and platforms for universities and organisations. <https://studious.org.uk/>

THE FINALISTS



EGADE Business School
Tecnológico de Monterrey

**EGADE BUSINESS SCHOOL,
TECNOLÓGICO DE MONTERREY
(MEXICO)**

EGADE U WEEK is an innovative lifelong learning programme designed exclusively for alumni to update their knowledge and create impactful interactions with top international faculty, as well as with renowned leaders, disruptors and entrepreneurs.

The programme enables learners to update their definition of leadership and unveil the mindset and behaviours that unlock their organisation's potential and performance. It is designed to transform their leadership mindset through an intensive active learning experience over two and a half days at EGADE Business School. EGADE Business School has always identified itself as an innovative School, providing its community with cutting-edge content that offers in-depth business knowledge to drive growth and lead transformation.



Anáhuac
México

**FACULTAD DE ECONOMÍA Y
NEGOCIOS, UNIVERSIDAD ANÁHUAC
MÉXICO (MEXICO)**

The lifelong learning programme of the Anáhuac MBA is the only one that treats its alumni with the same level of importance as its students, setting an example of real commitment with the whole business community.

Following the university's mission, the programme takes into consideration all the constituencies – social, academic, spiritual, cultural, communitarian, and physical activities – needed for an ongoing and successful career path.

With a career centre, alumni association, international agreements, full MBA courses and full co-created agenda (with input from alumni, students, faculty, and staff), Anáhuac believes its lifelong learning programme to be one of the most complete in the World.



**HULT INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
SCHOOL (US)**

One of the most important and integral parts of lifelong learning education is having a growth mindset. It is one of the best ways to stay relevant and current with what is happening around. That is what Hult International Business School aims to do.

The team at the School innovates at an incredible speed in order to provide the best lifelong learning options to alumni, despite the many risks and challenges. This is the School's promise to its alumni.



**INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
BUSINESS (IIB) (UKRAINE)**

IIB has been supporting lifelong learning initiatives for many years.

Its long-term educational project BeezzCraft, for example, is a series of programmes for teaching children and adolescents of different age groups the basics of business, development, entrepreneurial, and personal skills.

IIB is constantly looking for new ideas for development. In 2020, it initiated a new project – Post-MBA – for those who already have the degree. This programme is for people who do not want to stop developing and who strive to maintain their leadership skills.



**MANNHEIM BUSINESS SCHOOL,
UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM
(GERMANY)**

By founding MBS Network Clubs in November 2018, Mannheim Business School has taken the important next strategic step in its still-young history.

Since their founding, the School's Clubs have proven to be a powerful platform for linking all stakeholders in the Mannheim Network: students, alumni, corporate partners, professors, and other institutions.

In this way, the School has created a strong cohesion in its community, from which a wide range of profit-generating points arise: the continuous creation and sharing of knowledge and the latest trends from the business world, business opportunities, the sharing of open job offers and much more.



**THAMMASAT BUSINESS SCHOOL,
THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY (THAILAND)**

Without a rapid turn to lifelong education, Thailand faces a bleak future. By 2030, more than 25% of the Thai population will be over 60 – and most of those will be poor. To get through difficult times ahead, workers must sharpen existing work skills and develop more relevant ones. Thammasat Business School's Consultants in the Community initiative offers an ambitious and innovative way to awaken current students' thirst for lifelong learning and, at the same time, equip entrepreneurs and employees in grassroots enterprises with the skills necessary to adapt and thrive in the era of longevity and low fertility.

Best Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative

**CENTRUM PUCP Business School,
Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (Peru)**

'Improving My Store'

**Glorious Sun School of Business and Management,
Donghua University (China)**

'Social Responsibility Leadership Programme'

Hanken School of Economics (Finland)

'Business Lead'

IPADE Business School, Universidad Panamericana (Mexico)

'IPADE Social Challenge'

Lagos Business School, Pan-Atlantic University (Nigeria)

'LBS Sustainability Centre (LBSSC)'

Shantou University Business School, Shantou University (China)

'Leiling Honey Project, Fenghuangshan Mountain Tea Promotion Project,
Recycling Project of China'

THE FINALISTS



**CENTRUM PUCP BUSINESS SCHOOL,
PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA
DEL PERÚ (PERU)**

► 'Improving My Store'

Improving My Store arose from an identified need of small store owners to better manage or formalise their businesses or small enterprise, or to make them more responsible and sustainable.

CENTRUM PUCP supports these store owners through its teachers, students and its partner, Industrias San Miguel. The project consists of three phases. The first phase comprises 12 webinars, which have received 100,000 direct views via Facebook Live. The second phase is a certification programme that consists of eight courses, which is currently being followed by 1,000 national store owners. The third phase (coming in 2021) will consist of 300 personalised consultancy opportunities with students.



**GLORIOUS SUN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
AND MANAGEMENT,
DONGHUA UNIVERSITY (CHINA)**

► 'Social Responsibility Leadership Programme'

Glorious Sun School of Business and Management (GSSBM) is a world-class Business School with particular expertise in the areas of fashion, textile and apparel.

