Denver

EXECUTIVE **MBA**

Faculty and Staff Directory and Course Descriptions

Denver EXECUTIVE MBA BUSINESS SCHOOL

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Faculty Directory and Course Descriptions

Jung Park

Leadership

Jung.S.Park@ucdenver.edu
Founder, Sherpath Coaching
MBA, University of Colorado Denver



Jung Park has more than 20 years of consulting experience in design, branding, marketing, user experience, strategy, and business development. He also has over 15 years of experience as a start-up entrepreneur in all facets of entrepreneurship from funding to operations.

Jung also delivers keynotes, seminars and facilitates workshops on the subjects of corporate/personal branding, professional/personal development, leadership, Life ROI, entrepreneurship, value, culture, diversity, and Asian-American empowerment.

Leadership Course Description: Personal and organizational assessments for success in changing business environments. Includes strengths assessment and training on how to leverage these styles and strengths to maximum potential. A second focus on organizational issues and succession planning. Partnership with Center For Creative Leadership. Restriction: Restricted to students in the Executive MBA Program. Max hours: 3 Credits.



Mary Malina

Accounting

Mary.Malina@ucdenver.edu
Professor, University of Colorado Denver
Ph.D., University of Colorado Boulder

Mary Malina is a Professor of Accounting at the University of Colorado Denver. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Colorado Boulder and her MBA from Butler University. Prior to joining academia, she worked as a CPA for a global medical manufacturing firm. Mary teaches in the Executive, One Year, and Professional MBA programs at CU Denver.

Her research interests include management control systems, performance measurement, and subjectivity in performance evaluation. Her work has been published in leading accounting journals including *The Accounting Review*, *Contemporary Accounting Research*, *Journal of Management Accounting Research,* and *Management Accounting Research.* She formerly served as Editor of *Advances in Management Accounting*.

Accounting Course Description: Emphasizes the use of accounting statements and data in making business decisions. External financial accounting information and concepts are used for investment and credit decisions. Internal managerial accounting information and concepts are used for product costing, cost analysis and management control. Restriction: Restricted to students in the Executive MBA Program. Max hours: 3 Credits.

Thomas Eppel

Analytical Decision Making

Thomas.Eppel@ucdenver.edu
Lecturer, University of California Irvine
Ph.D., University of California Irvine



Born and raised in Germany, Dr. Thomas Eppel holds a Ph.D. in Mathematical Psychology from the University of Southern California. He taught at various universities both in the U.S. and in Europe, including Purdue University, Pepperdine, TIAS, and Mannheim Business School. He currently teaches at the Paul Merage School of Business at UC Irvine.

Dr. Eppel has published numerous articles, book chapters, and reports in the areas of decision and risk analysis, fields in which he also has considerable consulting experience. He authored a textbook and developed instructional software in statistics and has been widely recognized for his outstanding teaching. His teaching awards include the R.B. and Mary Stewart Distinguished Teaching Award at Purdue University and an award for Innovation in Teaching from the University of California at Irvine, as well as many awards given by students. He is a sought-after speaker and shared his views on education during the inaugural TEDx conference at UCI in the spring of 2012.

Analytical Decision Making Course Description: Analytical techniques and advances in artificial intelligence have transformed not just the business world, but the world in general. This transformation has disrupted business models, our private lives and the social fabric of our society. Therefore, this course will not be your typical “stats” course. Instead, it will put analytical decision making in a much broader context that explores the power and potential perils of analytical techniques. We will not focus on mathematical details unless they are necessary to develop a deeper understanding. Instead, the focus of this course is on how to solve business problems and how to make smart decisions in a world of uncertainty and risk. This will also include a discussion of behavioral aspects of decision making and the use of Microsoft Excel as the main computational platform. Restriction: Restricted to students in the Executive MBA Program. Max hours: 3 Credits.



Michelle Marks

Leading Individuals and Teams

Michelle.Marks@ucdenver.edu
Professor, University of Colorado Denver
Ph.D., George Mason University

Michelle Marks is a professor of management in CU Denver's Business School. Her professional experience and academic expertise are in the areas of leadership, change management, organizational behavior and team effectiveness.

