



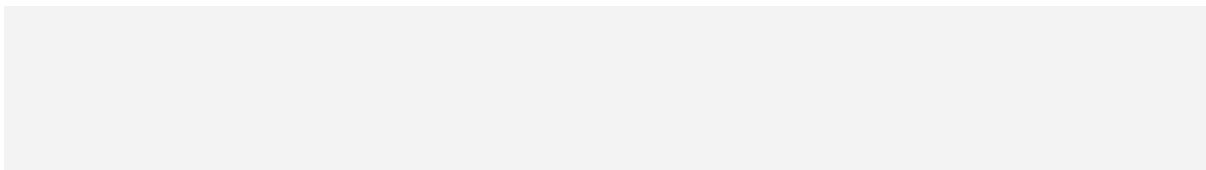
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From the Dean's Desk

Dear Friends,

After Houston's warmest September on record, fall has kicked in. Finally. It's hard to believe we're already facing the last two months of 2019. My quick trip to New York in October feels like ages ago.

We had 19 students attend Week on Wall Street, and they kicked off the week with a tour of NASDAQ and an unexpected ringing of the bell with Rice alumnus Daron Evan, CEO of Nephros. I also had a chance to mingle with alumni and prospective students at the alumni happy hour at the Knickerbocker Hotel bar and meet with media. As usual, it was a whirlwind few days, but so worth it.





Behind the scenes at CNBC.



Ring the bell at Nasdaq.

Before you read the updates below, I want to introduce our new tagline, which you may've already noticed or read about. It never hurts to repeat a good story. "You Belong Here" is the new message we've been broadcasting to prospective students. If you're looking to earn an MBA, start with Rice Business. We want them to feel something strong — camaraderie, inspiration and a sense of belonging. Our research tells us this is how students and alumni feel. I hope you do, too. We want the world to know. See how we're spreading the word.



[Our branding page.](#)

Now that we're back from break and able to hunker down for finals and begin to enjoy the holidays and cooler weather, I want to extend my appreciation for you and your support of the school. As always, there is so much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving season.

Peter

Faculty

Noteworthy Publications

- **Alessandro Piazza** (with Damon Phillips and Fabrizio Castellucci), "Affiliations, Distinctiveness, and the Success of Entrants: New Bands and the Market for Live Music Performances, 2000-2012," is forthcoming in *Organization Science*.
- **Doug Schuler** and **Robert Hoskisson** (with Heechun Kim and Jie Wu), "Emerging Multinationals Rapid Internationalization: Performance Advantage in one Host Region, Disadvantage in Another," was accepted for publication in the *Journal of International Business Studies*.
- **Vikas Mittal** (with Yixing Chen and Shrihari Sridhar), "Investigating the Academic Performance and Disciplinary Consequences of School District Internet Access Spending," was conditionally accepted for publication in the *Journal of Marketing Research*.
- **Leila Peyravan**, "Financial Reporting Quality and Dual-Holding of Debt and Equity," was accepted for publication in *The Accounting Review*.

Recognition and Awards

- **Alan Crane, Kevin Crotty and Tarik Umar** were awarded the Best Paper Prize at the AIM Investment Conference at UT Austin for their paper, “Hedge Funds and Public Information Acquisition.”
- **Connie Porter** was the 2019 Honored Guest for Outstanding Service, Leadership and Commitment to the Marketing Profession, an annual award designated at The PhD Project’s Marketing Doctoral Students Association Conference.
- **Vikas Mittal** was one of the leading academics invited to develop position papers on key themes for the “Retailing Thought Leadership Conference” to be held at the University of Arkansas.
- **Jing Zhou** was recognized with an honorary appointment as Research Fellow by Judge Business School at the University of Cambridge. Jing was also an invited speaker at Harvard Business School Creativity Conference: Festschrift in Honor of Teresa Amabile and was invited by Kurt Lewin Institute (a collective organization of five Dutch universities) to be the featured speaker at a workshop on systematic research into creativity and innovation in the workplace.
- **Jaeyeon Chung** was awarded \$10,000 to study backfiring effects of virtual reality by the Chazen Institute for International Business in China at Columbia University. She also had a paper accepted for the program at the Association for Consumer Research conference in October and two papers at the INFORMS Marketing Science Conference in June.