GSSBM aims to provide the highest quality of socially responsible business education in fashion. In 2015, the

School added its Social Responsibility Leadership Programme to its curriculum. The programme strives to meet the university's missions, goals, and programme initiatives for student-oriented social responsibility education and practices. It continues to establish social responsibility-oriented cooperation with various organisations and enterprises. During the Covid-19 pandemic, in particular, GSSBM demonstrated its leadership and creativity in the textile and apparel fields, making remarkable contributions to society, such as by manufacturing and distributing masks and protective suits to the pandemic's frontlines.



**HANKEN SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
(FINLAND)**

► 'Business Lead'

With the objective of removing obstacles for educated asylum seekers to engage with Finnish local and international businesses, or to set up their own, Hanken & SSE Executive Education, a joint venture between Hanken School of Economics and Stockholm School of Economics, decided to fast-track the integration process. There was also a desire to push from idea to programme launch in less than six months. By now, more than 235 immigrants and 150 companies have participated in the Business Lead programme, and more are to come.



**IPADE
BUSINESS SCHOOL**
UNIVERSIDAD PANAMERICANA

**IPADE BUSINESS SCHOOL,
UNIVERSIDAD PANAMERICANA
(MEXICO)**

► 'IPADE Social Challenge'

IPADE Social Challenge is a platform that promotes and interacts with social initiatives and needs.

The School's Inclusive Growth project expands the traditional parameters for measuring economic growth and incorporates topics that include

personal development, education, entrepreneurship, fighting corruption, and employment. One of the project's main initiatives is IPADE Social Challenge. With this platform, IPADE intends to disseminate activities to address the current emergency. There are more than 60 initiatives divided into four main categories: basic needs, health support, fundraising and donations, and support for children suffering from life-threatening illnesses.



**LAGOS BUSINESS SCHOOL,
PAN-ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
(NIGERIA)**

► 'LBS Sustainability Centre (LBSSC)'

Lagos Business School (LBS) is passionate about sustainability and good governance. The commitment to sustainability of its continuous improvement policies is achieved through its established centre, the LBS Sustainability Centre (LBSSC).

A core pillar of the LBS MBA experience is building professional ethics and community service. In line with this, MBA participants take part in both corporate social responsibility and personal social responsibility activities geared towards developing sustainable solutions to specific social problems faced by target communities.



**SHANTOU UNIVERSITY BUSINESS
SCHOOL, SHANTOU UNIVERSITY
(CHINA)**

► 'Leiling Honey Project, Fenghuangshan Mountain Tea Promotion Project, Recycling Project of China'

Shantou University Business School has been promoting corporate responsibility and sustainable development for the whole of society continually, and has been working in partnership with local communities, non-profit organisations, and charities.

In this project, the School has provided more than 30 sessions of consulting, training and continuing education service programmes for local development. The total service time comes to more than 1,000 hours, reaching more than 2,300 people in the past three years. The student teams involved have run 10 successful projects which have created more than 2 million yuan of economic value for the city of Shantou's community and helped more than 50,000 people improve their living standards.

Best Business School partnership

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CENTRUM PUCP Business School,
Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (Peru)
with Industrias San Miguel

Graduate Business School, NUCB Business School (Japan)
with Toyota Motor Corporation

Graduate School of Management, MIP Politecnico di Milano (Italy)
with Prada

Lancaster University Management School, Lancaster University (UK)
with Transnational Academic Group

School of Business, Jiangnan University (China)
with Jiangsu JD-Link International Logistics

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BLUE PRISM

Blue Prism is a global leader in intelligent automation for business, transforming the way work is done.

Blue Prism has users in more than 170 countries and more than 2,000 businesses, including Fortune 500 and public sector organisations, that are creating value with new ways of working, unlocking efficiencies, and returning millions of hours of work back into their businesses. Its intelligent digital workforce is smart, secure, scalable and accessible to all; freeing up humans to re-imagine work.

To learn more visit www.blueprism.com and follow Blue Prism on Twitter @blue_prism and on LinkedIn.

THE FINALISTS



**CENTRUM PUCP BUSINESS SCHOOL,
PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA
DEL PERÚ (PERU)
WITH INDUSTRIAS SAN MIGUEL**



En ISM cuidamos el planeta

CENTRUM PUCP is supporting small store owners through its teachers and students with the help of its partner, Industrias San Miguel. The 'Improving My Store' project is designed to help these store owners to better manage their businesses – or make them more sustainable – and consists of three phases.

The first phase comprises 12 webinars, which have received 100,000 direct views via Facebook Live. The second phase is a certification programme that consists of eight courses, which is currently being followed by 1,000 national store owners. The third phase (coming in 2021) will consist of 300 personalised consultancy opportunities with students.



**GRADUATE BUSINESS SCHOOL,
NUCB BUSINESS SCHOOL (JAPAN)
WITH TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION**



The collaboration between NUCB Business School and Toyota Motor Corporation draws on, and benefits from, an ecosystem of stakeholders that includes business, academia, government, and the general population.

Students are given data essential to specifying the needs of potential end-users by the local governments of small neighbouring communities, and gain practical experience in exchange for their contribution to the continuous development of an ongoing project of Toyota. Academic faculty, meanwhile, gather data on the results of this exchange in order to formulate a replicable model of instruction for future courses on innovation.



