

COLUMBIA VENTURE FELLOWS PROGRAM 2022-2023

# Meet The Fellows



# The Columbia Venture Fellows Program

**Columbia Venture Fellows (CVF)** is a competitive two-year program that prepares Columbia Business School students for a career in venture capital. The program is designed to provide the tools and experience necessary to succeed in VC through both academic and experiential learning opportunities.

**Components include:**

Priority enrollment in Venture Capital courses at CBS	Experience conducting diligence on student and alumni startups as part of the The Lang Fund*
Collaboration with top VC funds to write an investment thesis	Working with and learning from the nationally recognized venture investors & startup founders

The CVF program, which is student-driven and managed by the Eugene M. Lang Entrepreneurship Center (Lang Center), builds a strong community among Columbia MBA students and the greater venture capital ecosystem.

Through Columbia Venture Fellows, we are training the next generation of venture capitalists, providing value to partner funds, and making CBS a premiere destination for venture capital.

*\* About The Lang Fund*

Established in 1996 with a \$1 million gift from Eugene M. Lang, MS '40, the Lang Fund fosters an entrepreneurial environment at Columbia Business School by providing early-stage investing opportunities to qualifying student and alumni ventures. It also allows the School to share in the success of funded ventures through negotiated equity or other participation.

# About the Eugene M. Lang Entrepreneurship Center

The Lang Center aims to catalyze best-in-class startups and investors that are shaping the future. Through world-class curriculum, programming, funding opportunities, and a robust alumni network, students learn to identify opportunity, engage in global conversations, and drive value throughout the business world.

The Center offers three areas of focus:



## Launch

For students planning to start their own business during or after business school



## Invest

For students looking to learn about investing in startups through venture capital (early stage and growth) and angel investing



## Scale

For alumni and graduating students who have launched a startup and are looking to accelerate growth

Building on a rich tradition of teaching and research in the field of entrepreneurship, Columbia Business School established the Center in 2000 with a gift from Eugene M. Lang, MS '40. A member of the Columbia Business School Board, Mr. Lang was both a successful entrepreneur and a distinguished philanthropist.



Geffen Hall

645 W 130

Charles and Johanna  
Geffen Hall

# Class Of 2023

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## Fred Bower

fbower23@gsb.columbia.edu  
Colby College, BA, Economics

**Interests:** FinTech, Gaming, Climate, Energy, Biodiversity

**Thesis Topic:** Blockchain gaming

### Chronograph

#### Manager of Growth Team, 2017-2021

Founding team member and second full-time employee of private equity and venture capital portfolio monitoring and analytics software solution. Manager of the Growth Team as the business scaled from pre-seed through Series A; from 5 employees to 80. Chronograph is currently at the Series B stage and backed by The Carlyle Group, Summit Partners, and Nasdaq Ventures.

### Griffin Gaming Partners

#### Summer Associate, 2022

Supported deal team in evaluation and diligence of traditional and web3 investments, fundraising efforts, and LP reporting. Griffin Gaming Partners is the largest venture fund exclusively focused on the gaming market

### Valo Ventures

#### Research Associate, Ongoing

Supported deal team and research team with insight and investment theses in interesting opportunity areas. Valo Ventures is a venture and growth stage investor focused on climate change and the circular economy.



## Maxime Bucaille

MBucaille23@gsb.columbia.edu  
McGill University, BA, Economics Major, Computer Science Minor

**Interests:** Early stage, FinTech, Blockchain, Gaming

**Thesis Topic:** Blockchain Infrastructure for Enterprises

### Venture Capitalist

#### 2021-Present

Part-time with Salesforce Ventures, QCP Capital and Draper Associates, investing mainly in FinTech, Gaming and Blockchain.

### Atari Blockchain

#### Founding Member, Business Development, 2020-2021

Created AtariChain, the blockchain subsidiary of Atari Group, formulated its strategy and recruited a team to bootstrap the project. Sourced, led and closed investments from blockchain-focused investors, raising \$500K+ for the first round of presale of Atari. Token and \$6M for the second round prior to performing an Initial Coin Offering of the token on a public exchange

### AirSwap (acquired by Consensys)

#### Head of Business Development, 2018-2020

Built framework for tokenizing private securities, allowing efficient trading on secondary markets: applied it to debt-investment component of \$30M Manhattan condominium project; transaction reported by Bloomberg, Forbes, and HBS case study. Devised business strategy to expand AirSwap's reach into Asian markets; secured and implemented 10 key integrations across Asia-based platforms, expanding network's user base by 250% in 2019.



## Kathryn Byron

kbyron23@gsb.columbia.edu  
Vanderbilt University, BA in Economics with Minors in Corporate Strategy, Financial Economics and English

**Interests:** Consumer Tech, Digital Health, Fintech, Climate

**Thesis Topic:** Web3 in the Carbon Markets

### Victress Capital (now Visible Ventures)

#### MBA Investment Associate, 2022

Sourced B2C and B2B2C companies in commerce enablement, edtech, fintech & healthcare; supported Returnmates investment, Developed AgeTech thesis on how digitally native platforms and products will enable greater financial wellness, productivity, engagement, and independence for seniors.

