

# DEPT. OF MANAGEMENT PHD ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



PAMPLIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
**MANAGEMENT**  
VIRGINIA TECH™



PAMPLIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS



# CONTENTS

Message from the Department Head

Message from the Director of Graduate Studies

Current Students

Current Student Award Recipients

Current Student Feature: Felipe Calvano da Silva

Alumni Feature: Yue Song

Alumni-in-Residence: Manish Srivastava

Departmental Updates

Closing Remarks/Contact



## MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR



Greetings from your alma mater! I am excited to present to you the inaugural **Ph.D. Alumni Newsletter** from the Department of Management at Virginia Tech. You may recall our recent initiative to establish a Ph.D. Alumni Network. We greatly appreciate the feedback and support from many of you in our initiative.

02

**DEVI GNYAWALI**



This Newsletter is a key part of the initiative and it is truly intended for you—our valuable alumni. Another integral part of the initiative is the Alumni in Residence program. We hosted Dr. Gordon Cheung (PhD, 1993) as the inaugural Alumni in Residence who visited Blacksburg in March 2019 and conducted a series of structural equation modelling workshops for our doctoral students and faculty. Dr. Manish Srivastava (Ph.D. 2007) was the Alumni in Residence in November 2019. He conducted workshops for our doctoral students with emphasis on developing research questions, theorizing, and research design. We could not do the program in 2020 due to COVID-19, but we intend to continue it next year and beyond and would love to have you.

This Newsletter contains some information on our current students, the doctoral program, and highlight some of our alumni. Our program is strong, but we seek your help to further strengthen it. You could help us in many ways, such as being an Alumni in Residence, providing formal and informal mentorship to our students, connecting our students to job opportunities and to your network, or providing financial or any other support you wish to provide. You are certainly familiar with our full-time Ph.D. program but may not know that we have a college-wide Executive Ph.D. program (BXBR). BXBR is a part-time program for working professionals and was started about five years ago.

**03**

**MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF THE  
DEPARTMENT CHAIR- DEVI GNYAWALI**



This Newsletter also contains some news we are excited to share with you. We were recently ranked by the Princeton Review as one of top 25 undergraduate programs in entrepreneurship. We also received top **entrepreneurship research award** from the Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers. We have exciting times ahead, and we will keep you updated through the upcoming issues of this Newsletter. We will also share information about the planned Global Business Analytics Complex, a new home for the Pamplin College of Business for which groundbreaking will start soon.

Thank you for your support. I look forward to connecting with you personally.

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and students from your alma mater, I wish you and your loved ones a joyful holiday season and Happy New Year 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Devi Gnyawali". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'D' and a period at the end.

MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF THE  
DEPARTMENT CHAIR- DEVI GNYAWALI

04



Dear Alumni, Faculty, Students, and Friends of Doctoral Studies in Management,

We hope this inaugural newsletter finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe in the midst of these complex, exhausting times. Never has it been more important for us to reach out to one another to lend support and find comfort in our shared mission and tireless work as management scholar-educators.

For our beloved alumni, your legacy at VT remains intact. With seventeen doctoral students and candidates in management's full-time and BXBR program, we have a vibrant community of budding scholars, pursuing an array research streams that will help to shape the coming decades of management research. External recognition – such as the GCEC Award for Exceptional Contributions to Entrepreneurship Research – and a steady flow of publications in top micro and macro-outlets are further indication of our shared role in contributing to cutting-edge knowledge in management and organizations.

**MESSAGE FROM THE GRADUATE DIRECTOR- RICHARD HUNT**



**05**



We hope that all alumni, regardless of how many years have passed since you earned your doctorate, will keep us informed regarding personal and professional milestones. There is no better team of cheerleaders than one's own family and the community Pamplin Ph.D.'s is first and foremost a supportive family of life-long scholars, linked by our shared connection to this great institution. Please stay in touch and please plan a visit to Blacksburg!

We hope you enjoy this issue of the Alumni Newsletter. Please join me in extending great thanks to Sarah Giles Woodward for her wonderful work in producing the newsletter, along with doctoral students, Haozhen Zhang and Shu-tsen Kuo. And remember: we'd love to hear from you for the next issue!