Previously Marks was Chancellor of CU Denver (2020-24), where she led the institution through the pandemic, and pursued an ambitious vision for the future of CU Denver—a leading public urban research university. She is an innovator dedicated to reimagining higher education to support lifelong learning.

As Chancellor, she led the university in a highly collaborative, ambitious strategic planning process, completed in June 2021. CU Denver's 2030 Strategic Plan promotes social and economic mobility & workforce sustainability. Under her leadership, the university nearly doubled its sponsored research and added many important new academic programs tailored to the economic needs of Colorado and the nation.

Before arriving at the University of Colorado Denver, Dr. Marks served as Vice President of academic innovation & new ventures at George Mason University, as well as professor of Management in GMU's business school.

Leading Individuals and Teams Course Description: In the dynamic and fast-paced world of modern organizations, effective leadership has never been more important. The Leading Individuals and Teams course helps participants master leadership skills and better understand team dynamics. This course is designed to enhance one's personal leadership approach, enabling participants to guide their teams and organizations towards success. Participants will learn to establish and lead a collaborative, innovative, and high-performing team environment. Restriction: Restricted to students in the Executive MBA Program. Max hours: 3 Credits.

Kate Watkins

Economics

Kate.M.Watkins@gmail.com
Deputy Chief Financial Officer, University of Colorado
Ph.D., Cornell University



Kate Watkins is Colorado's State Demographer. She leads the State Demography Office, which produces population and economic estimates and forecasts for use by the business community and state and local governments. Kate's career history includes serving as the Chief Economist for Colorado's state legislature, as an economist with the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, and as an economic consultant in the private sector, including founding and directing Bright Fox Analytics, an economic and data analysis consulting firm. Kate holds a Ph.D. from Cornell University, with research concentrations in economic sociology, and holds an MA in Global Finance, Trade, and Economic Integration from the University of Denver.

Economics Course Description: Economics offers an insightful lens for navigating business decisions in today's competitive and dynamic global economic environment. This course applies the lens of economics to business strategy and management through analysis of consumer demand, pricing, and market competition. The course will also explore how incentives guide firm and consumer behavior, and what social and psychological processes structure these incentives. Addresses profit-maximization, supply and demand, demand elasticity, the estimation of production and cost, and pricing and output decisions for making effective business decisions.
Restriction: Restricted to students in the Executive MBA Program. Max hours: 3 Credits.



Steve Lawrence

Operations

Stephen.Lawrence@colorado.edu
Associate Professor Emeritus, University of Colorado Boulder
Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University

Stephen Lawrence (Steve) is an Associate Professor Emeritus of Operations Management in the Leeds School of Business at the University of Colorado, where for many years he was a Fellow of the Renewable and Sustainable Energy Institute (RASEI). His current research and teaching interests include the deployment of renewable energy, international operations, and the management of healthcare operations. Dr. Lawrence currently teaches in-class and online courses in operations management, international business, and commercializing renewable energy technologies.

Dr. Lawrence has been the recipient of a number of teaching awards, including the MBA Teaching Excellence Award. Prior to his time at CU, he taught at Washington University in St. Louis, Carnegie-Mellon University, and the University of Pittsburgh.

Prior to his academic career, Dr. Lawrence worked for eight years in industry, concluding as vice president of operations for an entrepreneurial metal casting plant in the Midwest. He received BS and MS degrees in engineering from Purdue University and his doctorate in industrial administration from Carnegie-Mellon University.

Operations Course Description: Examines use of productivity, quality, timeliness, and flexibility to improve efficiency and operating performance; examines the importance of integrating the marketing and operations functions. Emphasizes supply chain management, lean operations, innovation, product design to improve competitiveness, performance, efficiency. Restriction: Restricted to students in the Executive MBA Program. Max hours: 3 Credits.

Kelly See

Negotiation

Kelly.See@ucdenver.edu
Associate Professor, University of Colorado Denver
Ph.D., Duke University



Kelly See is a tenured Associate Professor of Management in the Business School at the University of Colorado Denver. She holds undergraduate degrees in Economics and English Literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Ph.D. in Business Administration from Duke University.

