ROOTED IN MUSIC

Grammy Award-winning keyboardist James Poyser, '93 BBA: From Fox to The Roots and The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon.
THE ART OF BUSINESS

Our graduates – some 65,000 men and women – have established successful careers throughout the world. Their jobs, their titles, and their lines of work are distinct and many. But one criterion tethers them together: Perseverantia Vincit. The words of Temple University founder Russell Conwell, “Perseverance Conquers,” serve as this university’s motto. They also function as our daily inspiration to push farther, work harder, and outperform even our greatest expectations.

More than two decades ago, James Poyser could not have imagined his remarkable career trajectory as he pursued a finance degree from the Fox School of Business. Today, he appears on national television five times a week as the keyboardist for The Roots, and writes and produces music with some of the industry’s top recording artists.

The same could be said for Stephanie Reitano. She worked seven days a week and refused to take a paycheck in order to accomplish her dream of bringing artisanal-quality gelato to Philadelphia. The result: National Geographic recognizes her Capogiro Gelato as the world’s best ice cream.

The successes of James and Stephanie, and other Fox School alumni from the creative, performing, and culinary arts, can be found within these pages of “Fox Focus.”

The Fox School is rooted in inspirational stories like theirs. Tradition, distinction, and innovation act as the cornerstones of our nearly 100-year history, as our entrepreneurial students pave new roads of discovery. As we progress closer to 2018, which will mark our centennial as a leader in business education, we will continue to unveil a schedule of events to recognize our storied history, our distinguished alumni, and our remarkable student body. We look forward to celebrating this legacy with you.

And remember: So long as perseverance conquers, our students and alumni will continue marching to the beat of their own drum.

Regards,
M. Moshe Porat, PhD, CPCU
Dean
Laura H. Carnell Professor
Fox School of Business

THE NEXT BIG THING

Through data and art, the Fox School bridges students across Temple University through its focus on interdisciplinary study.

Businesses in today’s global environment are increasingly resorting to multi-disciplinary approaches to problem solving. Regardless of a student’s prospective career field, the Fox School of Business fosters the development of data analysis and creative-thinking skills at every level.

As part of its effort to promote interdisciplinary studies, Fox School of Business supports the development of activities that are open to students from Temple University’s 17 schools and colleges.

Visualizing data-based solutions
The Temple Analytics Challenge started in 2013 as an outlet for students to develop their data analysis, information visualization, and communication skills. It focuses on making sense of big data through visualization, a key component of data analytics cited by experts as a promising path to job opportunities.

Participants work on scenarios using data from corporate partners, analyzing the data and presenting their findings in a way that is understandable to a wide audience. This year’s theme was “Improving Global Health,” welcoming corporate partners Merck, Alexion Pharmaceuticals, and Amneassence/Bergen. Students competed for up to $2,500 from a total prize pool of $12,000.

The competition is open to the entire Temple community.

This level of interdisciplinary competition benefits the participants and the corporate partners that are looking for real solutions. While the industry partners might be better versed with approaching the subject from a business-school perspective, they might not look at their data the same way an art or engineering student would.

Fox’s Institute of Business and Information Technology (IBIT) and Temple’s Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies sponsor the event, which is in its fourth year.

Melding art and business
Fox also bridges the gap between students in the art and business communities through the Art of Business/Business of Art (AB/BA) student professional organization. Each year AB/BA members host guest speakers, an art-and-business networking event, and a university-wide creativity showcase, MESH: Redefining Art at Temple.

Speakers include: George Ciukurescu, FOX ’15, who played bass for the band Valencia, and is an accountant with Pricewaterhouse-Coopers; Conrad Benner, who founded popular Philly street art blog Streets Dept.; and Tiffany Benza, FOX ’01, and Ashley Peel-Prinkham, owners of Philadelphia Independents, an Old City shop that sells souvenirs made exclusively by Philly artists.

AB/BA members have helped another well-known entity at Philly’s annual Punk Rock Flea Market, Tyler Alumni Art Market, and Spruce Street Harbor Park.

“Fox students with an art background can mentor Tyler students in business practices,” said faculty advisor Laurie Fitzpatrick, an Assistant Professor of Marketing and Supply Chain Management at Fox. “Together, they can be in touch with the art world. Just because you’re in business school, there’s no reason you should stop painting or stop writing. Your art is part of your life.”

Conversely, for art students, AB/BA is an opportunity to embrace the business world, with methodologies and practices that can seem intimidating.

“It’s been really fascinating to watch the business students in our group interact with the art students, and watch different ways of thinking come together,” said Fiona Fackler, a former president of AB/BA. —CHRISTINE FISHER
The Philadelphia Clef Club of Jazz and the Performing Arts was looking in a sense, to change its tune. The Fox School of Business’ equivalent of the Fab Four helped the organization do just that.

Four students nearing completion of their MBA programs in Spring 2016 – Prince Ebo, Meco Sparks, Jim Shovlin, and Tom Finnerty – used their capstone project within the renowned Fox Management Consulting practice to develop a strategic plan for the 50-year-old organization. And the plan, said Anne Edmunds, the Clef Club’s strategic advisor, has been “transforming.”

“At the start of the process, the Philadelphia Clef Club did not have a clear direction and strategic planning process,” she said. “The mission became clear. The direction became clear.”

“Basically it was trying to do two full-time jobs at once,” Sparks said. “We promised the moon and the stars, and we had to deliver. That was the biggest challenge.”

“Working with a nonprofit was something I wanted to do,” Finnerty said, “not only as a resume-builder but from a mission standpoint. I feel like I did something good that semester. I miss it somewhat. My wife, not so much.”

The Fox MBA capstone course delivered a strategic mission for one of Philadelphia’s artistic fixtures.

By Gordie Jones
Whether writing or recording, producing or playing, James Poyser, BBA ’93, is living his dream in the music industry.

BY CHRISTOPHER A. VITO
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JIM ROESE
The Tonight Show, knitting needles to play drums on her upturned pots and pans. Today, music began as a child in Sheffield, England. He'd use his mother's mixing board. And within arm's reach is Poyser's digital keyboard, on which he conducts a chunk of his in-home work.

A guitar rack is in there, too, sandwiched between the wall and a Gold and platinum albums accentuate the basement walls just beyond Poyser's studio. Encased in glass, the albums are like a living testament Church of God with only seven congregants.

Born in the United Kingdom, Poyser's family of five moved to Philadelphia, where Poyser's father, Felix, organized the New Testament Church of God with only seven congregants. Religion played an instrumental role in molding young James' life.