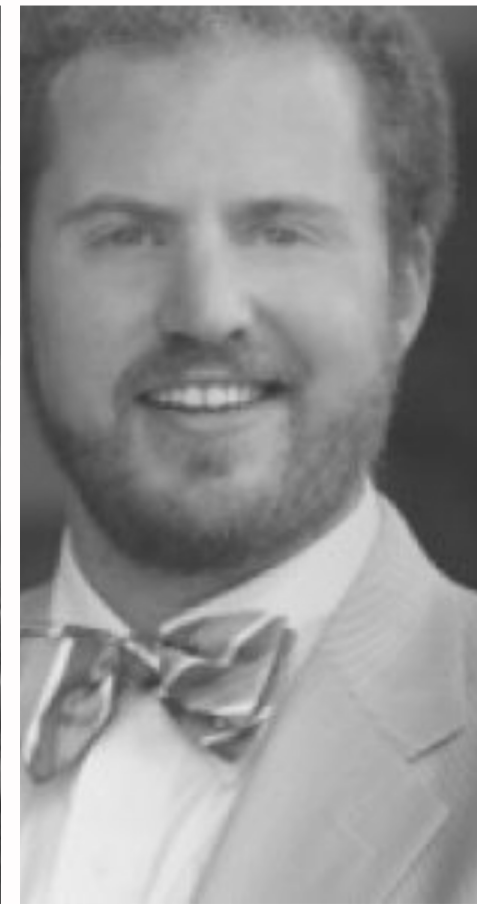
Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Hunt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Richard" and "Hunt" being capitalized and prominent.

Director of Doctoral Studies in Management

MESSAGE FROM THE GRADUATE DIRECTOR- RICHARD HUNT

06



## MGT PHD STUDENTS

from left to right: Felipe Calvano da Silva, Brian Chan, Ju hyeong Jin, Shu-Tsen Kuo, Parul Manocha, Ryan Musselman, Alex Naar, & Haozhen Zhang

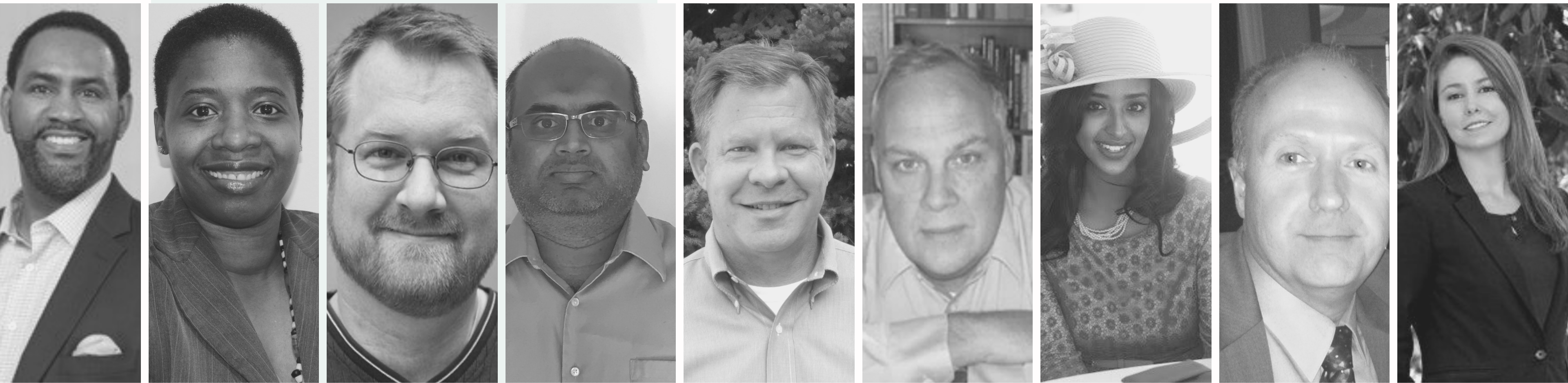


# LITSCHERT AWARD

Felipe Calvano da Silva  
Ju hyeong Jin  
Shu-Tsen Kuo  
Parul Manocha  
Ryan Musselman  
Haozhen Zhang

