Olin Students
Experience Included
What makes a great business professional? At Olin, we think great business professionals start out as great students: students who have natural academic abilities to tackle a rigorous curriculum, pursue multiple areas of study, possess a global mindset, get involved in their school from day one, demonstrate leadership in experiential learning and nonprofit fellowships, and follow their passions. Those are the kinds of students you’ll find at Olin Business School.

Olin’s mission is to create knowledge, inspire individuals, and transform business. This is a responsibility we take seriously and fully embrace when preparing students to be market ready on day one after graduation. The Olin academic atmosphere is rigorous and collaborative, and teaches students the skills necessary to think critically and make informed business decisions. But our students are more than just well educated and well rounded—they are grounded in a high degree of integrity, strong work ethic, and leadership skills.

This magazine is designed to introduce you to some of our incredible students with stories that are representative of the caliber of students you’ll find at Olin. For every story you read, there are dozens more student stories just as amazing and inspiring. We are humbled to have an opportunity to work and partner with these incredible individuals who help each other, involve themselves in the community, and give back to society. We invite you to meet more Olin students by calling or emailing the Weston Career Center. We look forward to working with you.

Mark Schlafly
Interim Director
Weston Career Center
STIRRING FOR MORE
William Miller challenges himself to achieve his career goals

William Miller would rather not spend much time in his “comfort zone.” Whether he’s studying in Hong Kong or pushing himself harder in the Washington University swim team pool, William (BSBA ’15) sees value in a certain amount of discomfort.

[On the swim team] I’ve learned how to perform well in the pool while pushing myself to new levels of mental and physical exhaustion, which has become applicable to many other aspects of my life,” says the Tampa native, who spends about 21 hours a week in the pool during swim season.

Participating in the Summer Study Abroad program at the Chinese University of Hong Kong was also the result of a deliberate decision to stretch himself.

“Washington University is a very diverse school, so there are many opportunities to be exposed to diversity, but I knew going to Hong Kong would really push me out of my comfort zone,” William says. “I’d have no choice but to build relationships, communicate, and connect better in a different culture.”

William has found plenty of support as he’s pushed himself out of his comfort zone. From the swim team to the business school, William says he immediately found people at WU to be friendly and collegial while also hard-working and motivated—without being at all “cutthroat.”

“At Olin we do a lot of group work. It’s really easy to work with people here—you can tell everyone wants others to succeed as well as themselves,” he says. “My friends and classmates have been my best resources throughout my experience at Olin, which is something I hope to retain as I enter the professional world.”

For a semester-long project in a recent entrepreneurship class, for example, William says student teams had to put together an idea for starting a company.

“Investment banking is particularly appealing to me, because it’s an excellent opportunity to make use of my finance coursework while also working in a challenging environment,” William says. “I was particularly drawn to hone his career plan as a summer financial analyst in the Financial Restructuring Group at Houlihan Lokey.

CBRE GROUP

CAREER ADVICE

The Weston Career Center advising team draws upon the experience of seasoned business professionals in a wide range of industries and functions—including accounting, consulting, consumer packaged goods, financial services, general management, healthcare, human capital, investment banking, management, marketing, nonprofit, supply chain, and operations management.

Students meet with career advisors for individualized mentoring and guidance on career goals to help target their job search strategy for specific positions or companies.

CAREER ACTION PLANS

A successful internship or job search begins with the development of a good career plan. Olin advisors work with students in the development of plans that reflect the students’ passions and academic experience. The creation of the plan includes:

• Self assessment of interests, skills, values, and personality in terms of career aspirations
• Market research to explore industries, functional areas, and companies
• Career goals determined by students and Olin advisors to align skills and interests with likely careers

• Gap analysis to identify gaps in preparation and pursuit of opportunities that build strengths and bolster areas where experience is lacking
• Personal marketing plan includes developing an impactful cover letter and résumé, practicing self introduction, and honing communication and networking skills

“As career advisors, we provide personalized expertise to help students navigate the complex job market and are part of their journey to successfully achieve their unique career goals. This requires an organized, strategic approach, which is best achieved by developing an individual career action plan.”

Margie Beck
Career Advisor
Weston Career Center

“By being proactive, I’ll be prepared for the professional world.” William says. “My friends and classmates have been my best resources throughout my experience at Olin, which is something I hope to retain as I enter the professional world.”

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William Miller
Hometown: Tampa, FL
Degree: BSBA ’15
Internship/Job: Summer Financial Analyst Intern at Houlihan Lokey

WILLIAM MILLER

“It was really eye-opening to see all that was involved. It gave us an accurate reflection of what real entrepreneurs go through,” says William, a finance and entrepreneurship double major.

