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CONGRATULATIONS MILI GRADUATES!

We are excited to congratulate the 36 Carlson MBA graduates who earned their MILI specialization! The healthcare landscape has changed dramatically over the last few years through the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We are incredibly proud of the achievements of our students in these times - from case competitions to COVID research, and even starting their own companies. We know our MILI graduates are ready to meet the challenges that face them in this rapidly evolving field and look forward to seeing them become established leaders and innovators in healthcare.

PLATOU LEADERSHIP COMPETITION WINNERS

This spring, MILI was honored to host the 13th annual Carl Platou Leadership Competition. The competition pays tribute to the legacy of Carl Platou, a visionary healthcare executive who was inducted into the 2009 Minnesota Business Hall of Fame. It was established to recognize the leadership skills and innovative thinking of an elite group of students who plan to complement their MBA education with a medical industry specialization. Evoking Mr. Platou's inspirational vision and leadership in the medical industry, the competition recognizes three MBA students who have displayed strong leadership capabilities and innovative thinking throughout their time with the Carlson School's MBA program. Nancy Platou Steinke, Carl’s daughter and competition judge said “I saw many of my Dad’s values and characteristics in these candidates. This made the selection process both rewarding and challenging, as they are all well qualified. It’s my pleasure to be a part of this selection committee in my Dad’s name.”

In addition to Nancy, the two other judges were Matt Stoll, Valuation Lab instructor and previous Platou Award Winner and Julia Halberg who said “It is a pleasure and privilege to be part of the Platou leadership award process. I extend my congratulations to all these accomplished students, nominated by their peers and colleagues. To me, the Platou awards showcase the potential to further advance the medical industry field through these outstanding individuals.”

The judges had a difficult time choosing winners as all of the applicants were very impressive. Third place was awarded to Bill McCue, ‘23 MBA and second place Nathan Jones, ‘22 MBA. This year’s winner was Kyle Lee, ‘22 MBA and previous president of the MILI student association (MILIsa). “I’m grateful and honored to have been selected as the winner of the Platou Leadership Award. Carl was a luminary in the healthcare industry and
in the Twin Cities community, so for parallels to have been drawn between his accomplishments and leadership to that of my own I feel a great sense of pride. I'm also proud to have been in consideration amongst all the other candidates, with whom I've worked alongside this entire year and have a great deal of respect for. Going forward, I aim to live up to the example set by Carl and previous award winners and to one day leave a legacy of my own.

Carlson Team Takes Second in BAHM Competition

Congratulations to Ethan Yu-Hsiang Hung, Daniel Muggée, Erin Green, and Ikram Khan! These brilliant Carlson scholars won second place at the highly competitive Business Alliance for Health Management 2022 Case Competition! This year’s challenge was to create a vision for the “Hospital of the Future”. Our students worked to create an integrated health system for Jharkhand, India, focused on community health workers who provide basic health services and education and the referral of more acute cases to specialty practitioners. We couldn’t be more proud of this team’s accomplishments and look forward to seeing what their careers hold!

MILLI Monthly Profile

Elisha Friesema, ’18 MBA

Over the last 15 years, Elisha has worked in the provider, drug, biotech, and medical device sectors of the healthcare industry. She spent a decade conducting multi-million-dollar quality improvement efforts and health services research at academic medical centers and federally qualified health centers across the country. During her time at Carlson, she concentrated on how to develop strong business cases to drive funding and adoption of the types of healthcare interventions she previously researched. Elisha won several national case competitions that sought business solutions to health disparities and addressing social determinants of health. Most recently, she has focused her private consulting practice on providing early-stage healthcare clients with strategic and operational expertise that allows them to take their scientific learnings and translate them into commercializable solutions.

What is the most interesting thing you’ve read or seen this week?
This Washington Post article came across my feed this week and made me wonder why some people are more likely to get COVID-19 while others seem to evade it. There was an article in Nature from August 2021 that discussed possible lifestyle and genetic factors contributing to this finding. The authors of that article and several researchers at the UMN are part of the COVID Human Genetic Effort so hopefully we will learn more soon!