# HILLS- STEPHENS RESEARCH AWARD

Felipe Calvano da Silva



CURRENT  
STUDENTS

09

# PHD IN BUSINESS: CONCENTRATION IN EXECUTIVE BUSINESS RESEARCH-MGT BXBR STUDENTS

from left to right: Quentin Baldwin, Mahbleeta Grant, Howard Haines, Raja Krishnan, Mark Mondry, Robert Nugent, Gelilah Sebhatu, Julian Thrash & Sarah Tuskey



CURRENT  
STUDENTS

10



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

FELIPE  
CALVANO  
DA  
SILVA

written by Shu-Tsen Kuo



# 11

**FELIPE CALVANO IS A FOURTH-YEAR, FULL-TIME, DOCTORAL STUDENT INTERESTED IN THE INTERSECTION OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, MISCONDUCT, AND INNOVATION.**

Felipe is from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He came to the United States in 2012 to attend to the University of Nebraska, Omaha, and to play college soccer.

Bringing his passion and energy from the game of soccer to the research field, Felipe has been investigating the role of formal position (opportunity) on the board. Specifically, Felipe analyzes how boards can make firms more innovative (e.g. more patents) and less corrupt (e.g. less fraud).

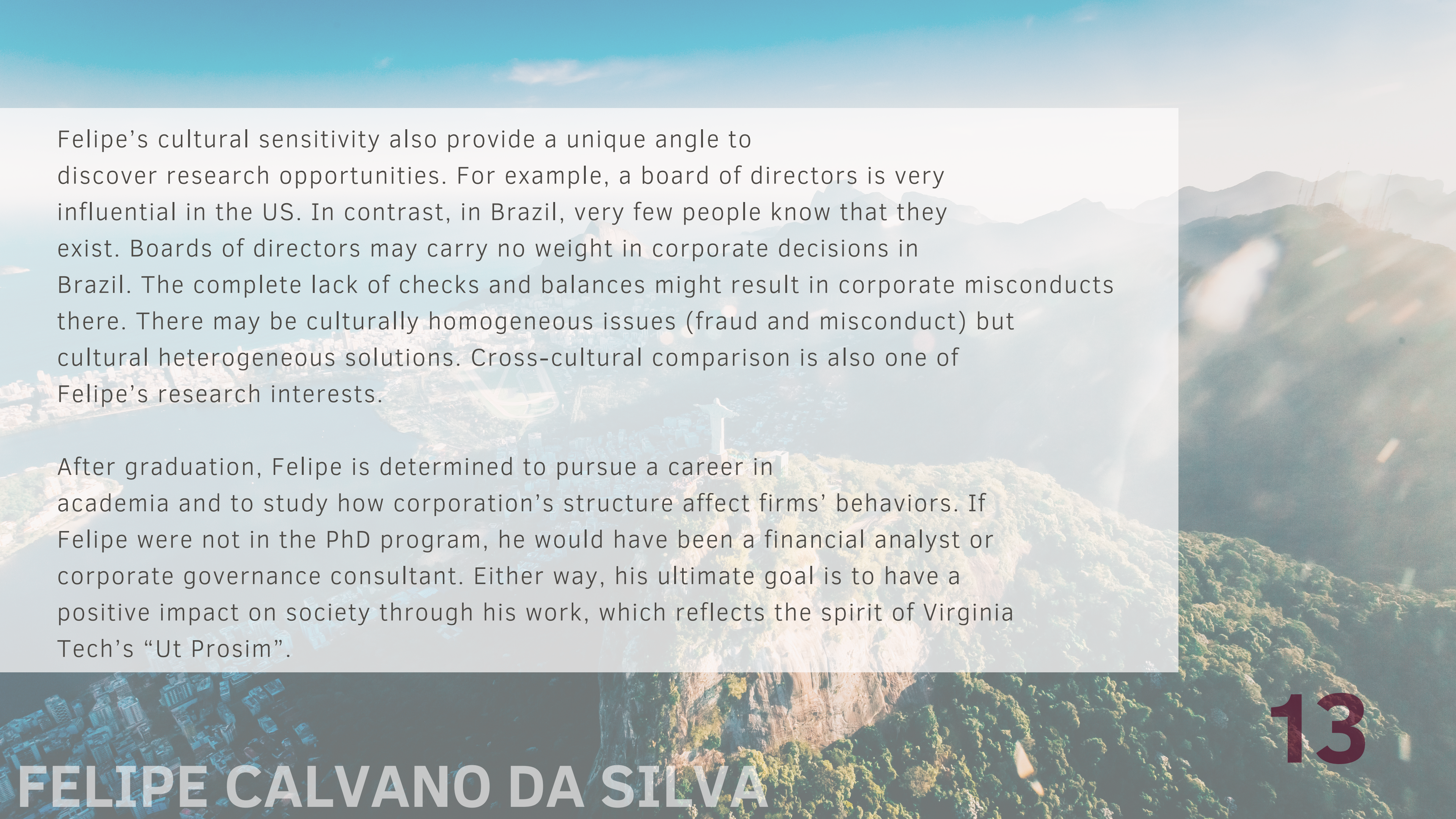
**FELIPE CALVANO DA SILVA**





Felipe's research interests are greatly inspired by his love for his home-country – Brazil, where corruption and fraud prevail, disrupting corporate operations and people within the community's lives. With the eagerness to understand the causes of misconducts and their remedy, Felipe chose to study and to learn from the experience of corporations within the United States with an expectation to bring his knowledge back home to Brazil someday. Felipe joined the Department of Management in the Fall of 2020 as a transfer, following his Committee Chair, Dr. Karen Schnatterly, from the University of Missouri.





Felipe's cultural sensitivity also provide a unique angle to discover research opportunities. For example, a board of directors is very influential in the US. In contrast, in Brazil, very few people know that they exist. Boards of directors may carry no weight in corporate decisions in Brazil. The complete lack of checks and balances might result in corporate misconducts there. There may be culturally homogeneous issues (fraud and misconduct) but cultural heterogeneous solutions. Cross-cultural comparison is also one of Felipe's research interests.

After graduation, Felipe is determined to pursue a career in academia and to study how corporation's structure affect firms' behaviors. If Felipe were not in the PhD program, he would have been a financial analyst or corporate governance consultant. Either way, his ultimate goal is to have a positive impact on society through his work, which reflects the spirit of Virginia Tech's "Ut Prosim".





# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

YUE SONG

written by Haozhen Zhang