“It was also very interesting from a team standpoint. It’s a challenging dynamic at Olin—to be a leader among a group of other leaders.”
WOMEN POWER

As a woman in science and now business, Kimberly Holden helps her peers achieve their own dreams.

After earning her undergraduate degree in chemical engineering, Kimberly worked for seven years as an environmental consultant in California. She came to Olin as a Forté Fellow, an organization that works with top MBA programs to promote women in business. Then, as co-president of Olin Women in Business (OWIB), Kimberly (MBA ’15) helped extend to other young women the opportunities she has enjoyed.

“Our goals [in OWIB] are not only to increase the number of women who attend Olin, but to also get the numbers of women in business up in general,” Kimberly says. “One of the many things we do is reach out to admitted students and encourage them to attend Olin, but we also promote interactions, support, and networking among women in various organizations and other MBA programs. All of these networks are important if more women are going to be successful in business.”

Building networks has been a business school theme for Kimberly, who says she was immediately impressed by the number of companies, speakers, and alumni who visit Olin.

“There are so many opportunities to have access to people and to engage and ask questions. Learning about other companies’ cultures and other types of career paths has really broadened the possibilities for me,” she says. “It is fantastic to be constantly interacting with such high-caliber people here, in both professional settings and extracurricular activities.”

In her own career path, Kimberly says she had “hit a plateau” in environmental consulting and felt an MBA and a shift toward finance were the right next steps. Her post-MBA summer internship at Frito-Lay/PepsiCo in corporate finance will also open many doors.

“Coming from consulting, where everything changes all the time, I was hesitant to settle into working for one company,” Kimberly says. “Pepsi really expects you to move around into different departments and have different experiences, so it’s a great fit for me. I really want to be at a company I can grow with—where I can try different things and take different paths.”

Looking at Kimberly’s path so far, it seems clear that her openness and sense of adventure have served her well.

“I willingly welcome change, whether professionally, personally, or geographically,” says Kimberly, who is from Corona, California. “Attending Olin and getting my MBA has facilitated relocation and new career opportunities, and has changed the way I view many things and interact with others.”

OLIN ALUMNI SUPPORT
OLIN STUDENTS

The Olin MBA Mentor Program fosters relationships between alumni and current students and complements the academic curriculum with exposure to the business community. Students and their alumni mentors explore different industries, review career paths, and fine-tune students’ career goals. The mentor program pairs first-year, second-semester MBA students with alumni for a one-semester mentoring relationship.
EXPANDING HORIZONS

Laira Torres-Ruiz makes an impact while helping others

Easing into life at college was never what undergraduate Laira Torres-Ruiz had in mind—she’s more of a dive-right-in kind of person.

In her first year at Washington University, Laira (BSBA ’17) participated in an Olin Peer Ambassador, traveled to Cuba as part of the Focus Cuba Freshman Seminar, and landed a summer internship.

“Everything I choose to get involved in is about making an impact on my future and expanding my horizons,” Laira says. “I’m learning a lot but I’m also giving back.”

As a Peer Mentor, for instance, Laira is learning about leadership and mentoring, but she’s also helping students the way others guided her.

“I want to help others find the school that’s going to make them the best person they can become. That’s the best advice I received [when I was looking at schools], and I’m happy I can share it.”

Although she was originally considering a major in political science, Laira says she gravitated to Olin because business plays such an important role in the world.

“How everything revolves around business,” she says. “It’s not about money for me. It’s about people—the study of people and what makes them behave how they do. Business is really the study of everything essential to human behavior and human interaction.”

The opportunities for human interaction during her Focus Cuba trip were especially meaningful for Laira, who is from Puerto Rico. The two countries, she says, “are one people at heart, but we have been separated.”

Laira plans to foster more international learning opportunities by studying in Madrid for a semester. She spent the summer after her freshman year at home in San Juan as an operations intern for Young Life.

A SOLID SENSE OF SELF

Exploring many paths leads to a fully developed identity for Will Waldron

As soon as he arrived on campus as a freshman, Will Waldron took his mother’s wise advice and began trying as many classes and activities as his schedule allowed.

“My mom always encourages me to try as many things as I can. Exploring different interests is an opportunity to find yourself,” says Will (BSBA ’15).

“Finding yourself. Will believes, is a key aspect of undergraduate education, and Washington University is especially supportive of the pursuit.”

The biggest thing that has stood out to me in my time here at Wash U is the amount of opportunities people have to develop as individuals,” says Will, who came to St. Louis from Bloomington, Illinois.

“This includes the ease of taking classes in any discipline, the large amount of groups that are open to new members joining them, and the push to get off campus and explore the city. I feel like having these kind of opportunities helps students find their passions and enter the real world with a complete understanding of who they are.”

