# PhD in Strategy and Entrepreneurship





"Our program is focused on achieving strong job placements and successful careers for each of top candidates we admit each year. Our students thrive in an environment where every faculty member is both research active and eager to collaborate with our doctoral students."

—Lamar Pierce, Beverly and James Hance Professor of Strategy; Editor in Chief, *Organization Science*.

At Olin, we believe that great Strategy and Entrepreneurship PhD candidates have a fundamental drive to impact business practice. Our students, like our faculty, have diverse undergraduate training, including economics, chemistry, engineering and mathematics. We strongly promote interdisciplinary and collaborative research among PhD students and faculty across business disciplines and with other areas and schools at Washington University.

## Collaborative Research—Strategy and Entrepreneurship Faculty and PhD Students

#### Working Papers:

- · Carnahan, S., Pierce, L., Tang, S.\*, Clutch Performers.
- Knott AM, Pasipanodya T.\* The Herfindahl-Hirschmann Index (HHI) Revisited.
- Gubler, T\*, Pierce L, Scott, G.\* Social ties and mortgage defaults.
- Elfenbein, D., Kim, S.\*, Wang, M\*. Board diversity and the performance of non-profits.

#### **Published Papers:**

- Tang, S.\*, Elfenbein, D. W., & Pasipanodya, T.\* (2025). Self-regulation, corruption, and competitiveness in extractive industries: Making transparency pay. Strategic Management Journal.
- Chen, J.S., Elfenbein, D.W., Posen, H.E., Wang, M.Z.\* (2022). The Problems and Promise of Entrepreneurial Partnerships: Decision Making, Overconfidence, and Learning in Founding Teams. Academy of Management Review, 47(3): 489-520
- Knott, A.M., Vieregger, C.\*, (2020). Reconciling the Firm Size and Innovation Puzzle. Organization Science, 31(2): 245-534.
- Gubler, T.\*, Larkin, I., Pierce, L., (2018). Doing Well by Making Well: The Impact of Corporate Wellness Programs on Employee Productivity. Management Science 64(11): 4967-4987.
- Cummings, T.\*, Knott, A.M. (2018). Outside CEOs and innovation. Strategic Management Journal: 39(8), 2095-2119.
- Klüppel, L.M.\*, Pierce, L., Snyder, J.A. (2018). Perspective The Deep Historical Roots of Organization and Strategy: Traumatic Shocks, Culture, and Institutions. Organization Science: 29(4), 702-721.
- Chen, J.S., Elfenbein, D.W., Posen, H.E. and Wang, M.Z.\* (2022). Programs of Experimentation and Pivoting for (Overconfident) Entrepreneurs. Academy of Management Review (forthcoming).

# Awards Received by PhD Students While in Our Program

- Shirley Tang (currently at Boston University): Academy of Management STR Division, Finalist for Best Dissertation; Strategic Management Society, 2021 Dissertation Research Grant, First Runner-Up INFORMS-Organization Science Best Dissertation Proposal, 2022
- Ming Zhu Wang (currently at University of Washington): Robert J. Litschert Best Doctoral Student Paper Award, AoM STR Division, 2020
- Trey Cummings (currently at Johns Hopkins University): Organization Science Dissertation Finalist; AoM STR Division Best Dissertation Finalist; AoM TIM Division Best Dissertation Finalist
- · Leo Klüppel (currently at Ohio State University): SMS Best Conference PhD Paper Prize, 2017
- Timothy Gubler (currently at Brigham Young University): Robert J. Litschert Best Doctoral Student Paper Award 2015;
   Strategic Human Capital Division Best Paper Prize, Strategic Management Society, Denver, CO, 2015
- Erin Scott (currently at Massachusetts Institute of Technology): Kauffman Foundation Fellowship (\$20,000); Organization Science Dissertation Proposal (Second Place)

## Strategy and Entrepreneurship Faculty

CHAIR: Lamar Pierce

Beverly and James Hance Professor of Strategy; Editor-in-Chief, Organization Science

PhD, University of California, Berkeley

Research interests: business strategy and public policy, fraud and corruption, ethics, incentives in

organizations

## Nicholas Argyres

Vernon W. and Marion K. Piper Professor of Strategy PhD, University of California, Berkeley Research interests: strategy and structure; vertical integration, contracting and inter-organizational arrangements; internal organization structure; industry evolution

Seth Carnahan Associate Professor of Strategy PhD, University of Maryland

Research interests: strategy, entrepreneurship, human capital

## Daniel W. Elfenbein

Professor of Organization and Strategy and Associate Dean of Faculty Research PhD, Harvard University Research interests: entrepreneurial decision-making, overconfidence, governance of complex transactions, corporate social responsibility

## Tarek Ghani

Assistant Professor of Strategy PhD, University of California, Berkeley Research interests: how market and institutional frictions affect firm strategy in emerging economies.

#### Jino Lu

Assistant Professor of Strategy PhD, University of Southern California Research interests: Economics of innovation, technology strategy.

### Oren Reshef

Assistant Professor of Strategy PhD, University of California - Berkeley Research interests: competitive strategy and business economics, digital economy and platform strategy, innovation and social inequality

## Hugh Wu

Assistant Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship PhD, Stanford University Research interests: business strategy, personnel and organizational economics, strategic human capital, field experiments

Minyuan Zhao
Associate Professor of Strategy
PhD, New York University
Research interests: interactions between firm
strategy and external environment in a global
context