**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
MANAGEMENT, MIP POLITECNICO
DI MILANO (ITALY) WITH PRADA**



MIP Politecnico di Milano's strategic collaboration with PRADA has been founded, since the beginning, on key values shared between the company and the Graduate School of Management.

An interest in establishing valuable long-term relationships, the importance of investing in sustainability, the need to understand changes in contemporary society and the willingness to look for innovation in any direction possible – along with an understanding of the contribution of technology and digitalisation – are all fundamental tools for overcoming the new challenges of current business. This collaboration for mutual benefit is also designed to shape a better future for all.



**LANCASTER UNIVERSITY
MANAGEMENT SCHOOL,
LANCASTER UNIVERSITY (UK) WITH
TRANSNATIONAL ACADEMIC GROUP**



The partnership between Lancaster University Management School (LUMS) and Transnational Academic Group (TAG) has been highly successful since its formation in 2014.

From the start, the partnership has offered a flexible and extremely popular executive MBA serving the West Africa region. This has been followed by other business degree programmes as well as the creation of opportunities for

personal development, research, engagement and community benefits for the region. Having an AMBA-accredited MBA provider in Ghana has been attractive for a burgeoning professional population in West Africa which has seen more than 100 students graduate with this prestigious qualification.



**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, JIANGNAN
UNIVERSITY (CHINA) WITH JIANGSU
JD-LINK INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS**



JD-Link is committed to forward-looking and intelligent supply chain business, policy research and project development which relates to national development and promotes the development of the regional economy. In the areas of production, teaching and research, it works closely with the School of Business at Jiangnan University.

The partnership has supported the construction of supply chain management MBA and MEM programmes as one important postgraduate workstation of Jiangnan University.

JD-Link has also donated 500,000 RMB to support the teaching activities of the School of Business at Jiangnan University. Its executives are enthusiastic about education and serve as mentors for the students, positively helping with their study and employment.

Best Culture, Diversity and Inclusion Initiative

SPONSORED BY:



IE Business School (Spain)

'LGBT+@Work'

Imperial College Business School, Imperial College London (UK)

'Working in Diverse Organisations'

Instituto de Estudios Superiores de Administración (IESA) (Venezuela)

'Women Entrepreneurs Programme – Grupo Cisneros'

Monash Business School, Monash University (Australia)

'Queering Accounting'

SPONSOR

ADVENT GROUP

Operating across the globe, Advent Group is a worldwide leader in in-person and online one-to-one education events and marketing solutions for the higher education sector.

The group organises more than 220 events in 61 countries for more than 80,000 prospective MBA, EMBA and master's applicants each year. A strong international media network with highly targeted websites, AI-powered orientation platforms, and specialised publications, Advent Group also provides instructive resources for future students and strategic marketing solutions for education providers.

Boutique executive education and corporate learning community events connect business education and learning and development (L&D) leaders.

<https://www.unimy.com/>

THE FINALISTS



IE BUSINESS SCHOOL (SPAIN)

► 'LGBT+@Work'

IE Business School is identified by its commitment to diversity in all shapes and sizes. With more than 130 nationalities represented on campus, there is no doubt that IE represents a mosaic of cultures, and this diversity forms part of the learning process.

It is through the School's values, embodied by its students' initiatives, that IE believes growth and success can further be achieved. One of those values is diversity.

LGBT+@Work delves into marginalised populations and new perspectives. At IE, students embrace and champion change to attain a more equitable and inclusive world.



IMPERIAL COLLEGE BUSINESS SCHOOL, IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON (UK)

► 'Working in Diverse Organisations'

Business Schools' approaches to diversity need to evolve. A multi-faceted approach to bias, cultural awareness, and systems of privilege is demanded by both students and stakeholders.

Imperial College Business School has embraced this challenge by launching a year-long equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) course, which is essential for all students.

The revolutionary 'Working in Diverse Organisations' offers the latest EDI learnings and toolkits to enable students to be diverse-aware employees and leaders that are able to optimise differences and create more effective organisations.

The module involves the School's whole community in its programming and delivery. This is only the first step in Imperial College Business School's embrace of diversity in all its forms.



INSTITUTO DE ESTUDIOS SUPERIORES DE ADMINISTRACIÓN (IESA) (VENEZUELA)

► 'Women Entrepreneurs Programme – Grupo Cisneros'

The study of female entrepreneurship in Venezuela has focused on the support and development of an academic plan that contributes to strengthening sustainable business ideas for women in their community.

The women entrepreneurs programme began in Venezuela in 2010 and held its first edition in the city of Miami, US, in 2018. Since its creation, it has benefited more than 200 Venezuelan women.

It is a practice-oriented blended training programme, lasting 14 weeks, aimed at women who wish to develop their own business or social impact initiative. Mentors, with experience in entrepreneurship and consulting, facilitate the experience of participating female entrepreneurs and guide them in the design of their business plan.



MONASH BUSINESS SCHOOL, MONASH UNIVERSITY (AUSTRALIA)

► 'Queering Accounting'

Monash Business School is a groundbreaking leader in diversity, equity and social inclusion.

The School is committed to fostering respect for all staff and students and promoting an inclusive workplace culture through innovative initiatives and impactful local and international engagement.