Kelly has extensive experience delivering interactive skill development courses, such as Negotiations and Conflict Management, to working professionals and student populations at all levels. Before joining the University of Colorado Denver, Kelly spent over a decade teaching negotiation material on the faculty of both the Stern School of Business at New York University and the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. She has also worked extensively with executives as a feedback coach and visiting instructor in the executive education leadership program at Duke University.

Known as an expert in her fields of research, Kelly studies the factors that influence the effective utilization of input or advice in the workplace. A second area of research interest concerns the use of extreme goals in organizations. Kelly's work has been published in leading scholarly and practitioner outlets, including the *Academy of Management Review*, *Organization Science*, and *Harvard Business Review*. Her research has won several awards and has been covered in a variety of media outlets, such as *Forbes*, *Wall Street Journal*, ABC News, FOX News, and *INC.*

Prior to her academic career, Kelly spent several years working in Washington, DC as a research analyst at a think tank and a consultant in the private sector. In these roles, she worked on a number of economic and policy impact projects for clients in the federal government, including EPA and DOT.

Negotiation Course Description: Negotiation is the art and science of creating good agreements. This course expands managerial negotiation and conflict management skills by mixing lecture and practice, using hands on cases and exercises in which students negotiate with each other. The cases cover a range of negotiation contexts and provide the opportunity to discuss and develop effective strategies to attain better outcomes.
Restriction: Restricted to students in the Executive MBA Program. Max hours: 3 Credits.



Marci Armstrong

Marketing

Professor, Southern Methodist University
Ph.D., University of Texas at Dallas

Marci Armstrong is a Marketing Professor of Practice in the Cox School of Business, Southern Methodist University (SMU), where she founded the Brierley Institute for Customer Engagement and served as director and Brierley Endowed Professor. The Brierley Institute seeks to understand how and why customers engage with brands and how engagement drives customer loyalty and value.

A teaching award honoree, Marci teaches SMU Cox graduate and undergraduate students and is an experienced consultant. Current and past clients in the aviation industry include American Airlines, Southwest Airlines, Boeing, Lockheed Martin and the French company Safran. Her recent work leads companies to understand how to engage customers, drive customer loyalty and incremental profit, and create memorable customer experiences.

At the Cox School, Marci served 19 years as associate dean, graduate programs. Prior to that, she was a faculty member and associate dean at the Olin Business School, Washington University in St. Louis.

Marketing Course Description: This course addresses how to design and execute modern marketing strategies that create, communicate, and deliver customer value. Topics include customer needs and the buyer's journey; segmentation, personas, positioning, and competitive advantage; value propositions; channel strategy and integrated marketing communications; digital strategy (search, social, content, email); UX-focused web design fundamentals with basic analytics; pricing and unit economics; acquisition and customer lifetime value; and the post-purchase experience for retention and referrals. We also address alignment with sales and product, plus practical, responsible uses of generative AI for research, ideation, and content—alongside essential considerations of ethics and privacy. Restriction: Restricted to students in the Executive MBA Program. Max hours: 3 Credits.

John Shaw

Finance

John.2.Shaw@ucdenver.edu
Adjunct Professor, University of Northern Carolina Chapel Hill
MBA, University of Northern Carolina Chapel Hill



John H. Shaw brings 23+ years in Corporate Finance at the Procter & Gamble Company to the MBA classroom. During that time, he served in several financial leadership roles across business units and staff organizations, focused on both North American and Global businesses. Some of his more memorable roles include leading the North American Food (Grocery) Channel Sales Finance organization, Global Fabric Care Product Supply Finance leader, Global Transportation and Warehousing Finance leader, and early in his career, as Customer Team Finance Manager for Food Lion and Publix and the Hawaiian Punch Finance Manager.

Since 2013, John has focused on helping online MBA students learn about Finance and helping them become financially savvy managers. Until 2022, John was full-time faculty and Course Lead of the Financial Management 1 course at the Jack Welch Management Institute (JWMI), a top 10 Online MBA program founded by the former CEO of General Electric. He was awarded Top Faculty honors in 6 of his 8 years at JWMI and had a cumulative NPS (Net Promoter Score) from students of 95 out of 100. In 2022, John left JWMI and joined the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a Finance Professor in both the online MBA and MAC programs. John was just awarded Top Faculty for 2024.