A variety of extracurricular activities have helped Will explore his interests and identity. His junior year, Will was internal vice president for the Class of 2015, following a term as vice president of programming for the Student Union. He has also been a resident assistant, a Phi Gamma Nu brother, and a member of the Association of Black Students.

Those activities, Will says, appealed to him for their collaborative nature and leadership opportunities. Being a member of the Student Union and serving as an RA, for instance, built Will’s mentoring and advising skills, and offered opportunities to apply what he was learning in the classroom to real situations.

A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY SERVICE

Our students are grounded, well-rounded leaders passionate about making a difference. They are inspired by service to society, are well equipped to contribute to organizational success, and thrive in a team environment. Their earned leadership is a result of numerous opportunities on and off campus.

The Community Service Office serves as the major initiative of the Gephardt Institute for Public Service at Washington University, supporting cocurricular service among undergraduate, graduate, and professional students.

CASE COMPETITIONS

From early on, Olin students have many opportunities to participate in intense case competitions, both on campus and at other universities. These competitions are a perfect testing ground to apply analytical, critical thinking, and communication skills under pressure and provide valuable, real-world learning opportunities to students.

“9/10 More than nine out of 10 freshmen place in the top 10% of high school classes.

30,000+ Over 30,000 students applied for approximately 1,400 freshman class positions.

67% of Washington U students participate in community service during college.

Name: Laira Torres-Ruiz
Hometown: San Juan, Puerto Rico
Degree: BSBA ’17
Internship/Job: Summer Intern at Young Life

Name: William Waldron
Hometown: Bloomington, IL
Degree: BSBA ’15
Internship/Job: Summer Business Analyst Intern at Target
Innovative learning. Real-world projects. Outcomes with impact. That’s the Center for Experiential Learning (CEL). The CEL matches highly motivated students at Washington University’s Olin Business School with organizations seeking strategic consulting services.

**THE CEL HAS FIVE UNIQUE PROGRAMS DEDICATED TO INNOVATIVE LEARNING AND DELIVERING IMPACT:**

1. **Practicum** pairs teams of talented Olin students with companies seeking smart solutions to management challenges.

2. **The Taylor Community Consulting** teams of two to four graduate-level students provide pro bono consulting services to St. Louis nonprofits.

3. **The Olin/United Way Board Fellows program** takes second-year MBA students from the classroom to the nonprofit boardroom to provide a unique lesson in leadership.

4. **CELect** students consult for entrepreneurs at a tech incubator to better understand the challenges of a startup and advise on best-practice business strategies.

5. **Global Management Studies** are student-directed courses that focus on industries, management styles, or emerging markets in a country or region outside the United States.

**THE OLIN DIFFERENCE**

“A CEL experience helps students align classroom learning with what happens in a professional setting. The experience can even be the pathway to a specific career direction. In fact, the CEL experience advances the goals Weston Career Center has set for students, specifically, guiding career planning, equipping with job search skills, and preparing for managing a career effectively.”

Annetta Culver
Assistant Director, Employer Relations
Weston Career Center

Find out more about the CEL at olin.wustl.edu/CEL

**STEPHEN PRICE**

**A HEALTHY APPROACH**

Stephen Price blends clinical experience with business to influence healthcare

With a doctorate in physical therapy and six years of clinical practice under his belt, Stephen Price entered Olin ready to shift his career by adding value to all he had already learned.

“I liked being a PT, but I knew I didn’t want to be practicing long term,” says Stephen (MBA ’14). “I wanted to have an influence on how healthcare is structured and carried out in this country, rather than being a person who provided that care. You begin to realize there’s only so much you can do as a provider, yet you see what could be—you see the potential for helping people achieve well-being.”

Stephen was attracted to Olin for its healthcare business program and ties to Washington University’s Olin Business School and Washington University’s School of Medicine.

“An MBA gives you the ability to be flexible and continue to go down whatever path you choose. I also knew the reputation of the medical school would translate into my MBA in different ways.”

Stephen began to concretely blend his interests in healthcare and business through Olin’s Center for Experiential Learning, where he was a Practicum Team lead and a Board Fellow. The Fellow program allowed him to focus on academics his first year, then spend his second year applying what he learned in a community agency setting—in his case, the Center for Hearing and Speech.

“Seeing the work of this agency and the people involved opened me up to the city. I became rooted in the real concerns and needs of real people,” says Stephen. “I felt well equipped and was glad to be out in the community, doing meaningful work.”

Before Olin, Stephen says his only exposure to the overlapping of business and healthcare was hospital administration. “Now I see where I can impact healthcare in many more ways. It’s given me the awareness and confidence to think more broadly about my career.”