### Madison Square Garden Entertainment

#### Manager of Corporate Dev, 2018-2021

Brought on to build out new MSG Sphere business unit after managing business plan for \$1.8 billion project in Las Vegas as Senior Analyst, which was used to obtain project Board approval and secure \$650 million of debt financing; Mobilized teams to provide financial, legal, and human resources documents for due diligence and produced valuation materials for deal negotiations that led to \$100 million higher sale price (\$400 million total) for the Forum to Los Angeles Clippers; Identified 16 industry trends impacting the future of MSG across 5 categories, including entertainment consumption, technology.

### Bank of America Merrill Lynch

#### Investment Banking Analyst,

#### Summers 2015 & 2016, 2017-2018

Advised and executed mergers and acquisitions, initial public offerings, and debt financings; Received highest analyst rating based on analytical skills, contribution to high-priority deals, and perceived career progression.



## Eliza Cushman

ecushman23@gsb.columbia.edu  
Wake Forest University, BS in Finance (summa cum laude)

**Interests:** Early Stage, Growth Stage, Climate Tech, Sustainable Infrastructure

**Thesis Topic:** Thrasio for Insurance

### KKR

#### Associate (Private Credit), 2018-2021

Invested over \$1bn of capital into 10+ companies across a broad range of industries to generate \$65mm+ in revenue. Analyzed 100+ companies and spearheaded all workstreams on 2-3 person teams including building detailed financial models, writing investment memos, conducting diligence, leading expert calls, and performing in-depth data analysis.

#### Visible Ventures (f/k/a Victress Capital) MBA Associate, 2021-2022

Early-stage consumer & consumer tech VC focused on female founders. Sourced new deals, conducted initial deal screening and evaluation, met with founders, contributed to diligence, wrote investment memos, presented deals to partners in weekly pipeline meetings, and helped create fundraising materials for Fund II. Authored 2 investment theses on re-commerce and commerce enablement and presented to partners, resulting in 2 new investments.

### Elephant Energy

#### MBA Growth Intern, 2022-2023

Seed stage climate-tech startup with mission to electrify everything, starting with homes. Created company-wide growth framework and spearheaded priority initiatives across customer acquisition, strategic partnerships, content creation, referral activity, search-engine optimization, paid search testing, and brand positioning.



## Daniel Dishi

ddishi23@gsb.columbia.edu  
NYU Stern, B.S. in Business, Concentration: Finance, Management

**Interests:** Blockchain, Web3, PropTech, FinTech

**Thesis Topic:** Blockchain for Real Estate: The Built World and the Metaverse

### Leap Wallet

#### Chief of Staff, 2022-2023

Seed stage crypto startup funded by Accel, Pantera Capital, CoinFund. Led business development engaging with over 450 DeFi and NFT projects, leading to 135 new partnerships and integrations. Designed and launched Leap Ahead Token Rewards program, growing user base from 2K users to 80K users in under 45 days; consequentially transaction volume increased from an average of \$30K per day to \$500M per day. Navigated turbulence post-Terra collapse alongside CEO; identified new ecosystems (Cosmos, Avalanche, Near) for expansion. Headed special projects efforts ultimately leading to launch of new B2B version of Leap Wallet targeted at gaming studios.

### Elysee Investment

#### Vice President, 2018-2021

Real estate family office (\$1.5B+ AUM) that owns and manages 230+ properties on the East Coast. Led 13 employees across 4 teams managing real estate portfolio spanning over 2 million square feet end-to-end. Sourced and underwrote 6 acquisitions worth over \$135M, executed transactions smoothly working with brokers and financiers. Presided over leasing of all vacant units; supervised renovations, liaised with brokers, negotiated, and drafted lease terms. Audited tenant accounts across 120+ properties while integrating and facilitating adoption of associated AppFolio software. Refinanced and restructured loans on 11 properties generating \$46M in deployable investment capital, easing properties' debt payments during COVID-19, and securing long term low rates at an average of 65 basis points lower than those prior. Oversaw COVID response team alongside legal department to help collect over \$1.3M in past due rent.



## Nadia Govotsos

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Wharton, BScience, Economics with minor in French and Francophone Studies (magna cum laude)

**Interests:** Early Stage, Late Stage, Climate Tech, Consumer Tech, Supply Chain

**Thesis Topic:** Clean Industry Tech

### Mirae Asset

#### Investment Associate, Summer 2022

Led diligence on climate-focused companies in emissions management, industrials, and electric vehicles. Developed fund investment thesis on AI (with a focus on digital twins), identified promising verticals, and defined investment criteria. Co-led development of fund's strategy in new market environment and presented recommendations to Mirae President, receiving his alignment to proceed with new strategy. Created portfolio and pipeline reporting database and institutionalized KPI tracking.

### Coefficient Capital

#### MBA Intern, Fall 2022

Led development of the firm's bi-annual consumer trends report and presented research on consumer verticals to the investment team. Conducted profitability analysis and researched the competitive landscape for investment diligence on the ghost kitchen industry. Refined a thematic nutritional supplements investment thesis by conducting industry research, analyzing supplements market and form factor innovations, and developing case studies to evaluate potential investment opportunities.