“Putting the pieces of the puzzle together,” he said, including an interaction with Jeffrey Townes, who’s better known by his stage name. “I was playing at various churches for community choirs, playing in wedding bands, and teaching piano when I met Jazzy Jeff. Poyser said. “Jeff asked me to go on tour with his group Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince. When we returned from the tour, Jeff asked me to work on a few records in the studio with him and, the next thing you know, I was a staff songwriter for his company A Touch of Jazz. Then I branched out. I had two partners (Chassy Chilka and Victor Duplay), and we started our music production company out of Vic’s apartment. Vic was friendly with a guy — that’s what he told us — and he thought we could get access to his recording studio.”

From there, a series of connections helped Poyser put the pieces of the puzzle together, he said, including an interaction with Jeffrey Townes, who’s better known by his stage name. “I was playing at various churches for community choirs, playing in wedding bands, and teaching piano when I met Jazzy Jeff. Poyser said. “Jeff asked me to go on tour with his group Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince. When we returned from the tour, Jeff asked me to work on a few records in the studio with him and, the next thing you know, I was a staff songwriter for his company A Touch of Jazz. Then I branched out. I had two partners (Chassy Chilka and Victor Duplay), and we started our music production company out of Vic’s apartment. Vic was friendly with a guy — that’s what he told us — and he thought we could get access to his recording studio.”

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The piano, to him, is a box of magic, out of there,” Badu said. “The chords, about what he’s playing.”

He has his head down, his tongue is out a little bit, and he’s excited. He has his head down, his tongue is out a little bit, and he’s excited. He has his head down, his tongue is out a little bit, and he’s excited. He has his head down, his tongue is out a little bit, and he’s excited. He has his head down, his tongue is out a little bit, and he’s excited. He has his head down, his tongue is out a little bit, and he’s excited. He has his head down, his tongue is out a little bit, and he’s excited. He has his head down, his tongue is out a little bit, and he’s excited.

At any given time, Chauncey Childs has five or six projects — maybe more — going simultaneously. And he wouldn’t want it any other way.

This is exactly how I envisioned my career playing out,” said Childs, the co-founder and director of business affairs for the Philadelphia-based Axis Music Group. “I wouldn’t change a thing.”

Childs is the business arm of Axis’ operations. He’s tasked with negotiating contracts, drafting agreements, managing budgets, and collecting royalties for Axis, which oversees a host of music artists, songwriters, and producers. Childs doubles as the business manager for James Poyser, BBA ’94, who he first met during their undergraduate careers at the Fox School of Business.

The two crossed paths in a finance class at Temple University, and then again years later in a recording studio at A Touch of Jazz, a Philadelphia music production company. They decided to go into business together, and Axis was born. Today, their company’s operations are two-pronged: Axis writers and producers craft original songs for established artists, and they also write original songs for film, television, and TV commercials.

“When a TV show or movie is transitioning from one scene to the next, someone writes that musical segue. That someone is Chauncey,” Childs said, explaining one of Axis’ functions. “When we first got started, we used to hustle to get work. And now, after we’ve been at it for 20 years, we still have to hustle, but we also get contract work on the profile of what we’ve already accomplished. We’ve come a long way.”

Childs’ interest in music, and his desire to represent the industry’s top talent, dates to his days at Temple. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Business Management from the Fox School, and later his Juris Doctorate from Temple’s Beasley School of Law, to turn that dream into a reality.

“Temple gave me the confidence I needed in order to start my own business,” said Childs, 45, a Philadelphia native. “Both of my degrees provided me with the toolkit that I needed to hit the real world and say, ‘I can be an entrepreneur.’”

Childs’ work, at times, seems never-ending. A written agreement is required every time an original piece of music is penned. The volume of contracts, he said, can be extensive. But he’s also overseen much larger contractual agreements. Notably, Childs negotiated a label imprint deal with Sony Music. Aligning Axis with the international music giant allowed Axis the opportunity to market and distribute their artist’s music through Sony globally.

“That was a milestone moment for me,” Childs said. The contracts pay the bills. What’s most rewarding, he said, is Axis’ commitment to developing young talent.

Franklin Walker, a percussionist at Poyser’s church, came on board as an understudy to Poyser. Walker, a self-taught drummer, wound up on tour with rapper D’Angelo and presently performs with Poyser five nights a week on “The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon,” for which their band, The Roots, serves as the house band.

Childs said he met another young man, Aaron Draper, at a high school career fair at which he was speaking. Draper, rather than speaking of his interest in attending college, kept reiterating a desire to drum professionally. On the spot, Childs invited Draper to Axis’ studio, believing he could benefit from exposure to talent, top equipment, and studio time. Draper is currently on an international tour with pop-soul singer Adele.

“We’ve been able to take the next generation of musicians, mentor them, and, based on our relationships in the business, give them opportunities to carve out careers for themselves,” Childs said. “I’ve got to say — it’s some of the most rewarding work we do.”

It doesn’t hurt that stars like Erykah Badu keep Childs’ number in their smartphone contacts.

“It’s an unwritten rule that James will work on all of my albums,” Badu said, “but I don’t step into the studio until Chauncey and Ward White (Badu’s representation) have worked out the details.”

Said Childs: “James and I have put in a lot of work over the years to get Axis to where it is today, and it’s been worth it. Every step has been worth it.” —CHRISTOPHER A. VITO

With James Poyser, Chauncey Childs, BBA ’92, used his Fox education to build a career in music
eloquent praise upon his boyhood inspirations — legends like Miles Davis and Marvin Gay — and, in the same breath, wonder aloud how much makeup is required "to take the shine off my big bald head."

Given his high profile, he's surprisingly unostentatious and down to Earth. He does, however, allow himself to get carried away when it comes to his craft. From the baby grand piano in his living room, to the massive keyboard collection in his basement, it's clear to outsiders what Poyser does for a living.

He smiles widely as he starts to tell a familiar story about one of those keyboards. Herbie Hancock once joined Poyser in his home studio and, when Hancock offered to tune Poyser's Fender Rhodes, Poyser had another favor in mind. He asked Hancock to sign the inside of the keyboard. Upon request, Poyser removes the lid of the Fender to reveal Hancock's autograph.

"This is my room," Poyser said of his home studio. "My favorite time is when I'm playing for myself, alone, and I don't know what I'm doing. All I know is that my hands are moving."

Beyond the scope of music, Poyser is active on social media. And despite his standard, soft-spoken tone, he is quite outspoken on Twitter when it comes to his beloved basketball team. He heaps support upon the Philadelphia 76ers, who are going through a tenuous rebuilding process.

He views social media as another outlet for his creativity. He never wants to lose that edge.

"People are taking chances and doing new things in music," he said. "I don't want to be the old guy, shaking my cane or my fist, saying, 'You meddling youngsters! If there's something to learn, it's how to stay current and stay inspired.'"