That career is taking root at Humana. In 2013, Humana crafted an internship for Stephen, leveraging his clinical insights in orthopedic and cardiopulmonary issues and giving him a chance to blend in his new business skills. After earning his MBA, Stephen went to work at Humana full time as a clinical guidance consultant, a position focused on helping the company understand and leverage clinical data.

“I get to work alongside fellow clinicians, as well as project managers and other consultants, to solve complex issues facing the health insurance industry and healthcare delivery in the U.S. It’s a perfect fit.”

**A CEL experience helps students align classroom learning with what happens in a professional setting. The experience can even be the pathway to a specific career direction. In fact, the CEL experience advances the goals Weston Career Center has set for students, specifically, guiding career planning, equipping with job search skills, and preparing for managing a career effectively.”**

Annetta Culver
Assistant Director, Employer Relations
Weston Career Center

“Want to help people reach their greatest health potential. I’m inspired and moved by that greater goal and the chance to impact lives.”

Stephen Price blends clinical experience with business to influence healthcare

Name: Stephen Price
Hometown: Mountain View, MO
Degree: MBA ’14
Internship/Job: Clinical Guidance Consultant at Humana

“I get to work alongside fellow clinicians, as well as project managers and other consultants, to solve complex issues facing the health insurance industry and healthcare delivery in the U.S. It’s a perfect fit.”

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“A CELL experience helps students align classroom learning with what happens in a professional setting. The experience can even be the pathway to a specific career direction. In fact, the CELL experience advances the goals Weston Career Center has set for students, specifically, guiding career planning, equipping with job search skills, and preparing for managing a career effectively.”

Annetta Culver
Assistant Director, Employer Relations
Weston Career Center
The Olin Difference

Whitley McDowell

Her throughout life

College gave Whitley McDowell a jump start on mastering skills that will serve her throughout life.

For Whitley McDowell, a good college experience, career, and life all have a lot to do with balance: being supported while being challenged, knowing who you are while being open to differences in others, and making time for both work and play.

As a dual degree double-major (accounting and marketing BSBA, and MACC ’14), balancing school and life was especially important. In addition to studying hard, Whitley also made time for exercise, relaxation, and friends.

“I think this balance is necessary to keep us sane and content with our lives,” Whitley says. “I think being balanced and well rounded makes you a better business person, too. A good work-life balance promotes mental health, a clear mind, and the ability to think outside the box—to have better ideas without getting burnt out.”

For Whitley, playing Washington University club volleyball was key to that balance.

“(Volleyball has) been a really important part of my development. It’s fun and it teaches so much, like communication, trust, working together, and encouraging others when they get down. The people I’ve met in volleyball have been like family.”

In addition to her term as co-president of club volleyball, Whitley was the Beta Alpha Psi vice president of recruitment and social activities and was involved in the Black Senior Alliance. As a minority herself, Whitley says she has always understood the importance of diversity, but her personal experience with it broadened significantly after arriving at Olin and Washington University from her hometown, Spring, Texas.

“I wasn’t exposed to different cultures very much in high school,” Whitley says. Living with Asian students her freshman year at WU helped her “learn so much about people, and different ways to view things.” She also appreciates WU’s “promotion of diversity and the vast amount of cultural events on campus.” But it was a semester in Spain that impacted her most.

“The experience opened my mind. It really helped me see things from different perspectives, and helped me understand how other people view ‘Americans,’” she says. “I just enjoyed getting outside of myself and learning about another way of life and gaining a more global outlook.”

That broad understanding of diversity will serve her well, Whitley says, when she goes to work for Ernst & Young, an international company with clients all over the world. After three summer internships at Ernst & Young (2012, 2013, and 2014), Whitley will finish up her master’s of accounting in December 2014, then start full time there in 2015 as an assurance staff member.

Supporting Diversity

Olin’s business and academic partners open doors to diverse students and experiences.

Olin is a founding member of the Consortium for Graduate Study in Management, an organization that addresses the underrepresentation of African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans in business schools and corporations.

Olin is a member of the Forté Foundation, which provides fellowships to increase the participation of women in management.

For the fourth consecutive year, Weston Career Center was recognized with the highest level of certification (A+) by the national OUT for Work Career Center Certification Program.

Olin has chapters of the National Black MBA Association (NBMBA), the National Society of Hispanic MBAs (NSHMBA), and MBA Women International (MBAWI). These organizations sponsor annual career conferences that provide access to recruiting companies. In addition, these associations encourage academic and career development.

Leadership in Athletics

Student involvement in athletics at Washington University is very high at the intramural, club, and NCAA Division III levels. Washington U has been very competitive over the years, having won 19 NCAA Division III championships and 169 UAA titles in 19 different sports.

