

The Cornerstone

Fifth General

Volume 16, Issue 8

12/82015



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Today's Speaker Topic: Life After Initiation

You're about to initiate. What happens next? Today Sylvia will present on ways to stay involved in TBP and the benefits you have as an active. Here's a quick overview.

Ways to Stay Involved

- Attend Active meetings
- Become an Electee Team Lead
- Apply for a chair position: <http://tinyurl.com/TBPchair>
- Sign up to be a project leader: <http://tinyurl.com/TBP-Projects>
- Join a committee (website or professional development)

Types of Active Status

- Active (you've initiated)
- Voting Active
- Distinguished Active (DA)
- Prestigious Active (PA)

Requirement	Completed	Requirement Statuses		
		Active	Distinguished Active	Prestigious Active
Hours	0	3.00	12.00	33.00
Service Hours	0	2.00	9.00	25.00
Conducted Interviews	0	0 ✓	1.00	1.00
Social Credits	0	1.00	2.00	2.00
Meeting Attendance	0	2.00	5.00	5.00
Voting Meeting Attendance	0	1.00	3.00	3.00
Leadership	0	0 ✓	1.00	1.00

Fourth General Agenda

tinyurl.com/tbpmig5gf15

Speaker:

Sylvia Domanico

Announcements :

Events Team

Professional Development
Team

Chapter Team

Executive Team

Electee Desserts and Yells

Schedule

Initiation (4:00pm)	Dec. 12
Banquet (5:30pm)	Dec. 12

Electee Reminders

**All requirements are due today!
Turn in your dues, interviews,
and exams.**

**Please plan to get to Initiations
at 3:30pm in business formal
attire and carrying an ID.**



Tau Beta Partner!

Jessica Opaleski

Major: Computer Science Engineering

Favorite Kind of Bagel: Asiago Cheese

Affiliation with TBP: None... she's in HKN

TBP Acronym: Tiny Beer Party

Why she's awesome:

"She stepped up and manned the bagel day table while I went to get supplies from the bullpen. She's not even in TBP and she helped us out a lot! Her selflessness is truly an inspiration to all." - Stephanie Miller



Undergraduate Electees of the Week:

Ben Loh

Major: Chemical Engineering

Favorite Kind of Bagel: Ham and Egg

TBP Acronym: True Boiling Point

Fun Fact: He likes to make beer!

Why he's awesome:

Ben has tutored for over 15 hours!



Stefan DeBellis

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Favorite Kind of Bagel:

My favorite kind of bagel is plain. I like the ability to have it dry, with butter, with cream cheese, with peanut butter, with peanut butter and Nutella, with egg, cheese, and tuna, and with any combination of lunch-meat and cheese you can imagine.

Why he's awesome:

Stefano has attended 5 socials this semester.



Graduate Electees of the Week:

Alexandra "Allie" (Sisson) Jankowski

Major: Biomedical Engineering

Favorite Kind of Bagel: Free post-race bagels... any flavor

TBP Acronym: Tasty Banana Pudding

Why she's awesome:

Allie was recognized by officers working at The Breakfast Party as being a fantastic volunteer.



Saurabh Dhole

Major: Industrial and Operations Engineering

Favorite Kind of Bagel: Asiago Cheese Bagel

TBP Acronym: The Brightest People

Why he's awesome:

Saurabh is going above and beyond the minimum initiation requirements, and has completed 13.5 hours of service and attended 4 social events.

Robot Cars—KILL OFF TRAFFIC FATALATIES

Arun Nagpal

The trolley problem presents the following situation: suppose you were in a trolley that was hurtling down a track, on a collision course with a group of helpless bystanders. You have one opportunity to redirect the trolley, but the new course will instead run over your beloved. What would you do? Personally, I choose not to answer the question - it seems like an easy way to piss off my girlfriend. But self-driving cars (or ‘robot cars’ as I like to call them) have to know the answer. To them, with us, it becomes a matter of life and death.



MCity: UM's self-driving car research site²

Michigan recently unveiled MCity, a test track devoted to the development of such robot cars. It's a tiny town, complete with buildings, signs, and crippled, crumbling infrastructure. I'm not (entirely) kidding about that last one, by the way. In order to best simulate real road conditions, some signs feature graffiti, and a portion of the road has faded markings.

MCity is important because it make Michigan a major player in autonomous automotive research. As a facility it is one of only a few of its kind -- There's a 2100 acre area in California where Apple, Google, Tesla, and R&D departments for a few other car manufacturers do their thing, and there are plans to build similar fake towns in Virginia and Florida, but dedicated testing sites have up until now been few and far between.

