September 1, 2017

EMBA 2017 and 2018,

We are excited to welcome the EMBA Class of 2018 to the Berkeley MBA for Executives Program and to continue with our amazing Class of 2017.

This student directory is meant to help you connect with fellow EMBA's, with whom you will build strong personal and professional relationships over the next months and years. You will find profiles of students in both the Class of 2017 and 2018 in the following pages.

Enjoy your time together here at Haas.

Sincerely,

Jamie Breen
Assistant Dean
MBA Programs for Working Professionals
Fahad Alam

Email: fahad_alam@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Fremont, California
Education: BS Information Systems, San Francisco State University

Employment Information
Title: Sr Technical Program Manager
Company: Yahoo
Industry: Other

Personal Statement
Fahad Alam is a graduate of San Francisco State, who started his career selling carpets and rugs at Expo Design center (Home Depot company). His first IT job was at Assal Corporation, a Point of Sale company, as a technical support engineer. After Assal he joined Performant Corp as a PC support specialist. His career took a turn when he joined Yahoo in 2007 as an Operations Engineer. At Yahoo, Fahad has held several positions including Operations Center Supervisor, and Mail Service Reliability Manager. Currently Fahad is leading stability efforts in Yahoo Mail as a Sr. Technical Program Manager. In his spare time, Fahad enjoys spending time with his family doing outdoor activities and volunteer work. He enjoys running, and is planning to run his first marathon this summer. He lives in Fremont, California, with his wife and their two children.

Eli Andrews

Email: eli_andrews@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Albany, CA
Education: BA Philosophy and Arabic Language, Bard College

Employment Information
Title: Director of Innovation
Company: Accelerate Change
Industry: Not for Profit

Personal Statement
Eli has been founding and leading disruptive new ventures for more than a decade. He has made a career out of building business as a force for social impact, and building market-based revenue as a force to sustain nonprofit organizations. As Director of Innovation for Accelerate Change, he inspires nonprofit leaders to approach their work like a lean startup, and then rolls up his sleeves with their teams to create new ventures that serve the greater good. In 2006, Eli co-founded Transterra Media and served as its Managing Director for eight years, innovating a marketplace based on the idea that locally produced narratives could positively disrupt the way in which the world's story is told in news broadcasts and print media. When he is not working, or enjoying life with his family (including two kids), you will likely find him trail running with friends in the Berkeley hills.
Avi Barat

Email: avi_barat@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Diego, CA
Education: B Sc Electrical & Computer Engineering, Carnegie Mellon University

Employment Information
Title: Staff Business Systems Analyst
Company: Illumina, Inc.
Industry: Biotech

Personal Statement
Avi Barat graduated from Carnegie Mellon University where he earned a B.S. in Electrical & Computer Engineering while minoring in Biomedical Engineering. He was also a student-athlete playing on the school’s football team all four years. After graduating, he worked as a computer systems consultant for CSC Consulting & Services Integration and Arthur Andersen Business Consulting where he helped implement SAP software at multiple companies. He has since helped architect several SAP solutions for various companies in San Diego while also leading and managing technical projects and teams. He currently works at Illumina as a Business Systems Analyst where he helps build and manage the current SAP solution while leading an offshore support team. Avi currently resides in San Diego with his wife of eleven years, Jeanie, and their two boys, Kailash(6) and Tej(4). Avi enjoys spending time with his family, cooking, running, practicing yoga, coaching his sons’ sports teams, and DJing.

Kevin Blake

Email: kevin_blake@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Brooklyn, NY
Education: BS Finance, Miami University

Employment Information
Title: Managing Director
Company: Berkeley Research Group LLC
Industry: Consulting / Management Services

Personal Statement
Kevin graduated from Miami University (of Ohio) and began his career in consulting with a combination of business and technology skills. He has grown his expertise in data analytics and data science to help a diverse range of clients in different ways: including difficult legal situations (such as forensic investigations) and contributing to growth and efficiency with predictive and business analytics (such as patient behavior), to developing custom applications and innovative technology. Kevin has grown and led teams while fostering a collaborative family culture and is excited about his current opportunity of helping build a new practice. Kevin is originally from Cleveland, has lived in Chicago and New York City, and will soon be moving to the Bay Area. He is passionate about the outdoors, from water and snow to woods and mountains, and travelling the world with family and friends.
Brendan Bowe

Email: brendan_bowe@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Greenbrae, CA
Education: BS Management Science, UC San Diego

Employment Information
Title: Vice President
Company: BlackRock
Industry: Financial Services

Personal Statement
W. Brendan Bowe, Vice President, is a member of BlackRock’s Retirement Group. Brendan is responsible for developing and maintaining Institutional Defined Contribution relationships primarily in the west coast, serving as a thought leader on industry trends and being a consultative partner to institutional clients. Prior to joining BlackRock, Brendan worked for three years at Ameriprise Financial in Wealth Management as an Associate Financial Advisor and Investment Analyst servicing high net worth clients. Previously, Brendan worked at LPL Financial as part of their Client Reporting group supporting nationwide Sr. Financial Advisors. Brendan earned a BS degree in Management Science from the University of California, San Diego in 2006.

Benjamin (Ben) Brasher

Email: ben_brasher@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Rocklin, CA
Education: BA General Business Management, Brigham Young University

Employment Information
Title: Senior Product Manager
Company: ADESA, Inc
Industry: Other

Personal Statement
Ben graduated from BYU’s Marriott School in 2004. He took a two-year break from college to serve as a missionary for his Church in Lima, Peru and still tries to speak Spanish. He grew up working in his family’s third-generation, wholesale auto auction business and has spent his entire career there. In 2016, their family of auctions sold to ADESA, where Ben works today. He enjoys triathlon, the latest gadgets, and spending time with his family. Ben lives outside of Sacramento, California with his wife of 11 years and their four children.
Tansy Brook

Email: tansy_brook@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Mateo, CA
Education: BA Liberal Arts, University of Colorado, Denver

Employment Information
Title: Director of Marketing
Company: Lumo Bodytech
Industry: Other

Personal Statement
Tansy Brook is a market strategist, brand specialist, producer, researcher, and organizational psychology buff. She is currently the Marketing Director at Lumo Bodytech, a biomechanics wearable technology company. She has spent the last several years helping Silicon Valley companies bolster their revenue through business strategy, business development, product design and public relations efforts—in areas ranging from wearable devices/human machine interaction, b2b internet of things SaaS, luxury & sustainable automotive brands to high tech consumer products (even a bit of neuroscience). Her companies have received two awards for TIME Magazines Best New Inventions and a Guinness World Record. Prior to her current endeavors, she has been an entertainment producer for award winning independent television pilot, a research consultant in non-profit for education, and a grant writer. In her free time, Tansy consults start-up companies on marketing strategy and formerly served as the Marketing Chair for the MIT/Stanford Venture Lab. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Colorado with a BA in Branding and Social Marketing. She currently lives in San Mateo, CA with her husband and two high-minded cats.

James Burke

Email: james_burke@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Woodland, CA
Education: BS Legal Studies, United States Air Force Academy
MS Global Leadership, Duquesne University

Employment Information
Title: First Officer
Company: Southwest Airlines
Industry: Other

Personal Statement
James Burke graduated from the US Air Force Academy and served as an Air Force officer and pilot for 12 years. During that time he completed seven deployments to the Middle East while flying three different cargo-transport aircraft, managed two base-wide flight safety programs, and taught flying fundamentals to undergraduate pilot training students. After leaving the active-duty Air Force, James entered the Air Force Reserves and began his civilian career at Southwest Airlines as First Officer aboard variants of the Boeing 737 aircraft. In his spare time, James enjoys working on home improvement projects; flying general aviation aircraft; volunteering as a Court Appointed Special Advocate for local foster children; acting as admissions interview liaison for the Air Force Academy; and spending time traveling with his family. He lives in Woodland, California, with his wife of 3 years.
Thanh Cao

Email: thanh_cao@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Playa Del Rey, CA
Education: BA, San Francisco State University

Employment Information
Title: Global Brand Partner Marketing Manager
Company: Netflix
Industry: Entertainment

Personal Statement
Thanh graduated from SFSU and spent the first part of her career in television production. She was a recreations producer for various shows on National Geographic Channel and Investigation Discovery. During that time she freelanced for Antiques Roadshow and created her own non-profit to teach underprivileged youth in San Francisco's Chinatown photography. About six years ago, an opportunity lead her to move to LA and work at Sony Pictures Television, there she was able to stay in entertainment but not work the grueling hours of television production. Thanh's background in production and marketing at Sony lead her to a career at Netflix, where she's been working for four years. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family and training her rescue dog. She treasures her lazy weekends cleaning her condo, watching endless hours of low-brow television and eating good food with family and friends.