# YUE SONG

Yue Song (Ph.D., 17') is now an Assistant Professor in the Department of Management at Auburn University. She has been enjoying life as a faculty member and has been working on getting more publications. Yue's research interests include: innovation, entrepreneurship and strategic management. She has also conducted research within the 'small satellite' industry.

Yue has a strong background in both Economics and Management. She joined the doctoral program at Virginia Tech in 2012. Prior to joining VT, she received a B.A. in Public Economics from Xiamen University (China) and a M.A. in Finance from Claremont McKenna College. Yue has expressed her gratitude for all of the faculty members who have taught her during seminars, and "many long meetings with Devi, Rick and Marc!" She also missed the students and the campus in the Fall.

**YUE HAS EXPRESSED HER "GRATITUDE FOR ALL OF THE FACULTY MEMBERS WHO HAVE TAUGHT HER DURING SEMINARS"**



# YUE SONG

Yue's life since COVID-19 has been filled with research and the extra work that comes with virtual teaching: "...Took me a while to get used to remote work. I think on the research side, the impact was not too significant (at least on me), but I've been teaching online, so it took me some time to figure out how to effectively teach and engage the class." Her travel plans had been suspended due to the pandemic, "Was going to attend SMS, AOM, and SMA this year, but all moved online". Yue's advice for doctoral students: "Be proactive and reach out to faculty members who are willing to collaborate with you (don't wait for faculty to come to you)! Also, know that this is going to be a marathon, think about if research and teaching are really what you want to do/what you enjoy doing. These are going to be your main job responsibilities for a really long time. And...enjoy Blacksburg!



# YUE SONG

Have fun with family and friends, doctoral programs can be stressful, so mental health is also important.” She encouraged the program to provide more opportunities for doctoral students to interact with faculty, “especially faculty who are not teaching PhD seminars”. She acknowledged the Friday research presentations during the old days, “...really helped me to know what exactly the faculty members are working on.” Yue credited the **Department of Management Ph.D. Alumni Network** connecting alumni in management research with current faculty and doctoral students. She was thrilled to see more information about our Department, “tenure, publications, life updates are all good information to know!”





# Alumni-in-Residence

Manish  
Srivastava

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT  
AND INNOVATION, SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND  
ECONOMICS

Dr. Srivastava met with faculty and students last Fall for our **Alumni-in-Residence Series**, (currently on hold due to COVID-19). The workshop sessions were highly attended and helpful.