If you could dedicate your life to solving one problem, what would it be?
I would love to spend my time focused on addressing health equity and ensuring everyone has access to care that is tailored to their cultural, lifestyle, and economic needs. Every aspect of our healthcare system is designed to incentivize treatment rather than prevention. Imagine if we could make telemedicine appointments the standard way we engage with most of our doctors or even have our annual “wellness visit” include a conversation with a trained therapist!
How are you currently engaging with MILI and why do you find it valuable?
Since graduating, I have been a MILI Mentor each year and a member of the MILI Affiliate Board, taking over as Board President in 2019. I find value in providing the same type of support and encouragement to students and affiliates that our MILI family has shown me over the years. I truly enjoy the conversations that I have with students, affiliates, National Industry Council Members, and our Executives in Residence. I always learn some new tidbit or am reassured that I’m not the only who constantly questions how our healthcare system got to be in the ridiculous state it is.

Valuation Lab Dockside Chat
How to be Successful in (Medtech) Business Without Really Trying: Driving Successful Businesses Both Large and Small
June 28th, 12-1pm (CDT) virtual

Ross Meisner, MBA
Joe Galatowitsch, MBA
Ross Meisner MBA, Chief Commercial Officer - Basil Systems, has 25+ years in healthcare and technology management. He was a Managing Director at Guidehouse, and a founder of Dymedex Consulting. Earlier, Ross led global market development at Medtronic.

Joe Galatowitsch MBA, Founder/CEO of Manufacturing Wealth and Managing Director of Navigant, has spent 25+ years in B2B marketing and business management. He was instrumental in many marketing initiatives during his tenure at 3M and Medtronic, including pioneering the development of a market development framework and methodology that is still used at Medtronic today.

Join us as we learn more about the key aspects in driving medtech businesses!

Register

STUDENTS & AFFILIATES

Start Up Shake Up Event: What It's Like To Be An Industry Disruptor
May 24th, 5-7pm, in person

Startups are known to pull to the forefront of their industry sector with disrupting products and business models. Medtech Women has rounded up the most exciting female healthcare startup leaders in the Twin Cities to share their perspective on 'a day in the life' charting new territories - pushing boundaries and bringing new and important therapies to the market. This session features panelist Beth Lindborg, CEO of Sarcio Inc and one of our
**AFFILIATES**

We had a great time coming together to celebrate in person at the annual Spring Social on May 4th. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend. For those who couldn’t join us, please help us congratulate the following 2022 MILI Affiliates Awards recipients for their incredible contributions to the MILI Affiliates and Students this past year!

**MILI Mentors of the Year**

MILI Mentors of the Year have been nominated by their mentees to honor their time, guidance, and generosity over the course of their year together. These mentors’ invaluable advice gave mentees the encouragement to help them further their careers and reach their professional goals. The efforts of the winners and each of this year’s MILI mentors helped make this program a huge success!

**Andrew Mellin:** Andrew’s mentee said, “In addition to being professional at an exemplary level, Dr. Mellin demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to helping his mentee learn and excel. Most importantly, with his guidance, I felt empowered to step out of my comfort zone and was able to grow in my work with public speaking, communication skills, and especially problem-solving. I appreciated him for taking the time to answer my endless questions about what it’s like to be a manager/director and for sharing his wealth of knowledge, compassion, and leadership experience.”

**Tarun Jain:** Tarun’s mentee said, “He was a great fellow and understanding of my situation, helping on all fronts including academic, extra-curricular, career opportunities and sharing his experience working on the BAHM Case competition were some of the highlights. He was also helpful in my transition to a new country and helped me settle in.”

**MILI Inspiration Awards**

This award recognizes individuals who have gone above and beyond in dedicating their time and efforts to further the MILI community. They embody everything MILI Affiliates aim to be as leaders and have selflessly worked to support and provide guidance to not only students and Affiliates, but also MILI as a whole.

**Thomas Gunderson and Stephen Parente:** Over the last year, Thom and Steve have increased their volunteer duties within MILI. They have been organizing the Valuation Lab Chats since April 2021, facilitating open and honest chats about some of the industry’s hottest topics. As MILI begins to expand the Valuation Lab offerings to other areas of the world, they helped to create and sit on the Valuation Lab Council and the Council’s business development committee. Steve also volunteered to serve as organizing chair of the National Industry Council (NIC) and has recruited several new members, including leaders from Abbott, Accenture, and even unconventional companies with healthcare involvement, like Wells Fargo. Thom recently expanded his role and now serves as chair of the Executives in Residence (EIRs). He has been an EIR member since the group started, helping to mentor students and guide program development. Thom and Steve’s leadership as volunteers has been an inspiration to us all!

