Dear REMBAs,

Rutgers Business School’s ranking continue to rise. After being a #7 ranking in Finance by Financial Times last October, the Rutgers EMBA program was ranked this January by Ivy Exec #7 among the top 16 schools in the Northeast and #1 for Life Balance (p 6). Congratulations!!

In this issue, you will find numerous REMBA professional updates from CXO positions to entrepreneurial ventures in the food, hospitality and IT industry, to our veterans’ achievements. We are building our professional mentoring network, so please make sure to register and share your expertise as a mentor (p 10).

Please refer to page 7 to learn more about the REMBA Alumni Association board members, and make sure not to miss our first 2017 Powerhouse Career Evolution event, one of many to come, on Friday, February 10th. This is a great opportunity to reconnect with old pals and meet new ones. The success of the Powerhouse is based on everyone’s efforts. We look forward to seeing many of you there!!

Loubna
Dr. Joshua Bershad, MD, MBA - REMBA 2007
Josh is currently Chief Medical Officer and Executive Vice President at Robert Wood Johnson Barnabas Health, where he strives to combine his love of healing with an understanding of business principles which can help keep a medical institution’s doors open. Dr. Bershad is Board-Certified in Internal Medicine and a graduate of the New Jersey Medical School, Newark, NJ. [http://www.business.rutgers.edu/news/alumni-profile-his-leadership-hospital-fueled-powerful-combination-medical-and-business-knowled](http://www.business.rutgers.edu/news/alumni-profile-his-leadership-hospital-fueled-powerful-combination-medical-and-business-knowled)

Dr. Scott Guevin, PT, DPT, NHA, MBA, FACHE - REMBA 2011
Scott is Chief Executive Officer at Penn State Hershey Rehabilitation Hospital. He is a healthcare executive with more than 20 years’ experience in hospital administration, management, and finance. Scott is a licensed Physical Therapist and Nursing Home Administrator. In his current role as CEO of Penn State Hershey Rehabilitation Hospital, Scott combines his clinical experience with his business acumen to guide the hospital through a period of rapid growth and expansion. Scott holds five collegiate degrees including three graduate degrees: a Masters and Doctorate in Physical Therapy and a Master’s in Business Administration. Scott is Board-Certified in Healthcare Management as a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE). [http://www.psh-rehab.com/about/leadership/](http://www.psh-rehab.com/about/leadership/)

Dr. Matthew Nguyen, PharmD, MBA - REMBA 2014
Matt was recently promoted to a Chief Commercial Officer position at Valeritas, a commercial-stage medical technology company focused on developing innovative technologies to improve the health and quality of life for people with Type 2 diabetes. Dr. Nguyen has served as senior vice president, commercial since February 2016, prior to which he served as vice president for integrated healthcare management since joining Valeritas in September 2006. Prior to joining Valeritas, Dr. Nguyen was a new business development director for Janssen, LP, a division of Johnson & Johnson, from 2005 to 2006. Before then, he served as head of health economics research for metabolism, new product marketing and head of analytics and commercial effectiveness for the CNS business unit at Sanofi from 2000 to 2005. [https://www.valeritas.com/investors/corporate-governance/management-team/person-details/default.aspx?ItemId=870209ad-521f-457c-b067-08138685fafa](https://www.valeritas.com/investors/corporate-governance/management-team/person-details/default.aspx?ItemId=870209ad-521f-457c-b067-08138685fafa)

Juan Guzman, MSc Eng, MBA - REMBA 2014
Juan was recently promoted to Chief Financial Officer at Dental Health Associates, a multi-office dental group serving over 120,000 patients a year where he is responsible for translating organizational goals into technical requirements. Juan has extensive experience in strategic planning, project management, software development and business analysis, in particular the implementation of process automation software, web platforms and financial analysis.

Congratulations to all on such great achievements!!!
REMBA News —Alumni and Students’ Stories

Swamy Vasudevan - REMBA 2015

Known as *Mr. Cloud* or the **Real Guru of Cloud Technology**, Swamy has been featured many times in the news and has won multiple awards. Last May 2016, Swamy won two awards on behalf of Ericsson. One for **Best new product** (Mobile) and another for **Best deal maker** at a Leading lights awards, Big communications event.