Speaking of Virginia, they've opened up 70 miles of their highways to autonomous cars, referred to as the "Virginia Automated Corridors," that will be overseen by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute. Here, read this quote from the state governor's website:

"The Virginia Automated Corridors integrate multiple resources, including: Access to dedicated high-occupancy toll lanes managed by Transurban along Interstates 495 and 95. High-definition mapping capabilities, real-time traffic and incidents, intelligent routing, and location cloud technology supported

by HERE [Nokia's mapping business], which has worked with major automakers on previous automated-vehicle projects. Pavement markings maintained by the Virginia Department of Transportation for completeness and retro-reflectivity. Accurate localization via high-precision global navigation satellite systems. Connected-vehicle capabilities enabled by dedicated short-range communications and cellular technology; access to sophisticated, unobtrusive data acquisition systems. And operations at higher speeds along a test track that features complex curves.”¹

It makes sense for this increase in trust towards autonomous driving. The technology has had a great track record so far: Google's been testing these things for years, and the few crashes that have occurred have all been ruled as the fault of the other (puny human) driver! They've also logged over 1 million miles. So, as far as I'm concerned, they're probably better drivers than I am. All they have to do is program one of their cars to stand in line at the DMV for 5 hours, and I'm sure no one would hesitate to award the thing a license.

All in all, the future looks bright for robot cars. Let's kill traffic fatalities. Preferably with something a bit more sophisticated than out-of-control trolleys.

¹ nor.virginia.gov/newsroom/newsarticle?articleId=8526

² <http://www.engin.umich.edu/college/about/news/stories/2015/july/u-m-opens-mcity-test-environment>

Congratulations Winter 2016 Leadership

Executive Team

President: Jon McCormick

Vice President: Morgan Chencinski

Grad Student Vice President: Ethan Pacheck

Secretary: Alyssa Woo

Treasurer: Kallen Schwark

Events Team

Service Coordinator: David Martel

K-12 Outreach Officer:

Shruthi Chandra

Campus Outreach Officer: Clark Teeple

Activities Officer: Lauren Liebman

Professional Development Team

Corporate Relations Officer: Jingxuan Liu

External Vice Presidents:

Alexa Cicho

Phillip Yang

Chapter Team

Chapter Development Officer: Rachel Neumann

Historian: Pranav Khambete

Publicity Officer: Stephanie Miller

Membership Officer: D'Arcy Cook

Advisors

Michael Benson

Sylvia Domanico

Mike Hand

Eric Harper

Kelsey Hockstad

Paul Komisky

Laura Kruger

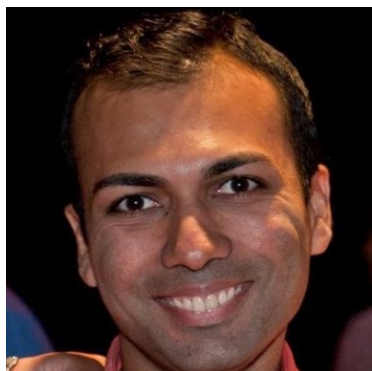
Kyle Lady

Pritpaul Maha

Max Olender

Ethan Stark

Alumni Spotlight: Semant Jain, PhD, CQF



While an engineering PhD student at the University of Michigan, Semant Jain served Tau Beta Pi's MI-G chapter as Tutoring Chair, New Initiatives Chair, and Treasurer. After graduation, Dr. Jain used his quantitative skills for industrial research and to start Ashwairya Capital Management. This month, TBP MI-G got a chance to catch up with him.

Why did you begin your PhD in engineering? How did graduate education prepare you for a career in finance?

As an undergraduate student at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, I was the lead author on two research papers which were published in top ranked journals. So, I wanted to hone my computational mathematical abilities to independently solve intractable problems.

For my PhD, I researched intricate atomistic movement to explain onerous macroscopic behavior. My trading model uses similar ideas – capturing the footprint of a few key players to predict a market's turning point. My skills are easily transferrable whether I use them to identify techno-economic solutions in engineering or price derivatives in finance. Now, as a quant, I deploy quantitative strategies in trading commodity futures [E.g., S&P 500 (equities), Crude Oil (energy), Corn (grains), Gold (metals) etc.] to attain my goal of becoming a billionaire by the time I am forty.

Were there any specific circumstances that made you decide to start Ashwairya Capital Management? Why did you take the leap when you did?