**MILI Overachiever**

This award recognizes individuals who have surpassed expectations in supporting their classmates, colleagues, and MILI community.

**Kyle Lee:** “Kyle is a caring, thoughtful, and passionate individual whose enthusiasm for the healthcare industry is visible to all that have had the privilege of meeting him. He goes out of his way to help his peers in achieving their professional aspirations by facilitating networking opportunities with industry leaders and taking the time to share his experiences. His tenure as president of MILisa has been outstanding especially given the move back to in-person events following 15+ months of Zoom only events. The hallmark of his tenure was the Interschool Healthcare Networking Event which attracted 75+ professional students from Carlson, Masters of Public Policy, Masters of Public Health, Biomedical Engineering, Pharmacy, and the Medical School. His work as President of MILisa motivated me to throw my hat into the ring and try to follow in his footsteps.”
Thank you to the 2021-22 MILI Affiliate Board for their service:
Elisha Friesema, Mark Mulvahill*, Liz Krusemark*, Amber Wuollet, Anna Grossbach*, Brandon Cox, Joshua Magnuson, Mike Kinsella, Merritt Swain, and Tanner Fuchs
*outgoing board member

Affiliate Class Notes

- Lindsey Ryan, ’14 MBA, promoted to VP of Sales at Bayer
- Danny Plooster, ’17 MHA/MBA, in a new role, Client Development, Healthcare, McKinsey & Company
- Matt Stoll, ’10 MBA, new role as Sr. Associate, Program Management, Rebiotix
- Alex Holmberg, ’13 MBA, promoted to Sr. Commercial Segment Analyst, Surescripts
- Carl Denyis, ’06 MBA, Vice President Life Science and Communication at ChemImage Corporation
- Shannon McCormick, ’19 MBA, promoted to Senior Global Product Manager at Medtronic

Want to let your classmates know what you have been up to? Fill out this form to be featured in next month’s class notes!

VALUATION LAB

A leader in educating professionals to evaluate and estimate the investment potential of real-world health care innovations, accelerating their careers and preparing them for global leadership roles.

Become a Valuation Lab Client

Innovations that have the benefit of a full and thorough evaluation can often be pushed into the market more quickly. The rapid turnaround of the Valuation Lab teaches students to apply the “business” aspect to these inventions, speed up the innovation pipeline. By doing so, potentially disruptive advancements can get to market more quickly and have positive impacts on patient care. The types of projects seen are varied, which further illustrates the potential to change numerous markets and standards of practice. The Valuation Lab has evaluated 426 projects and counting, spanning every area of medical technology innovation!

Become a client now! Submit your application here.

PARTNER UPDATES

IEM Student Team Wins Global Health Award

Congratulations to Madelyn Weiland, Josh Augustine, Amalia Hornung, Gaonan Zhao,
Andrew Kivi, and team coach Professor Tinen Iles! This team of UMN graduate engineering and business students working on an IEM-supported project in the New Product Design and Business Development course won the High Impact Programs category of the CUGH-Pulitzer Center Global Health Video Competition, sponsored by the Consortium of Universities for Global Health. The students partnered with Dr. Rahel Nardos, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women’s Health, to develop an improved surgical instrument to be used for a pelvic procedure in low and middle income countries. The video is available on IEM’s YouTube channel.

Walleye Tank Pitch Competition
May 27, 2-7pm, in person and virtual

The Walleye Tank is Minnesota’s life science pitch competition providing an educational and promotional opportunity for emerging and established medical and life science companies. The Walleye Tank competition focuses on removing barriers for entrepreneurs. The organizers work hard to curate our audience with investors, subject matter experts, service providers, job seekers, and mentors that will help you accelerate your business forward. Everyone is welcome from students to professionals and even established companies. This event is partially sponsored by the UMN Holmes Center for Entrepreneurship, Medical School, and Office of Technology Commercialization. Learn more and sign up here.

Check the MILI website for additional details and events!

STAY CONNECTED

Share Your News With MILI
Do you have good news you'd like to share with the MILI community? Let us know at MILI@umn.edu and we will include it in our next monthly newsletter!

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