



The Tamer Center for Social Enterprise

TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS TO ADDRESS SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

All Columbia University graduates will be called upon to contribute to society at some point in their lives. The Tamer Center for Social Enterprise educates leaders to use business knowledge, entrepreneurial skills, and management tools to address social and environmental challenges.

The Center supports a broad range of activities that help students embrace the breadth and depth of social enterprise. Students develop a perspective on how to apply business skills to social enterprise endeavors and align personal and professional values in careers that result in social benefits to the broader community. The curriculum explores social enterprise within four focus areas: Public and Nonprofit Management; International Development and Emerging Markets; Social Entrepreneurship; and Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability.



“The excitement of Social Enterprise is not only in understanding that the future of our society rests in blending business and social innovation, but also in how we turn that understanding into action.”

DAMON J. PHILLIPS
Co-Director, Tamer Center for Social Enterprise
Lambert Family Professor of Social Enterprise



As part of the Social Enterprise Summer Fellows program, Mark Santangelo '13 worked with I-Dev International.



Leymah Gbowee, founder and executive director of the Women Peace and Security Network Africa and Nobel Peace Laureate, spoke at the Social Enterprise Conference at Columbia University.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP IN THE CLASSROOM

Columbia students build on their desire to make a difference with innovative ideas and business skills gained through a variety of social enterprise elective courses. Through coursework and cocurricular activities, students learn directly from leading academics in the field, as well as the many practitioners of social enterprise who come to campus as adjunct professors, guest lecturers, and panelists.

Instructors supplement lectures with a variety of teaching techniques that expose students to roles encountered by leaders and managers in the private, public, and nonprofit sectors, including team projects, case studies, guest speakers, and pro bono consulting projects.

One of the great strengths of the Tamer Center for Social Enterprise is that it is an interdivisional program—many of its courses are drawn from or developed within other divisions of the School. In the online course selection guide and in the teaching schedule, students will find electives listed under such divisions as Business Economics, Finance, International Business, Management and Operations Management, as well as under Social Enterprise.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Students play a central role in the ongoing development of experiential learning programs supported and organized with the Tamer Center for Social Enterprise. They work closely with faculty and staff members on initiatives and activities that help strengthen the program—and in the process they increase their knowledge, build leadership and management skills, and expand their career networks.

Through initiating events, action in the community, internships, and extracurricular projects, students not only integrate social enterprise into their own MBA experience, they also further build the foundations of social enterprise across Columbia Business School. Initiatives like the International Development Consulting Project Travel Fund and the Nonprofit Board Leadership Program allow students to gain experience and work on projects using their leadership and management skills while directly connecting with practitioners, organizations and alumni in social enterprise. The opportunities for students to both manage and participate in Tamer Center initiatives are one of our key strengths.

ACCELERATING CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The Tamer Center for Social Enterprise, in conjunction with the Career Management Centers and student clubs across campus, provides resources and networks to students pursuing careers in nonprofit, government or nongovernmental organizations, for-profit and nonprofit social ventures, social venture capital firms, and socially responsible business.

While the Center actively supports students across Columbia University and Barnard College pursuing social enterprise positions with the Social Enterprise Summer Fellowship Program and MBA/EMBA graduates through the Loan Assistance Program, it also offers resources for students who seek to gain skills and experience in other areas before transitioning into social enterprise related positions in business, nonprofit, or public organizations. Many alumni working for companies find ways to create social value, both within and outside their careers.



“ New York City is the ideal location for Columbia Business School to provide social enterprise leadership. By working with and contributing to best practices for nonprofits, government agencies, new ventures, and corporations, we are at the forefront of sustainability and social entrepreneurship. ”

Bruce Usher
Co-Director of the Tamer Center for Social Enterprise; Elizabeth B. Strickler '86 and Mark T. Gallogly '86 Faculty Director; Professor of Professional Practice