### Kearney

#### Associate, 2018-2021

Created operating model for external manufacturing function, developed framework for managing supplier relationships, and worked directly with senior management to improve C-suite decision-making at ~\$18B global agriscience company. Developed strategy for top 5 chemicals company to create leading global coatings player, targeting \$4B in revenue and delivering a 5-year implementation plan. Conducted rapid SG&A organization and systems assessment and facilitated 10+ workshops with leading personal care company, identifying \$3M in savings.



Gaelen Hendrickson

GHendrickson23@gsb.columbia.edu  
Ohio State University (BSBA)  
**Interests:** B2B Software, Marketplaces, Commerce Enablement, Future of Work, Web3/Crypto  
**Thesis Topic:** Web3 And Community

M13  
Investment Associate, 2022-2023

Seed and series A venture capital fund investing in commerce enablement, future of work, fintech, and health. Sourced investments and developed investment theses, primarily focused on commerce enablement software and solutions. Led and supported the investment process for seed and series A investments, including memo writing, market analysis, customer diligence, and underwriting the business, resulting in 3 new investments for M13.

EY-Parthenon, M&A and Growth  
Senior Associate, 2019-2021

EY’s strategy consulting practice focused on transaction due diligence and strategy. Performed buy-side due diligence for private equity and corporate clients, primarily focused on vertical and enterprise SaaS and consumer products. Conducted primary and secondary research, including surveys, TAM analysis, and customer interviews

Supernode Ventures  
Investment Associate, 2021-2022.

Seed stage generalist VC fund. Led 60+ founder calls and supported the diligence process for 15+ companies. Authored investment memos for new investments.



Eduardo Laiter

elaiter23@gsb.columbia.edu  
B.S. Tech, Entrepreneurship and Design  
**Interests:** Climate Tech, FinTech, Consumer, B2B SaaS  
**Thesis Topic:** The intersection of Climate and Fintech solutions supporting corporate net-zero objectives

First Close Partners  
MBA Associate, 2022-Present

Supporting a fund of funds investing in emerging fund managers from underrepresented backgrounds by assessing each fund’s investment strategies, reviewing their investor materials, and researching relevant industry/regional trends.

AutoTech  
MBA Intern, 2022

Supported due diligence and research of emerging opportunities in the automotive space, assessed public equity positions, and provided relevant recommendations.

Kapor Capital  
Sr Analyst, 2018-2021

Focused on assessing early-stage opportunities in the FinTech and EdTech space, supporting portfolio companies, improving fund operations, and raising capital for Kapor’s third fund. In aggregate, I supported +50% of deals performed during my tenure, evaluated over 900 companies, and compiled 3 industry reports.



Adetola Olatunji

aolatunji23@gsb.columbia.edu  
Princeton University, Major: Political Economy, Minor: African Studies  
**Interests:** Future of Work, EdTech, Fintech, Enterprise SaaS, Digital Health  
**Thesis Topic:** Women Founders, Blockchain-Powered Fractional Ownership and the Consumerization of Web3

Primary Venture Partners,  
MBA Fellow, 2022 – Current  
Primary focus on fintech and Web3 investments, as well as B2B SaaS models, particularly those focused on the Future of Work, EdTech, PropTech and Digital Health as well.

Rethink Education  
MBA Fellow, 2022  
Future of Work / Fintech focus

Kapor Capital  
Venture Fellow, 2021  
Future of Work / EdTech / Fintech focus





## Daniel Paredes

dparedes23@gsb.columbia.edu  
University of Washington - Foster School of Business, BA/BS Finance

**Interests:** Enterprise Software, Deep Tech  
**Thesis Topic:** Identity and Access Management

### Harlem Capital Partners MBA Associate, 2023

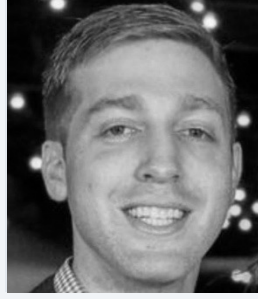
Executed and provided findings for the 2023 Diverse Founders Report, analyzing data and trends to support the representation and success of underrepresented founders in the startup ecosystem. Identified and evaluated potential portfolio companies across HCP's investment areas such as ecommerce, fintech, enterprise software and web3.

### Draper Associates MBA Associate, 2022

Evaluated 20+ investment opportunities by leading intro calls with founders, analyzing data rooms, and creating detailed diligence memos across fintech, digital health, energy, consumer, and enterprise software. Researched and developed an investment thesis on fintech, conducting in-depth market analysis and identifying key areas of opportunity for potential investments across 5+ startups.

### Madrona Venture Group MBA Associate, 2022

Identified, qualified, and sourced early-stage enterprise security startups for investments including developing an investment thesis on application security and DevSecOps. Evaluated 30+ early-stage investments across Madrona's investment theses such as intelligent applications, fintech, software infrastructure, and intersection of innovation (biotech); deals closed: Tangibly. Developed an investment framework for Madrona's angel investor program to ensure cohesion and conversion between the angel network and Madrona's investment pipeline.