After meeting a fund manager with \$2 billion in assets managing risk through an attitude of "We're conservative in Texas" and the Finance Minister of Nigeria determining crude oil prices "by averaging the price over the last five years", I saw an opportunity to accurately model commodity prices through supply/demand and market sentiment analysis.

At work, I was paid six figures when my research saved millions at a company and enabled \$1 billion in sales to continue at another one. As individuals of a different race led the companies, being a minority (Indian), my progress was impeded. In an interview at a finance firm, the CEO told me, "You know more Math than the entire company combined." Yet, I was passed over in favor of a guy who shared the same race with the management. Clearly, if I wanted to reach my full potential, I had to start my own business.

All the same, until I got permanent residency, I could not start a business. Not willing to wait eight years, I established that I was an "Alien with Extraordinary Ability" (same category as a Nobel Prize, Olympic medal) – being a researcher who's had sustained international acclaim. The 1500 page petition included recommendation letters from U.S. Senators (NY) Hillary Clinton, Charles Schumer, and Governor (NY) David Patterson.

How did you transition to trading commodities? How did you know what to do?

Using the industry's benchmark of 20% annual profit as a starting point, I worked 100 hours per week for two years to conceive my trading strategy. After simulations indicated ~50% annual profit, I filed incorporation papers with SEC to launch a quantitative hedge fund. I received a \$75 million investment offer, calls from "too big to fail" banks, and an invite to the Forbes 30 Under 30 Summit. Soon thereafter, I made 20% in a month. Now, through kaizen, I make 1-2% daily.

Starting a business is a leap of faith. Self-confidence and courage come after having lived several times through uncertainty and having had smashing success.

Can you provide more details about the Forbes 30 Under 30 Summit?

Forbes 30 Under 30 Summit is an annual gathering of the rising stars in diverse fields (e.g., Finance, Entertainment, Medicine, Food, Technology, Law etc.), young entrepreneurs with innovative companies, and those involved in social entrepreneurship. At the summit, we also had an opportunity to meet luminaries such as Sara Blakely (Founder of Spanx, self-made billionaire), Malala Yousafzai (youngest Nobel Peace Prize winner), and Peter Thiel (Managing Partner, Founders Fund). They inspired us by discussing how they used the difficult moments in their lives as key turning points.

What is your favorite memory of being in TBP? Do you have any fun stories to share?

TBP offered me an opportunity to become long-lasting friends with equally driven fellow students over various socials and activities. When I covered New York Fashion Week, I stayed for a week at Adam Tury's apartment in Manhattan.

TBP MI-G hosted a post-banquet party in the President's house, so, initiation into the "college house party" scene was definitely a novel experience and part of my cultural adjustment to U.S.

Do you have any surprising interests?

At UM, I was on the Ballroom/Latin dance team and competed at U.S. nationals. As a Toastmaster, I've competed twice towards the World Championship of Public Speaking. Currently, I'm represented as a photographer by *Vogue Italia/Art1/Commerce*. As founder and Editor-in-Chief of *SJChronicle*, we've covered New York, London, Paris, Milan, Berlin, and Miami fashion weeks. Some of our editorials have been ranked #1 on Google and others comparable to *Vogue US* or *Vogue Paris*.

**For more information, TBP members can explore
Ashwairya Capital Management's website (www.ashwairya.com)
or connect with Dr. Jain on LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com/in/semant).**

Sudoku Puzzles

1	8		2		3			
4				5		7	3	8
6			4				2	
8		3		1		4	5	
9			8		4			
		1			5	9	8	
3				8	6		9	1
2	1		7		9		6	
5							7	

4	7	8	2	3	1	9	6	5
3	9	5	6	4	7	8	1	2
1	6	2	9	8	5	4	7	3
9	8	6	5	2	3	1	4	7
7	1	3	4	9	8	2	5	6
2	5	4	7	1	6	3	9	8
6	2	1	8	7	4	5	3	9
8	3	7	1	5	9	6	2	4
5	4	9	3	9	2	7	1	8

3	8	9	1	4	5	6	2	7
4	6	7	2	3	8	9	5	1
5	2	1	9	6	7	3	8	4
6	9	2	7	1	4	5	3	8
8	5	4	3	6	9	1	7	2
1	7	3	8	5	2	4	6	9
2	1	5	9	8	3	7	4	6
9	4	8	5	7	6	2	1	3
7	3	9	4	2	1	8	9	5

					4	9		
3		2		7	5	8	4	
9								
6		4		5				
					3		5	
		5			7	2	6	
	8			6	9			5
1		6	8		2			
						6		

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