Olivier Carteret

Email: olivier_carteret@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Santa Cruz, California
Education: MA Marketing, ESCP Europe

Employment Information
Title: CEO
Company: Aristeia Sport Communication
Industry: Recreation / Sports

Personal Statement
Olivier spent more than 10 years on the French sailing Olympic team. He has been the French windsurfing champion three times and did two Olympic preparations (Atlanta 96 and Sydney 2000). Olivier graduated from ESCP Europe in Paris. He has created Aristeia, a corporate hospitality agency which designs and implements tailor made events and public relation solutions for major organizations. Some of his preferred clients include Champagne Taittinger, Prada/Luxottica, Agence France Presse, Viagogo, Adidas, Econocom, and Accor Group. He recently sold his company to a large multinational leisure, travel and tourism company. Olivier has lived in several countries including the United States, Australia, Korea, Japan, Greece, Italy, Canada, China, South Africa, England and more recently Brazil (Rio de Janeiro). When he has time and the ocean is close, he enjoys being on the water with his friends for sailing, SUPing or surfing.
Aileen Chin

Email: aileen_chin@mba.berkeley.edu  
Current City: San Francisco, CA  
Education: BS Business Administration, San Jose State University

**Employment Information**  
Title: Product Management Manager  
Company: Neustar  
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

**Personal Statement**  
Aileen Chin has lived in the San Francisco Bay Area her entire life. She graduated from San Jose State University with a degree in Business Administration and worked at several startups in project management and marketing roles before finding her career passion as a product manager, collaborating with engineering teams to build software. Today she leads a team that is responsible for PlatformOne, a media buying optimization product, where she gets to apply her creativity to data analytics. Aileen enjoys staying active with yoga, golf and running. In her spare time she also enjoys traveling, cooking, painting and wandering museums. Aileen lives and works in San Francisco.

Michael (Mike) Cole

Preferred Name: Mike  
Email: mike_cole@mba.berkeley.edu  
Current City: Pacifica, CA  
Education: BA, MA Psychology, University of Colorado, Boulder  
PhD Clinical Psychology, University of Florida

**Employment Information**  
Title: Medical Affairs / Associate Clinical Professor / Assistant Adjunct Professor  
Company: Pacira Pharmaceuticals / UC Davis / UC Berkeley  
Industry: Biotech

**Personal Statement**  
Mike Cole attended the University of Colorado, Boulder for his undergraduate studies and then attended the University of Florida, where he completed his doctoral studies in neuroscience and clinical neuropsychology. He completed his internship and residency at UCLA School of Medicine. Following his clinical and research training, he worked at the University of Hawaii, the Northern California Veterans Affairs Medical Center and at his private practice in clinical neuropsychology. He then transitioned into a primary focus within the biotech/pharmaceutical industry, and currently is in medical affairs at Pacira Pharmaceuticals. He also currently teaches at UC Davis in the Department of Neurology and UC Berkeley in the Department of Psychology. He lives in Pacifica, California, with his wife and two daughters, and enjoys time outdoors with his family hiking, jogging, and especially surfing. He also enjoys attending a wide range of live music concerts/performances.
Martha Davis

Email: martha_davis@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Francisco, CA
Education: BFA, Rhode Island School of Design

Employment Information
Title: Owner
Company: Martha Davis Llc
Industry: Other

Personal Statement
Martha is the Principle & Creative Director of fashion footwear company, Martha Davis Shoes. Based in San Francisco, the company produces two collections per year and sells in boutiques throughout the US, Europe and Asia. Her foray into footwear comes on the heels of a career of more than 20 years in industrial design. Martha's background includes Co-founder and 10 years as Principle at Able Design, a multi-disciplinary consultancy in NYC and 4 years as leader of the Global Convergent Technology practice for Razorfish, Inc. Her most notable projects include the iconic Dialpak package & system for oral contraceptives produced by Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceuticals and Audrey, one of the first consumer web tablets produced by 3Com. She is an award-winning designer with multiple patents registered in the USA. She has been published widely and her work is included in the permanent collection of the Cooper Hewitt Museum in NYC.

Jeffrey (Jeff) Decker

Email: jeff_decker@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Francisco, CA
Education: BA Anthropology, UC Berkeley

Employment Information
Title: Director of Operations
Company: Wise Sons Jewish Delicatessen
Industry: Hospitality

Personal Statement
Jeff is a Los Angeles native who relocated to the Bay Area after graduating from Cal with an anthropology degree. He has worked in the restaurant industry for the past 11 years and most recently led the opening of ‘Wise Sons’ acclaimed Bagel Shop in San Francisco. Jeff got his start at Wolfgang Puck’s, Spago Beverly Hills, and then traveled to work in the kitchens of small luxury hotels in Mississippi and Ireland. Jeff returned to the Bay Area to work for a leading restaurant consultancy, The Culinary Edge. There, he honed his culinary and operations skills as an R/D chef and project manager. After a short stint with Bon Appétit Management Co at Google, he joined Wise Sons Deli to oversee the growth of their brand. He lives in San Francisco with his wife, Dana, and enjoys cycling, golfing, skiing, and hiking on Mt. Tam.
Helen Drislane

Email: helen_drislane@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Mateo, CA
Education: AB Computer Science, Harvard University

**Employment Information**
Title: Director, Product Management
Company: FreeWheel
Industry: Other

**Personal Statement**
Helen graduated from Harvard University with a degree in Computer Science. After graduation, she worked for nearly three years as a Program Manager at Microsoft on Internet Explorer 8 and Windows 7, focusing on designing and building support for touch-enabled devices. She then left Microsoft and moved to the Bay Area to join a startup named FreeWheel. In her 6+ years at FreeWheel, she has designed analytics tools, redesigned the backend workflow and architecture of existing systems, and she’s currently working on a new business line centered around the merging of traditional linear and digital ad experiences and processes. In her spare time, Helen enjoys reading, traveling, and discovering new food. She lives in San Francisco, California, with her husband.

Ashraf El-Nakhal

Email: ashraf_elnakhal@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Milpitas, CA
Education: BS Electrical Engineering, UC Davis
MS Electrical Engineering, CSU Sacramento

**Employment Information**
Title: Engineering Program Manager
Company: SanDisk
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

**Personal Statement**
Ashraf graduated from UC Davis with a B.S. degree in electrical engineering. He worked at several high tech firms including Alcatel and a telecom startup, where he gained his first experience in designing semiconductor products. He later earned a master’s degree in electrical and electronics engineering and joined Intel as a designer working on research and development for the next generation of memory. Ashraf later switched roles at Intel to technical marketing for non-volatile memory where he helped develop storage memory for the first iPhone. His career later moved him to different roles in memory engineering and marketing for the next 9 years with large memory suppliers including Micron and SanDisk. He currently lives in Milpitas, CA and currently spends many weekends flying to Los Angeles where his wife is currently studying to become a psychiatrist. In his spare time, he enjoys outdoor fitness activities and trying new foods.
Chijioke Emenike

Email: chijioke_emenike@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Jose, CA
Education: BS Computer Science, BS Operations Management
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Employment Information
Title: Vice President
Company: Harbourton Enterprises
Industry: Financial Services

Personal Statement
Chijioke Emenike graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with double bachelor’s degrees in Computer Science and Operations Research. Since graduating, Chijioke has worked in the financial services industry, taking on roles in portfolio management, software development and back-end operations. He started his career at a hedge fund in New York and currently works for Harbourton Enterprises, a California-based family office. At Harbourton, Chijioke is on the investment team where he focuses on evaluating private equity and venture capital funds. In addition, he manages Harbourton’s systems development and strategy. In his spare time, Chijioke enjoys hiking, travelling, CrossFit, volunteering and spending time with friends and family. He currently lives in San Jose, California.

