The Department of Strategic Management and Entrepreneurship at the Carlson School—recently rated in the top 10 in terms of research nationwide—focuses on leadership, strategy and entrepreneurship, connecting the external worlds of competition and collaboration with the critical process of knowledge creation and innovation within organizations. Our program draws on world-renowned scholars in strategic management, entrepreneurship, international business, organization theory, and innovation. Each student develops an individualized program of study combining coursework with active involvement in faculty research, research seminars, a weekly PhD workshop, and teaching opportunities. This prepares our students to conduct high level research as well as find academic placements at top research universities worldwide. For more information about this program visit: z.umn.edu/CarlsonPhDSME

Strategic Management & Entrepreneurship PhD Coordinator
Gurneeta Vasudeva Singh
Associate Professor
PhD, George Washington University

Areas of Interest:
Knowledge-building strategies, technology alliances, geography of innovation, national institutions

Curriculum & Courses
The Strategic Management and Entrepreneurship department requires its students to take four or five of the department’s core PhD courses. Typically students will take both strategy courses as well as organization theory and theory building courses; they then choose one or two of the remaining courses. Beyond the departmental courses listed here, special seminars are offered from time to time. Students also take from eight to eleven additional classes outside the SME department in order to deepen their knowledge and preparedness.

SME PhD Seminars Offered:
Seminar in Strategy Content
Seminar in Strategy Process
Seminar in Entrepreneurship
Theory Building and Research Design
Seminar in International Management
Seminar in Organizational Theory
Other Topics in Strategy and Entrepreneurship, as designed by professors

Admissions Statistics (Fall 2017)

3 Admissions Offers
3 Acceptances
14 Program size
32 Average age in program
1480 Average GRE (before August 2011)
331 Average GRE (after August 2011)
710 Average GMAT
Strategic Management & Entrepreneurship Faculty

Mary Brenner
Associate Professor
PhD, Columbia University
Areas of Interest: Organization theory, strategy, technology and innovation, organizational change, process management

Sunasir Dutta
Assistant Professor
PhD, Stanford University
Areas of Interest: Organization theory, social entrepreneurship, strategies of change in organizations and markets, collective action

Dan Forbes
Associate Professor
PhD, New York University
Areas of Interest: Corporate governance, new venture strategy, social psychology of entrepreneurship, strategic decision-making

Russell Funk
Assistant Professor
PhD, University of Michigan
Areas of Interest: Technology strategy, innovation management, entrepreneurship, social networks, economic geography, data science

Aseem Kaul
Associate Professor
PhD, University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton School
Areas of Interest: Corporate strategy, technology strategy and private equity/venture capital

Jiao Luo, Assistant Professor
PhD, Columbia Business School
Areas of Interest: Organization theory, strategic management, network, trust, learning, relational exchange, reputation, illegitimacy, institutionalization

Ian Maitland
Professor
PhD, Columbia University
Areas of Interest: Business ethics; corporate governance, corporate social responsibility, ethics of international business

Alfred Marcus
Professor and Edson Spencer Endowed Chair in Strategy and Technological Leadership
PhD, University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton School
Areas of Interest: Pricing strategy, brand management, information economics, consumer risk preferences, cross-cultural consumer behavior, cognitive neuroscience

Evan Rawley
Associate Professor
PhD, University of California, Berkeley
Areas of Interest: Corporate strategy, entrepreneurship, econometrics

Harry Sapienza
Professor and Curtis L. Carlson Chair in Entrepreneurial Studies
PhD, University of Maryland – College Park
Areas of Interest: Venture capital, inter-organizational relationships, strategic decision making, international entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial process

Myles Shaver
Professor, Pond Family Chair in the Teaching and Advancement of Free Enterprise Principles
PhD, University of Michigan
Areas of Interest: Corporate strategy choice and performance, the management and economics of international expansion

Paul Vaaler
Associate Professor and Director of the Center for Integrative Leadership
PhD, University of Minnesota
Areas of Interest: Risk and investment in emerging market countries, performance stability in turbulent industries

Gurneeta Vasudeva Singh
Associate Professor
PhD, George Washington University
Areas of Interest: Knowledge-building strategies, technology alliances, geography of innovation, national institutions

Joel Waldfogel
Professor and Fredrick R. Kappel Chair in Applied Economics
PhD, Stanford University
Areas of Interest: Industrial organization, law, economics

Alex Wilson
Assistant Professor
PhD, Duke University
Areas of Interest: Behavioral strategy, organizational routines, organizational structure

Sandy Yu
Assistant Professor
PhD, New York University
Areas of Interest: Strategy, entrepreneurship, innovation

Aks Zaheer
Professor, Curtis L. Carlson Chair in Strategic Management and Entrepreneurship
PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Areas of Interest: Competitive advantage from interfirm relationships, trust in inter-organizational collaborations, buyer-supplier relations, research on networks of firms, using inter-firm networks to build capabilities, strategic decision making in uncertain business environments, mergers and acquisitions, strategic alliances

Srilata Zaheer
Dean of the Carlson School of Management,
Elmer L. Andersen Chair in Global Corporate Social Responsibility
PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Areas of Interest: The legitimacy of MNEs, offshore outsourcing, location strategies, information networks

Shaker Zahra
Department Chair, Robert E. Buuck Chair in Entrepreneurship; Academic Director of the Gary S. Holmes Center for Entrepreneurial Studies
PhD, University of Mississippi
Areas in Interest: Entrepreneurship in global contexts, technology strategy, nascent industries, innovation