

## WELCOME

We are delighted to share the January Wharton Private Equity & Venture Capital (PE/VC) Club's alumni newsletter (click [here](#) for prior newsletters)! Each newsletter will provide you with the latest news from Huntsman Hall and across the Wharton alumni community.

In this edition you will find:

1. Club Update
2. Recent Events

Stay connected to the Club via its Instagram (@WhartonPEVC)

## CLUB UPDATE

The PE/VC Club's Fall 2023 semester has just come to an end! We are grateful for our 980+ members, who have made our club the largest professional club at Wharton. As we reflect on an amazing first semester at Wharton, we want to thank all our alumni who have given back to the community by participating in various events and providing invaluable advice and mentorship to our members as they embark on the next stage of their careers.

The Club's Co-Presidents, Faye Teng and Darrell Hanks, have done an excellent job in their first semester leading the organization. In the Fall, the organization has supported various events for students with the mission of expanding career and education-related opportunities within private equity and venture capital.

## RECENT EVENTS

*The last few months have been an exciting time for the Club. We have hosted 15+ professional / educational events, led eight firm treks, and organized three major social events for our members during the Fall of 2023. Below are a few highlighted events that occurred!*

### PE/VC RECRUITER PANEL & NETWORKING

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, the PE/VC club hosted its first ever PE/VC recruiter focused panel and networking event. During this event, 90 MBAs had the opportunity to learn from and network with CPI, Amity, Henkel, and SG Partners on Wharton's campus. The event was an excellent opportunity to interact with the firms that are playing an increasingly important role MBA internships and full-time placement into competitive PE/VC roles.

### PE CASE PREP & ADVANCED INTERVIEW TRAINING

On December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, over 250 MBA students participated in a two-part session where the PE/VC Club's Head of PE Education, Swagat Shetty, and Head of PE Professional Development, Sarah Mironov, assisted MBAs looking to excel in their upcoming interviews for PE internships and full-time roles. During these two days, several topics were covered, including model building, case study debrief preparation, elevator pitch crafting, and PE target list drafting.



The new '23-'24 PE/VC Board showing off their style at the Annual PE/VC Gala



Wharton students were thrilled to attend an on-campus Fireside Chat with Victor Khosla, CIO of Strategic Value Partners



The New York City Middle Market PE Trek was one of eight treks that were organized by the PE/VC Club in November and December of 2023

## FIRESIDE CHATS

As in past semesters, we hosted several fireside chats with senior professionals in PE/VC who generously shared their perspectives with current MBA students. This semester, we were visited by Doug Berman (Global Head of Private Equity @ HIG Capital), Will Chen (Managing Director of Private Equity @ Partners Group), Victor Khosla (CIO @ Strategic Value Partners), and Sachin Khajuria (Former PE Partner @ Apollo & NYT Bestselling Author). Over 400 MBAs tuned into these four conversations to gain insights from accomplished investors.

## PE & VC EDUCATION

The PE/VC Club continued to provide several educational opportunities to its membership base over the course of the Fall semester.

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ankur Rathi (Partner) and Matt Londa (Vice President) at Sunstone Partners joined us on campus to discuss their thoughts on how to best support founders as a growth equity partner. 70+ MBA students tuned in to gain valuable insights on how to be a partner-oriented growth equity investor.

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, Alexandra Zink (Director of Learning and Development) and Ryan McDonald (Investment Professional) of the Orion Group (Alpine Investors portfolio company) came to campus to discuss how private equity intersects with the entrepreneurship through acquisition (ETA) universe. 80 MBA students engaged with Alexandra and Ryan to greater understand how Orion is using M&A to create meaningfully scaled portfolio companies.

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, Chip Lebowitz (WG '20 – Senior Associate @ Cerberus), came to campus to discuss the role of operational improvements and value creation in private equity investing.

On October 31<sup>st</sup>, Victoria Shih (WG '21 – VP @ Francisco Partners) and Rahul Kahul (WG '22 – VP @ Francisco Partners) joined us on campus to discuss their thoughts on thematic sourcing in a competitive private equity market. Over 120 MBAs came to learn from Victoria and Rahul's perspectives on how to develop effective theses that can be used to proactively source new private equity deals.

## PE/VC ALUMNI MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

This Fall, we relaunched the PE/VC Alumni mentorship program in partnership with our Wharton PE/VC Alumni Association. Our efforts were successful in matching 74 current MBA students with 48 alumni mentors. The 48 alumni mentors are a highly diverse and accomplished cohort of professionals that come from eight different countries across the globe and primarily consist of MD/Partner level investors.

## TREKS

During the months of November and December, the PE/VC club led eight treks (five domestic, three international) that allowed current Wharton students to visit firms in the PE/VC space and network with investment professionals. In November, the five US treks visited several firms across the megafund buyout, middle market buyout, and growth equity spaces in New York, Boston, and San Francisco. The PE/VC Club also led three international treks in Singapore, Hong Kong, and London following the end of the Fall semester.

## SOCIAL

The PE/VC club hosted three major social events over the course of the Fall semester: PE/VC Welcome Reception (9/28), the Casino Night PUB Event (11/16), and the Annual PE/VC Winter Gala (11/30).

The PE/VC Club's marquee event for the semester, the Annual PE/VC Winter Gala, was the final large event of the semester for Wharton's MBA student body and was attended by over 500 MBAs. The theme of the night was "A Night at the Met Gala" and students were dressed in black-tie attire.

## PE/VC ALUMNI WHATSAPP GROUP

The 2023-2024 PE/VC Club Board is thrilled to launch a PE/VC Alumni WhatsApp group chat for all Wharton alumni working in or interested in PE/VC. The purpose of this chat is to facilitate new connections, encourage mutual support, and build community across class years. Some potential ways to leverage the chat include seeking or providing career advice, sharing job postings, or organizing in-person meet-ups in different cities.

To join the WhatsApp group, please click this link (<https://chat.whatsapp.com/EbRGZdorXVhCDSZk1dnfiD>) and complete the form using this link (<https://forms.gle/v738LCa8RaB2ZgKt8>). We are reviewing this form routinely and aim to approve members within 48 hours.

### **Interested in hosting an event in your city, sponsoring Wharton's PE/VC Club, or have any questions?**

Please reach out to our Co-Presidents [Faye Teng](#) and [Darrell Hanks](#).

**Interested in hiring Wharton students for an internship or full-time position?** Please reach out to [Courtney Johnson](#) for access to the PE/VC Resume book.

**Special thanks to our headline sponsors. We appreciate your commitment to the Wharton PE/VC Club!**

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