Laurie Etheridge

Email: laurieEtheridge@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Rafael, CA
Education: BA Business Commerce, University of Phoenix

Employment Information
Title: President Lucy Activewear
Company: VF Corporation
Industry: Other

Personal Statement
Laurie has led businesses and teams for category leading, global and iconic brands, including: Levi Strauss & Company, Speedo, Quiksilver and Lucy Activewear. Her undergraduate business education and lifelong fashion interest have shaped her career. While with Levi Strauss, Laurie led the globalization of the Women’s business unifying 3 discreet regions into one global team. During her time with Speedo, Laurie led the team that created the swimsuit Michael Phelps wore while winning 9 Olympic gold medals. Leading the Lucy Activewear brand for the past 2.5 years within the VF Corporation, Laurie has doubled market share while creating a culture focused on experimentation. Laurie lives in Marin County, California with her husband and 13 year old son. In addition to being with her family she enjoys hiking, running, yoga, films and adventurous vegetarian cooking.
**Robert Ethier**

Email: robert_ethier@mba.berkeley.edu  
Current City: Louisville, KY  
Education: Bachelors Financial Markets and Accounting, University of Minnesota, Duluth  

**Employment Information**  
Title: Investment Portfolio Manager  
Company: Kentucky Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company  
Industry: Entertainment  

**Personal Statement**  
Robert graduated from the University of Minnesota Duluth in 2006 and moved to Kentucky shortly thereafter for a career at his current employer, Kentucky Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company. In the years since, he has been promoted several times while also completing the Chartered Financial Analyst program. In addition to his professional career, Robert has also spent countless hours volunteering with his local CFA Society, recently serving as President and has also become active with global CFA Institute. In his spare time Robert enjoys adventure traveling, and staying active whether it be hockey, soccer or just spending time in the gym. He currently lives in Louisville, KY.

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**Malissa Ford**

Email: malissa_ford@mba.berkeley.edu  
Current City: Seattle, WA  
Education: BA Criminology, University of Florida  
MS Administration, University of West Florida  

**Employment Information**  
Title: Asst. Marketing Manager  
Company: Foster Farms  
Industry: Other  

**Personal Statement**  
Malissa Ford graduated from the University of Florida and was commissioned in the US Navy, serving as a Naval Flight Officer for almost twelve years. During that time she was a Mission Commander on the Patrol and Reconnaissance aircraft the P-3 Orion based out of Hawaii, a Fleet Staff Operations officer in Bahrain, and a Training and Scenario Planner based in Naples, Italy for NATO, Ukraine, and Israeli naval exercises throughout Europe. While in the Navy Malissa completed her Master’s degree in Public Administration. Malissa then transitioned into a civilian career at Foster Farms as a Marketing Manager. Malissa lives in Alameda, California, in her spare time she enjoys exploring the various wineries and breweries in the region, hiking and travelling.
Hallie Fox

Email: hallie_fox@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Albany, CA
Education: BA Exercise and Sport Science, University of San Francisco

Employment Information
Title: Regional Director, Account Management
Company: HealthFitness
Industry: Health Services

Personal Statement
Hallie Fox graduated from the University of San Francisco with a degree in Exercise and Sports Science, and began her career as a personal trainer, yoga and outdoor bootcamp instructor in San Francisco. In 2008, Hallie became the Director of Lifestyle Coaching for Club One (now Active Sports), designing and implementing weight and stress management programs across multiple Bay Area clubs. A few years later, Hallie transitioned to population health management, working for Cigna Healthcare as the Health Promotion Manager in Northern California. At Cigna, Hallie designed well-being strategies for companies interested in boosting employee productivity, morale and reducing healthcare costs. Hallie currently works as a Regional Director for HealthFitness, a MN-based company, overseeing 16 onsite corporate fitness centers and health management programs across the Western U.S. In her spare time, Hallie chases after her two girls, ages 1 and 3, spends as much time as she can running outdoors, and cooking.

Thomas Grenville

Email: thomas_grenville@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Portland, Oregon
Education: BA Economics, Swarthmore College
JD Yeshiva University, Benjamin N. Cardozo Law School
LLM Environmental Law, Lewis & Clark Law School

Employment Information
Title: Director
Company: TIAA
Industry: Financial Services

Personal Statement
Thomas, a New Yorker, got his B.A. in economics from Swarthmore College. He worked for a commercial bank before graduating from Benjamin N. Cardozo Law School. After law school, Thomas moved to the west coast and worked for both federal and state securities regulators and earned a L.L.M. in Environmental law. He joined TIAA and works as a Chief Compliance Officer for several subsidiaries. Thomas lives in Portland, Oregon, with his wife of 13 years, Rebecca, and their three children. He spends his weekends shuttling between games as a soccer and basketball dad.
Jonathan (Jon) Gruen

Email: jon_gruen@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Diego, CA
Education: BS Physics, United States Naval Academy

Employment Information
Title: Business Development and Strategy Principal
Company: Lockheed Martin
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

Personal Statement
Jon Gruen graduated from the US Naval Academy and served as a Navy SEAL Officer for ten years. During that time he competed four deployments to Asia, Europe and the Middle East to include Iraq and Afghanistan. After leaving Active Duty, Jon began his civilian career at Lockheed Martin working Business Development and Strategy for multiple Lines of Business that produces numerous technologies to encompass Information Technology, Command and Control Software, Simulation and Training Systems, Electro-Optical / Infra-Red Imaging Systems, and major Weapon Systems. Jon has also been in the Navy Reserve during this time and has deployed another two times to the Middle East. In his free time Jon enjoys coaching his children’s sports and anything in or on the water. Jon lives in San Diego with his wife of 13 years and two children.

Bud Heath

Email: bud_heath@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Bozeman, MT
Education: BS Criminal Justice, University of Idaho

Employment Information
Title: Pilot/instructor
Company: Erickson
Industry: Military

Personal Statement
Bud Heath graduated from the University of Idaho and entered the US Navy as an aviator. During his time in the Navy he completed three operational deployments, managing the training, operational and personnel needs of the squadron. He then went on to serve as a flight instructor and academic department head at the US Naval flight school. After leaving active duty he entered into military contract work providing aviation support to military operations around the world. Bud likes to spend his free time in the outdoors fly fishing, skiing and climbing. He lives in Bozeman, Montana with his yellow lab Duke.
Shawn Higbee

Email: shawn_higbee@mba.berkeley.edu  
Current City: Oakland, CA  
Education: BS Engineering, Iowa State University  
BS Industrial Engineering, Iowa State University  
MS Statistics, UMass Lowell  
PhD Imaging Science, Rochester Institute of Technology

**Employment Information**

Title: Program Manager and Remote Sensing Scientist  
Company: Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory  
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

**Personal Statement**

Shawn Higbee PhD joined the Lab as a mid-career professional after serving 12 years as an officer in the active duty Air Force. His career focuses on the design, build, and operation of imaging and optical systems and he has served as a program manager for payloads currently flying on classified US reconnaissance satellites. He holds degrees in engineering, math, and imaging science and his primary role is managing a space-based telescope program for LLNL. Additionally, he is the systems engineer for several airborne imaging payloads, and conducts research in image analysis, data analytics, and machine learning. Outside of work, his interests focus on the great outdoors including solo long-distance motorcycle trips, most notably riding 9,000 miles solo and unsupported to cross the Arctic Circle in 2013. As an avid rock and ice climber for over 20 years, he can be found on most weekends in either Yosemite or the Lake Tahoe area.