## Philip Ratnowsky

pratnowsky23@gsb.columbia.edu  
University of Georgia, BBA Finance (magna cum laude)

**Interests:** SaaS, FinTech, Healthcare, Real Estate  
**Thesis Topic:** Live Selling

### Downing Capital Principal, 2022-Present

Analyzed various business models including live selling platforms, value-based care MSOs, fertility care delivery, and experiential living through market research and direct expert diligence calls. Brought a fertility care delivery business investment memo to committee and deployed capital into the business. Interning since January 2022 and returning full time upon graduation.

### LabCoNYC Associate, 2017-2021

Analyzed investment opportunities and designed business plans for LabCo Fund I including a B2B recruitment platform (ERIN), a digital asset custodian (DACC), and a digital asset pricing provider (DAR Data Services) three ventures with >\$1mm ARR. Executed on fundraising totaling >\$5mm Seed and Bridge financing for portfolio companies and conducted diligence for the 8-figure exit of DACC to ICE's Bakkt (NYSE: BKKT).

### UBS Investment Banking Analyst, 2015-2016

Completed valuations, models, research and presentations for M&A and financing transactions including a ~\$500 million sell-side transaction for global pharma logistics company and a ~\$700 million sell-side transaction for packaging and labeling company. Strategized with management teams of firms during transaction due diligence and execution to understand capital needs.



## Raquel Scott

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College of the Holy Cross, BA in Economics

**Interests:** Technologies that help close resource gaps for underserved consumers including Fintech, Healthtech, and Future of Work  
**Thesis Topic:** Fintech in Latam

### Harlem Capital Partners Graduate Fellow, 2023

Oversee intern operations, manage inbound dealflow, organize diligence processes for high-priority deals. Ran diligence process for \$1.5M investment in -AI governance company including market diligence, reference calls, revenue build, exit modeling, investment memo, and presenting the opportunity to internal team.

#### Pre-MBA intern, 2021

Sourced 8 startups and completed due diligence on 30+ companies, leading to 5+ investment memos and 1 seed investment. Conducted founder calls, comp analysis, market sizing, revenue builds, and exit models for fintech, healthtech, and FoW companies. Designed, organized, and hosted "Game Changers" podcast series to highlight notable investors introducing new structural features to increase diversity in VC.

### BBG Ventures MBA Associate, 2022

Led diligence process for \$1.4M seed investment in a B2B SaaS platform offering retirement benefits for small businesses, including reference calls, market sizing, competitive landscape, and exit analysis. Conducted market research highlighting macro drivers, consumer trends, and investable opportunities within healthcare for annual meeting presentation to LPs. Spearheaded initiatives to support founders and LPs including BBGV's inaugural deal digest, quarterly portfolio updates, portco engineering support group, and annual meeting presentation.

### Munich RE Ventures HBCUvc Summer Fellow, 2021

Managed all inbound investment requests, reviewed 50+ pitch decks, and recommended opportunities to investment team. Conducted research to author thesis on Personal Cyber Insurance and presented strategic investment opportunity to MRV COO.





Stanley Stilwell

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Fordham University, B.S., Finance and  
Alternative Investments

**Interests:** ConsumerTech, ClimateTech, Health  
and Wellness CPG, AR/VR  
**Thesis Topic:** Direct to Avatar Business Model  
within the Metaverse

Andreessen Horowitz  
Part time Deal Partner, 2022-present

Source new deals that align with the ‘cultural  
breakthrough and opportunity disparity’ thesis;  
conduct diligence for deal committee. Provide  
support for current portfolio companies (e.g.,  
executive hiring, operational excellence, future  
fundraising guidance).

Cosmic Venture Partners  
MBA Investment Associate, 2022

Sourced new deals and conduct diligence; 11  
deals including Cann, D’Amelio Brands,  
Discord, Invisible Universe, & SpaceX.  
Managed investor relations and backend  
vendors; provide support raising a new \$7m  
sidecar fund for Cosmic’s SPV business.

Broma Organics  
Co-Founder, 2019-2021

Fundraised \$500k in a Friends, Family, and  
Angel round; wrote term sheet and led monthly  
investor updates.



Elijah Yi

EYi23@gsb.columbia.edu  
Wheaton College, BS in Biology

**Interests:** Healthcare, Biotechnology, Deep Tech,  
Frontier Tech  
**Thesis Topic:** Digital Health: State of the Health  
Data Ecosystem

Lux Capital  
MBA Associate, 2022-2023

Conducting diligence and sourcing startups at  
the intersection of science and technology.  
Primarily focused on digital health and biotech  
ideas, while additionally supporting space  
technology investments.

Cipherome  
Product Manager, 2017-2021

#2 hired employee at a series-B funded  
precision medicine startup utilizing patented  
genomic analysis technology and software  
integration to improve patient safety and  
reduce costs. Defined the company vision and  
development of the introductory product and  
established the clinical trials program.