Monash Business School champions the Queering Accounting diversity initiative as it embodies the School's core values of social justice and inclusion by promoting and advocating for LGBTQI+ visibility and leadership potential.

Through numerous educational, research, and industry activities, Queering Accounting has enhanced the School's culture of dignity and respect positively, enriched the experience of staff and students, and contributed to the fostering of social justice together with key stakeholders.



BGA Business School Impact Award

Athena School of Management (India)

Brunel Business School, Brunel University London (UK)

Collegium Humanum-Warsaw Management University (Poland)

International Management Institute (MIM-Kyiv) (Ukraine)

Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University (Netherlands)

School of Business, Universidad de San Andrés (Argentina)

THE FINALISTS



ATHENA SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT (INDIA)

Athena believes that Business Schools (as cradles of leadership in the business world) have to create maximum impact.

Yet the past few months have shown that not only does this impact have to have a qualitative effect (depth) but also a quantitative effect (spread).

As a young School, Athena has embraced the necessity of change and agility to make maximum impact. With a twin focus on internationalisation and virtualisation, Athena has been able to convert the global Covid-19 crisis into an opportunity through virtual internationalisation with a footprint across four continents, 15 countries, multiple institutional and corporate partners, and students across the world.



BRUNEL BUSINESS SCHOOL, BRUNEL UNIVERSITY LONDON (UK)

Brunel Business School supports its stakeholders by advancing and disseminating sustainable and responsible management knowledge and practice through business engagement and research.

During the Covid-19 period, the School is supporting its local partners by delivering the West London Business Support Helpline. In addition, its business growth programme benefited 16 SMEs directly during the UK lockdown.

Brunel Business School is one of the champions on the delivery team for a £20 million GBP government scheme to help SMEs overcome Covid-19-induced challenges. Through its progressive international collaboration, the School has served academics and practitioners from 25 countries. Its world-class research has benefited business and government organisations in countries such as Uganda, Iran and Bangladesh.



COLLEGIUM HUMANUM

COLLEGIUM HUMANUM-WARSAW MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY (POLAND)

During the past two years, Collegium Humanum has grown from a small office to a huge and harmoniously operating institution, functioning in more than 40 cities in Poland and participating boldly in international cooperation with enormous social approval.

The School has also opened branches in Prague, Bratislava, Frýdek-Místek, Andijan, and is accredited by Poland's Ministry of Science and Higher Education. It has more than 2,500 MBA and DBA graduates who hold leading state, public and business functions. They are also members of Collegium Humanum Graduate Club.

The motto of Collegium Humanum is 'education for success', and its standard is to cross the boundaries between dreams, knowledge and graduates' capabilities. Extraordinary management skills of the university authorities, a concentration on human resources, and hard work has allowed the School to create a university of young people that is open to innovation and ready to take risks for the development of education.



INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (MIM-KYIV) (UKRAINE)

GNR.NEXT is MIM-Kyiv's newest online programme focusing on social development amid global despair and the worst-imaginable forecasts that have been multiplied by the domestic political and economic crisis.

It was the School's immediate response to the current situation. By launching this programme with the latest technology, MIM-Kyiv has been able to reach previously underserved mid-level representatives of the public sector,

social entrepreneurs, and social activists, on a national level. By doing so, GNR.NEXT promotes societal cohesion, positive change and serves as a social elevator. It has been instrumental in the creation of a pool of new talent for the public sector and civil society.



ROTTERDAM SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT, ERASMUS UNIVERSITY (NETHERLANDS)

The RSM Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) mapper is an online dashboard that links top journals' entire research output from the 21st century (with 75,000 articles in FT50 and UTD journals) with all triple crown Business Schools, in terms of the UN's sustainability goals.

The dashboard helps to leverage, at a collective level, the impact of leading Business Schools. By showing how School research relates to the SDGs, triple crown Schools are better able to collectively impact sustainable development in the world.



SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, UNIVERSIDAD DE SAN ANDRÉS (ARGENTINA)

Restructuring and ongoing academic excellence at the School of Business, Universidad de San Andrés resulted in an almost 100% growth in the enrolment of graduate students and a 170% increase in student applications for undergraduate courses between March 2017 and March 2020.

During this period, more than 60 new executive education programmes were created at the School. This growth pattern, in which the School has constantly developed new courses of study, has turned it into one of the most dynamic

Business Schools in Argentina in the past 10 years. It is worthy of note that, despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the School's undergraduate and graduate courses have continued growing by more than 35% throughout 2020.

BGA Future Leaders Case Competition

Ahmed Youssef Ahmed Aly
Graduate School of Management, MIP Politecnico di Milano (Italy)

Hari Chandan Patnaik
Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham (UK)

Nicolas Sauviat
Aston Business School, Aston University (UK)

Racquella Laurel Parris
Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business, The University of the West
Indies (Trinidad and Tobago)

THE FINALISTS



AHMED YOUSSEF AHMED ALY

► Graduate School of Management, MIP Politecnico di Milano (Italy)

Ahmed Youssef Ahmed Aly is an Egyptian engineer with an executive MBA from Politecnico di Milano School of Management and a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) from the Project Management Institute. He has 20 years of experience working on international projects in the energy and renewable energy sector.