But he's kicked the tires on pursuing an advanced degree in orchestration "if I win the lottery," he said. Going back to school although, would make his parents beam with an even greater sense of pride, he said.

"I loved my Temple experience, because that set me on a course that gave me the confidence to know that I wasn't going to fail," Poyser said. "I knew God had a plan for me. My parents have always been encouraging and supportive of my career. But they are old school, so from time to time, my mom will say, 'When are you going to get a real job,' and my dad will say, 'When are you going to go back to school for your Master's, son?'"

No time soon, Poyser said. There are too many gigs to play and too many songs to write.

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Tamara Woods has been in the spotlight since she was three months old, when her mother sent her photograph for inclusion in Hollywood Spotlight Photo Magazine. In between then and now, she’s made stops in the United States Air Force, the retail and nonprofit worlds, and the Fox School of Business before pursuing acting full time.

Now Woods is preparing for two upcoming roles: As Sergeant Diane Torres in her first feature film, “A Sense of Purpose: Fighting for Our Lives,” and as Frances Lou Hamer in “Freedom Smitty,” a stage play about Kenneth Smith, a Philadelphian who helped desegregate Girard College.

Though she has performed all of her life — while dancing at family functions and acting in church plays — Woods, who comes from a military family, knew she wanted to serve her country. While stationed in Kuwait during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Woods started doing liturgical dance and singing in the military base’s church choir. She also helped organize a play for fellow military personnel.

“We had a packed house,” she said. “It was just beautiful because you have all walks of life, all colors coming together in the house of the Lord. It wasn’t just U.S. soldiers, and that ignited my passion again for performing.”

When she returned home, Woods juggled working in the nonprofit sector, serving in the Air Force Reserves, taking courses toward her Bachelor of Business Administration degree at Fox, and attending auditions and rehearsals. That hard work paid off. Today Woods’ dynamic background helps inform her career. In “A Sense of Purpose: Fighting for Our Lives,” Woods plays a voting right activist and civil rights leader who helped desegregate Girard College.

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“I feel as though I’m inspiring, uplifting and empowering somebody,” she said. “I feel as though I’m inspiring, uplifting and empowering somebody, hoping that it will make some kind of beautiful change in somebody’s life,” she said.

Here’s a glimpse into a day in the life of Tamara Woods:

3:30 a.m. Start my day with bible readings, prayer, and positivity that make room for productivity and prosperity.

6:00 a.m. Family business. (The work of a wife and mom never ceases.)

9:00 a.m. Create inspirational content and share industry information on social media.

10:00 a.m. Check and respond to emails. Search for auditions and apply. Make phone calls to follow-up on current and upcoming projects.

12:00 p.m. Eat lunch while promoting projects and events on social media.

2:30 p.m. Review a new monologue for auditions. Call to run lines with a fellow actress and schedule our next rehearsal through Skype. Call my agent to follow-up on auditions and put together my reel.

4:00 p.m. Prepare dinner while I wrap up a business call with a filmmaker.

4:50 – 5:30 p.m. Eat dinner with my family, and discuss our day and what’s coming up.

6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Rehearsal for “Freedom Smitty”

10:00 p.m. Prepare for the next day. I check email from my agent for any travel arrangements I’ll need to make.

11:00 p.m. Time for some sleep. (My routine starts all over again at 3:30 a.m. There’s a saying, “The early bird gets the worm!”) – CHRISTINE FISHER

Tamara Woods, BBA ’07

Actress

In school for Black History Month, you always learned about Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., but there are so many people in my culture who are heroes and who stood up in the Civil Rights Movement,” she said. “I had never even heard of Frances Lou Hamer until now.”

Woods sees her work as a way to give back. She hopes to continue touring with the anti-bullying play, “Why Can’t We Be Friends?” in order to open a dialogue between school officials, law enforcement, and parents.

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Music, in a way, has influenced the teaching style of Marketing and Supply Chain Management professor Anthony Di Benedetto.

It’s been a few decades since Dr. Anthony Di Benedetto grabbed his bass, got on stage, and played music in front of big crowds. But the longtime Fox professor still harkens back to his rock-and-roll days in the 1970s whenever he gets to the front of a class and speaks to his students. “I’m always conscious of being on stage,” he said. “It’s a little bit like doing theater or music. I still remember things like not turning your back on the audience. I really concentrate on not turning my back on my class. And as far as being engaging, the way you address the class is, in a sense, the way you would address an audience.”

“I would say I’m better in a classroom because of what I’ve done in music.”

In other ways, music also helped Di Benedetto reach the stage where he is today – as one of the world’s leading research scholars in innovation and technology management. When he was a child growing up in Montreal, he had a tough making friends. His parents spoke to a psychologist, who encouraged them to find an outlet for their son. And so music it was.

“Sure enough, when I was in high school, I met a lot of people through music,” he said. “It was fun. And I stayed with it.” Di Benedetto played in several bands in high school, college, and throughout his 20s, using his skills on the bass to become a valuable commodity because, as he put it, “everyone else wanted to play lead guitar.”

And he was good enough to make a little money at it, too, playing covers of The Beatles, The Who, and The Rolling Stones in clubs and hotels around Montreal for one popular band and playing covers of The Beatles, The Who, and The Rolling Stones in clubs and hotels around Montreal for one popular band and what he called “onomatopoeia” music and pop songs in German clubs for another.

But when it came to thinking about his future, he decided that the life of a professional mammal just wasn’t for him. “The short story is I gave up rock-and-roll to get me MBA,” said Di Benedetto, who earned his MBA and PhD at McGill University, before launching his career as a professor, joining the Temple University faculty in 1990, and remaining there over since.

Di Benedetto is certainly happy with that choice, admitting that he seldom plays music and rarely even thinks about his days in a band. But it will always be an exciting, interesting and eye-opening time in his life. When asked if he’d ever play again, he left the door slightly ajar. “A musician never says that he’s unemployed,” he laughed. “He’s just between gigs.” –DAVE ZEITLIN

CLASS NOTES

1950s
Ronald H. Sher, BS ’51, LAW ’56
Has served as a trial lawyer for 60 years and is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

1960s
Joseph Badal, BS ’66
Published his ninth suspense novel, Death Ship, with Suspense Publishing; it is the fifth in his Danforth Saga. His books have been ranked in the Amazon Top 150 in the crime and espionage categories and has won best mystery/thriller awards from a variety of organizations, including the Military Writers Society of America.

1970s
Margaret Lensi, BBA ’74, MBA ’85
Published Primal Revenge with Beaver Publications Inc. in 2014. Written under the pseudonym Maralyn Morgan, it is a novel about a narcissistic sociopath.