# Class Of 2024

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James Barone

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Villanova, Finance/Accounting/MIS

**Interests:** Enterprise SaaS, Cloud, Data, Fintech, AI/ML  
**Thesis Topic:** Cloud Infrastructure

Draper Associates  
MBA Associate, 2022-Present

Evaluating Pre-Seed to Series B startups by analyzing market trends, researching competition, and conducting due diligence, enabling the team to proceed with term sheets for investments. Managing portfolio companies by hosting regular meetings with management teams, board members, and investors.

IBM Ventures & Acquisitions  
Investment Associate, 2020-2022

Crafted strategic rationales, opportunity assessments, and financial analyses for 10+ potential M&A transactions in high priority geographies & industries, enabling the team to negotiate IBM Board approvals to proceed with transactions. Devised proprietary sourcing framework to narrow down list of potential acquisition targets from thousands to a handful; leveraged for multiple scans, resulting in 3 future acquisitions (Nordcloud, Waeg, Rego) and 1 series C investment (Copado). Headed 7+ transaction due diligence workstreams by gathering questions, briefing IBM executives, and leading meetings with target CEOs to finalize necessary documentation for IBM Steering Committee approval.

IBM Blockchain  
Manager, 2017-2020

Led 10+ person business and engineering teams to define and prioritize technical requirements & devise playbooks for development of 2 enterprise blockchain networks (e.g., openIDL, Responsible-Sourcing Network). Researched regulatory, operational, and financial challenges plaguing client industries to craft compelling business cases, generating initial user bases and robust customer pipelines of 15+ leads for each network developed. Established, managed, and grew client relationships, resulting in additional IBM product engineering revenue \$2M+.



Antonio Calderon

acalderon24@gsb.columbia.edu  
Duke University, Economics w/Finance Concentration

**Interests:** Sustainable Food Chain and AgriTech, Consumer Health & Wellness, Digital Health, Digitalization & Automation of Clinical Trial Services, AI-Enabled Software  
**Thesis Topic:** Evolution of Pre-IPO Financial and Operational Leading Indicators in FinTech

Paine Schwartz Partners  
Private Equity Associate, 2020-2022

Served on 20-person investment team focused on sustainable food chain investing, including spearheading due diligence, deal execution, and management of third-party advisors as sole or lead associate on 10+ investment opportunities. Managed 4 portfolio companies (Hendrix Genetics, Urban Farmer, Advanced Agrilytics, Axiota) and oversaw research in 3 industry segments (Value-Added Processing (VAP), Downstream Dairy, Animal Health).

Goldman Sachs  
IBD Analyst Healthcare Group, 2018-2020

Guided Healthcare clients on M&A opportunities; sole or lead analyst on 6 transactions; helped close 4 transactions. Led intern analyst training and served as junior lead of Duke recruiting team.



Tyler Collingbourne

tcollingbourne24@gsb.columbia.edu  
University of Wisconsin-Madison, B.S., Economics

**Interests:** Consumer Internet, E-Commerce, Generative AI, Enterprise SaaS  
**Thesis Topic:** Future of Work - HR Tech Stack

Antler – Global Growth Fund  
MBA Investment Intern, 2023- Present

Evaluating Series A to Series C companies through competitor benchmarking, trend analysis, market sizing, unit economics analysis, financial modeling, and investment memo writing. Providing support for existing portfolio companies and building relationships with key stakeholders across different tech ecosystems.

B Capital – Growth Fund  
Senior Associate, 2021-2022

Executed diligence on potential enterprise software and fintech investments including market/competitive analysis and TAM, analyzing customer data, building financial projection models and investment memos, and identifying key risks and potential mitigants. Led discussions with founders on go-to-market strategy, performance, projections, product roadmap, and team expertise. Post-investment, partnered with portfolio CFO and Corporate Development/Strategy leaders to develop M&A strategy, select potential target companies, and produce initial financial model.

HaloDx  
Senior Associate – Corporate Strategy & Development, 2020-2021

Led partnerships and acquisition activity resulted in 2.5x inorganic growth within six months for a Series A AI/ML healthtech startup. I collaborated with the CEO to build the executive operating model to develop forecasts that guided corporate and investor conversations.



Laura Correa

lcorrea24@gsb.columbia.edu  
Universidad de los Andes - Bogotá Colombia, B.A,  
Economics, concentration: Finance

**Interests:** Impact Investing, early stage, growth stage, ClimateTech, FoodTech, Mental Health.  
**Thesis topic:** ClimateTech/CleanTech: Direct Air Capture and Nuclear Fusion..

Lever VC  
Associate, 2022-Present

Early-stage VC, investing in FoodTech for positive environmental impact. Source new deals, startups, conducts inleads funder calls, conduct impact assessment, and perform due diligence of new investments. Sourced. 30030+ startups, handled 50 calls with founders, 5+corporate partners and industry experts. Executed seed investment in Alt-proteins startup: performed due diligence, wrote memo and presented analysis to the LP board; current observer in the company board.in .