After having created successful stories in Egypt, he joined the GE Italian team in 2015 and, since June 2017, he has been operations leader at GE renewable energy Italy.

Ahmed is passionate about challenging and innovating methodologies and executing strategies for organisations to cut costs and boost revenues. He has implemented and piloted numerous strategies and processes that

have created sustainable business growth and strategic presence, where the business environment was changing radically.

At a local community level, he volunteers for an organisation called Plasticfree which campaigns to raise awareness about the dangers of plastic.

Ahmed looks forward to sharing his contribution as a resilient and creative leader to make the world a sustainable place.



HARI CHANDAN PATNAIK

► Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham (UK)

Hari Chandan is a master's graduate in international business at the University of Birmingham.

He worked as a technical consultant for four years at multinational consultancy, Capgemini. He served clients from banking, payment card, financial and tech sectors and has worked with key stakeholders in strategic planning and overall performance improvement of client functions.

Hari loves to understand the hidden patterns in clients' strategy requirements and build analytical models to optimise their operations. He aspires to understand the business risks and opportunities that sustainability issues pose, and how best to apply these within existing company structures and strategies.

He is now hoping to gain more skills in assessing ESG risks and implementing sustainable solutions to maximise long-term corporate value creation.



NICOLAS SAUVIAT

► Aston Business School, Aston University (UK)

Nicolas is a 2020 international business graduate at Aston Business School with a background in both law and international business.

He is passionate about social innovation and advocates for aligning profit with purpose. He believes collaboration between all stakeholders is the way forward to create innovative ways of doing business.

Nicolas's experience has spanned internationally across the US, Europe and Asia, where he has worked for organisations ranging from NGOs to businesses. Recently, he promoted cross-sector collaborations and disruptive business models at Shared Value Project Hong Kong – a non-profit organisation striving to build uncommon partnerships for the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Nicolas has also volunteered as a consultant for businesses in the Birmingham area. He is currently looking for new international opportunities in corporate sustainability to keep enacting his strong belief that the private sector can rise to the occasion – bringing much needed scalability to sustainability.



RACQUELLA LAUREL PARRIS

► Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business, The University of the West Indies (Trinidad and Tobago)

Racquella Laurel Parris is a graduate of the University of the West Indies (UWI) with a BSc in leadership and management, along with a minor in psychology.

She also holds a master's degree in HR management from UWI's Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business.

Racquella is currently pursuing the Advanced Junior Accountant EduQual Diploma at the School of Practical Accounting. Her motto in life is 'your attitude determines your altitude' and her career goal is to become a HR consultant and a certified accountant.

Raquella is currently employed by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs, where she works in the finance and accounting unit. She has some experience in training and development and HR consultancy from exposure at the practicum stage of her master's degree.



MBA Startup of the Year

Aku Wilenius, for Caidio
School of Business, Aalto University (Finland)

Codilia Gapare, for C-Lash
Business School, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)

Daniele Pes, for Grycle
Graduate School of Management, MIP Politecnico di Milano (Italy)

Laura Judith Ramírez Guevara, for Dereum Labs
EGADE Business School, Tecnológico de Monterrey (Mexico)

Tatiana Flores Burbano, for Exponencial
ESADE Business School, Ramon Llull University (Spain)

Yann Le Guillou, for Biosency
Rennes School of Business (France)

THE FINALISTS



AKU WILENIUS, FOR CAIDIO

► School of Business, Aalto University (Finland)

Aku Wilenius founded Caidio soon after starting the Aalto MBA programme. The vision of the startup is to provide an AI-based platform to enable global concrete construction to build sustainable cities and infrastructure.

Caidio's business model and smart technology save the environment, increase productivity, and cut costs when producing concrete. Aku has built Caidio hand in hand with his MBA studies and used the learnings from every single module to optimise his ambitious business strategy continuously. The combination of his extensive business experience and entrepreneurial mindset – alongside the latest knowledge from the MBA programme – are setting Caidio and Aku for success.



CODILIA GAPARE, FOR C-LASH

► Business School, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)

Breast cancer survivor, Codilia Gapare, is the Founder of Nakawo, trading as C-Lash, launched in February 2019.

C-lash was born out of Codilia's determination post-diagnosis to 'feel herself again', by creating a product specifically for those who – like her – had lost their natural eyelashes.

The first product of its kind in the world, C-Lash launched in the UK and US successfully, making a gross profit of £480,000 GBP in its first year, and continues to go from

strength to strength. Stocked in major retailers, it is now the official eyelash recommended by the charities, Macmillan Cancer Support and Look Good Feel Better.



DANIELE PES, FOR GRYCLE

► Graduate School of Management, MIP Politecnico di Milano (Italy)

Daniele Pes left his role as Director of Open Innovation and Digital Transformation in a multinational fair trade company to dedicate himself to his new venture, Grycle.

Grycle performs small-scale industrial waste treatment, allowing the transformation of undifferentiated waste back into raw materials upstream of the supply chain, thus dramatically reducing costs and impacts.

The patented technology transforms waste sustainably into flakes of raw materials that are automatically separated and ready for industrial reuse. There is no more need for manual sorting. Garbage is turned from waste into valuable resources, which are recyclable indefinitely.