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DOUBLE DUTY

Sijia Li focuses her energy on thinking outside of the box.

“I wouldn’t call myself a traditional business student,” says Sijia Scarlett Li of Beijing, China, who simultaneously earned an undergraduate degree in chemical engineering and a master’s degree in supply chain management.

It was this opportunity to pursue her unique interests and goals through a dual degree in Olin’s Specialized Master’s Program that drew her to Washington University in the first place.

“Olin doesn’t promote a cookie cutter approach,” says Sijia, who goes by Scarlett (MSSCM ’14), “It encourages students to shine in their own ways. People can come from different backgrounds and still feel comfortable.”

Scarlett’s comfort level at Olin prompted her to stretch herself through experiential learning opportunities. As part of the Boeing Center for Technology, Information, and Manufacturing Practicum Project with Monsanto, Scarlett helped the corporation to improve its forecasting system and reduce inventory costs.

“We helped create a model that helps them know optimal inventory numbers to save money. It was a great way to apply the knowledge from class in the real world, and it also affirms my interest in business,” says Scarlett, who, since middle school, has envisioned being a businesswoman.

As vice president of the Olin Supply Chain Club, Scarlett gained experience working with students across programs (both Specialized Masters and MBA), organizing events like tours, case competitions, and seminars, while also building a professional network.

All this hands-on experience, along with Scarlett’s dual degree, led to an ideal summer internship in the Global Engineering Department at Sigma-Aldrich.

“I’ll really be able to approach my work there from a dual-knowledge perspective,” she says. “They like people who can think out of the business box, with a science or engineering background.”

BUILDING CHARACTER … AND AN IMPRESSIVE RÉSUMÉ

Intensive career preparation is central to Olin’s undergraduate and graduate curricula. Olin hires are able to hit the ground running with a polished set of industry-specific leadership and communication skills.

BSBA students are equipped with a solid understanding of career planning through participation in career education, presented in segments throughout the four-year program and integrated with the academic curriculum. They learn and practice the tools and competencies—such as self-assessment models and career-plan development—needed to pursue internships and full-time positions. Students also receive informative critiques from business professionals and from our faculty, alumni, and career advisors.

At the graduate level, Olin’s career preparation program helps students master the art of career readiness through skills workshops, consistent practice, and an educational network of alumni and industry experts. Created in response to recruiter feedback, the program begins before the first day of classes and continues throughout the semester, reflecting the importance we place on market-ready job-search skills and lifelong career management.

A VETERAN LEADER

The skills Thomas Napier developed in the Marines translate well to business.

For Thomas Napier, developing traits like drive and dedication and learning teamwork and leadership skills in the Marines were all great preparation for business school.

“I rarely did an individual assignment at Olin—it was all team-based,” says Thomas (MSFC ’14). “It was about having a goal together and always communicating and working together to get there. I got so much experience working on a lot of different teams in different roles.”

Although many of the skills are the same, the leadership and teamwork goals in the Marines were clearly different. There, Thomas was an infantry rifleman team leader, performing counter-terrorism and security operations in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Khanjar.

After four years as a Marine, Thomas decided to pursue a business degree and began researching schools that participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program. Olin stood out, he says—not just because it is a full participant, but also because of its rankings and job placement rates.

“Washington University is extremely welcoming to veterans,” says Thomas, whose hometown is Lexington, Kentucky. “If they hadn’t opened their doors to me I don’t know where I’d be now. I really feel prepared to jump into any finance job now.”

SUPPORTING VETERANS

In spite of the exceptional credentials, talents, and attributes that military veterans bring to the table, they often face specific challenges as they transition into civilian business careers.

For this reason, Weston Career Center coaches veterans on how to translate military experience and skills into civilian terminology and how to effectively communicate their value proposition—for example, skills in multitasking, working under pressure, and leading and managing teams.

In partnership with the Olin Veteran Association, Weston Career Center sponsors events dedicated to connecting Washington University and Olin alums with incoming veterans for the purposes of mentoring, professional development, and networking. The career center also publishes a list of military-friendly employers and national recruiting events.
Washington University students pursue multiple majors, often in a different school at the University.

STUDENT STUDIES AND INTER-SCHOOL COLLABORATION

As a world-class learning and research institution, Washington University offers a wide variety of cross- and multidisciplinary study, including dual-degree programs in areas such as biomedical engineering, architecture, business, social work, law, and public health. The University’s seven schools offer a multitude of areas of study to students.