Swamy has also moderated a panel discussion with AT&T, Verizon and Telefonica at [Openstack summit](http://www.vanillaplus.com/2016/02/12/15321), Austin in April 2016. The focus was around ‘**Experiences from the Openstack Cloud Journey**’. Today’s orchestration and management systems are highly integrated to support a relatively stable CSP business model based on direct relationships with subscribers. **SDN/NFV** is destined to accelerate changes that are already occurring within CSPs to support new business models such as two-sided models and value based/yield models. This ongoing network evolution marked by **SDN** and **NFV** powered by OpenStack is creating a new channel for service agility that is enabling business innovation.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZHCMZbZ77Nc
http://www.vanillaplus.com/2016/02/12/15321
http://www.vanillaplus.com/2016/02/24/15924

Ashley Morgan - REMBA 2017

Ashley is the owner and principal consultant at **AM Productions, LLC**, a boutique event planning firm specializing in multi day conferences, meetings, trade shows & festivals. [www.amproductionsllc.com](http://www.amproductionsllc.com)

“I formed AM Productions to work on more creative and diverse events. At the time, I was a show operations manager at a national non-profit producing six roadshows a year. I had so many ideas that couldn’t be implemented at the events I worked on day to day, and I needed an outlet. I began working on fundraising events and receptions and have worked in event operations and marketing in the arts for over a decade now. I truly enjoy the process of creating an exceptional experience and providing a personalized, professional event that delivers the intended message to attendees. In the coming year, I am looking forward to working on events and conferences in new industries with new clients, bringing on new partners to expand services offered, and growing my company to new heights.”

[https://www.linkedin.com/in/amproductionsllc](https://www.linkedin.com/in/amproductionsllc)
Ben Downing – REMBA 2017

Ben Downing enlisted in the Army as a Multichannel Signal Systems Operator (Tactical). A Brooklyn native, he was the honor graduate of his class at Fort Gordon, Georgia, and then deployed to South Korea. He returned to Fort Gordon and completed the Tactical Satellite Operators Course, before being transferred to the U.S. Army Intelligence Center at Fort Huachuca, Arizona where he served three years with the 11th Signal Brigade. Due to his technical expertise and interest in emerging communications technology, Ben was chosen to be one of the first to work in a program now known as COTS or “Commercial off the Shelf Technology.” Following a deployment to South Korea with 1st Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery, Ben received orders to Turkey where while working as a liaison alongside NATO counterparts from a host of different nations in a wide range of assignments Ben learned to speak Turkish fluently. In 2008, he was deployed to Iraq with the 3rd Battalion, 142nd Assault Helicopter Battalion where he was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant. Upon his return to the U.S., Ben was assigned to the Army’s Warrior Transition Unit at Fort Dix, NJ and Community Based Warrior Transition Unit in Concord, Massachusetts. It was during this period that he applied to and was accepted into a financial training program that focused on identifying combat veterans with an aptitude for finance and training them for employment in the industry. After completing an internship at UBS he accepted an offer from Drexel Hamilton where he is currently a Vice President, capital markets. In 2013, he returned from another tour of duty in Afghanistan, and he is now part of the REMBA class of 2017.


Evelyn Chang – REMBA 2018

Along with her full-time job as a Quality & Compliance Manager with G&W Laboratories, a pharmaceutical generic drug maker, Evelyn is also the owner of Hotkist Creation by Evelyn, a company that specializes in designing, baking and decorating cakes, cupcakes, cake pops, all occasion cakes, and party favors that artistically reflect ideas, personalities, themes that are unique to each client.