McKinsey & Company Mexico  
Specialist, 2018-2022

Active role in the Financial Institutions and Fuel (startups) practices. Led fast-paced engagements including buy-side due diligence for a top data analytics provider acquiring a Mexican startup, Fintech business strategy for LATAM unicorn. Business strategy project for creating the new fintech vertical of a top Latam unicorn. Led McK Mexico Fuel Fuel Ignition Club, local community for startups, investors, and members of the startup ecosystem. Designed and implemented pro-bono operating model, comprising: +40 consultants, +10 VCs, +30 workshops, and +20 startups., Co-led McKinsey's Alternative Protein Hub, built knowledge tools, client client pipeline, planned the first McK Fuel Future of Food conference.

Angel Investor in Sanarai  
Mental Health Startup bridging the gap of Latino access to mental health in the US.



Jill Damaris

jdamaris24@gsb.columbia.edu  
Boston College, Economics

**Interests:** Digital Health, Biotechnology, Food & Agriculture, FemTech  
**Thesis Topic:** AI/ML in Underserved Businesses across Health Tech, Fin Tech, and Future of Work

Cambrian Bio  
MBA Intern, 2022-Present

Supporting series C biotech in developing the strategy and operations for new advanced biomarker testing program.

Deloitte Consulting  
Senior Consultant, 2018-2022

Supported Life Sciences and Healthcare clients on strategy and analytics engagements, e.g.: prepared retail pharmacy to enter clinical trial market (\$450M opportunity), including assessing market opportunity through business case, developing trial-specific launch plans for 226 sites, and delivering clinical trial training; Built business case and operating model for large biopharma client's first centralized Real World Evidence Center of Excellence to enable data-driven insights across product lifecycle with projected savings of ~\$8.5M over 2 years.



Tola Ebunlomo

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Princeton University, BA, School of International and Public Affairs  
Emory University School of Medicine, MD

**Interests:** Health Services, Digital Health, Life Sciences, Lifestyle/Wellness CPG, FemTech  
**Thesis Topic:** Value Based Care & Hybrid Healthcare

Solera Health, Clinical Programs  
Specialist, 2022-Present

Designed and implemented key research assets for communicating with current and potential digital health program partners and funders. Facilitated workflow and expert medical review for the newest digital partnership in women's health, ultimately beating deadlines by more than a week.

Healthcare By Design  
Fellow, 2021-2022

Moderated interdisciplinary teams through application of the iterative Design Thinking framework to design healthcare solutions while managing the team's ability to produce timely deliverables suited to relevant use cases and target personas.

Georgia Human Rights Clinic  
Director of Clinical Referrals

Adapted parent organization infrastructure to create a GA-wide network of healthcare providers accessible to people without permanent legal status or financial means. Led team through early development responsibilities including partner identification, due diligence and verification of services, and indexing of services.





Ijeoma Ejimadu

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Prairie View A & M University, Chemical Engineering

**Interests:** Emerging Markets, Education, B2B Fintech, Healthcare, Manufacturing & Clean Energy SMB FinTech & Financial Solutions  
**Thesis topic:** SMB FinTech & Financial Solutions

Ivery Arie Inc.  
Founder & Director, 2017-Present

Support female founders securing over \$40M in funding and in-kind support from multiple donors through campaigns; launched pitch competition awarding \$10M in cash and mentorship to top 3 female owned startups.

Uhuru Investments  
ESG Associate Intern, 2022

Developed Uhuru's Gender Lens Investment strategy, instrumental in raising \$20 million from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to provide growth capital to West Africa's Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs), including women-led businesses.

Chevron  
Process Engineer, 2018–2022

Optimized the powdered activated carbon (PAC) system for wastewater treatment resulting in a 50% reduction in usage and \$900M in annual savings. Also led a test run that increasing hydrogen production by \$2.4 million per year with no capital investment. Supported the planning phases of biofuels in diesel unit.



Archit Gadhok

agadhok24@gsb.columbia.edu  
Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani; B.E.(Hons.) Computer Science & Engineering, M.Sc. (Hons.) Chemistry

**Interests:** Enterprise SaaS, AI/ ML, Consumer Internet  
**Thesis Topic:** Large language models and applications

Bain & Company  
Senior Consultant, 2019-2022

Active part of Bain's Venture Capital and ConsumerTech practices in India. Supported a large EPC conglomerate to setup and run their Corporate Venture Capital fund; Evaluated pre-seed to Series B startups in the smart cities and smart grids space by analyzing sectoral innovations, conducting detailed due diligences, orchestrating product proof of concepts and drafting and closing term sheets. Led first investment of the fund in a smart grid analytics startup. Ran multiple projects with e-commerce and D2C clients in India, supporting strategy, growth & core operations. Ran operations for Bain's first undergraduate internship program.

Microsoft  
Partner Technology Strategist, 2017-2019

Managed strategic global alliances with channel partners in India, with the objective of helping channel partners increase their revenue with Microsoft. Led development of new products & services for the channel partners on Microsoft's platform, upskilling initiatives for partner employees and joint-GTM and sales motions for customer acquisition.

boAt, CEO's Office (Externship from Bain), 2021

Worked with the CEO and Founders on key strategy (new categories for expansion), operations (streamlining supply chain and S&OP processes), people (defining and rolling-out organizational KPIs) and growth (supercharging e-commerce sales) related projects



Clementine Gazay

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McGill University, Political Science

**Interests:** Cybersecurity, Cloud, SaaS, ClimateTech  
**Thesis Topic:** Climate Tech - Clean Energy

Techstars NYC  
Associate, 2022-Present

Key associate for March 2023 Techstars NYC cohort. Inbound/outbound sourced +300 startups in the FinTech, Vertical SaaS, Supply Chain, and Health industries. Led +60 founder calls, performed diligence (market sizing, financial analysis, founder references) on short-listed startups. Presented recommendations to the team in weekly investment committee meetings. Authored investment memos on 12 startups selected for investment.