Eric Hodes

Email: eric_hodes@mba.berkeley.edu  
Current City: Santa Rosa, CA  
Education: BS Biochemistry, UCLA  
MD, New York Medical College

**Employment Information**

Title: President  
Company: Anesthesia and Analgesia Medical Group  
Industry: Health Services

**Personal Statement**

Eric Hodes is a practicing Anesthesiologist in the North Bay and the president of a medical group of 55 physicians. He completed his undergrad at UCLA, med school at New York Medical college and residency at UCLA. He enjoys cycling, skiing, travel and spending time with his wife and two teens.
Jing (Stella) Huang

Email: jing_huang@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Jose, CA
Education: Bachelors Information Engineering, MS Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
Wuhan University

Employment Information
Title: COO
Company: Impact Deep, LLC
Industry: Consulting/Management Services

Personal Statement
Jing Huang graduated from China Wuhan University. As a master of Information Engineering, she worked as engineer manager of new technology research and development for China Telecom for 7 years, then as director of sales and business development for a Video Camera Surveillance Company for 4 years. She immigrated to the US, taking her technical and business expertise to facilitate US-China cross-border business development and investment opportunities. She co-founded a high-tech consulting firm assessing talents and expertise of startups in AI, AR/VR, and IoT communities, and fostering collaboration with large corporations. Leveraging these partnerships, she is able to serve as a trusted advisor, a mentor to leadership, assist in operational and marketing initiatives, and facilitate effective fundraising for these organizations. She hosted prestigious AI, AR/VR conferences in the Silicon Valley which garnered the attention of US and Chinese media. She embodies the Defining Principle of Student Always through her curiosity, resilience and self awareness.

John Illia

Email: john_illia@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Francisco, CA
Education: BA Spanish, University of Notre Dame

Employment Information
Company: Department of Justice
Industry: Government

Personal Statement
John C. Illia graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Notre Dame and received a commission as an Officer in the United States Marine Corps where he served for five years as an Infantry Officer on both the west and east coasts. He has completed deployments to the Western Pacific, the Persian Gulf, and South America. After leaving the Marine Corps, John began working with the Department of Justice and served six years in San Francisco. In 2009, John completed two overseas assignments in Bangkok, Thailand and Madrid, Spain. Now back on permanent assignment in San Francisco, John enjoys exercising, reading, and spending time with his wife, Sarah.
Mohsin Imam

Email: mohsin_imam@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Fremont, CA
Education: BS Computer Science, University of Texas, Austin
          MS Engineering Management and Leadership, Santa Clara University

Employment Information
Title: Senior Account Executive
Company: Google
Industry: Computer Related Services

Personal Statement
Mohsin Imam is an Account Executive with Google where he manages the Google Cloud Platform business for Fortune 500 companies. During his 9+ year tenure at Google Mohsin has held roles in sales leadership, strategic program management and operations for Education, SMB, and Mid Market segments of Google Apps for Work. While working at Google Mohsin completed his Masters in Engineering Management and Leadership. Before that Mohsin has served in software engineering and strategic technical consulting roles with Silicon Valley companies. Mohsin graduated with a degree in Computer Science from the University of Texas at Austin. In his spare time he volunteers for OPEN (Organization of Pakistani Entrepreneurs) and GiveLight Foundation. He lives with his wife of 12 years and their two children in Fremont, California.

Daniel (DK) Kim

Email: dan_kim@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Francisco, CA
Education: BA History, UC San Diego
          MA Education, Pepperdine University

Employment Information
Title: Senior Manager, Global Accounts
Company: TE Connectivity
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

Personal Statement
Daniel Kim graduated from UC San Diego and Pepperdine University. Afterwards, he was commissioned as an Air Force officer and trained as an airborne command and control manager. During his ten years of service, he led teams as a mission crew commander overseeing missions throughout the globe. He led project management for radar system upgrades, instructed aircrew members, and planned deployment logistics. After leaving the Air Force, Daniel began his career at TE Connectivity where he now oversees Silicon Valley business development with a focus on data center infrastructure and fiber optics. He is an avid reader and road biker. He is based in San Francisco.
Jacob (Jake) Kislevitz

Email: jake_kislevitz@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: New York, New York
Education: BA Political Science, Brown University
MPhil Politics, University of Oxford

Employment Information
Title: Manager, Climate Change and Sustainability Services
Company: EY
Industry: Consulting / Management Services

Personal Statement
Jake Kislevitz attained a B.A. in Political Science from Brown University and a Master’s degree in Politics from the University of Oxford. After graduate school he worked for the Carbon Disclosure Project, an international NGO that collects corporate climate change data from the world’s largest companies. He has held roles in PwC’s Sustainable Business Solutions consulting practice, Hess Corporation’s Environmental, Health, Safety and Social Responsibility function, and EY’s Climate Change and Sustainability Services practice. In his spare time, Jake enjoys cooking, anything in or on the water, including swimming, water polo, and rowing; and cycling with his family and friends. He lives in Brooklyn, with his wife, and middle school sweetheart, Jessica.

Dinesh Kumar

Email: dinesh_kumar@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Roseville, CA
Education: BS Electrical Engineering, Regional Engineering College, Kurukshetra
MS & PhD Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Iowa

Employment Information
Title: Director-R&D
Company: CoolTouch, Inc.
Industry: Medical Products / Devices

Personal Statement
Dinesh Kumar is a medical devices executive and a serial entrepreneur. Over last ten years, he has brought a number of disruptive medical devices to market. Currently, he works as Director-R&D at CoolTouch, a medical laser company located in Roseville, California. He also advises medical devices startups and enjoys helping fellow entrepreneurs. Dinesh holds PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering from The University of Iowa with focus on Medical Imaging. In his free time, he enjoys reading non-fiction, watching movies, playing and watching cricket, table tennis and racquetball, and spending time with friends and family. He has lived and worked in India, where he was born before moving to Iowa for graduate studies. Currently he lives in Roseville, CA with his wife and two children.
David Kwon

Email: david_kwon@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Sunnyvale, CA
Education: BS Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry, Yale University
          MS Medical Sciences, Harvard Medical School
          PhD Enzymology, Harvard University
          MD Medical College of Virginia

Employment Information
Title: Clinical Research Medical Advisor
Company: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp
Industry: Medical Products / Devices

Personal Statement
Originally from the Washington, D.C. area, David Kwon has been involved in biomedical research and health care for over 20yrs. Completing a B.S. in Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry at Yale, he worked briefly at the National Institutes of Health before beginning graduate studies. He completed a PhD in Enzymology at Harvard University, during which time, he also completed a MMSc degree at Harvard Medical School. David then graduated medical school at the Medical College of Virginia and proceeded to complete his residency training in Internal Medicine at Georgetown and subsequently fellowship training in Cardiology also at Georgetown. David ventured to the west coast to pursue subspeciality training in Cardiac Electrophysiology at UCSF, and then transitioned to the pharmaceutical industry, when he joined the cardiovascular research section at Gilead Sciences in 2010. Desiring more commercial exposure, David later joined the Medical Affairs group at a molecular diagnostics biotech in Redwood City, CardioDx, and assisted with preparation of S1 documents and the build out of the Medical Affairs & Clinical Research groups. Following his experience in the biotech world, David moved back to pharmaceuticals and joined Novartis in late 2014 and has since primarily managed phase 3 cardiovascular clinical trials in the U.S. David and his wife Jin have been married for over 10yrs and have 3 young children. They enjoy hiking and exploring all that the Bay Area has to offer, from Monterey to Napa.