Thomas Ramsburg, MBA ’74
Named to Survey Magazine’s Top 20 Researchers You Need to Know, the publication’s annual list of leaders in the marketing research industry. He is operations director of Research America.

H. Richard Havercost Jr, BBA ’74
Nominated to Actua Corporation’s Board of Directors. He serves as Treasurer, Trustee, and Chair of the Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee of Thomas Jefferson University and Health System, and is a retired managing partner of Ernst & Young LLP who brings deep expertise in corporate finance, financial reporting, and accounting.

Lynn G. Ozer, BBA ’77
Hired by Fulton Financial as president of small business administration lending. She most recently served as president of government guaranteed lending with Susquehanna Bank.

1980s
Harith Wickrema, BBA ’80
Donated $104,500 to Temple University’s School of Sport, Tourism, and Hospitality Management for the establishment of the Harith Wickrema Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality Management Endowed Scholarship Fund at STHM. Wickrema is the president of Island Green Living Association, in the U.S. Virgin Islands, which works toward the creation of sustainable green tourism and the preservation of St. John.

Joseph F. Messina, LAW ’80, BBA ’85
Recognized as an “Emerging Leader” in the 2015 Pigott Jr. Distinguished Public Service Award from the International Municipal Lawyers Association.

Steven L. Winokur, BBA ’81
Recognized as one of Philadelphia’s 2016 CFOs of the Year by the Philadelphia Business Journal. He is the chief financial officer of ConDiAl, a provider of white label cloud communications tools based in blue Bell, Pa. In his role, Paul oversees the tripling of corporate revenue and a 260 percent employment growth within two years.

Sue Vestri, BBA ’86
Recognized as one of Philadelphia’s 2016 CFOs of the Year by the Philadelphia Business Journal. She is the chief financial officer of Greenshires, a King of Prussia, Pa., based provider of payment services for clinical trials. She has nearly three decades of financial leadership experience.

Chuck Paul, BBA ’84
Recognized as one of Philadelphia’s 2016 CFOs of the Year by the Philadelphia Business Journal. He is the chief financial officer of ConDiAl, a provider of white label cloud communications tools based in blue Bell, Pa. In his role, Paul oversees the tripling of corporate revenue and a 260 percent employment growth within two years.

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Cori Shearer wears many hats in growing the Shazam platform.

A service trip to Jamaica during her sophomore year inspired Cori Shearer, BBA ’14, and her approach to business. She and peers helped local children develop an eco-friendly trash disposal system to combat a lack of disposal resources. The experience affirmed her desire to serve underrepresented populations and take a people-centric approach to business. “The trip taught me to challenge my unconscious biases and always try to understand barriers faced by others in certain markets,” said Shearer, 24. “Some of us have unchained privileges that blind us to problems in the world, which prohibit us from understanding people. If we can’t understand people, how can we hope to develop products that meet their needs?”

Shearer, Product Manager of Growth for the popular music discovery application Shazam, applies this experience when she helps the company think about user diversity and platform access in product decisions. Her journey to Silicon Valley, like her enrollment at Temple University, was unexpected. Shearer intended to pursue a career in the performing arts, but fell in love with technology after taking her first management information systems course. Her passion for the field developed as she became more active in the department and participated in hackathon competitions.

As a junior, Shearer attended a conference in San Francisco where Tim Westergren, Pandora Radio founder, delivered the keynote. “At Temple, you can learn at your own pace, learn while also working part- or full-time, or learn while pursuing passions outside of the classroom,” she said.

A year later, Shearer made that happen; she graduated from the Fox School of Business, bought a one-way ticket to San Francisco, and landed an internship as a Pandora technical program management intern. Afterward, she began her career in 2015 as a product specialist at the discovery engine StumbleUpon. Additionally, Shearer volunteers with organizations such as CODE2040 and Girls in Tech, which are dedicated to the advancement and the inclusion of underrepresented groups in tech. “As a person of color and a young woman, I understand the barriers others face not only to enter but also to advance in this industry,” Shearer said. “I appreciate the opportunities I now have to help others navigate it.”

Shearer credits her success and career growth to her “say-yes” mindset, which she developed at Fox. “I’ve had the privilege of experiencing success early in my career because I’ve put in the preparation, remained resilient, taken advantage of opportunities and not people, and have surrounded myself with mentors and allies,” she said. – JOSH FERNANDEZ

Joe Green

BBA ’12 | Founder and CEO of Affinity Confections

Hometown: Philadelphia

A taste for competition: Over the summer, Green pitched casting agents for “Shark Tank.” He’s also been selected as a finalist for Temple University’s business-plan competition, Be Your Own Boss Bowl.

By all measures, Joe Green, BBA ’12, is a successful young entrepreneur who followed his passion for baking to create Affinity Confections, a growing Philadelphia-based company that offers premium-made sweets with unique flavor combinations in smaller, bite-size portions. But try as he might, there’s still one thing in which he’s not been successful: convincing his grandmother to give up her delicious apple cake recipe.

“I explained, ‘Listen, I’m building a business,’” he said with a laugh. “I bring it up often. And she just won’t give the recipe to me, no matter how much I ask.”

Some things, perhaps, are just too cherished to share with the world. But his grandmother is still the most important figure in shaping Green’s future, teaching him how to bake when he was a young boy and passing on important lessons like, “You’re only as good as your ingredients.”

She even used to sell some of her cakes to friends or at small events, setting the foundation for Green to carry on the family’s baking legacy on a larger scale.

(Continued on next page)
A passion for fresh, house-made ingredients led Stephanie Reitano, BBA ’92, to open Capogiro Gelato Artisans

A cookbook changed Stephanie Reitano’s life.

Before receiving “Marcella Hazen’s Essentials of Classic Italian Cooking,” a gift from her husband John, Reitano admitted she didn’t know where to start in the kitchen. Her love affair with cooking began that day. In 1996. It manifested in a trip in 2001 with John to Italy, where she tasted gelato for the first time.

“It’s denser, richer, and creamier than ice cream, and lower in fat and calories,” Reitano said, recalling that trip through Capri with a smile. “And to be honest, I don’t even like ice cream. But I tasted it, half-hazelnut and half-chocolate hazelnut, and I remember thinking, ‘I have to try more of this.’”

Gelato, at that time, hadn’t been popularized in the United States. It wasn’t until a few years later, on a return trip to Italy for a food trade show, that she and John proposed opening an ‘artigianale’ gelateria in Philadelphia.

And Capogiro Gelato Artisans was born. Today, Reitano owns six locations where her sweet dessert treats can be consumed, including Capoffitto Pizzeria + Gelateria, a dual pizzeria and gelato shop located in Philadelphia’s Old City section.