Deloitte Paris  
Cybersecurity Consulting, 2018-2022

Led teams of consultants on multi-million dollar cyber-strategy engagements for large enterprises in N. America and Europe. Selected as chief of staff for 200+ person team, working on strategic innovation projects: launching Deloitte's first cybersecurity innovation center in Africa and producing the business case to join French President Macron's Campus Cyber France (Europe's leading cybersecurity innovation hub).



Ritu Malhotra

rmalhotra24@gsb.columbia.edu  
Barnard College

**Interests:** FinTech & ConsumerTech  
**Thesis topic:** Vertical SaaS in Fintech

Betterment  
Business Development Manager, 2019-2022

Betterment is a Series F FinTech start-up based in New York that was the first to offer a fully automated investing platform. The company currently manages ~\$32B in AUM and is valued at \$1.23B. At Betterment, I focused on identifying new potential growth channels, managed strategic partnerships, and led multiple internal cross functional projects.



Maeve Morse

mmorse24@gsb.columbia.edu  
Bowdoin College, BA, Molecular Neuroscience and Art History

**Interests:** Life Sciences, Digital Health, FemTech, Diverse Founders  
**Thesis Topic:** Early-Stage Generative AI in NYC

Trinity Life Sciences  
Engagement Manager, 2022

Managed \$1.5M engagement developing exit strategy for PE firm from investment in a global CDMO, including leading a team of 12 staff members across 5 different functional areas, leading interviews with market experts and developing board-level materials; Designed business case for small, pre-clinical biotech company to acquire a portfolio of immunology products from much larger pharma company, including valuing two early-stage assets and one launched asset in 9 indications, building NPV models, preparing materials to facilitate conversations with investment banks/the company's board.

Trinity Life Sciences  
Senior Consultant, 2020-2022

Managed ~\$1.5B 10-year rolling global forecast for large pharma client, led day to day operations of \$500k/year retainer agreement including developing forecast assumptions, communication to client senior leadership and management of 2 junior staff; Prioritized 500+ rare bleeding diseases for large pharma client to identify opportunities for expansion of hematology portfolio; resulted in additional engagements to identify acquisitions in three highest value diseases; Performed commercial and clinical due diligence on an asset in development for rare neuromuscular disorder over 1.5 years; initial project resulted in two additional engagements totaling ~\$450K.

Trinity Life Sciences  
Consultant, 2018-2020

Built patient journey map for a rare, pediatric neuro disease through ~30 patient interviews, detailing current pain points in patient experience to create a clear value proposition for a gene therapy, when launched will treat ~3K patients worldwide; Conducted competitive intelligence for a mid-pharma client on a potential clinical-stage biotech acquisition; led to \$2B acquisition deal and eventual launch of new treatment for a chronic neurologic disease.



Gilles Nkana

gnkanabatake24@gsb.columbia.edu

**Interests:** HR Tech, B2B Fintech, Future of Work, B2B SaaS, Buy and Build Aggregators  
**Thesis Topic:** B2B Payments

Investment Partner  
Dorm Room Fund, 2022-Present

Current areas of focus include B2B eCommerce, B2B Payments, HR Tech/Future of Work.

Vice President  
Alta Semper Capital, 2017-2021

London-based private equity fund focused on consumer and healthcare buyouts and growth equity investments in emerging markets. Joined Alta Semper in the early and start-up stage of the firm, helping raise and deploy over \$200m of institutional capital across its portfolio companies and representing the fund at Boards of Directors of two of these companies.

Goldman Sachs  
Investment Banking Division, 2014-2017

Focused on European Industrial and Technology, Media and Telecom companies, working on M&A, Equity and Debt financing transactions. Prior to Goldman Sachs, Gilles gained experience in venture capital in Africa at Rocket Internet and helped roll-out a leading real-estate marketplace in Tanzania. Gilles also gained operational experience at Zalando, Europe's largest online fashion retailer.





Ethan Shaw

EShaw24@gsb.columbia.edu  
Northwestern University; BA in Business,  
Economics, and Political Science

**Interests:** ClimateTech, AgriTech, D2C  
ConsumerTech, Digital Health  
**Thesis topic:** Alternative Proteins

Kearney,  
Analyst / Associate / Manager, 2018-2022

Achieved accelerated promotions from Business Analyst to Associate in 24 mo. (vs. 36-mo. standard); lead project teams of 3-5 consultants across digital, strategic, and operational projects and served as mentor to junior consultants.