Students are encouraged to take classes across disciplines in 90 undergraduate programs, 22 combined programs, and 1,500 courses offered. Students can earn a second major or minor from Olin, and also declare a minor or second major in an area of study outside of business—for example, history, engineering, physics, or art. The combinations available are limited only by students’ imagination.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY AT A GLANCE

- 12,000 full-time students representing all 50 states and more than 100 countries
- 135,000+ alumni worldwide
- 160-+ year tradition of teaching and research excellence
- Seven Schools
  1. School of Medicine
  2. Arts & Sciences
  3. Brown School of Social Work
  4. Engineering & Applied Science
  5. Law
  6. Olin Business School
  7. Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts
- U.S. News & World Report Rankings
  #14 BEST NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
  #6 BEST COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL SCHOOL
  #1 SOCIAL WORK SCHOOL

LEARNING AND DOING

From mentoring opportunities to a trip to Madagascar, Emma Benjamin seeks out hands-on experiences.

As a first-generation American, undergraduate Emma Benjamin says her South African–born parents instilled in her the concept of the American dream—of working hard and seeking opportunity.

Olin, she could tell right away, would be an ideal place to do both.

Two years into her undergraduate study, Emma (BSBA ’16) has taken advantage of nearly every opportunity that has come her way. From being a campus tour guide and serving as personnel chair for Chi Omega Women’s Fraternity, to involvement in both the Women’s Mentor Program and the Latino Youth Mentor Program, Emma has enriched her classroom work with plenty of hands-on learning opportunities.

“You build a knowledge base in your classes, but applying it in real situations is everything,” Emma says, referencing her negotiations class as an example, and the valuable communication skills she was able to immediately apply in her role at Chi Omega. “It gives me a chance to work with people, see the big picture, and get practice dealing with stressful situations.”

Emma is also committed to broadening her international perspective. She is a Spanish language major in the School of Arts and Sciences, in addition to her majors in organizational behavior and marketing, and she traveled to Madagascar in May as part of the course “Sustainable Development and Conservation: Madagascar Project.” “Once in Mahabo, Madagascar, the students built a biosand water filter, working and living with the people who would directly benefit from the project.

“Olin values an international perspective toward business, which is incredibly important,” says Emma, who is planning to study in Spain for a semester her junior year. “It challenges how you do things and forces you to see problems and solutions from different perspectives.”

Even with all she is involved in during the school year, Emma has made a point of leveraging her summers as well. The summer after her freshman year, Emma was a change management intern at Amtrak during the company’s extensive reorganization.

“I was attracted to this opportunity,” she says, “because in an atmosphere of change, even an intern can have great impact on the company’s final direction.”

The summer after her sophomore year, Emma was a marketing intern at Fenwal, Inc., a global blood technology company. While she doesn’t plan on slowing her pace any time soon, Emma says Olin helps her maintain a healthy balance.

“I’ve always been very driven, but there’s a good balance at WU… of being challenged but not pushing yourself over the edge.”
ASHWIN RAMANAN

Organizing and Leading the Way

Ashwin Ramanan’s natural skills are refined and leveraged through extracurriculars

Working for five years as a financial software applications analyst illuminated two personal truths for Ashwin Ramanan: the first was that he wants a career that focuses on leadership, and the second was that an MBA was the best way to hone his natural leadership skills.

“In my position [as an analyst], I had the opportunity to work with multiple teams and was ready to move into a career focused on leadership,” says Ashwin (MBA ’15), who was attracted to Olin’s emphasis on collaboration. “Olin also focuses on diversity of thought, which is important to the core of decision-making skills and critical thinking. For anyone who wants to develop leadership skills, the first skill is critical thinking—I saw how important this was in my work experience.”

Ashwin, who is from Chennai, India, was also drawn to Olin’s size and friendliness—particularly “the camaraderie between domestic and international students.” Once on campus, he wasted no time putting his leadership skills to use. In his first year as an MBA student, he served as cochairman of the Olin Ambassador Club and vice president of the Olin Finance Club, and was also involved in the Olin Net Impact Club and Olin India Club.

“It is important to me to have opportunities to meet experts in many different industries, and to be a part of so many clubs,” Ashwin says. “Interacting with a wide variety of people helps you align your goals.”

Of all the experiences he’s had so far, Ashwin says his work helping to organize events for the Finance Club stands out.

“I had many opportunities to meet inspirational leaders in the financial services industry. In one instance, I moderated a panel discussion that involved a heated debate between two industry experts in front of a large audience. It was a great experience.”

A lifelong passion for the environment has also been nurtured during Ashwin’s time at Olin. He has participated in the Olin Sustainability Case Competition, discussed ideas with Washington University’s director of sustainability, and interacted with nonprofit organizations doing environmental projects in the community.