Reitano craved replicating the flavors, textures, and tastes of the gelato she consumed in Italy. So she went about creating Capogiro in the same fashion. Reitano and her husband own a dairy in the city’s East Falls section, where they pastureize the raw milk they purchase in Honeybrook, Pa. She produces all of her gelato bases and flavorings from scratch. The roasted and blended nut mixtures that produce nut paste?

“A passion for fresh, house-made ingredients led Stephanie Reitano, BBA ’92, to open Capogiro Gelato Artisans

SWEET TREATS

Done in-house, she said. The same goes for her chocolates.

“In Italy, there are 20,000 places to get gelato, but the go-to places – the places everyone talks about – are ar-

Stephanie Reitano
BBA ’92 | Owner, Capogiro Gelateria and Capoffitto Forno Pizzeria

Hometown: Howell, N.J.

“Mangia!”, Surrounded by tasty treats each day, Reitano says she does not give in to temptation – at least when she’s around the gelato. The same can’t be said about the savory items on her menu. “I can’t go a single day without eating a 12-inch margherita pizza,” she said. “I eat one every day. I haven’t met a pizza I don’t like.”

Tigiana,” Reitano said. “John and I were at that trade show and we met people who said, ‘Americans like things easy. Do it this way.’ But we were never looking to take the easy way out.”

The extra effort hasn’t gone unnoticed. In 2011, National Geographic named Capogiro Gelato Artisans the best place in the world to eat ice cream. The recognition, published in National Geographic’s book, “500 Food Journeys of a Lifetime,” solidified Reitano’s decision to commit to old-style preparation and only the best ingredients. Her mouth seemingly waters when she dis-

Reitano, who graduated from the Fox School with a degree in Human Resource Management and Business Law, lives in Fairmount with her husband and their three children – daughter Michaela, and sons Emanuel and Sevein. Despite the heavy workload of managing a half-dozen locations seven days a week, she’s proving daily that it’s been worth the journey.

“I hear stories of people incorporating Capogiro into their lives, or their vacations, and it’s humbling,” Reitano said. “How we got the National Geographic honor is inspiring, too. The writers, photographers, and editors turn in their votes for where they eat when they travel, and they overwhelmingly voted for us. ‘They described us as lovely and wonderful, and said ‘anytime you’re in Philadelphia, this is where you must go.’” To receive that kind of praise and validation meant a lot.” —CHRISTOPHER A. VITO

ALUMNI PROFILE

CLASS NOTES

2000s

Phyllis Ludwig, MBA ’05
Announced that her company Ludwig Business Consultants, an accounting and consulting practice that launched in 2002, had acquired Michele’s Money Services in August.

Eleanor Lukens, BBA ’06
Elected as vice president and general manager of the measurement and power
Steven Sclarow's Executive MBA from Fox takes him to the Top of the Tower, and beyond

Steven Sclarow

MBA '16 | Owner's Representative & Project Manager, Partner Engineering and Science, Inc.


MBA Lingo: “The Executive MBA program added value and a core competency I didn’t know I was missing – the language of business. I’ve always been able to communicate design and construction concepts to clients, consultants and peers. My EMBA experience provided me with new, complimentary language skills, vocabulary and an enhanced strategic outlook and approach.”

Steven Sclarow, MBA ’16, knew he wanted to be an architect from when he was in the seventh grade. Great design relied on two of his major strengths – problem-solving and creativity. Sclarow, 41, has spent nearly 20 years making his dream a reality.

“What I love about being an architect is that I not only get to build a space, but also watch others experience it and see the joy that space creates for them,” Sclarow said.

As a recent graduate of the Fox School of Business’ Executive MBA program, Sclarow combines his design and project-management background with business skills to take his career to new heights. Sclarow enjoyed the program’s team projects and classes, and the Spring 2016 South Africa immersion trip, in which he experienced international culture and business – all of which provided him the opportunity to build new professional relationships, and enhance his innovative thinking and business repertoire, all while working full-time.

“I gained knowledge and a perspective I could immediately apply to what I’m doing,” Sclarow said.

Following graduation from Syracuse University’s School of Architecture, Sclarow worked for the firm Partridge Tackett Architects, honing his craft prior to joining EwingCole in 1999. While at EwingCole, he developed and collaborated on multiple projects during his 12 years there, spanning two coasts: from science and technology and healthcare facilities, to local entertainment venues like the Mitchell Performing Arts Center in Bryn Athyn, Pa.

Sclarow relocated to Southern California in 2003 to help grow EwingCole’s burgeoning West Coast practice, where he worked on projects that highlight the “sweater side of architecture, sports and entertainment venues” he said. For example, he worked on the Rio Village Seafood Buffet in Las Vegas, and the first ground-up “racino” – a 1 1/8-mile horse racetrack and full service casino and gaming facility, Zia Park Casino in Hobbs, N.M.

Sclarow worked in construction management for the Department of Homeland Security in 2011 and his West Coast experience culminated in his appointment as president of the American Institute of Architects Orange County in 2012. He then moved back to Philadelphia to be closer to his family. Upon his return, he managed the construction phase on one of his favorite projects, Top of the Tower at 1717 Arch Street.

“Working from conception through completion, I pour my passion and soul into working with clients to collaborate and deliver aesthetically attractive spaces, enhancing their ROI” he said.

At present, Sclarow continues working in the design and construction industry and enjoys moderating panel discussions for the commercial real estate news site, BisNow. He and two peers from the Fox School are also collaborating on a business plan for a mobile app, Drinks-Up! It’s an app that enhances the bar experience by providing hassle-free drink ordering, the improvement of customer service and value-added marketing, and data analytics for bar owners.

“I’ve had the opportunity to take on new challenges that have allowed me to grow exponentially and see tangible results,” Sclarow says. “I’ve made great connections and had a transformative experience in the EMBA program. I’m excited for the next evolution in my career.” – JOSH FERNANDEZ

CLASS NOTES

systems division within AMETEK Aerospace & Defense, a leading global manufacturer of electronic instruments and electro-mechanical devices.

James F. Eaton III, BBA ’08
Has earned the personal financial specialist credential from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He joins other professionals who have demonstrated advanced knowledge of estate, insurance, investment, retirement and tax planning.

A CPA financial planner with KatzAbbsob in Baltimore, Eaton is a manager and a member of the firm’s highest worth and pass-through real estate tax groups; he lives in Shrewsbury, PA.

Nicholas DeJulius, BBA ’10
Featured in an article by The Philly Voice about his newly opened business, Arterial Agents, a mixed-use concept grocery located on Philadelphia’s Jewelers’ Row.

Kwan Suh, BBA ’10
Launched an update to the popular shopping app Delivit LLC, which allows consumers to leverage technology in order to purchase and receive international goods.