John received his MBA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his undergrad BBA with a major in Accounting from Western Michigan University. John is also a Certified Management Accountant (CMA). John resides in Celebration (Orlando), Florida.

Finance Course Description: Develops the skills to understand the financial implications of major business decisions. Provides an overview of corporate finance, analysis of financial statements, financial planning, valuation, capital-investment decisions, capital structure policy, and cost-of-capital considerations. Emphasis will be on financial decisions and strategy in the real world...including across different industries, types of companies, and business functions. Restriction: Restricted to students in the Executive MBA Program. Max hours: 3 Credits.



Jeff Reuer

Corporate Strategy

Jeff.Reuer@gmail.com
Professor, Purdue University
Ph.D., Purdue University

Jeff Reuer is the Guggenheim Endowed Chair and Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship at the University of Colorado. Previously, he was the Blake Family Endowed Chair in Strategic Management at Purdue University, where he was also the Area Head. He has also served as the Boyd W. Harris, Jr. Distinguished Scholar and Professor of Strategic Management at the University of North Carolina. He started his academic career on the faculty of INSEAD in Fontainebleau, France. Professor Reuer has led courses and seminars on business and corporate strategy, strategic investment decisions, and collaborative strategy in many graduate degree programs and organizations.

Professor Reuer has served as an Associate Editor for the Strategic Management Journal and as a Consulting Editor for the Journal of International Business Studies. He is a founding Editor in Chief of the Strategic Management Review. He recently co-edited a special issue of the Strategic Management Journal on the interplay between competition and cooperation, as well as a special issue of Strategy Science on strategic decisions and the integration of strategic management research. He has been a member of the editorial boards of seventeen journals and has received five best reviewer awards.

Professor Reuer's research uses organizational economics to investigate firms' external corporate development activities and growth options.

Strategic Management Course Description: This course is about the issues and challenges of leading a firm in a competitive environment from the perspective of a top executive. Coverage includes pursuing sustainable competitive advantage, making corporate investment decisions, and addressing uncertainty and execution challenges surrounding strategic choices. Restriction: Restricted to students in the Executive MBA Program. Max hours: 3 Credits.

Jill Lohmiller

International Business

Jill.Lohmiller@ucdenver.edu
Instructor, University of Colorado Denver
MBA, University of Colorado Denver



Jill Lohmiller has extensive experience in global education and has led a variety of MBA courses abroad. She holds an MBA and an MS in International Business from CU Denver, with a focus on European Union business practices and cross-cultural communications. Jill teaches other experiential learning courses at the Business School and serves as a Reynolds Fund for Global Business fellow, working in collaboration with internal and external partners to enhance international experiences for all students.

In addition to teaching, Jill runs a small marketing consultancy that partners with domestic and international clients to help grow their businesses through strategic messaging and media.

Global Leadership and International Trip Course Description: This course offers students the opportunity to learn about and participate in international business through intensive classroom sessions, collaborative group projects, and a unique, first-hand experience abroad. The course overlays multiple experiential-learning models to expose students to executive-level insights on international business, together with consulting projects addressing operational challenges with client companies in our destination country. The course culminates in an intensive trip to contrasting countries in a topical global region. Learning outcomes include an understanding of key dimensions of business in a global context; an appreciation of how complex cultural dynamics impact business decisions, interpersonal relationships, and leadership effectiveness; the application of leadership and management tools to enhance personal and team effectiveness; and problem solving in a complex and ambiguous, cross-cultural context.