Kearney Venture Capital  
Founding Member and Design Lead

Served as Product Lead to Managing Partner; Led end-to-end product development, including collection of product requirements, definition of value prop, and outline of operational risks, and worked with global Partner groups to collect input and receive buy-in • Coordinated with internal (Legal, Finance, HR) and external (Law, Accounting, Venture Capital) stakeholders to build operating model, source partnerships, and build implementation plan; presented to Board of Directors to gain approval 2 months ahead of plan.



Kali Stitt

kstitt24@gsb.columbia.edu  
Spelman College, Psychology

**Interests:** Fashion (+Fashion Tech), Beauty (+ Beauty Tech), Consumer Goods  
**Thesis Topic:** Generative AI

FIFTEEN PERCENT PLEDGE  
MBA Intern, Data and Research, 2022-Present

Perform data and research analyzing 4500+ Black Brands within the Business Equity Community (BEC) for partnership and programming opportunities; Manage the application process, while creating the review and public voting processes for the inaugural Achievement Award; Created manage and re-iterate the in-store and digital merchandising for the Holiday Pop-up (inclusive of discovery, purchase orders, negotiations, pricing, and marketing)

Black Venture Capital Consortium  
Lead Program Manager, 2021-2022

Created the Robotics track of the HBCU Curriculum for 32 students across 9 HBCUs ; Facilitated relationships with 40+ partner VC funds and 20+ tech companies to create internship opportunities for HBCU Students; Managed the internship interview and placement process for VC, UX Design, SWE, PM, and Robotics Internships. Assisted on the inaugural fund with sourcing companies, deal flow, and portfolio management; Managed research projects for STEM VC portfolio companies: Capella Space, Reach Labs, CH4 Global, and Totus Medicines.

Cabana Show  
Retail Relations Manager, 2020

Managed relationships with luxury retail partners, supported partner growth, and established new relationships in emerging markets; Established partnerships between luxury brands and retailers based on location, pricing, and assortment goals; Used data analysis to formulate trend recommendations to create a tailored matchmaking program resulting in \$4M+ in sales between luxury brands and retailers; Performed daily data analysis and maintained a database of 700+ retailers



Jewel Crosswell Stone

Jstone24@gsb.Columbia.edu  
University of Virginia, BA, Double Major in  
Global Development and Religion

**Interests:** Fintech, Financial Inclusion,  
Proptech, Alternative Asset Building  
**Thesis Topic:** Using technology to create more  
affordable housing

JUST  
Director of Growth, 2019-2022

Social enterprise financial platform that makes loans to low-income female entrepreneurs through alternative underwriting methods in order to help build generational wealth. Built partnerships to generate revenue and acquire clients in new and existing markets.

Techstars  
Business Development Associate, 2018

Supported 10 early-stage portfolio companies to improve business models, develop new customer acquisition strategies, and raise venture funding; Deloitte Consulting, Strategy Consultant, 2.5 years.



Alex Talati

atalati24@gsb.columbia.edu  
Virginia Tech, B.S. Industrial & Systems Engineering

**Interests:** Fintech, Climatech  
**Thesis topic:** Blockchain-based Interoperability Solutions

Visa, Sr. Manager  
Visa Ventures, 2018-2022

Drove deal sourcing, evaluation, diligence, and execution for 70+ investments across NA, AP, EU, LATAM, and CEMEA for Visa's strategic investment group, Visa Ventures. During my time on the team, we doubled the size of team, tripled Visa's investment activity, and grew the portfolio to \$1.5B+ in AUM. Additionally, I was the Board Observer for Flutterwave, Africa's highest-valued fintech startup (2020-2022).

Visa  
Associate New Graduate Development Program, 2016-2018

One of <1% chosen for leadership development program; completed four rotations in sales, product, strategy, and ventures.



Navneet Vishwanathan

nvishwanathan24@gsb.columbia.edu  
Georgetown University, International Economics

**Interests:** Defense/Dual Use, Cybersecurity, Space, AI, Autonomy, Manufacturing  
**Thesis Topic:** Defense Tech

America's Frontier Fund  
Associate, 2022-Present

Conduct investment research and due-diligence on early-stage startups in several national-security domains to include advanced manufacturing, energy, aerospace, microelectronics, and AI; Support strategic efforts across AFF to include accelerator and venture studio operating models, fundraising efforts, and fund organizational strategy/thesis development National Security Innovation Network.

National Security Innovation Network  
Strategy Fellow, 2022

Led assessment on expansion of NSIN accelerators, identifying cities with strong NatSec tech ecosystems, establishing operating model/playbook for innovation hubs, and defining success factors/KPIs; Evaluated early/seed-stage startups for dual-use capability, technology readiness, and mission partner solution-fit to connect innovators to accelerator programs and opportunities for SBIR/VC investment.





## Student Leadership 2022-2023

Raquel Scott, Managing Director

Elijah Yi, Managing Director

Kathryn Byron, VP Events & Academics

Daniel Paredes, VP Events & Academics

Fred Bower, VP Lang Fund Diligence

Shelby Rudd, VP Lang Fund Diligence

Eduardo Laiter, VP Fund Partnerships

Adetola Olatunji, VP Fund Partnerships

