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## Alumni Updates | Career Updates from Alumni

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## Alumni Updates | Career Updates from Alumni

## Alumni Corner

### Career Updates from Alumni

#### **BRETT SCHAIBLEY '02**

Brett is currently working at Edward Jones in Frankfort, Illinois, where he has held the position of a financial advisor for three years after spending the first 14 years of his career in public accounting. In his current role, he seeks to understand what is most important to his clients financially and help them build, organize, and protect their wealth. At IWU, the macro- and microeconomics classes intrigued him to learn more and to eventually minor in Economics. As a professional in financial advisory, he encourages current students to follow their passions and do what they love, but to also start saving for their future.

#### **JIM MAJERNIK '01**

Jim started his career as an Auditor at PwC, where he audited publicly traded Real Estate companies and later on advised companies on financial reporting matters associated with acquisitions, divestitures and other corporate challenges. Jim moved with his wife to Amsterdam in 2008 where he continued to work with PwC. Three years and two children later, Jim returned to Chicago with his family and worked with PwC for another 5 years before leaving for Care Capital Properties and then moved onto Kraft Heinz in January of 2017. In his current role with Kraft Heinz, Jim leads a team of 14 people responsible for the most complex areas of accounting including Pensions, Debt, Derivatives, Stock Based Compensation, Leasing and Impairment testing.

#### **FAIZAL CHAUDHURY '96**

Faizal was recently selected to be the Vice President of Customer Centricity at Sallie Mae. In this newly created role, he is responsible for creating and implementing the vision, strategy and execution roadmap to lead Sallie Mae from a product-centric environment to a customer-centric one. As an Economics and Accounting graduate from IWU, Faizal notes that his liberal arts background has allowed him to transition from his prior focus on governance, risk, and controls to his current role that is more focused on marketing without too many difficulties. He encourages current students to embrace opportunities that they are given for professional and personal growth in supportive environments, as they will learn a lot about themselves and their abilities along the way.

#### **BENJAMIN MILLER '96**

Benjamin is currently a Senior Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager at UBS Financial Services, where he assists high-net-worth individuals, families, and entities with their financial planning and wealth management needs. Since leaving IWU, he has realized how important it is to be able to relate to and communicate with people in an effective way in professional environments. To that extent, he notes that IWU not only did a great job in preparing him and students alike academically, but also taught him how to apply that knowledge when working with people. He encourages students to get involved in areas outside of their comfort zones and to not be afraid to take a risks and reach for the

seemingly unattainable.

**PAUL DOLAN '94**

Paul is currently a Director within Target's Indirect Spend and Procurement Center of Excellence, where he leads sourcing and negotiations for about \$2-billion worth of funding for Marketing, Human Resources, and Financial services. Prior to joining Target through their Finance Leadership Development Program, Paul held a number of mortgage capital market positions at UBS and Conesco, and then spent 4 years at Irwin Mortgage Corporation as a financial analyst. Throughout his 13-year career at Target, he has held positions in Treasury, Finance, Diversity & Inclusion, Systems and Sourcing. He lives with his wife, Gretchen, who is the Administrator for St. John's Lutheran School, and his 3 children Noelle (15), Paige (13), and Sawyer (5) in Maple Grove, MN.

**BOB LARSON '90**

Bob is currently an Assistant Treasurer for John Deere, where he oversees the global cash management organization, corporate finance, global bank administration and treasury management systems. He also has functional responsibilities for funding both the Equipment Operations and the John Deere Financial portfolios as well as their asset-liability management. Throughout his 29-year career at Deere & Company and later on at John Deere Financial, he has held various positions, including being the Director of Finance for John Deere Bank in Luxembourg and Finance Director for John Deere Financial, managing their accounting and finance functions as well as their business analysis. As a graduate from IWU, he credits the liberal arts education for providing him with a great

foundation in critical thinking and communication that is utilized throughout his professional career.

**BRIAN SANDERS '82**

Brian is currently running three businesses in the areas of education preparatory services, luxury product manufacturing, and immigration services, with offices in China, India, and the US. As an Economics graduate from IWU, he appreciated the opportunity to share Economics classes with driven peers that inspired him to be successful in both his undergraduate and professional careers.