After a summer internship with Citibank, where Ashwin worked on a strategic markets project to help banks participate in fair lending practices for low- and middle-income customers, he will be poised to see all of his leadership experiences and skills coalesce during his second year at Olin, ultimately launching him into his career.

“I want to be a leader because I have a vision of what I think the future should be, and because I’m wanting to give back—to help people be their best and develop strengths.”

“A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Study abroad opportunities allow students to grow personally, professionally, and academically. An overseas experience builds economic and geographical knowledge, cross-cultural communication skills, analytical skills, flexibility, understanding of local customs, adaptability, and often proficiency in a new language.

Students are also able to engage in cross-cultural experiences on campus by taking advanced language classes, joining an international or multicultural club, and tutoring international students—or being tutored by them.

Olin Business School’s educational partnerships inform students’ perspectives, skills, and competencies. The school has relationships with Fudan University in Shanghai, Hong Kong University of Science & Technology, ESCP Europe Business School in France, Singapore Management University, Fundação Getulio Vargas in Brazil, The Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) in Israel, Shamsh J. Nehra School of Management at Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay, Yonsei School of Business in South Korea, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, and Otto Beisheim School of Management in Germany, among others. Olin also manages Brookings Executive Education through a partnership between the University and the Brookings Institution, an independent, nonpartisan think tank based in Washington, D.C.

50 & 100+ states countries

Washington U welcomes students and faculty from all 50 states and more than 100 countries.
IN TOUCH
Miranda Davis knows firsthand the value of real-world learning opportunities

With degrees in marketing and law, Miranda Davis entered Olin with a rich skill set ready to be honed and tapped. Three experiential learning projects and an MBA later, she was feeling ready for just about anything.

“Hands-on projects are a great way to try out your skills,” says Miranda (MBA ‘14), who served as president of the Student Advisory Board and VP of marketing for the Olin Marketing Association.

“A lot of the little things you learn in the classroom seem like minute details at the time, then you see how they fit. It’s like you’re taking all the pieces of the puzzle from your classes and bringing them together in a way that suddenly makes so much sense.”

In her third project with Olin’s Center for Experiential Learning, Miranda led a seven-member team in London, where they met with media companies to discuss the research project they were launching for their client, Second Street.

“The London project was really about creating a sales pitch and explaining our project goals to people,” Miranda says. “It was a hands-on experience that proved to me that I have what it takes to succeed when I leave Olin.”

As a marketing intern at Nestlé Purina in 2013, Miranda clearly proved herself, too—she garnered a marketing associate job offer from the Fortune 500 corporation.

“I came to Olin because I wanted to work for Purina,” says Miranda, who won the Olin MBA Milford Bohm Prize in Marketing. “Two weeks into my time at Olin, I was already on the pathway to interviewing for my dream internship, which I landed two months later. My dream internship turned into my dream job, and I could not be happier!”

A KNACK FOR NETWORKING
Group projects and open discussions honed Jiang Lu’s skills, knowledge, and goals

When Jiang Lu was looking at graduate programs in business, he knew the people he would be learning from and with would be just as critical to his education as the quantitative finance knowledge he came to study.

“School is not only about knowledge, but also about the people you’re going to meet,” says Lu, who goes by L.J. (MSFQ ’14). “I could tell that the people at Olin were people I wanted to interact with and learn from.”

L.J., who is from Nanchang, China, says the “open culture” at Olin was particularly important to him as an international student.

“In all the classes I took, the professors all encourage in-class discussion. Everyone is welcome to share their opinions and thoughts,” L.J. says. “A lot of the classes have a group project component, where this open culture is enhanced in a collaborative way, which promotes critical thinking and teamwork... It’s not just about communicating with different people, but also problem solving within diverse groups. It’s good to push myself out of my comfort zone.”

This level of openness and interaction led L.J. to get involved in an abundance of activities outside of the classroom. As president of the Quantitative Finance Club, he led the organization in a variety of networking events, including a trip to Chicago for office and firm visits. L.J. also represented Olin as the team leader in the Rotman International Trading Competition 2014 hosted by the University of Toronto.

After earning his degree, L.J. was looking forward to a summer internship with RGA in its Quantitative Risk Management Group, and the opportunities it would give him to apply a whole range of skills and knowledge he’s acquired at Olin, both in and out of class.

FINDING A FOCUS: MBA CAREER PLATFORMS
Olin’s Career Platform philosophy guides MBA students into one of five functional or industry-focused curricula—Consulting, Corporate Finance and Investments, Entrepreneurship, Marketing, and Operations and Supply Chain Management—early in the program. Each Platform includes an industry overview seminar (featuring a variety of corporate speakers representing a broad cross section of the industry/function), experiential learning course, career-specific concentration options, access to alumni and industry contacts, club involvement, and more. Students learn critical and creative thinking along with core curriculum, business fundamentals, management models, and career-specific insight and knowledge. All these skills are integrated into experiential-learning opportunities that challenge students and prepare them to contribute to their job on day one.