Josh Tait, BBA ’13
Hired as a human resources data analyst with Amazon, in the Greater Seattle area. He previously had worked with eBay Enterprise.

Rob Lewton, BBA ’13
Spearheaded an effort to deliver 60,000 bottles of water to Flint, Mich., following the contamination of its drinking water.

Amanda J. Hornberger, BBA ’14
Co-owns Mayfair Vintage, an e-commerce antique jewelry store she helped found five years ago. About.com, British Vogue, Lancaster Online, Lucky and Teen Vogue have all covered her store.

Joseph Jones III, MBA ’15
Appointed superintendent of the Neshaminy School District, in Langhorne, Pa. He previously had served as superintendent of the Woodbury City (N.J.) Board of Education.

Andrew Nakakache, BBA ’15
Co-founded Philadelphia-based food delivery app Habitat, which caters to college students. Its anticipated expansion into a second Philadelphia campus will take place soon.

Lauren Snyder, BBA ’15
Appointed public relations assistant for American Eagle Outfitters and Aerio, in New York City.

To submit a class note, email your accomplishments, promotions, and achievements to fox.alumni@temple.edu.
Shane Henderson applied his Fox education to a career in music

Shane Henderson is driving through Los Angeles when he takes a call — and a trip down memory lane. The words help Henderson zero in on a familiar sound, and he knows he’s found something significant.

“I found the demo I wrote when I was 16,” he says.

Henderson has a history of finding his way around the world-famous Vans Warped Tour, from as far away as Australia and Japan, and their own headlining U.S. tour.

The band signed to I Surrender Records in 2005, and Henderson said, “I’d perform all weekend, and then be back for a call — and a trip down memory lane. The words help Henderson zero in on a familiar sound, and he knows he’s found something significant.

“I found the demo I wrote when I was 16,” he says.

Henderson has a history of finding his way around the world-famous Vans Warped Tour, from as far away as Australia and Japan, and their own headlining U.S. tour.

As the band gained momentum, Henderson assumed primary marketing responsibilities. Leveraging what he’d learned in his classes at Fox, Henderson formed a gameplay for the band that included fan interaction and a cohesive visual aesthetic — from selfies on social media to direction on the filming of music videos.

“Some bands hide behind social media, but we would always come out and talk to the kids,” Henderson said. “To this day I have amazing friends who I made while standing beside the merchandise table.”

Valencia released its sophomore album through Sony-owned Columbia Records, and toured with Blink 182, Boys Like Girls, and All Time Low, while traveling to the Australia Soundwave Festival and the Fuji Rock Festival in Japan. The band ultimately went on hiatus in 2011.

Henderson has since refocused his attention to Promise of Redemption, an acoustic solo project he began as a 16-year-old. Last summer, he released a 10-inch vinyl record with seven new songs.

“It’s a crazy industry, and you won’t always have a job, but the most important thing is to stay consistent and know what you’ll sacrifice to do not push paper all day.” —LORA STRUM

The Fox School of Business Alumni Association provides many opportunities to contribute and to be involved with the school:

• Want to visit campus? Take a tour of the facilities, and meet with faculty and Fox School Student Ambassadors.

• Want to support current students? Act as a mentor, or subject-matter expert.

• Want to engage with fellow alumni? Join the FSBA as a volunteer, or pursue a Director-at-Large position.

All of these outlets present opportunities to demonstrate your creativity and talents, make connections with current and past students, and potentially advance your career.

As Temple University founder Russell Conwell wrote in his famous “Acres of Diamonds”: “You can journey to the ends of the earth in search of success, but if you’re lucky, you will discover happiness in your own backyard.”

I encourage you to return to your collegiate backyard at Temple University and the Fox School of Business.

Regards,

Giacomo F. Cesareo
Fox School of Business Alumni Association

HAPPY IN MY BACKYARD

Thomas Edison once said: “There’s a way to do it better—find it.”

Isn’t that what all of us discover in business? It’s always a better way to fuel your innovation, spark your creativity, and foster growth. Each opportunity creates a new situation, and these situations will result in something new or different.

It’s important to remain aware of these situations, to help maximize your personal and professional opportunities. As a Fox School alum, you are rooted in an institution that encourages self-awareness and hard work.

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Fox School of Business Alumni Association

IN MEMORIAM

Lewis Dashovsky, BS ’41
Leonard M. Isaid, BS ’43
Estrade R. Kano, BS ’44
Harry W. Reily, BS ’47
Myrna L. Linsenberg, BS ’48
Harold Lashin, BS ’48
Harry C. Petzel, BS ’48
James R. Kurtz, ’48
Harold Rubinson, BS ’49
Norman M. Neiman, BS ’49
Walter Boissinger, BS ’49
Richard Kile Hoffman, BS ’50
Herbert Preaman, BS ’51
Albert W. Bergeman, BS ’52
David E. Deblit, BS ’52
Gilbert Newman, BS ’52
James J. Higgins, Jr., BS ’52
Louis J. Collucci, BS ’52
Hon. Alexander A. Bonavitaclclo, BS ’53, LAW ’56 & ’63
John K. Warren, BS ’53
John J. Olther, ’54
Harold C. Law, Jr., BS ’56
Robert V. Nicoli, BS ’58
Walter E. Donovan, BS ’58
David J. Charles, ’58
Harry Feldman, BS ’57
Joseph Litt, BS ’57, LAW ’60
Carl H. Franklin, ’68
Lewis Becker, BS ’58
Theodore N. Kookos, ’58
David L. Haus, ’59
Leonard J. Klawak, BS ’59
Robert W. Martin, CLA ’60,
MBA ’69
Benjamin J. Trout, ’61
Lamar K. Weigner, BS ’61,
MBA ’75
John J. McShane, BS ’62
Lee M. Soffer, BS ’62
William Henry Anhalt, BS ’62
William J. Stewart, BS ’62
Bruce Baron, BS ’63, LAW ’67
David A. FAUST, BS ’63
Harry J. Layton, Jr., MBA ’63
William G. Pluff, MBA ’63
Henry F. Bauer, ’64
Steven A. Caneil, BS ’64
George M. Ulmer, Jr., BS ’65
Lewin A. Rink, BS ’66
Michael J. Taylor, MBA ’75
Michael Joseph Daly, MBA ’75
Robert H. March, MBA ’80
Chrysa Andreko Buchman, MBA ’81
Stanley Zabrowitz, MBA ’81
Joseph M. Tait, MBA ’82
Corina Williams, MBA ’93
John M. Weidbrand, MBA ’83
Philip T. Makowski, BBA ’97
William F. Gill, Jr., BBA ’87
Sharon A. Montgomery, BBA ’89
Jeffrey Graham, BBA ’90
Marko Thack, BBA ’93
Jacqueline M. Colens-Breech, BBA ’95
Tara J. DiDomenico, BBA ’14

Giacomo F. Cesareo, BBA ’06
President

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FOX SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
U.S. News Ranks Fox School of Business Among Nation’s Top-50 Undergrad Business Programs

Temple University’s Fox School of Business is ranked among the top-50 business schools in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report. The Fox School earned a No. 48 national ranking in U.S. News’ 2017 edition of “Best Colleges,” placing it among the top-10 percent of all undergraduate business programs in the United States. The ranking, the highest in the Fox School’s history, marks a 13-spot surge since last year’s U.S. News ranking.