Chienhsin Lee

Email: chienhsin_lee@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Pleasanton, CA
Education: BS Electrical Engineering, Tamkang University, Taiwan
          MS Electrical Engineering, Stanford University

Employment Information
Title: VP of Engineering
Company: Rambus Inc.
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

Personal Statement
Chienhsin grew up in Taiwan. He started his career in the semiconductor industry and worked for UMC in Hsinchu, Taiwan. Chienhsin moved to California in 1998. From 1998 to 2006, he worked for Level One Communication, Intel and Keyeye Communication in various networking IC design and management positions. In 2006, Chienhsin joined Inphi Corporation and led memory interconnect IC development team for server and data center applications for next 10 years. In 2016, he joint Rambus. Chienhsin received a BSEE degree from Tamkang University in Taiwan and MSEE from Stanford University.
Elana Leoni

Email: elana.leoni@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Rafael, CA
Education: BS Business Administration, Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo

Employment Information
Title: Founder
Company: HomeFluent
Industry: Consulting/Management Services

Personal Statement
Elana D. Leoni recently founded her own consultancy aimed at helping nonprofit and edtech organizations with their online marketing efforts, specifically focusing on social media marketing, content marketing, and community building. She spent the last 8 years of her career as the Director of Social Media Strategy & Marketing at Edutopia / The George Lucas Educational Foundation. Under Elana's leadership, Edutopia's social media presence grew to reach over 20 million education change-makers every month. Elana is a five-time edcamp organizer, was recognized twice as “82 Amazing Community Professionals You Need to Know” by CMX, and blogs and speaks nationally at social media and education conferences.

Elana spent 5 years within a marketing capacity at a SaaS corporate philanthropy startup, specializing in CSR and corporate volunteerism. She graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelors in Business Administration from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. She loves to travel, practice yoga, play lots of old man sports (bocce, shuffleboard, bowling), and do anything out on the water. She lives in San Rafael, California. Elana currently is part of an EMBA startup team called HomeFluent, which won the UC Berkeley Hult competition and is a recent awardee of the Dean's startup grant. HomeFluent is an intelligent virtual caseworker for resettling refugees.

Ulrika (Rika) Lidstrom

Email: rika_lidstrom@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Francisco, CA
Education: BS Marine Biology, University of North Carolina, Wilmington
BS Biology, San Francisco State University

Employment Information
Title: Research Scientist
Company: DuPont Pioneer
Industry: Agriculture

Personal Statement
Ulrika grew up outside Stockholm, Sweden and moved to the United States east coast as a pre-teen. She received her undergraduate degree in marine biology from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington after studying dolphin and tropical fish behavior. Ulrika came to California to pursue a Master’s degree at San Francisco State University and spent 3 years investigating microscopic algae. During her graduate studies Ulrika started working at Taxon Biosciences, a small start-up in the industrial microbiome field. The research inspired her to stay with the company post-graduation and through 9 years of technology development and microbial product discovery as the team’s DNA Sequencing Manager. DuPont Pioneer acquired Taxon in 2015 and Ulrika took on a new role as project coordinator in the Crop Biologicals group. In her spare time, Ulrika enjoys traveling, dancing, singing, exploring the outdoors and is active with the San Francisco Bay area Scandinavian community.
Hao Liu

Email: hao_liu@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Francisco, CA
Education: BA Architecture, UC Berkeley

Employment Information
Title: Product Leader
Company: Brandcast Inc.
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

Personal Statement
Hao graduated from UC Berkeley with an architecture degree and grew his professional career as an architect for 7 years. During that time he managed multi-million square foot projects overseas and obtained his professional license in architecture. To further challenge his creativity and personal growth, Hao left architecture and became one of the founding software engineers in an enterprise SaaS startup. As the company expanded he took on the engineering manager position and now he manages the entire product team delivering solutions that change how companies create and manage content on the web. He lives in San Francisco with his wife and he loves to eat, travel, spend time with friends, and enjoy the beautiful California outdoors.

Andrew MacNeil

Email: andrew_macneil@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Santa Monica, CA
Education: BA Economics, CSU Chico
MA International Studies, University of Arizona

Employment Information
Title: Special Forces Officer
Company: US Army
Industry: Military

Personal Statement
Andrew enlisted in the US Army upon high school graduation in 2003 and subsequently deployed to Baghdad, Iraq as an Infantryman from 2004-2006. Upon return, he went on to study Economics at California State University, Chico, graduating with a bachelor’s degree in 2008. After graduation, Andrew worked in Finance in San Francisco from 2008 through 2012, while concurrently commissioning as a Second Lieutenant and Intelligence Officer in the Army National Guard in 2009. In 2012, he was selected for Army Special Forces and began a demanding two year qualification course at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Upon completion in 2014, Andrew took command of a Special Forces Operational Detachment and led the team through a challenging combat rotation in Afghanistan from 2015 through early 2016. In his spare time, he enjoys travel, adventure, outdoors and spending time with friends and family. Currently, he resides in Santa Monica, with plans to relocate back to the San Francisco bay area.
Rose Maizner

Email: rose_maizner@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Salt Lake City, UT
Education: BA Psychology & Hispanic Studies, Wheaton College

Employment Information
Title: Associate
Company: RenewableTech Ventures
Industry: Financial Services

Personal Statement
Based in Salt Lake City, Utah, Rose is an Associate with RenewableTech Ventures. In addition, Rose is the founder and CEO of CauseRock Consulting, a company dedicated to helping nonprofits and early stage social ventures reach their fullest potential. She also serves on the board of Sustainable Startups and the advisory board of SXSW Eco, is a founder of Womenpreneurs and is the State Metro Director of the Cleantech Open. Before entering the private sector, Rose spent several years in the nonprofit world, serving as both Associate Director and Interim Executive Director of an organization working with underserved communities. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Wheaton College, after which she conducted research out of the country as part of a Fulbright Scholarship. When not working, Rose can be found skiing, mountain biking or running off to the desert for an adventure with friends and her dog, Juno.

Peter Martinez-Fonts

Email: peter_martinezfonts@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Francisco, CA
Education: BA Political Science and Spanish, Wake Forest University

Employment Information
Title: Executive Advisor
Company: CEB
Industry: Consulting / Management Services

Personal Statement
Peter Martinez-Fonts is a Senior Executive Advisor with CEB Procurement Leadership Council with 8 years of experience in research, consulting, and training facilitation. Each week, he works with senior executives and their teams around the world to manage some of their most pressing procurement and supply chain challenges including internal business partnership, supplier management and innovation, and strategic category management. Peter graduated from Wake Forest University with undergraduate degrees in Political Science and Spanish and currently lives in San Francisco with his wife. In his spare time, Peter enjoys cooking, hiking, and travelling.
Muneer Merchant

Email: muneer_merchant@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Danville, CA
Education: B Eng Civil Engineering, NED University of Engineering & Technology Pakistan
M Eng Construction Engineering and Management, University of Michigan

Employment Information
Title: Vice President
Company: PULLMAN SST INC
Industry: Other

Personal Statement
Muneer Merchant graduated from University of Michigan Ann Arbor with a construction management and engineering degree and took a position of project engineer in West Florida with a specialty contractor. Stayed with that business line for 5 years and worked across 7 states in industrial, commercial and public sector. In 2008 took a position for General Manager of JV company in Dubai and worked on this start up to build 5 operating centers by 2013. In 5 years of working abroad traveled across Asia Pacific, South Asia and Middle East markets and created project opportunities. Took Vice President position with another business line for the northern California region and is currently working on building the team and revenue stream. Love outdoors and spending time with family. Enjoy ping pong and swimming. Lives in Danville. Love to learn and teach, and enjoy doing the right thing.

Eric Negrevski

Email: eric_negrevski@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Santa Rosa, CA
Education: BS Combined Sciences, Santa Clara University

Employment Information
Title: Senior Sales Consultant
Company: Depuy Synthes
Industry: Medical Products / Devices

Personal Statement
Eric Negrevski has been in the orthopaedic trauma medical device industry for over 12 years with Synthes, now DePuy Synthes (Johnson & Johnson), as a Senior Sales Consultant. Prior to Synthes, he was responsible for overseeing the business development and product positioning strategies of an early start-up company which developed an innovative cloud-based data management platform for late phase clinical research programs. Eric graduated from Santa Clara University with a B.S. Combined Sciences degree. Eric currently lives in Santa Rosa, California, with his wife, Courtney, and their three kids; Alexandra (9), Nicholas (7) and Ryan (3). When not catering to the children's busy lifestyles, he enjoys spending time with family and friends and a variety of outdoor activities.
Michael Ouchida

Email: michael_ouchida@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Francisco, CA
Education: BS Computer Engineering, UC San Diego

Employment Information
Title: Systems Development Manager
Company: ILWU-PMA Benefit Plans
Industry: Not for Profit

Personal Statement
Michael Ouchida graduated from UC San Diego with a BS in Computer Engineering and a minor in Economics. He moved back to the Bay Area and worked in wealth management and investment banking for a couple of years before making the transition back to software development. Now, Michael serves as the Systems Development Manager for a Pension and Health and Welfare Funds office, overseeing its IT department. Michael's roles include software development, database administration, systems implementation and network/security administration. When Michael is not sitting behind a computer, he can probably be found on a golf course or snowboarding in Tahoe. Michael currently resides in San Francisco.