Dr. Srivastava's research focuses on technological innovation, strategic alliances, and evolution of knowledge structure of firms. His research has been published in the premier management journals: Academy of Management Journal, Strategic Management Journal, Journal of Management, and other leading publications including Journal of Engineering and Technology Management, Industrial Marketing Management, Technology Analysis & Strategic Management, Management Decision, Journal of Technology Transfer, and Technological Forecasting and Social Change.

His research has won awards at the Strategic Management Society, Academy of Management, and Pan-IIM World Management Conference. He has served as Guest Editor for Long Range Planning, and currently serves on the Editorial Board of Journal of Management. He has been a Visiting Professor within the Department of MGT at Virginia Tech and a Visiting Associate Professor at Umeå University (Sweden).





**ELHAM ASGARI  
'19- NAMED  
MICHIGAN TECH  
COLLEGE OF  
BUSINESS GATES  
PROFESSOR**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

<https://blogs.mtu.edu/business/2020/11/09/elham-asgari-named-michigan-tech-college-of-business-gates-professor/>

**20**

# AWARD IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Virginia Tech's Apex Center for Entrepreneurs has won the top award from the Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers for exceptional contributions in entrepreneurship research. Congrats to Richard Hunt and David Townsend for their terrific work!

The award was announced recently at the consortium's annual conference, hosted virtually this year by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Virginia Tech is a co-winner of the award with Texas A&M University. The other finalists from the 106 nominee schools were the Stockholm Institute for Economics, the University of Louisville, and the University of North Carolina.

<https://vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2020/12/pamplin-apex-gcec.html>

21





# 22

Virginia Tech has been ranked  
No. 25 for undergraduate  
entrepreneurship programs by  
the Princeton Review

**RANKED**  
**TOP 25**  
**SCHOOL FOR**  
**ENTREPRENEURSHIP**



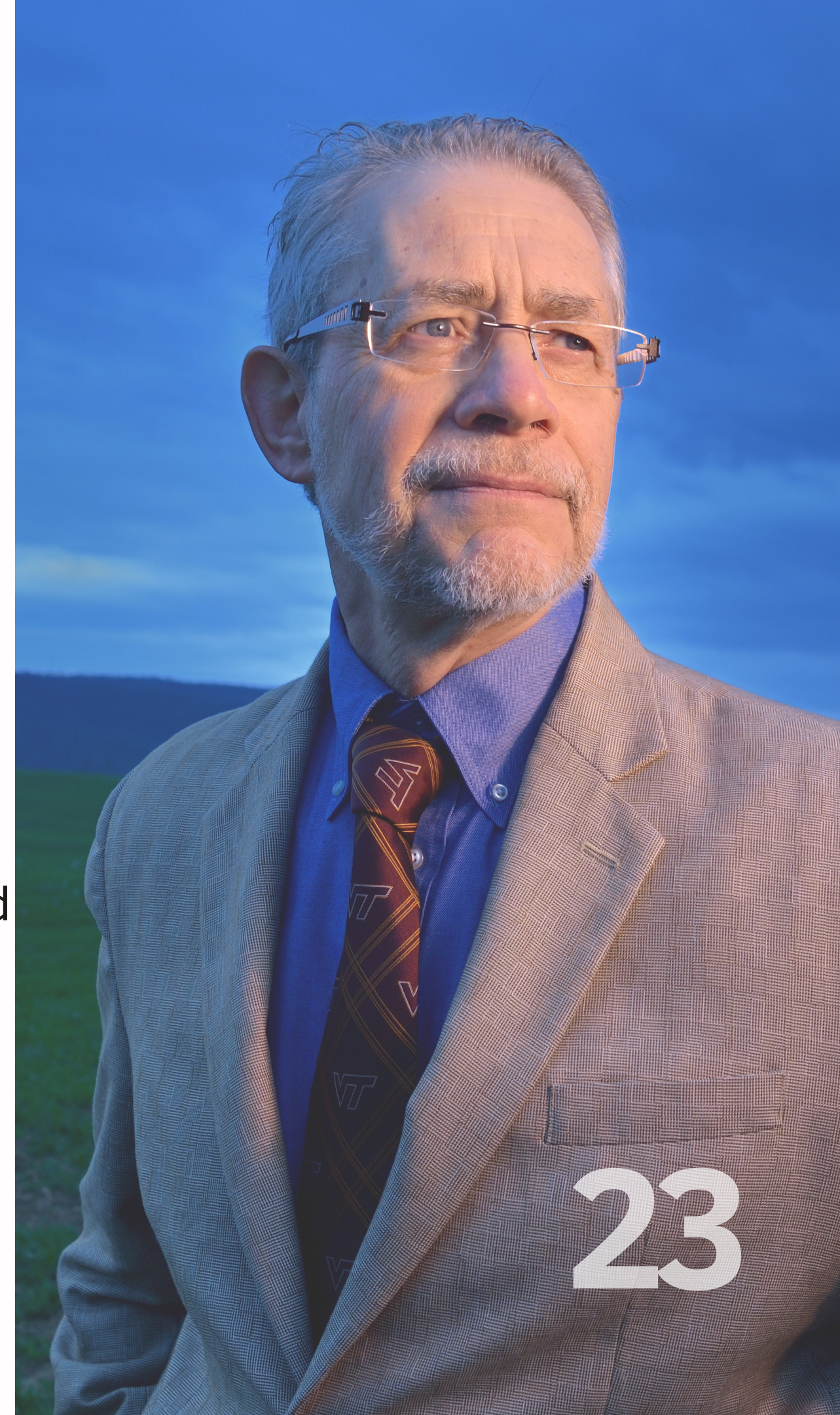
Princeton Review Ranking- We are excited that Virginia Tech has been ranked No. 25 for undergraduate entrepreneurship programs in Princeton Review's rankings for 2021, released Nov. 17 <https://lnkd.in/d/fEWY9y>