Degree Programs

Recruiting and Admissions

- We hosted 65 prospective students at Diversity Preview Recruiting Weekend in October, 70% of whom came from outside Houston, including New York, Massachusetts, California, Virginia, Georgia, Arizona, Michigan, North Carolina, Washington, Minnesota, DC and Brazil. Students were supported by 20 alumni and 40 current students.



- For the last month, we have partnered with a call center in an effort to reach out to prospective students. The call center has given us survey information for 162 prospects so far and have scheduled appointments for each of them with our recruiting team. The decision process to apply can be a long one, and these interactions are the first step in determining if Rice Business is right for them.
- The Round 1 deadline for applications has closed. We are processing applications for 171 Full-Time applications, 12 PMBA and 15 EMBA applications. We are experiencing declines in applications in all areas except for EMBA at this point in time.

MBA@Rice

- 67 online students attended the 2nd annual MBA@Rice Residential on campus from September 26-29.
- There are 23 live session faculty teaching in the program, 23 fully developed courses and 5 new courses scheduled to launch in January 2020.
- October 2019 is the largest cohort to date with 52 students enrolled in the program. Student Financial Services provided great support to these new students, with 45% of students utilizing financial aid and 15% utilizing their Veteran benefits.

Diversity and Inclusion

- Rice Business had a large footprint at the National Black MBA Association Conference held in Houston at the end of September. Dean Rodriguez, honorary co-chair of the conference, gave brief remarks at the CEO Reception about his pride at our long affiliation with National Black and hosted 15 alumni at MKT Bar Gastropub and we were all excited to showcase Rice Business with the new “You Belong Here” exhibition booth.

- Rice Business hosted 75 prospective students — a 19% increase from last year — for Consortium MBA Application Preparation Seminar in early October. Of the 20 Consortium member schools, 17 attended info sessions for prospective students.
- The 4th Annual Diversity and Inclusion Conference welcomed 200 registrants who attended sessions on topics such as: Talent Acquisition, Gen Z in the Workplace, Imposter Syndrome, LGBTQ Inclusion Matters, and Immigrant Contributions to the Texas Economy. Presenters from organizations included Ernst and Young, Dell Technologies, Hines, Special Olympics, Diversity Best Practices, New American Economy, EnFocus Group, Rice University and Baker Hughes. Corporate sponsors were Phillips 66, NRG and Accenture Strategy.



- Rice Business hosted 17 alums at the inaugural Legacy Brunch for Alumni at Lucille's Southern Cuisine Restaurant in October.

Global Programs

- Happy one-year anniversary to Rice Business Global and the Global Field Experience programming. As of today, every single class has traveled for their built-in GFE and have officially traveled with the largest group in Rice University history (117 students in Santiago working with 26 local Chilean consulting projects).
- All students, staff and faculty are home safely after civil unrest broke out in Santiago during the PMBA Global Field Experience. It was a sobering reminder of what businesses, friends and colleagues face around the world and how growth as leaders comes from understanding the human condition. While we celebrate the success of Rice Business Global, we strive to improve our communications and management of unexpected situations going forward.
- A snapshot of 2019 numbers (includes EMBA, MBAPW, MBAPE, MBA@Rice, and FTMBA, but doesn't include exchange, seminars or elective):
 - # of students who traveled: **403**
 - # of companies we worked with/projects we completed: **74**

- # of industries touched: **14**
(focusing heavily on working with local startups and entrepreneurs, but also Chevron, Haliburton, Tenaris and Dow Chemical)
- # of cities visited: **6**
(Sao Paulo, Buenos Aires, Bogota, Mexico City (x2), Lima, and Santiago)
- During October, the inaugural Global Venture Accelerator launched. It's a spin-off from Executive Education's activities in Latin America that completes the circle by partnering with Station Houston to bring promising start-ups to Houston for a week for immersive entrepreneurship education and exploration of the Houston market. ([More details in Executive Education.](#))