“I am a third generation of a family of culinary & pastry chefs, master bakers and creative cake decorators. My family operated a bakery business for nearly five decades (F. Quiñal Store and Bakery, est. 1949, Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines). Baking and decorating cakes is one of my few hobbies. I am mostly a self-taught cake decorator. I attended a few cake decorating classes from the Food Network's Champions and from the Institute of Culinary Education in NYC, as well as a few seminars to learn new tools and new sugar techniques, such as modeling chocolate, gelatin, and isomalt. We guarantee that our products not only look good, but also taste good for only the freshest and finest ingredients are used. I share all my artistic creations on my blog: http://hotkistcreations.blogspot.com.” Berkeley Heights, NJ.
Ian Goldberg – REMBA 2004

Last year Ian Goldberg launched a SportsTech venture called iSport360, Inc. “After eight months, this mobile platform for sports parents and coaches to share player feedback surpassed 1,200 users. The company’s sports-parenting news letter now reaches 15,000 readers. Big news for 2017 is that on January 12th, the iSport360 app launched in the App Stores. And by February 1, iSport360 plans to close on its second round of funding. For those with kids in youth sports, please download and give it a try… Would love your EMBA feedback. https://www.isport360.com/ “

Parag Harolikar – REMBA 2010

Parag recently launched a new venture in India called COHUM, India’s first complete wearable ID and digital medical emergency system: www.cohum.co. “While there are various solutions available in the US and other countries, there are no reliable and comprehensive solutions in India. There are also several unique challenges specific to India that need to be considered. My mother-in-law fell on her face during her morning walk one day and was unable to speak as a result. She did not have any identification on her and tried calling home, but was unsuccessful. Fortunately after some time someone helped her reach home, which was only 10-15 minutes away. If she was taken directly to a hospital we would not have known for quite some time perhaps. These problems occur very frequently in India - people don't carry identification; phone calls don’t go through or are ignored; the vulnerable are robbed; the list goes on. We realized that identification was a simpler problem to solve - the bigger problem was the non-availability of medical information to start medical treatment. COHUM was established to solve a real problem.”

Ralph Shulberg – REMBA 2015 - A story by classmate Chris Astle

“En route to Manhattan this morning (Nov 14, 2016), I parked in my familiar lot, proceeded to exit my vehicle and accidentally launched my cell phone across the unforgiving pavement. Hesitantly picking it up, my fears were confirmed, I just shattered my screen. I finally arrived at my office and took a moment to collect myself. Relying on the strength of my EMBA network for support, I knew one had to be close by. It suddenly dawned on me and I knew just who to call, Ralph Shulberg’s “Smartbulance”. I knew that his mobile command center was stationed just outside of Grand Central. I launched a call for help via his website from my office laptop and by 12:30pm this afternoon, my iPhone was repaired by one of his technicians. Behind the scenes Ralph also saw the call for help come in and followed up with me shortly after to ensure my repair was a success. Indeed it was! We caught up for a moment and exchanged post EMBA updates. Ralph also shared with me the successful growth his Smartbulance business is experiencing and the exciting direction he is headed with it (I will let him share that with you though). I shared the aforementioned experience with you, noting the importance of our network and that no matter where we are in our journey, there will always be a trusted friend and EMBA along the way”. http://www.smartbulance.com/
Team Emba is proud to report another ranking for REMBA. Our Emba program is #7 in the Northeast according to Ivy Exec, based in Manhattan.

“A career imperative. The Rutgers Executive MBA program is specifically designed for mid-career executives to provide the theoretical tools, practical insights, and vital hands-on skills essential to compete in the global economy.”


Power Up With the Powerhouse!
The mission of the REMBA Alumni Association is to reconnect our shared community of REMBA graduates to establish a network of personal and professional relationships that ultimately enhance the value of the REMBA education.

**Joe Vocaturo**, REMBA 2014
has served on the Rutgers Executive MBA Alumni Board: 2014-2016 as VP and since April 2016 as President. Joe is a Senior Facility Project Manager for capital improvement projects at Rutgers University.

joevoc@rutgers.edu

**Neal Shah**, REMBA 2013
joined the Rutgers Executive MBA Alumni Board in 2013. Currently serves as the VP & Senior Golf Chair. Neal owns a management consulting company.