LAURA JUDITH RAMÍREZ GUEVARA, FOR DEREUM LABS

► EGADE Business School, Tecnológico de Monterrey (Mexico)

Dereum Labs' main objective is to make the information and resources in space affordable for companies and industries, at costs that are 99% less than those of NASA and Space X.

Its inhouse robotic infrastructure offers three main services: moon surface transportation, spatial data science and tailor-made spatial solutions. The company's first mission consists of sending the Jaguar-1, a modular robotic unit for exploration and reconnaissance to the moon in 2022 to serve as a platform for companies to initiate a spatial infrastructure network. Dereum Labs is the only company in Latin America with this unique business model and value proposition.



TATIANA FLORES BURBANO, FOR EXPONENCIAL

► ESADE Business School, Ramon Llull University (Spain)

What do you get when you combine social commitment, a powerful network and the ability to execute in a crisis context? Exponencial – Banco de Tiempo.

This unique social entrepreneurship project would not have been possible without the passion and talents of Tatiana Flores – an MBA graduate and action-oriented idealist.

An executive with a strong finance background and even stronger social commitment and values, Tatiana observed the terrible impact that Covid-19 was having in her country, Ecuador, and decided to create a social impact project that would make the difference in this context.



YANN LE GUILLOU, FOR BIOENCY

► Rennes School of Business (France)

Bioency is a med-tech startup created by Yann Le Guillou and Marie Pirotais.

They have revolutionised respiratory care by introducing the BORAconnect™ real-time and continuous monitoring solution which enables healthcare professionals to predict deterioration of breathing conditions before they happen, which allows for closer outpatient care and better hospital environments wherever monitoring at distance is required.

BORAconnect™ reduces medical costs, improves patients' quality of life, and adds an extra layer of safety by allowing for social distancing, if needed, without reducing quality of care.



MBA

Entrepreneur of the Year

Daniel Burns, for Testifi

TUM School of Management, Technische Universität München (Germany)

Daniel George, for StepEx

Cranfield School of Management, Cranfield University (UK)

Francisco Santolo, for Scalabl

Universidad del CEMA (Argentina)

Oluwatobi Ajayi, for Nord Automobiles

Lagos Business School, Pan-Atlantic University (Nigeria)

Ramil Khantimirov, for StormWall

Graduate School of Management,
Saint Petersburg State University (Russia)

Sarah Martin, for Nourish Zero Waste

Kent Business School, University of Kent (UK)

THE FINALISTS

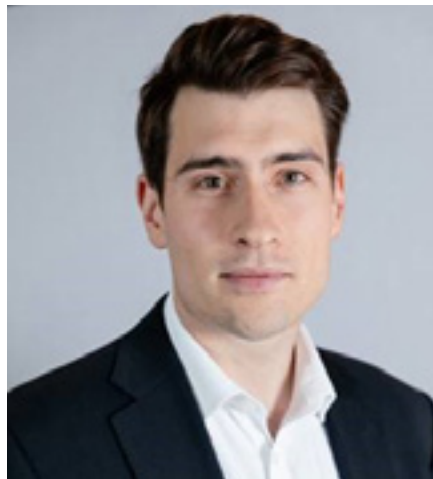


DANIEL BURNS, FOR TESTIFI

► TUM School of Management, Technische Universität München (Germany)

Being a competitive kickboxer in New Zealand has taught Daniel (Dan) Burns to take hits without giving up. He transferred these traits and spirit into Testifi, a company he co-founded three years ago, and which earned instant recognition as a top-notch innovator among German SMEs with a prestigious Top 100 Innovator Award from compamedia.

Testifi's steady growth – even during Covid-19 – highlights its viable business model. Dan has shown heart and resilience to create a sustainable company, supporting both employees and customers. Moreover, he has the ability to meticulously analyse and improve business solutions. He doesn't accept the status quo, leading to Testifi's excellence.



DANIEL GEORGE, FOR STEPEX

► Cranfield School of Management, Cranfield University (UK)

Daniel George is an entrepreneur redesigning finance to work for the many.

He is a specialist in designing innovative financial structures that work for all parties. Daniel's work is focused on improving opportunities for everyone by enabling access to education.

StepEx aims to enable a world where opportunity is available to everyone. Its cornerstone product is the first regulated 'equity style' investment into students.



FRANCISCO SANTOLO, FOR SCALABL

► Universidad del CEMA (Argentina)

In less than five years, Francisco Santolo has bootstrapped Scalabl to become a global company, incorporated in 11 countries and operating in more than 20.

He has guided, created, and reformulated more than 500 startups, co-founding and leading the board at more than 50 of these.

Francisco has challenged the current startup ecosystem, questioning investment as the key driver; designing a unique approach and methodology; and defending his position as a speaker at international events, such as G20 Young Entrepreneurs' Alliance (YEA).

His positive impact is evidenced by the Scalabl Global Alumni network, reaching 1,300 diverse entrepreneurs and businesspeople in 50 countries in 2020.



OLUWATOBI AJAYI, FOR NORD AUTOMOBILES

► Lagos Business School, Pan-Atlantic University (Nigeria)

Oluwatobi Ajayi is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Nord Automobiles Limited.