Bruce Rudy

Communication

Bruce.Rudy@ucdenver.edu
Professor of Instruction, UT San Antonio
Ph.D. in Strategic Management from UT Austin

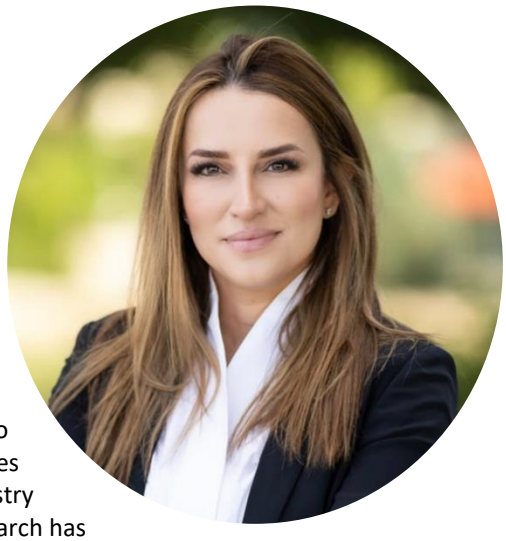
Bruce C. Rudy is a Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award recipient and professor of strategy at UT San Antonio. He joined UTSA in 2011 after completing his PhD in Strategic Management at UT Austin, where he also earned his bachelor's and master's degrees; he holds an additional master's from the University of Michigan. As former senior executive and faculty director of the Center for Professional Excellence, he expanded executive education programs and created the Discover, Discuss, Do learning framework, which helped UTSA's EMBA achieve its first global ranking, now 8th in CEO Magazine. His research spans learning and development, corporate political activity, and corporate social responsibility, focusing on student outcomes, firm political strategies, and CSR's impact on stakeholders and long-term performance. His work appears in Journal of Management, Global Strategy Journal, Business & Society, Harvard Business Review, and California Management Review.

Innovation and Organizations Course Description: This course examines how innovation can occur in an established organization. It is designed for experienced managers who seek to bring a solutions-oriented mindset to their workplace to solve meaningful problems. The course introduces the core concepts of corporate innovation, intrapreneurship, opportunity recognition, experimentation, and implementation, while emphasizing the leadership behaviors required to advance innovation, in practice. Students will build skills in creativity, perseverance, strategic vision, adaptability, and implementation through cases, practitioner-oriented readings, class discussion, and a cumulative applied project linked back to their own work situation. Central to the course is the role that generative and agentic AI can play in opportunity discovery, experimentation, communication, and execution, while retaining (and promoting) the principles of human judgment, contextual perspective, and responsible and ethical use.

Anoud Bani-Hani

Intelligent Organizations

Anoud.Banihani@ucdenver.edu
Associate Professor of Information Systems, University of Colorado Denver Business School
Ph.D. Loughborough University, United Kingdom



Dr. Anoud Bani-Hani is an Associate Professor of Information Systems at the University of Colorado Denver Business School. Her teaching and research focus on artificial intelligence, digital transformation, entrepreneurship, and human-AI collaboration. Prior to joining CU Denver, she held faculty positions in the United Arab Emirates and has worked with governments, healthcare organizations, and industry leaders on AI strategy, governance, and innovation initiatives. Her research has been published in leading journals and conferences, with work spanning AI governance, cybersecurity, healthcare AI, and digital innovation. Dr. Bani-Hani is also a frequent speaker and media contributor, providing insights on emerging technologies, AI, and business strategy for executive and public audiences. In the classroom, she emphasizes practical, hands-on learning that equips leaders to navigate technological disruption, make informed strategic decisions, and create lasting organizational value through responsible adoption of AI and emerging technologies.

Intelligent Organizations Course Description: Organizations are entering an era where intelligence is increasingly shared between people and AI systems. Designed for executives with varying levels of AI experience, this course equips leaders to think strategically about AI, where it creates business value, which tasks and roles it can augment, automate, or transform, and where human judgment remains essential. Through current, real-world AI stories, organizational challenges, and firsthand perspectives from guest executives and industry practitioners, participants learn to identify high-value opportunities, assess organizational readiness, prioritize AI initiatives, and move from experimentation to scaled transformation. Responsible AI and governance are integrated throughout, examining privacy, risk, ethics, accountability, and the integrity of AI-generated work.