nealremba13@gmail.com

**Ojo Folarin**, REMBA 2013,
joined the Rutgers Executive MBA Alumni Board in 2014. Ojo is a VP at Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

olarinojo@yahoo.com

**Juan Guzman**, REMBA 2014
Chief Financial Officer at Dental Health Associates.

juan.guzman07@gmail.com

**Loubna Erraji**, Director EMBA Career Management & Alumni Relations at Rutgers University.

lerraji@business.rutgers.edu

**Dwayne Patterson**, REMBA 1992
Senior Director of Operations at ETS

ddpatterson@comcast.net

**Lenn Pasculli**, REMBA 2003,
Recently retired from the practice of law, as a partner in the Sussex County law firm of Hollander Strelzik Pasculli

pasculli@ptd.net
Spring 2017 Events – *Week In Residence at Dolce*
Spring 2017 Events – National Association of Corporate Directors

On January 19, 2017 Dr. Farrokh Langdana and Dr. Ben Dworkin participated in a panel discussion organized by the NACD (National Association of Corporate Directors) on the topic “Peering into the political Crystal Ball”.

Prof. Langdana holding the crystal ball and surrounded from left to right by Loubna Erraji, Mike Pado (1994), Dr. Sunil Wimalawansa (2006), Peter Methot (2017), Geeta Mane (2017) and Kevin Ruta (2015).

On page 1, Prof. Langdana with Geeta M., Frank Gatti (1984), Stanley Koshy (2008), Kevin R., Sunil W.

Spring 2017 Events – Center for Urban Entrepreneurship (CUEED)

To increase interest in federal innovation and technology commercialization programs, the Center for Entrepreneurship & Economic Development led by Professors Lyneir Richardson and Jeffrey Robinson hosted a National Town hall on Inclusive Innovation on December 6, 2016.

The event brought together minority inventors, scientists, engineers, tech entrepreneurs, researchers, successful participants in federal tech commercialization programs, and feature speakers from federal labs and funding agencies for a moderated discussion on ‘Inclusive Innovation, Economic Development, and Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)/ Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs’.


Prof. Jeffrey Robinson with Tara Williams-Harrington (2013), Ashley Morgan (2017) and Dr. Loubna Erraji.

Dr. Sunil Wimalawansa (2006) and Devendra Jha (2018).

Prof. Jeff Robinson (CUEED), Alejandra Castillo, National Director (U.S. Minority Business Development Agency – MBDA), Philana Patterson (USA Today).

Dr. Randall Pinkett (BCT Partners); Dr. Ramsey Smith (NASA), Dr. Reginald Parker (510 Nano, Inc.), Efrain Gonzalez (MBDA), Dr. Jayfus Tucker Doswell (Juxtapia, LLC)
Career Corner

WE NEED MENTORS – PLEASE JOIN: REMBA Professional Network - Mentoring Opportunities.

Our REMBA network of alumni is amazing and should continue to be leverage. So, please share your expertise with our alumni network and current students! How?? As many of you are already aware, we have a platform called SYMPPLICITY that serves as a Job Portal for EMBA specifically. If you are interested in serving as a mentor for REMBAs or being a mentee, you can join the REMBA Professional Network. How? Follow these steps:

1. Register on Symplicity at https://emba-rutgers-csm.symplicity.com/
2. Login; go to the Networking tab and to My Profile.
3. Register to become a Professional Network Connection. You will have the opportunity to enter you career field information, areas of expertise, employment information, and what you would be interested in participating in.

Career Resources

- Sensible Media Webinars: http://www.sensiblemedia.co.uk/assets/sml-webinars-2016-7.pdf. Look out for seminars on the following topics:
  - How portfolio careers work – panel webinar. Wednesday, February 8 (6.30pm London Time – 12.30pmEST)
  - Becoming a Better Boss. Wednesday, March 15 (6.30pm London Time – 12.30pmEST)
  - Power in the workplace. Wednesday, April 26 (6.30pm London Time – 12.30pmEST)
- Stanford Business School: https://www.gsb.stanford.edu/events
- Ivy Exec Seminar: 5 Behaviors That Determine Your Personal Brand. Wed, Feb 22, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm EST
- CEO Magazine: http://ceo-mag.com/