He started his career at Mercedes-Benz Nigeria, where he quickly became head of its van division, before later co-founding an authorised dealership of Mercedes-Benz.

Oluwatobi has been recognised locally and internationally, for example in *Forbes'* 30 Most Promising Young Entrepreneurs in Africa 2018. He started Nord Automobiles to ensure that it becomes a norm for hardworking Africans to buy and drive new vehicles. His company assembles its own vehicles in Nigeria and offers Nigerians reliable, world-class vehicles at affordable prices.



RAMIL KHANTIMIROV, FOR STORMWALL

► Graduate School of Management, Saint Petersburg State University (Russia)

Ramil Khantimirov demonstrates remarkable performance in both international business tasks and academic achievement. Aside from his mandatory studies, he took six exchange courses abroad and visibly implements the achieved knowledge in his own business.

Ramil's business approach is highly innovative, international, and socially responsible. The vision of StormWall conveys the important mission of creating safe living environments by ensuring information security and information sustainability as the basis of the information society we are slowly but surely shifting towards.



SARAH MARTIN, FOR NOURISH ZERO WASTE

► Kent Business School, University of Kent (UK)

Sarah Martin is a pioneer in the now well-established 'zero-waste' sector.

Her Nourish stores were among the first of a new breed of packaging-free shops in the UK, offering something no other retailer could match. Within her first year she was awarded the Exeter Living Award for Retailer of the Year; Best Startup at the Exeter Business Awards; and Best New Business at the Devon & Cornwall Venus Awards. She was also recognised among 15 businesswomen 'Devon can be proud of' for International Women's Day 2020.

Not complacent, Sarah also acts as a mentor to other similar business owners, and is starting to consult in business sustainability management.

MBA Leadership Award

Alforde Charumbira
UCT Graduate School of Business, University of Cape Town (South Africa)

Ashwanth Gnanavelu
Kent Business School, University of Kent (UK)

Ivan Syreyshchikov
Graduate School of Management,
Saint Petersburg State University (Russia)

Oare Ehiemua
ESADE Business School, Ramon Llull University (Spain)

Shivanku Misra
IMI New Delhi (India)

Vyacheslav Klimov
International Institute of Business (IIB) (Ukraine)

THE FINALISTS



ALFORDE CHARUMBIRA

► UCT Graduate School of Business, University of Cape Town (South Africa)

After graduating from University of Cape Town Graduate School of Business, Alforde Charumbira was motivated to find solutions to social problems through entrepreneurship.

At Utando, he developed a unique impact assessment and measurement tool. The tool enables corporates, philanthropists, the non-governmental sector, foundations and communities to identify and collaborate on projects for investment purposes, and to assess the impact of such investments on individuals, families and communities. Better evaluation and measurement of social investments has resulted in effective allocation of scarce resources, resulting in a larger social impact. In addition, he works with various startups on scaling, strategy and innovation.



ASHWANTH GNANAVELU

► Kent Business School, University of Kent (UK)

Ashwanth is one of the founding members of an award-winning social enterprise, DesiCrew. After 13 years and over a billion transactions, he continues to be instrumental in the leadership of DesiCrew.

He has kept it true to its vision of creating IT-based jobs in rural areas of India by ensuring seamless delivery of high-quality business process solutions for its clients. He is an entrepreneurial leader who champions sustainable innovation and demonstrates responsible management skills to advance his local community. He was recognised for his leadership qualities in 2017 when he was named as a finalist in the British Council Alumni Awards.



IVAN SYREYSHCHIKOV

► Graduate School of Management, Saint Petersburg State University (Russia)

Ivan Syreyschikov, is a graduate of the double degree executive MBA delivered by the Graduate School of Management (GSOM) at Saint Petersburg State University and HEC Paris.

During his studies, Ivan demonstrated a high level of academic achievement and commitment. He played the role of a wise and respected leader in the cohort. Eight successful years on from graduation, the programme's participants continue to keep in touch – mainly thanks to Ivan's ability to inspire everyone. For five years, Ivan has also been one of the most valuable members of GSOM's Executive Education International Board where he is deeply involved in solving key issues on the executive education agenda.

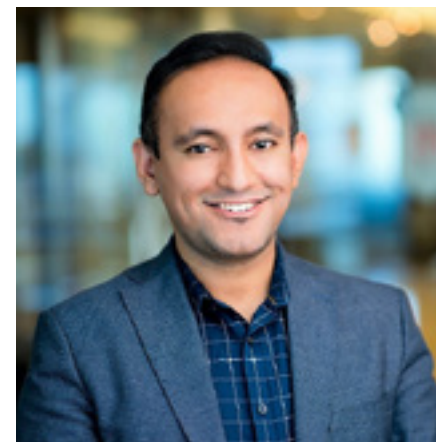


OARE EHIEMUA,

► ESADE Business School, Ramon Llull University (Spain)

In the time of #BLM and #MeToo, the leaders promoted by Business Schools should represent and inspire the whole MBA community. Oare Ehiemua represents the best of ESADE, being a strong female entrepreneur in Nigeria with a background in HR who is passionate about lifelong learning and committed to meaningful change in society.

Oare makes a difference in the lives of hundreds of young people every year, by giving them access to professional training and job opportunities through the organisation she founded, and drives leadership training development in her country at the Nigerian University of Technology and Management.