Jeff Brooks

Capstone

Jeffrey.Brooks@ucdenver.edu
CEO & CFO (former), Private Equity
Master of Science, Purdue University

Jeff Brooks has served in many successful executive roles in both private and public companies. Until February 2024, he served as CEO and President and Chairman of the Board for Guy & O'Neill, a premier manufacturer of household cleaning and personal care products. He has pivoted G&O to a new strategic focus, significantly expanded capacity and strengthened operations efficiency and effectiveness. Prior to G&O, Jeff spent 27 years at The Procter & Gamble Company. He was the CFO of the global Pet Care business which he successfully divested in a $3 Bn sale to Mars. Previously, he was CFO for the $4 Bn Prestige Beauty business and led the division to consistently rank among the top-performing business units at P&G. In addition, Jeff led numerous M&A projects for P&G including the company's biggest acquisition, as well as smaller deals in Asia, North and South America, and Europe. Jeff is currently an Operating Partner with Centre Partners, a leading private equity firm focused on middle markets in consumer products and healthcare industries.

Jeff holds a Master of Science in Industrial Administration ('Krannert Scholar' honors) and Bachelor of Science in Management (with Highest Distinction) at Purdue University. He previously served as a three-time award-winning Professor at the Jack Welch Management Institute teaching Finance and Strategy courses to MBA students, was department chair of Strategy, and served as an Assistant Dean for Strategy, Operations and Finance courses.

Jeff is passionate about partnering with motivated people to help them achieve their goals and dreams. He is also an avid golfer and pickle baller and resides in Florida and South Carolina.

Capstone Course Description: This Executive MBA Capstone course is designed to integrate, synthesize, and apply the comprehensive learnings from across the EMBA curriculum to real-world executive challenges. Using contemporary business events and complex leadership dilemmas pulled directly from current headlines, this course provides students with an intensive, interactive experience that mirrors the ambiguity and high-stakes nature of the C-suite. Each in-person session centers on a fresh, multifaceted business challenge—from global supply chain crises and leadership transitions to regulatory disruptions and emerging technologies. Students are tasked with evaluating, debating, and presenting strategic responses in a collaborative, real-time environment.
Max hours: 3 Credits

Staff Directory



David Chandler

Associate Dean, Executive Programs

David.Chandler@ucdenver.edu

David is a Professor of Management who joined the University of Colorado Denver Business School in 2011. He first taught in the EMBA Program in 2015, and currently teaches the capstone course, Sustainable Value Creation. David grew up in the U.K. and spent many years in Asia (Hong Kong and Japan) before moving to the U.S. in 2002. He got his Ph.D. in Management from The University of Texas at Austin. He enjoys swimming, art, and discovering great cuisine from around the world.

Connect with David about:

- Curriculum design
- Faculty management
- EMBA staff
- Program development
- Alumni Network

Bethany Cape



Director of Operations and Alumni Engagement

Bethany.Cape@ucdenver.edu

Bethany joined the EMBA team in the fall of 2021 and is an alumna of the One-Year MBA at CU Denver. She enjoys building relationships with the students to help them achieve their goals and developing local partners for the program, such as our community service project opportunities. Her background is in human services operations and social work, including adult vocational rehabilitation. Bethany built and ran an e-commerce business with her sister for a time, enjoys seeing live music whenever possible, loves yoga and running, and is continuously learning from her three children.

Connect with Bethany about:

- Program logistics
- Class details and materials
- CU Denver resources
- Post-graduation
- Alumni Network



Joe Hogan

Finance Director

Joe.Hogan@ucdenver.edu

Joe has been involved with the CU Denver EMBA for over two decades. Joe has extensive experience with CU Denver finance and procurement and has served as interim director of the EMBA. Joe was born and raised in Colorado. He loves spending time with his family and enjoys cooking, hiking, bicycling, and walking the dogs.

Connect with Joe about:

- Tuition
- Veterans Benefits
- Scholarships and financing resources
- Financial Aid
- Alumni Network

Mary Ann Skadow



Executive MBA Programs Recruiting and Marketing

MaryAnn.Skadow@ucdenver.edu

Mary Ann joined the EMBA team in the spring of 2022. Mary Ann has worked with various universities supporting Executive MBA programs, traveling abroad with students, and developing local business connections. Before discovering her love of higher education, Mary Ann has been a professional organizer (yes, hoarders!), a community activist, and an event planner. In her free time, she has racked up hundreds of miles on Colorado trails hiking the beautiful Rocky Mountains with her husband of 30 years and her Bernese Mountain Dog, Apollo. She also enjoys spending time with her adult children, biking, reading, and cooking.