This ranking is a testament that our education, research, and engagement programs in entrepreneurship are extensive and robust. Years of work by the Department of Management and the Apex Center in the Pamplin College of Business and many others have led to this recognition. The Department of Management is the academic home for entrepreneurship major and minor, and works closely with the Apex Center for Entrepreneurs. Our world-class faculty conduct research in entrepreneurship. Virginia Tech recently won the top award from the Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers for exceptional contributions in entrepreneurship research. This top award affirms that our entrepreneurship research is of very high quality and impactful. Over 1000 students take entrepreneurship courses in a typical year offered by the Department of Management

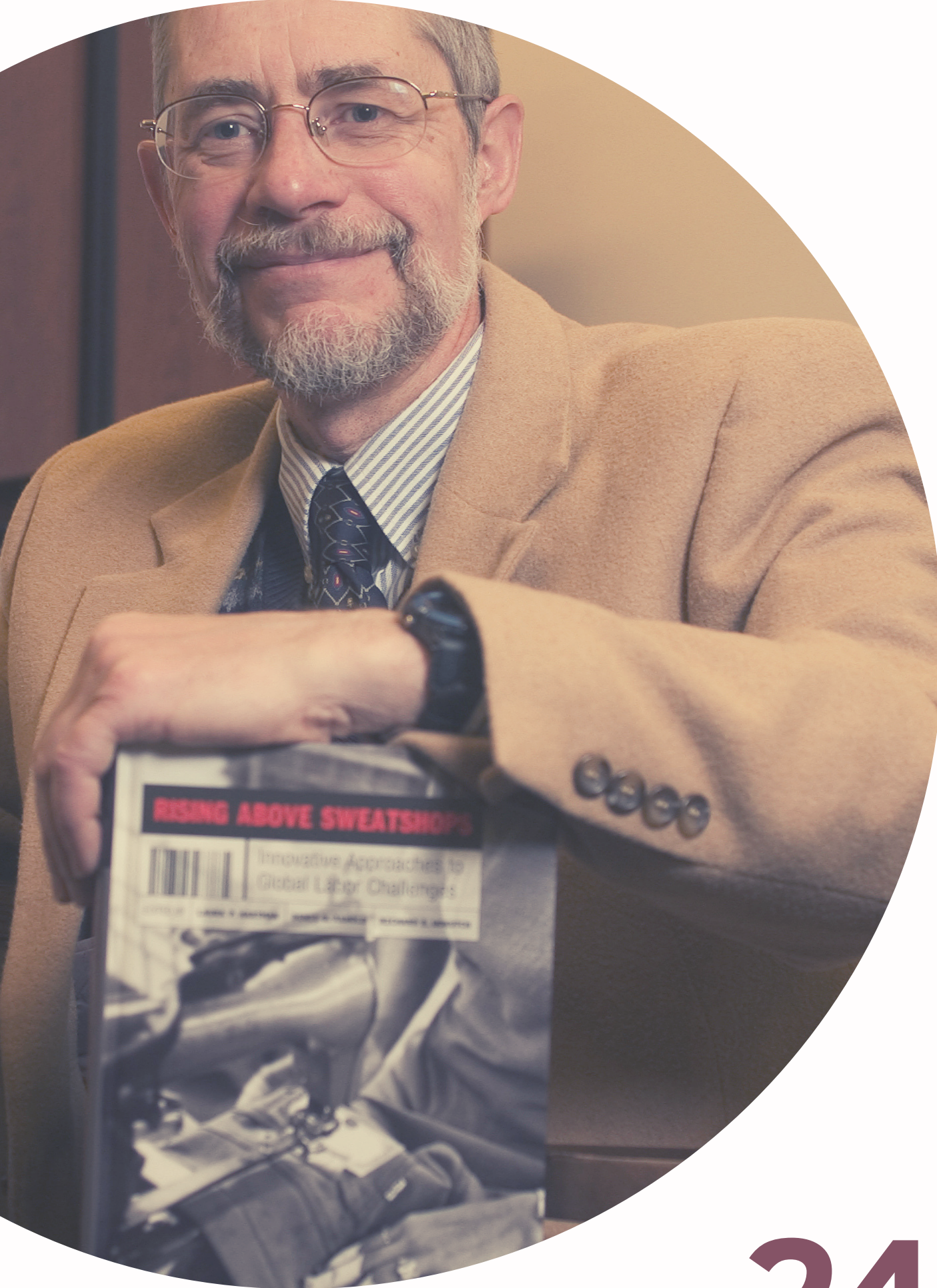


# RICHARD WOKUTCH HONORED WITH EMERITUS STATUS

Rich Wokutch served in the Department of Management of the Pamplin College of Business for over 43 years from 1977 to 2020. His research and teaching during this period have been almost exclusively in the social issues in management/business ethics areas and he has had numerous achievements and accomplishments during this period. Rich has published over 100 papers and several books including *Rising Above Sweatshops* (Praeger, 2003). Rich taught a great many students over these years at the undergraduate, masters, and doctoral levels. He led 15 study abroad programs to Japan, Hong Kong, Mainland China, Vietnam, France, New Zealand, and Cuba. He also served on over 20 doctoral dissertation committees. In addition, he served as Department Head in the Management Department from 2003-2008, and he served as Program Chair and Division Chair of the Social Issues in Management Division of the Academy of Management in the 1990s.