Sonali Patel

Email: sonali_patel@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Buena Park, CA
Education: BA Biology & Psychology, University of California, Irvine
MSW, UCLA

Employment Information
Title: Policy Fellow
Company: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago
Industry: Not for Profit

Personal Statement
Sonali is a native Californian who has finally returned home after 15 years away in DC and Seattle. She has built a career in the non-profit and government sectors working on national children's policy issues. Her positions have ranged from working at the community level with at-risk teen moms to setting up the policy division for a new cabinet-level state agency to moving Federal policy at the White House Domestic Policy Council. She continues to work on national children's policy and lives in the East Bay. Sonali is an avid traveler who has been fortunate enough to step foot on all seven continents, primarily by hiking and scuba diving at every chance she gets.
Jennifer (Jenny) Petersen

Email: jenny_petersen@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Jose, CA
Education: BS Math and Computer Science, Drake University

Employment Information
Title: Senior Manager, Group Program
Company: Dice
Industry: Computer Related Services

Personal Statement
Jenny graduated from Drake University with a Math and Computer Science degree as well as a Secondary Math Education degree. She has over 9 years of experience as a Software Engineer from her positions at Principal Financial Group and Dice. She then transitioned to Team Lead where she started a new Engineering team in the Dice Iowa office. About 2 years ago, Dice relocated Jenny to their new Silicon Valley office to ramp up an additional Engineering team. She has recently moved into the Program Management role working with the Product, Engineering and Sales teams as well as directly with external customers. Jenny lives in San Jose where she enjoys hiking, walking her dog, volunteering, cooking and traveling. She also makes regular trips back to Iowa to visit her family.

Kelsey Pierce

Email: kelsey_pierce@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Seattle, WA
Education: BA Latin American Studies & Politics, Scripps College

Employment Information
Title: Chief of Staff
Company: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation
Industry: Other

Personal Statement
Kelsey Pierce is the Chief of Staff at the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) a global health research organization under the auspices of the University of Washington. Kelsey joined IHME soon after its inception in 2007. Since then she has managed a wide range of international research projects on topics including malaria control, child mortality, burden of disease estimation, and improvement of vital statistics through verbal autopsy. In her current role, she is responsible for the operations of the Director’s office, including managing key relationships to the Institute, acting as a member of the senior leadership team, and participating in strategic and long-range decision making. Kelsey earned her BA in Latin American Studies and Politics from Scripps College in Claremont, California. In her free time, Kelsey enjoys traveling, cooking, and spending time with her family and friends. She lives in Seattle with her husband.
Sundaramma (Mahesh) Popudesi

Email: mahesh_popudesi@mba.berkeley.edu  
Current City: San Ramon, CA  
Education: BSci, Computer Science, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati  
MS Computer Science, Nagarjuna University

Employment Information  
Title: Senior Staff Engineer  
Company: Hewlett Packard Enterprise  
Industry: Telecommunications

Personal Statement  
Mahesh Popudesi graduated with a Master’s degree in Computer Sciences and has worked in the Network Security and Telecommunications sector for the past 15 years. In 2005 along with his peers, he was a founding member of the team that launched Avenda Systems, a startup focused on Network Security. He was responsible for launching the India operations of Avenda Systems. During his time at Avenda, he took on multiple roles in operations, product design & development, sales, customer support. Avenda Systems has been acquired by Aruba Networks and now part of Hewlett Packard Enterprise. He currently works as a Senior Staff Engineer on next generation network access control and security technologies in Hewlett Packard Enterprise. In his spare time Mahesh loves working on his motorcycle, painting landscapes with water colors, creating video games; and spending time with his wife Kavita and two children. He lives in San Ramon, California.

Melodie Puffer

Email: melodie_puffer@mba.berkeley.edu  
Current City: Roseville, CA  
Education: BSci Finance, University of Nebraska, Lincoln

Employment Information  
Title: Director Administration - Finance  
Company: Union Pacific Railroad  
Industry: Other

Personal Statement  
A native Nebraskan, Melodie Puffer grew up in a small farming town and graduated from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln with a Bachelor’s degree in Finance. She began her career in Omaha, Nebraska, working for Union Pacific Railroad, holding positions in Corporate Audit and Financial Analysis. Melodie and her husband, Justin, relocated to California in 2010, and she has since held her current role as Finance Director, supporting the Western Region of Union Pacific’s Operating Department. Her responsibilities include budgeting, cost control, forecasting, policy compliance, month closing, and financial advising and analysis. Melodie lives in Roseville, California (Sacramento area) with her husband and toddler, Colin. In her free time, she enjoys being with her family, watching college football, lounging around her backyard pool, wine tasting, and visiting her twin sister in San Francisco.
Madhu Ranjan

Email: madhu_ranjan@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Santa Clara, CA
Education: BTech Mechanical Engineering, REC Kurukshetra
Masters Supply Chain Management, MIT

Employment Information
Title: Director - CI, Finance & Operations
Company: NetApp Inc.
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

Personal Statement
Madhu is currently working for NetApp, a technology company, as Director – CI Finance & Operations. He did his Masters in Supply Chain Management from MIT, and worked in Boston Area in operations and Supply Chain Management for few years. Prior to moving to US, he worked in India in automotive industry after completing his B.Tech. from REC Kurukshetra. Madhu moved to Bay area to join NetApp 8 years back, and has worked in various functions in progressive roles within the company. He successfully delivered on many strategic transformational projects, and is currently driving Continuous Improvement program in Finance and Operations at NetApp. Madhu likes to hike and run over the weekends. His interests also lie in reading social history, literature and autobiographies.

Josh Romonek

Email: josh_romonek@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Jose, CA
Education: BA Political Science, UCLA

Employment Information
Title: Planning and Order Administration Manager
Company: Nimble Storage
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

Personal Statement
Josh graduated from UCLA and spent several years in journalism first as a reporter for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and then as news data editor for the Associated Press. Interests beyond newspapers led him to IT, system implementation, and supply chain planning roles for a solar company, a software company and now a data storage company. At Nimble Storage, Josh is responsible for planning, order management and inventory control. Outside the office, he likes to hike, sweat, laugh, read, eat and explore. Josh lives in San Jose with a leased Chevrolet Volt he calls The White Goat.
Praveen Sampath

Email: praveen_sampath@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Diego, CA
Education: MS Electrical Engineering, Arizona State University

**Employment Information**
Title: Staff Program Manager
Company: Qualcomm Inc.
Industry: Telecommunications

**Personal Statement**
Praveen graduated from Arizona State University with a M.S. in Electrical Eng. Upon graduation he joined the 3G verification group at Qualcomm Inc. He switched to the radio technologies group where he architected Qualcomm’s first 4G solution for Asia and emerging markets. He has been issued two patents by the US patents board for his technical contributions. He currently manages the radio solutions portfolio with special emphasis on future technologies. Praveen enjoys running long distance, photography, classical music and traveling with his wife and two kids.