Professor Farrokh Langdana’s must Reads

- http://www.wsj.com/articles/the-economys-hidden-problem-were-out-of-big-ideas-1481042066
- https://flip.it/Jihv2C

Thought-Provoking Books

- Crossing the Thinnest Line: How Embracing Diversity—From the Office to the Oscars—Makes America Stronger, by Lauren Leader-Chivee.
- My Own Words, by Ruth Bader Ginsburg.
REMBA Latest Promotions

- Sandra Barker, REMBA 2012: Editorial Manager at FCBCURE (a top healthcare advertising agency)
- Vlad Fedorchak, REMBA 2014: BD Director at TE Wire & Cable, a Marmon Group/Berkshire Hathaway Company
- Knut Fenner, REMBA 2003: General Manager at No-Tox Division, Colorcon Inc.
- Humberto Goldoni, REMBA 2005: Managing Director at Valtris Specialty Chemicals
- Juan Guzman, REMBA 2014: Chief Financial Officer at Dental Health Associates
- Edward Haddock, REMBA 2013: District Director of the US Small Business Administration, Arkansas District Office
- Stephen Jang, REMBA 2018: Project Manager, Transit & Rail Facilities at Gannett Fleming, Inc.
- Matthew Nguyen, REMBA 2014: Chief Commercial Officer, Valeritas
- Adnan Pasha, REMBA 2012: Practice leader for Transportation and Traffic Engineering at Langan.
- Stephen Pitt, REMBA 2013: District Sales Manager in the NYC market for FedEx
- Carmine Scaglione, REMBA 1999: VP and Controller at Crum and Forster
- Neal Shah, REMBA 2014: Demand Planner at Philips Lighting – Consultant
- Daniel Spindler, REMBA 2010: Sr. Manager of eCommerce Digital Shelf Marketing & eCategory Management at Pfizer
- Jing Suk, REMBA 2012: Director of Platform Account Management at Annalect
- Louis Yauri, REMBA 2016: Senior Procurement Specialist at Con Edison

Congratulations everyone!!

RBS Latest News

Financial Times Global MBA Ranking 2017: Analysis. Rutgers Business School is the highest new entrant at 70. "...Among these six US Schools, Rutgers Business School in New Jersey is the highest new entrant at 70." On 1/30/2017, the Financial Times released its 2017 Ranking Report on the Top 100 full-time MBA programs in the world. RBS first time marched into this top MBA program list [see rankings] debuting at #70 globally and #37 in the U.S. RBS was ranked #1 in MBA Job Placement in the U.S. by Bloomberg Businessweek (Nov. 2016). RBS Executive MBA was ranked #1 for Life Balance and #7 in the Northeast by Ivy Exec (Jan. 2017). https://www.ft.com/content/69a61dd4-d9be-11e6-944b-e7eb37a6aa8e

Newark Venture Partners. In a story last summer, The New York Times cited Hahne’s as just one of many reasons to conclude that a “new chapter” is unfolding in Newark. Rutgers-Newark faculty, staff, and students are among the many partners contributing to this inspiring composition. http://www.business.rutgers.edu/news/magnet-drawing-tech-startups-newark-tucked-within-floors-rutgers-business-school

Action Together New Jersey. Meet the Rutgers graduate student behind an organization that is building on the momentum started by Pantsuit Nation to empower those who feel powerless post-election and want to bring about local and national change. http://news.rutgers.edu/feature/empowering-those-who-feel-powerless-post-election/20170116#.WH4h6FMrJhE
Calendar of Events


**REMBA Open House** on **Saturday, February 11, 2017 at 8.30am**; RBS Newark, Bove Auditorium.

**Love ‘n Spring Art Show: Spring into action, just in time for Valentine’s Day!** Organized by REMBA Alumna 2016 Jenny Yu

- **When**: Entire month of February and March, 12-5pm daily.
- **Where**: Unionville Vineyards: 9 Rocktown Road Ringoes, NJ, 08551.
- Open and FREE to the general public. Artists paint on site on specified weekends. See [www.studioyu.org/events](http://www.studioyu.org/events) for details and RSVP.

**Lerner Center – Biopharma Calendar of Events**