Career Development Office

- Full-time MBA employment outcomes are available on our website at: <https://business.rice.edu/hire-rice-business-talent/employment-and-salary-statistics>. This year was a record-breaking year. Our full-time students recorded the highest average salary in school history at \$124,798 (\$113,287 in 2018). Other employment outcomes highlights include the following:
 - 92.3% accepted offers within 3 months of graduation (94.5% in 2018)
 - 81.6% accepted offers by graduation (73.6% in 2018)
 - 82.6% of acceptances from School-Facilitated Activities (67.4% in 2018)
 - Top Industries: 1. Consulting, 2. Financial Services, 3. Energy, 4. Technology
 - Top Hiring Companies: 1. Capital One, Dell, Deloitte Consulting (4 each), 4. CenterPoint Energy, Chevron, ExxonMobil, EY, KPMG (3 each)
- Week on Wall Street Trek took place from October 14-17 in New York City. Students in our Professional and Full-time MBA programs interested in investment banking and private equity visited Nasdaq to see the closing bell celebrating the IPO of Nephros, a “commercial stage company that develops and sells high performance water purification products to the medical device and commercial markets.” Nephros’ CEO is Rice alumnus Daron Evan. Students also met with various banks and firms including Scotia, Citi, Goldman Sachs, Sigular Guff, Morgan Stanley, Moelis, BMO, Evercore, Barclays and Credit Suisse.
- Full-Time and Professional students in Houston took advantage of this year’s Energy Trek, visiting Exxon Mobil and Shell. Students met with Rice alumni, who spoke on topics including lubricants, consumer products and downstream supply chain.
- Kristi Chickering, founder and CEO of [Sirius Solutions](#), will speak to Executive MBA students on Friday, November 8, as part of the Executive Career Education Speaker Series. She will discuss her career path in consulting along with the challenges and

opportunities associated with starting her own firm.

Operations

Rankings and Data

- Along with meeting the regular data and benchmarking needs, we conducted a full audit of our rankings process for quality assurance of our data collection and calculations. Ranking season is in full swing. The Economist full-time ranking forthcoming by the end of October, Bloomberg full-time and Financial Times EMBA rankings in November. The Financial Times full-time rankings is scheduled to be published in January 2020 and the Princeton Review: Entrepreneurship in Q1 of 2020.

Entrepreneurship

Liu Idea Lab for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Lilie)

- On 10/9 Lilie held our second Founders Dinner session which brought together 14 student founders, six of which are MBAs, to support each other during their entrepreneurial journey.
- Throughout October, Lilie held a total of four diversity and inclusion events including a women's centered pitch session, which brought together 50+ female entrepreneurs from the Houston area.

Rice Alliance

- The Rice Alliance's Energy and Clean Technology Venture Forum XVII was at McNair Hall September 11 from 8:30AM – 5PM. It was the largest and most successful program in the 17-year history of the event with 930 registered attendees. Ninety-four early stage energy technology ventures participated.
- The inaugural IdeaLaunch program kicked off on October 25. IdeaLaunch is a three-week immersive bootcamp for Rice University students, faculty and staff interested in exploring a business idea. By the end of the bootcamp, participants decide if their ideas have a viable market application and begin formulating next steps for advancing their ideas. IdeaLaunch is organized by the OwlSpark team, Kerri Smith and Jessica Fleenor.
- The Rice Alliance's Texas Life Science Venture Forum will be held on November 6 at the BRC. The forum will showcase 54 early stage life science therapeutic, medical device and digital health companies.
- The Rice Alliance helped organize the 2019 Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers (GCEC) Conference in Stockholm, Sweden in late-September. The conference is attended by 250 of the leading university entrepreneurship center programs around the world. Rice serves as the Central Office of the GCEC.

Executive Education and Innovation

- On November 11 at McNair Hall, Executive Education will co-host Pumps and Pipes – a cross-industry event that encourages collaboration among medical, energy, aerospace and academic professionals and leaders.
- In partnership with Leadership Academy Nepal, Executive Education launched two online hybrid courses – Management and Business Foundations – with 45 participants combined. Program content was designed and delivered by Brent Smith and Balaji Koka from the Rice Business Partners Video Studio.
- Executive Education successfully launched its first off-campus open enrollment program – The Leadership Accelerator – in The Woodlands as part of its regional outreach strategy. The program was held at the CB&I building with more than 20 participants.



- Approval has been received to proceed with the renovation of classroom 116. The room will be designed to foster collaborative learning with leading technology. The classroom will be offline beginning in December and available for use in mid-February.



- Week 1 of Rice Advanced Management Program successfully launched with 20+ participants.
- Effective Strategy Formulation was designed and delivered by Prashant Kale for Baker Hughes. Baker Hughes has renewed its contract for two more iterations of our customized leadership development programs for February 2020.
- Houston Education Leadership Partners continued its Executive Education Academy for campus and district leaders.
- Executive Education and Station Houston co-hosted the Global Venture Accelerator (GVA) October 20-28 for eight Latin American startups.



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