Niloy Sen

Email: niloy_sen@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Fremont, CA
Education: BSci & MS Computer Sciences, Jadavpur University

**Employment Information**
Title: Technical Program Manager
Company: eTouch Systems
Industry: Consulting / Management Services

**Personal Statement**
Niloy Sen has been working in the IT industry for the last 20 years. He started his career as a software engineer with TCS(India), then moved to the US in 1999 and has been in Silicon Valley ever since. He has worked with many of the top software companies in the bay area including Google, Cisco, VMware, Intuit, PG&E and NASA. Currently, Niloy is contracting as a Program Manager at Google in the NetSoft department. He lives in Fremont CA with his wife Urmi and his little princess Urvi. He pursues his love of sports and plays cricket on a regular basis as the captain of a team in the Bay Area Cricket League, and is also learning the basics of golf. His philosophy in life is to keep things simple, respect others and try to help others as much as possible.
Sumit Shah

Email: sumit_shah@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Mountain View, CA
Education: BSc Electrical and Computer Engineering, UC Santa Barbara

Employment Information
Title: Director of Product Marketing
Company: Xilinx
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

Personal Statement
Sumit is an electrical engineer, entrepreneur, and product leader. He graduated with a double major in Electrical and Computer Engineering. He spent the first 8 years of his career in a technical role designing vehicle electronics for US Army vehicles and designing next generation weather satellites at various Aerospace and Defense companies. In 2005, Sumit got the startup “itch” and launch his first company focused on designing vehicle electronics which was later acquired by Moog Systems. Sumit joined Xilinx in 2007. During his tenure at Xilinx, he has held multiple roles with various responsibilities including vertical marketing, solutions management, and product line manager for high volume products and currently is the Product Line Director for System-on-Chip (SoC) products. He is responsible for worldwide strategy, growth, and execution to drive the company’s leadership and success. In his spare time, Sumit enjoys challenging himself by running marathons, obstacle courses, and distance relays. He also enjoys wine tasting, traveling, and golfing. He lives in Mountain View, California, with his wife of 7 years.

Meghan Sinclair

Email: meghan_sinclair@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Dublin, CA
Education: BS Mechanical Engineering, United States Coast Guard Academy
MEng Mechanical Engineering, UC Berkeley

Employment Information
Title: Senior Principal Reliability and Materials Engineer
Company: FormFactor Inc
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

Personal Statement
Meghan Sinclair graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and the University of California, Berkeley with a Master’s in Mechanical Engineering. During her 8 years as a Coast Guard officer, Meghan coordinated and led interagency homeland security, search and rescue, and marine safety operations. While stationed at the Coast Guard’s Marine Safety Center, Meghan led a team of nine engineers and provided technical consultation for the entire U.S. Coast Guard marine safety program nationwide and internationally. In July 2015, Meghan launched her civilian career at FormFactor Inc as a Senior Principal Reliability and Materials Engineer. In this new role, Meghan leads projects across the organization to improve product quality and reduce manufacturing costs. During her free time, Meghan enjoys anything outdoors, traveling abroad, and trying new restaurants. She lives in Dublin, California with her husband of seven years and their two dogs.
Hari Srinivasan

Email: hari_srinivasan@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Jose, CA
Education: BEng Telecommunication Engineering, Visveswaraiah Technological University
MS Computer Science, USC

Employment Information
Title: Product Manager
Company: Cisco Systems
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

Personal Statement
Hari Srinivasan works as a Senior Product Manager at Cisco Systems driving a number of ‘Internet of Things’ initiatives including Smart Buildings. He has over 10 years of experience in the computer networking industry and has worked for all major Telecom/data networking vendors - Huawei, Alcatel Lucent, Juniper Networks and Cisco Systems. In his spare time, Hari spends his time reading and writing, travelling, hiking and hang gliding in the bay area. Born and raised in India, Hari came to the US in 2004 for graduate school. Upon graduating with a Masters in Computer Science from the University of Southern California, Hari moved to the Silicon Valley where he has been working since.

Tina Summers

Email: tina_summers@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Francisco, CA
Education: BA Visual Arts, UC San Diego

Employment Information
Title: Senior Vice President-Captive Solutions Consultant
Company: Marsh USA Inc.
Industry: Financial Services

Personal Statement
Tina Summers is a Senior Vice President at Marsh USA Inc., a commercial insurance broker and risk management consulting firm. She is a Captive Solutions Consultant, advising companies on alternative risk financing solutions. Tina has worked at Marsh for over 8 years in various roles including Associate Client Executive, Project Manager and Marketing/Operations Associate. Prior to Marsh, Tina worked in various roles in the not-for-profit and start-up industries. In her spare time, she enjoys taking her dogs to the park, cooking and gardening.
Ashok Sundararajan

Email: ashok_sundararajan@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Sunnyvale, CA
Education: BS Civil Engineering, Regional Engineering College
MS Civil Engineering, Pennsylvania State University

Employment Information
Title: Manager, Transportation Consulting
Company: CH2M
Industry: Consulting / Management Services

Personal Statement
Ashok Sundararajan was born and brought up in Chennai, India. After completing Bachelor’s in India, he landed at Pennsylvania State University to complete Master’s in Civil Engineering. Since then he has worked for over 15 years as a management consultant in the transportation industry, working with US cities, federal/state governments around the country. During this period, he has built decision-support tools/processes to support clients’ strategies, such as evaluating financial impacts of SF MUNI service restructuring and developing policies/processes for $10B infrastructure investment program with the US DOT. During his spare time, you will find him running along the Bay Trail, doing yoga, reading up on political news, or researching the disruption in the urban mobility space. A recent transplant to the Bay Area (from the nation’s capital), he currently lives in Sunnyvale, CA with his wife of 8 years.

Gurjit Thandi

Email: gurjit_thandi@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Jose, CA
Education: BEng Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology
MS Electrical Engineering, Virginia Polytechnic Institute

Employment Information
Title: Sr. Director
Company: ON Semiconductor
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

Personal Statement
Gurjit Thandi graduated with a Master’s degree in Electrical Engineering from Virginia Tech. He has spent 18+ years in analog and mixed-signal IC design, releasing multiple ICs to mass production. Many of his product designs have been used in Apple MacBook, Garmin GPS etc. He has worked at Analog Devices, Linear Technology, Semtech and ON Semiconductor, taking on roles in product design & management. During the course of his career in Silicon Valley, Gurjit caught the startup bug and co-founded a tech company, mSilica raising $6M in series A funding from VCs. mSilica was eventually acquired by a large public semiconductor company. In his spare time, Gurjit enjoys bike riding, hiking, camping and spending time outdoors with his family. He lives in San Jose, California with his wife of 16 years and their two children.
Adam Tibble

Email: adam_tibble@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Davis, CA
Education: BA Pre-Med & Anthropology, University of Notre Dame
MD, Vanderbilt University

Employment Information
Title: Cardiac Anesthesiologist
Company: Northbay Healthcare
Industry: Health Services

Personal Statement
Adam grew up outside of Detroit, Michigan and attended the University of Notre Dame where he was a walk-on football player. Prior to finding playing time as a holder, Adam took after Rudy and was a fantastic tackling dummy. He earned his MD from Vanderbilt University and completed his residency and cardiac fellowship training at UCSD - where he gained an interest in medical device development/consulting. Following training, he practiced as an Anesthesiologist and CCATT (Critical Care Air Transport) Physician for the US Air Force, during which time he was deployed twice in support of Operation Enduring Freedom - flying our severely wounded warriors within Afghanistan/Middle East and onto Germany. Now a civilian, Adam is a practicing Cardiac Anesthesiologist in Northern California. In his spare time, Adam enjoys Crossfit, the great outdoors, and keeping up with his young family. He lives in Davis, California with his wife of 10 years and their two, spirited children (Max 3.5 & Avery 2).