SHIVANKU MISRA

► IMI New Delhi (India)

Shivanku is a senior business executive with more than 12 years' experience of leadership in creating – as well as implementing – analytical solutions with quantifiable business impact - across multiple domains including CPG, hospitality, financial services, technology, and e-commerce.

He has proven expertise in starting, and growing analytics functions from the ground up at companies that include Hilton, Heineken, and IGT. He has delivered a business impact of more than \$2 billion USD over the past decade, leading high-performance, globally distributed, and functionally diverse teams. Shivanku was also selected by Adweek as a CMO mentee for 2020, and was mentored by Walmart's EVP & Chief Customer Officer, Janey Whiteside.



VYACHESLAV KLIMOV

► International Institute of Business (IIB) (Ukraine)

Vyacheslav Klimov is a well-known Ukrainian entrepreneur. In 2001, he, together with Volodymyr Popereshniyk and Inna Popereshniyk, founded the logistics company, New Post.

New Post has become an entire ecosystem that provides customers with a full range of logistics and related services for life and business, both in Ukraine and the international arena. New Post is an example of a successful socially responsible business – the company is in the top 25 of Ukraine's largest taxpayers. In 2019, the company contributed more than 4.3 billion UAH in taxes and fees to the country's budget. Vyacheslav has strong leadership qualities and vision. He is the inspiration and motivator for more than 28,000 employees of New Post, and for 10,000 employees of its partners.

MBA Student of the Year

Ciara Close
UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School,
University College Dublin (Ireland)

Kayee Au
AUC School of Business, The American University in Cairo (Egypt)

Koshy Alexander
IE Business School (Spain)

Leon Lloyd
Business School, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)

Mital Thanki
School of Business, University of Leicester (UK)

Ramiro Agustin Costa
Universidad del CEMA (Argentina)

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CIARA CLOSE

► UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School, University College Dublin (Ireland)

Ciara Close brought to her MBA studies a PhD in engineering, a professional background in technology startups, and an enormous amount of energy and creativity to devote to problem solving.

She exerted that energy on initiatives to benefit UCD Smurfit, her fellow students, and the broader community. The Covid-19 pandemic's arrival in Ireland inspired her to apply the network and skills she gained during her MBA to create the Comfort4Covid initiative, which used technology to mitigate the isolation of vulnerable patients during lockdown. Ciara and her team raised nearly €220,000 EUR to serve 20,000 people in 470 facilities.



KAYEE AU

► AUC School of Business, The American University in Cairo (Egypt)

Kayee Au is an MBA candidate at the American University in Cairo with a fierce focus on creative and scalable impact.

She is the Founder of a fintech/edtech startup that benefits more than 28,000 users, and an active part of the Global Shapers and Coca-Cola Scholars network.

At AUC, she founded and leads the MBA Women of AUC, and its affiliate book club. She is a student who is passionate about empowering emerging market entrepreneurs with innovative solutions, based on digital tools and strategic storytelling.



KOSHY ALEXANDER

► IE Business School (Spain)

Koshy Alexander not only embodies IE Business School in academic excellence and performance, he is also a shining representation of IE's core values.

When interviewed, he explained: 'Innovation is life. I believe that you learn, you practice, and you teach.'

Koshy is a medical physician who enjoys running marathons, practicing yoga, and travelling. He was raised in two different continents and is currently living in a third. Koshy's parents – both teachers – instilled in him an inquisitiveness that constantly craves knowledge. He is a global and diverse citizen who believes in the strength in people, as individuals and multicultural groups.



LEON LLOYD

► Business School, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)

Leon is a former England rugby player and now the CEO of Switch the Play, the UK's first and only charity which helps elite athletes transition into life outside sport.

Leon has applied the learning from his MBA to develop a data-driven strategic marketing initiative and a new focus on diversity and inclusion in the boardroom.

A champion of the MBA and professional development, Leon is well respected by his peers and has provided support and guidance throughout the programme.



MITAL THANKI

► School of Business, University of Leicester (UK)

Mital Thanki is a leader, entrepreneur, innovator, learner and educator par excellence, and an all-round MBA poster child.

She is the Founder and CEO of Spark, a multi-award-winning company that provides tutoring for primary and secondary school pupils in Leicester, one of the most ethnically diverse and educationally underprivileged areas in the UK. Throughout her MBA studies, Mital has shown an ability to put programme learning into practice, turning every assignment into a business project. She has also served as mentor and role model for classmates, spearheaded programme improvements, and promoted the MBA while continuing to grow her business in socially responsible way.



RAMIRO AGUSTIN COSTA

► Universidad del CEMA (Argentina)

Ramiro Agustin Costa stands out in every possible aspect. His academic performance has been exemplary, but he has excelled even more in his role as a positive leader for the classroom.

He devised and founded 'MBA Talks', an annual event of high impact short talks, run by students and graduates, with the institutional support of Universidad del CEMA (UCEMA). This association of students and graduates aims to strengthen bonds between its members, giving voice to those who want to share their ideas.

This project has added value to UCEMA's MBA, and to its growing community of 4,000 professionals.



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LEADERS NEVER STOP LEARNING