STUDENT CLUB ENGAGEMENT
More than 300 Washington University organizations and nine businesses are run by students, affording them the opportunity to better develop their leadership skills. These student-led groups focus on a wide range of industries, business functions, community service, and extracurricular activities.

Throughout the academic year, students partner with the Weston Career Center to offer industry-specific and career search–focused workshops that prepare students for the real world. Career-related events, workshops, and seminars bring industry leaders to campus to discuss current business topics and to meet with students.

“Olin Business School students have numerous opportunities to supplement strong academic achievement by demonstrating initiative and leadership—behaviors highly valued by prospective employers. From starting and running a small business to taking an active role in advisory boards, business clubs, or student government, Olin students combine individual intellect with collaborative experience in preparation for successful business careers.”

Brad McLeod
Senior Assistant Director
Weston Career Center
THE OLIN BUSINESS SCHOOL ADVANTAGE

Olin’s high-touch approach ensures that candidates fit your company culture, hiring objectives, and job requirements. Our size enables us to create an individualized, interactive environment—inside and outside the classroom. We get to know our students in ways most business schools can’t, which means we have a better understanding of students’ strengths and interests. That knowledge makes us a more effective recruiting partner. And it makes your talent search more productive.

Founded in 1917, Olin has become a leader in management education and applied research—with programs that emphasize critical and creative thinking, strategic problem solving, global perspective, and professional development.

OLIN: A RANKINGS LEADER

#5 Best Undergraduate Business Program
#3 Undergraduate Business School for International Business
#9 School for Undergraduate Entrepreneurship Business
#22 Full-time MBA Program
#16 Part-time MBA Program
#12 Executive MBA Program

#6 Worldwide Executive MBA Program
#4 Master’s in Finance Program in the U.S.
#7 U.S.-based Nondegree Open Enrollment Executive Education Programs
#17 Worldwide Nondegree Open Enrollment Executive Education Programs

RECRUITING AT OLIN BUSINESS SCHOOL

Tap into our students for exceptional talent, global perspective, technical expertise, analytical firepower, and cross-cultural savvy. Our friendly, professional staff makes recruiting at Olin convenient, comfortable, simple, and successful. As your recruiting partner, we help you find the best talent and develop a hiring strategy tailored to your specific needs and schedule.

Ways to Recruit at Olin

We use CAREERlink for Undergraduate and Masters students and MBAFocus for MBA candidates to manage the recruiting and interview scheduling process. You can connect with Olin talent in a variety of targeted ways:

• On-campus recruiting. Come to Olin to meet with candidates in person. We’ll help plan your recruiting strategy, manage all interviewing logistics, and coordinate your activities to build your company’s visibility.

• Job postings. Post your positions online for interested students to apply electronically.

• Résumé books. Request résumés of students who meet your screening criteria.

Job postings and résumé books are ways to publicize your available positions. Go to OlinCareers.wustl.edu to access these convenient online tools.

Contact the Weston Career Center
314-935-5950 | OlinCareers.wustl.edu | recruit@olin.wustl.edu

First-Class Service

Weston Career Center staff members provide an enhanced on-campus recruiting experience. Our facility includes technologically equipped interview suites, and we offer customized service to meet your specific needs.

You receive discounted rates at The Charles F. Knight Executive Education and Conference Center while you conduct recruiting activities on campus. The Knight Center offers amenities such as meeting rooms, guest rooms, dining areas, a business center, and a fitness center.

Come to Washington University to recruit in comfort.

For more information on the Knight Center, call 1-866-933-9400.

Eight Steps to Successful Recruiting

1. Discuss recruiting goals and strategy with your account manager
2. Determine method of recruitment, such as on-campus recruiting, job postings, and résumé books
3. Participate in brand-building events, such as information sessions, panels, and mock interviews
4. Schedule on-campus interview dates
5. Review résumés
6. Conduct interviews
7. Extend offers
8. Plan future recruiting

Olin’s recent expansion and renovation project has nearly doubled the size of the business school’s facilities. Students, faculty, alumni, and the business community are enjoying our new spaces designed for collaboration and innovation. The expansive new Weston Career Center is an important hub for career advising and serving the needs of recruiters.

Mahendra R. Gupta
Dean and Geraldine J. and Robert L. Virgil Professor of Accounting and Management, Olin Business School

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WE ARE YOUR PARTNER

READY FOR BUSINESS

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