Connect with Mary Ann about:

- Prospective student inquiries
- Application and admissions process
- EMBA website and social media
- Community Events
- Alumni Network



Karen Freidhof

Assistant Director of Operations

Karen.Freidhof@ucdenver.edu

Karen Freidhof joined the EMBA team in Spring 2026 and is an alumna of the MBA and MS International Business programs at CU Denver. Her background is in international business operations, marketing and project management, with extensive experience leading strategic initiatives, managing complex projects, and supporting global partnerships. Karen has two sons, is a Colorado native, loves to travel, and will take any opportunity to partake in outdoor activities.

Connect with Karen about:

- General information
- Program logistics
- CU Denver resources
- Post-graduation
- Alumni network

Vincent Pre

Assistant Director of Recruiting

Vincent.Pre@ucdenver.edu



Vincent joined the EMBA team in Spring 2026. He serves as the Assistant Director of Recruiting for our Aviation program. He has over 15 years of experience in higher education. Throughout his career, he has been dedicated to helping students find the right programs while supporting institutions in achieving strategic growth. He has led global recruitment efforts for MBA programs, built high-performing teams, and driven enrollment growth through data-driven strategies and personalized engagement. Outside of work, Vincent enjoys sports and travel, and he is bilingual in French and English.

Connect with Vincent about:

- Prospective student inquiries
- Application and admissions processes
- Recruitment
- Community events



Paul Wood

Assistant Director of Recruiting

Paul.Wood@ucdenver.edu

Paul joined the EMBA Team at the beginning of 2025. He is an alumnus of CU graduating in 2012 with a bachelor's in communications and with a Maters in Educational Leadership in 2014 from University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. He has a long history within the CU system having worked professionally on all four CU campuses. His background is in operations and program management. Originally from Illinois, Paul came to Colorado when his father transferred to Denver for work. He loves spending time with his wife Christina, their son Gabriel, and two dogs, Bane and Hobbs. He is an avid workout enthusiast and always looking for his next adventure.

Connect with Paul about:

- Prospective student inquiries
- Application and admissions processes
- Recruitment
- Community Events

Kaela Kalabany

Senior Operations Specialist

Kaela.2.Kalabany@ucdenver.edu



Kaela joined the EMBA team in Spring 2026 and is currently pursuing her MS in International Business program at CU Denver. Her background is in academic program operations, marketing, and event coordination, with experience supporting large-scale initiatives, managing program logistics, and enhancing student and partner engagement. Kaela was raised and born in Colorado and loves to hike, camp, and travel.

Connect with Kaela about:

- General information
- Program logistics
- Student engagement
- Events and outreach
- CU Denver resources



Shamsiah Ebadi

Student Assistant

Shamsiah.Ebadi@ucdenver.edu

Shamsiah joined the EMBA Team in November 2025 and serves as a Student Assistant for the EMBA Aviation program. In this role, she supports event coordination and marketing efforts while helping create a welcoming environment for students, faculty, and staff. She is pursuing a bachelor's degree in business at the University of Colorado Denver, with interests in management and international business. Shamsiah enjoys her free time in fitness, basketball, and traveling.

Connect with Shamsiah about:

- General information
- Administrative/marketing support

Isabel Soto

Student Assistant

Isabel.Soto@ucdenver.edu



Isabel joined the EMBA program in August 2025 and serves as a Student Assistant for the program. In her role, she provides essential office support and helps maintain a welcoming and organized environment for students, faculty, and staff. Isabel is pursuing a bachelor's degree with a double major in Accounting and Entrepreneurship at the University of Colorado Denver Business School. Originally from California, she enjoys spending quality time with her family, traveling, and creating crafts.

Connect with Isabel about:

- General information and administrative help
- Catering, snack, and beverage suggestions