“The Fox School continues to ascend the rankings of prestigious publications like U.S. News,” said Dean M. Moshe Porat. “It’s a tremendous accomplishment to have been ranked among the top-50 business schools in the country, and it serves as testament to the quality of our programs.”

The business school rankings featured in the 2017 edition of “Best Colleges,” which were released online Sept. 13, are based on peer assessment of deans and senior faculty at each AACSB-accredited undergraduate business program in the United States over a two-year period, including a Spring 2016 survey.

“Our innovative approach to business education is at the core of the Fox School story, which we’ve been working hard to disseminate to our industry colleagues and peers,” said Fox School Vice Dean Debbie Campbell. “This ranking only helps to reinforce and validate our pursuit of continual improvement.”

For the fourth consecutive year, three of Fox’s undergraduate programs earned top-15 rankings from U.S. News. Risk Management and Insurance (No. 6), International Business Administration (No. 13), and Management Information Systems (No. 14) programs all are among the best of their kind in the nation.

Fox’s Risk Management and Insurance program is the nation’s oldest, continuously running program of its kind. Among the largest programs in the country, too, Fox’s Risk Management and Insurance program is also home to the Sigma Chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma. The chapter, the international professional fraternity’s largest, has earned the Edison L. Bowers award as best overall chapter in 18 of the last 23 years.

Fox’s International Business Administration program is supported by a robust study-abroad program, through Fox and Temple University, as well as from the Institute of Global Management Studies and the Temple Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER), which are based at Fox. Temple CIBER is one of only 17 such elite centers in the nation to have had its grant-renewal proposal approved for federal funding from the United States Department of Education. Temple is the only university in Pennsylvania to have received federal funding for CIBER.

Members of Fox’s Association for Information Systems (AIS) student chapter, the first of its kind, have earned first place in four consecutive years at the AIS Student Leadership Conference. The Fox School of Business is the largest and most comprehensive business school in the Philadelphia region, with more than 8,500 students, 200 faculty, and 65,000 alumni worldwide. Fox offers 15 undergraduate majors; more than 20 student professional organizations; the Fox Honors program; cutting-edge technology and stellar student services, including a Business Communications Center and the Center for Student Professional Development (CSPD), which has a 94-percent job-placement rate for undergraduates who use its services.

The Fox School of Business is one of only 29 institutions in the world to earn the Edison L. Bowers award as best overall chapter in all 23 years. The Fox School of Business is the only business school in the country to have earned this award in every year of its existence.

The Princeton Review ranks Fox Online MBA Among World’s Best

The Fox School of Business is once again ranked among the best in the world. The Fox Online MBA earned a No. 3 global ranking in The Princeton Review’s 2017 ranking of the best online MBA programs, published Sept. 20. The program improved two places from The Princeton Review’s 2015 ranking.

“Fox Online MBA program is truly unique, and it is with great pride that another top publication has ranked it among the best in the country and the world,” said Fox School Dean M. Moshe Porat. “The program integrates cutting-edge technology and accredited, high-impact curriculum. It places an emphasis on quality, rigor, and integrity, and applies student feedback to deliver an unmatched experience. This ranking could not have been accomplished without the work of Dr. Darin Kapanjie, the program’s academic director, and our Online and Digital Learning team, which delivers the best advancements in technology to a quality, online-format education.”

The Princeton Review compiled its global rankings by surveying students and administrators from more than 90 online MBA programs worldwide. The surveys focus on the following core criteria: admissions selectivity, graduation and retention rates, faculty training and credentials, technological infrastructures, student indebtedness, professional development and career outcomes, and more.

For more information on the Fox Online MBA program, visit fox.temple.edu/omb.

CHRISTOPHER A. VITO
MB SARKAR, DISTINGUISHED FOX SCHOOL PROFESSOR, PASSES AWAY

Dr. Mitabaran “MB” Sarkar, a renowned educator and researcher at Temple University’s Fox School of Business whose pedagogical work garnered national, international, and university awards, died June 7, 2016. He was 54.

Sarkar, who joined the Fox School faculty in 2008, was the H.F. “Gerry” Lenfest Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation within the Strategic Management department at Fox. He also had served as a visiting professor of strategy at the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad.

“MB was an innovator at every stage of his career,” said Dr. M. Moshe Porat, Dean of the Fox School of Business. “His passion for teaching and empowering students, and his thirst for knowledge were tremendous. MB’s passing brings great sadness to our Temple and Fox communities. My thoughts and prayers at this time are with his wife, their two daughters, and his family and close friends.”

In 2013, Sarkar received Temple University’s Great Teacher Award, the highest honor conferred by the University on faculty. On seven occasions, he was named Outstanding Professor of the Year in Fox’s Global, Executive, Online, and Part-Time MBA Programs. Sarkar was the founding Academic Director of Fox’s Global Immersion Program in Emerging Markets, and led the initiative of building partnerships and experiential programs for Fox MBA students in several countries, such as Chile, China, Colombia, Ghana, India, Israel, Morocco, South Africa, and Turkey.

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Sarkar also was a five-time recipient of Fox’s Crystal Teaching Award. Last November, he received the Musser Award for Excellence in Teaching, which recognizes a Fox School faculty member who challenges students to think imaginatively and creatively.

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ENTREPRENEURS MAKE THEIR PITCH TO APPEAR ON “SHARK TANK”

Entrepreneurs piled into Alter Hall clacking more than posterboards and presentation materials. They also brought dreams of success and self-employment.

The Fox School of Business hosted casting associates from the hit ABC show “Shark Tank,” which features self-made millionaires who award mentorship and financial support to budding entrepreneurs in exchange for equity stake in their businesses. More than 170 Temple students, alumni, faculty, and staff applied in the hope that their June 11 pitches would result in selection to appear on a future episode of the show.

“I walked in the room to make my presentation, and I immediately felt so nervous,” said Fox Part-Time MBA student Viniti Singh, who pitched a standing CT scanner for horses that wouldn’t require anesthesia. “I can only wonder what it’s like to deliver a pitch in front of the actual sharks.”