While serving at Virginia Tech, Rich was able to fill several temporary visiting positions at prestigious institutions around the world. He held positions as Visiting Assistant Research Professor at the Center for the Study of Values, University of Delaware, Visiting Fulbright Research Professor at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin, Germany, Visiting Fulbright/Mazda Research Professor at Hiroshima Kogyo Daigaku, Hiroshima, Japan, and Visiting Scholar, Shanghai Finance University, China. He has also taught at Korea University Business School, Telecom and Management SudParis, and the IESEG School of Management, Paris. In addition, Rich has received numerous awards and recognitions over his career. Among these are the Social Issues in Management Division's Sumner Marcus Award (the organization's highest award), the Virginia Tech Alumni Award for Excellence in International Research, and the Pamplin College of Business Doctoral Student Teaching Award.



## ● OPPORTUNITIES TO CONTRIBUTE

The Management Department at Virginia Tech benefits greatly from donations from its alumni, friends and corporate sponsors  
<https://webapps.es.vt.edu/givingto/academic/gift>

## ● AOM 2021 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

We will be in touch regarding ways to connect with us at AOM 2021!

## ● WAYS TO CONNECT

Do you have a career/job change update?  
Do you have exciting personal news?  
Please keep us up to date by emailing  
[mgtdept@vt.edu](mailto:mgtdept@vt.edu)

## ● QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

Please let us know how we can improve our communications with you.

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