Freeman Tidaback

Email: freeman_tidaback@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Portland, OR
Education: BS Oceanography, United States Naval Academy
MS Real Estate Development, Portland State University

Employment Information
Title: Founder / CEO
Company: Sextant Development Group
Industry: Real Estate

Personal Statement
Freeman Tidaback is the Founder and CEO of Sextant Development Group and is a Naval Reservist with SEAL Team 17. Freeman graduated from the US Naval Academy in 2003, serving aboard two ships prior to transferring into the Naval Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Community in 2007. During his time as an EOD Officer he held a number of positions ranging from leading an EOD unit in embedded combat support of a SEAL Team to being the senior department head at an EOD supply and logistics command. In 2014 he founded Sextant Development Group and has dedicated his career to sustainable, equitable, real estate development. In his spare time Freeman enjoys woodworking, stand up paddle boarding, surfing, running and spending time with his family. He lives in Portland, Oregon with his wife, Halleh, and daughter, Brighton.
Christopher (Chris) Tousant

Email: chris_tousant@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Encinitas, CA
Education: BS Business Management, Cornell University
MS Military Operations, Marine Corps University

**Employment Information**
Title: Project Manager
Company: Cymer, LLC
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

**Personal Statement**
Chris Tousant graduated from Cornell University with a BS in Business Management. He worked for Venture Economics, a Thomson Financial company, as a financial analyst for 1 year. He then joined the Marine Corps where he served for 14 years as an F/A-18 pilot. Over his 14 years, he deployed twice to combat zones and spent two years overseas in Iwakuni, Japan. His duties included assistant Aircraft Maintenance Officer, Pilot Training Officer, and Special Operations Forward Air Controller. He earned a Master of Military Studies degree through the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, a graduate level program for staff officers. After the Marine Corps, Chris became a project manager at Cymer, LLC in Rancho Bernardo, CA. He currently leads a team of engineers in the Plasma Controls department working on Extreme Ultraviolet Light (EUV) solutions for the next generation of semiconductor lithography. He currently lives in Encinitas, California with his wife Amy. They enjoy hiking, surfing, and traveling the world.

Tyson Trautmann

Email: t_trautmann@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Marina Del Rey, CA
Education: BS Computer Science, Biola University
MS Computer Science, University of Washington

**Employment Information**
Title: Engineering Manager
Company: Riot Games
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

**Personal Statement**
Tyson Trautmann is a software engineer, entrepreneur, product thinker, organizational leader, and an occasional early stage investor. He graduated from Biola University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Computer Science and went on complete a Master’s Degree in Computer Science from the University of Washington. After school he founded a small company called Axiem Technologies, then spent the next decade in various software engineering and leadership roles at Microsoft and Amazon, and he is currently helps to lead the infrastructure organization at a video game company called Riot Games. Outside of his day job, he is a member of the Board of Directors for a non-profit organization called Potential Energy, as well as a mentor for startup founders through the Techstars HealthTech Accelerator. He dabbles in the angel investing world, having made investments in a dozen different technology companies focused primarily on enterprise software, clean technology, and the internet of things. Tyson resides near the beach in Los Angeles, California with his wife of ten years and their two children.
Granville Valentine

Email: granville_valentine@mba.berkeley.edu  
Current City: San Francisco, CA  
Education: BS Economics, University of Virginia

**Employment Information**  
Title: Regional Sales Manager  
Company: Oracle  
Industry: Computer Related Services

**Personal Statement**  
Granville is a Regional Sales Manager for Oracle’s enterprise applications business in Northern California, Nevada, and Hawaii. He manages a team of Field Sales Executives and drives strategy for Sales, Field Marketing, and Sales Operations in the region. At Oracle, he has consistently ranked in the top 1% of Oracle’s global sales team, while leading the company’s efforts in industry pillar alignment. Granville has led hundreds of successful competitive sales cycles, including large international wins and key projects within Oracle’s most competitive markets. Originally from Virginia, Granville graduated from the University of Virginia before moving to San Francisco. He lives in the Mission District with his wife, Gina. Granville is a skier, a golfer, and a music lover.

Faisal Wattoo

Email: faisal_wattoo@mba.berkeley.edu  
Current City: San Diego, CA  
Education: BSci Electrical Engineering, University of Engineering & Technology Lahore  
MS Electrical Engineering, Virginia Polytechnic Institute

**Employment Information**  
Title: Director Product Management  
Company: Qualcomm Incorporated  
Industry: Telecommunications

**Personal Statement**  
Faisal completed his BSEE degree from University of Engineering & Technology Lahore Pakistan in 2001 and then completed MSEE degree from Virginia Tech in 2003. He then started working for Qualcomm Incorporated in San Diego and has been employed with Qualcomm since 2003. During his work experience at Qualcomm he has transitioned from engineering roles to business development and product management roles. As part of his job function he has to travel internationally frequently during the year. Faisal likes to play and watch tennis as a hobby; and also likes to watch cricket. He loves to spend time with his lovely wife and three kids (1 daughter and 2 sons) as much as possible. He loves nature and loves to plan trips with family to places where they can enjoy nature as much as possible.
Benjamin (Ben) Wild

Email: ben_wild@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Oceanside, CA
Education: BS Economics, Texas A&M University

**Employment Information**
Title: Lieutenant Colonel
Company: US Marine Corps
Industry: Military

**Personal Statement**
Ben Wild graduated from Texas A&M University, with a BS in economics. He has been a US Marine pilot for over 20 years, and served in many capacities, culminating as the Commanding Officer of an FA-18 squadron of 250 Marines and 12 aircraft. Other positions included: Instructor pilot, Mishap Investigator, Operations Officer, Forward Air Controller, and Iraqi Elections Planner. Ben deployed to Iraq three times, and Afghanistan once during his service. He will begin a new position as a Lear Jet Captain and Site Manager for Phoenix Air, Inc in May 2016. In this position, he will coordinate operations, aircraft maintenance, and plan and fly missions in support of US Navy and Marine Corps aircraft and ships. His recreational interests include triathlon, SCUBA, and traveling with his family. He lives in San Diego, and is married to Renee (also a pilot). They have two girls, Hailey (15) and Katrina (5).

Sally Wu

Email: sally_wu@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Sunnyvale, CA
Education: BS Accounting, San Francisco State University

**Employment Information**
Title: Head of Finance
Company: Eureka Therapeutics, Inc.
Industry: Biotech

**Personal Statement**
After working for Deloitte & Touche, LLP, Sally has become a CPA professional who has been active in the industry for more than 15 years. Recently, Sally closed her CPA practice to join a revolutionary biotech company, Eureka Therapeutics, Inc., who has found the cure to liver cancer through re-engineering of human CAR-T cells. Sally is currently serving as Eureka’s Head of Finance. In her personal life, Sally has always been involved in community services as she believes volunteerism is good for your heart since it brings out unimaginable gratification and intangible reward. As a mother, Sally is blessed with three young daughters who are constantly practicing and sharpening their debate skills on her. In general, Sally loves to have fun with people, trying out new experiences ranging from Hot Vinyasa yoga to sky diving.
Anjaiah (Anj) Yamsani

Email: anj_yamsani@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: Fremont, CA
Education: BS Electronics and Communications, Osmania University

Employment Information
Title: Director of Engineering
Company: Quotient Technology Inc.
Industry: Other

Personal Statement
Anj Yamsani is currently working as Director of Engineering at Quotient Technology Inc. At this role he manages the platform development and retailer integrations for digital couponing. Prior to this Anj Yamsani built the team and led development of clinical trial management systems at Bracket Global. He worked as software engineer at several startups in Silicon Valley in 16 years. Anj Yamsani lives in Fremont, California with his wife of 13 years and their 8 year old son. In his spare time he enjoys running, volunteering and playing with his son. Anj Yamsani holds BS from Osmania University India.

Kristin Zmrhal

Email: kristin_z@mba.berkeley.edu
Current City: San Mateo, California
Education: BS Economics, Miami University

Employment Information
Title: Discovery Program Manager
Company: Google Inc
Industry: High Technology / Electronics

Personal Statement
Kristin Zmrhal graduated from Miami University (OH) with a B.S. in Economics. After graduating, she moved back to Chicago and worked as a consultant specializing in Litigation Support and Electronic Discovery. Kristin has been working for Google's Legal department as the lead of the Discovery Project Management and Operations team since January 2011. In her spare time, Kristin enjoys hiking, cycling and traveling-especially to tropical locations for SCUBA. Kristin currently lives in San Mateo, CA.