Casting associates listened to 60-second presentations inside the Steven H. Korman Conference Room, with two Temple entrepreneurs having to deliver their pitches simultaneously and side by side. The associates asked entrepreneurs to reveal both the monetary value they would ask of the Sharks, and to name the Shark with whom they most strongly identified.

Caren Sachs, an associate for the show, told applicants prior to their casting calls that “personality is just as important as your pitch.”

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She emphasized that “Shark Tank” seeks entrepreneurs who can speak energetically about their businesses, products, and concepts.

After Hall’s Undergraduate Commons served as the waiting room for Temple entrepreneurs before their number had been called. Applicants paced the room, rehearsing their talking points and working through their demonstrations.

Brandon Study, a Fox School senior majoring in Entrepreneurship, said he felt confident while making his pitch. Temple University “prepares you for moments like this,” he said. “That training is what helps you thrive in crunch-time situations.”

GERARD H. SWEENEY RECEIVES 20TH ANNUAL MUSSER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP

Temple University’s Fox School of Business honored Gerard H. “Jerry” Sweeney as the recipient of the 2016 Musser Award for Excellence in Leadership – the school’s highest honor, for outstanding achievement, leadership, and commitment to the community by a distinguished member of industry.

Sweeney was honored at the 20th annual Musser Award reception and dinner, held Nov. 17 in Mitten Hall, on Temple University’s Main Campus.

Sweeney is President, Chief Executive Officer, and Trustee of Brandywine Realty Trust, which develops, builds, and manages the nation’s leading Class A offices and mixed-use properties. He has held these roles since the company’s founding in 1994. He has overseen the growth of Brandywine, from four properties and a total market capitalization of less than $5 million to more than 33 million square feet and a total market capitalization of close to $5 billion.

“Jerry Sweeney has overseen Brandywine Realty Trust from its infancy through to today. He is directly responsible for helping the company flourish into a leader in the real estate industry,” said Dr. M. Moshe Porat, Dean of the Fox School of Business. “This year marks an anniversary. For two decades, we have honored distinguished business professionals with the Musser Award for Excellence in Leadership, and Jerry certainly fits that description.”

GERARD H. SWEENEY RECEIVES 20TH ANNUAL MUSSER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP.
FATHER, SON GRADUATE TOGETHER IN FOX SCHOOL'S COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Walter Douglass and his son, Keith, took different routes to the Fox School of Business. But at commencement, they walked together. The father and son sat beside one another May 6 at the Liacouras Center, and had their names and degrees announced simultaneously during the Fox School's commencement ceremony.

Walter, who in 2009 opened a tax-preparation service, received a Bachelor's degree in Finance. Keith, 23, earned a Bachelor's degree in Accounting. Keith, 23, earned his Bachelor's in Finance. Walter began his pursuit of a college degree at Temple's College of Science and Technology. He's been completing coursework over the phone, with a 1.1-month sabbatical while he received chemotherapy to treat Non-Hodgkin lymphoma. Keith, 23, completed 18 credits of coursework in Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 semesters in order to ensure he would walk with his father at commencement.

“When I looked at my schedule last year, I thought, ‘I have to push myself. I owe that to my father.’ He’s the hardest-working man I’ve ever known,” Walter said.

A team of students from the Fox School of Business put together the piece to win a national case competition. The students won the Spencer-RIMS Risk Management Challenge, a three-month case study from a major company – iconic toymaker, LEGO. The competition culminated with eight teams delivering presentations during the RIMS 2016 Annual Conference and Exhibition, held April 10-14 in San Diego, Calif.

This marked the third win in five years for students from the Fox School's nationally ranked Risk, Insurance, and Healthcare Management department. Senior Actuarial Science majors Carolyn Mursel and Zifong Zhao, and Risk Management and Insurance majors Andrew Donchez and Sean Preis, a senior and a junior, respectively, comprised the winning team, which received $4,000 in prize earnings. The Spencer-RIMS Risk Management Challenge tasks undergraduates from around the country with developing a comprehensive, written risk analysis that will be judged by a panel of experts at the annual risk management society's conference.

“Temple’s Risk Management and Insurance program has helped us hone our analytical and critical-thinking skills, and adequately prepared us to identify the main risks facing LEGO,” Donchez said. “Meeting LEGO’s strategic risk manager and picking his brain taught us that risk management is a real-world issue that demands passionate, curious and persistent practitioners.”

“Winning the competition is an extraordinary closing on the last chapter of my Temple journey,” Zhao said. “It signifies the high caliber of future business leaders Fox School has nurtured.”

—LORA STRUM

STUDY: SMART TECHNOLOGY – AND NOT BODY CAMERAS – MORE LIKELY TO REDUCE USE OF LETHAL FORCE BY POLICE

When it comes to reducing instances of lethal force exhibited by police, a recent study by Fox School of Business researchers suggests that wearable video cameras might not be the solution.

Keith, 23, completed 18 credits of coursework in Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 semesters in order to ensure he would walk with his father at commencement.

The researchers found that the use of analytics and smartphones to access intelligently, like criminal history reports, reduced instances of lethal force by police, while wearable video cameras were linked to increases in shooting deaths of civilians by police.

“Our findings suggest that body cameras generate less reluctance for police officers to use lethal force, because the wearable body cameras provide evidence that may justify the shooting and exonerate an officer from prosecution,” said Pavlou, the Fox School’s Assistant Professor of Finance and Director of Schwab Advisor Services, and persistent practitioners.”

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A CIRCLE OF LEADING GIVING FAMILIES WHO PROVIDE CRUCIAL SUPPORT TO TEMPLE UNIVERSITY AND THE FOX SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND SET AN EXAMPLE OF PHILANTHROPY THAT IS INSPIRING TO THEIR FELLOW ALUMNI AND FRIENDS.

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2015–2016 FOX CHERRY SOCIETY

Recognizing the Fox School’s leading student donors who have donated back to their alma mater, setting an example of philanthropy that is inspiring to others.
Performing on the biggest stage has never fazed Raheem Brock. He played in front of 74,000 fans, and a television audience of 94 million, when he and the Indianapolis Colts won Super Bowl XLI in February 2007.

These days, after retiring from football, Brock is tackling a different career; he’s trying his hand at acting. The Fox School of Business alumnus is receiving professional training in the hope that he can land a starring role (or two) in the near future.

“From everything I’m told, it’s what I already knew – this is a grind,” said Brock, 38, who has relocated from his hometown of Philadelphia to the New York metropolitan area. “You just don’t know when your break is going to come. I’m just working to be great at what I do, and improving my craft to become a well-respected actor.”

For the full story, visit fox.temple.edu/brock