

Master of Finance Association (MFA)

Published on Masters Programs Office (<https://network.rhsmith.umd.edu>)

MFA was established to enhance the academic, professional, and social experience of finance students. MFA provides networking opportunities to connect students with industry professionals.

2020 Officers:

Kayla (Yue) Pan, *Co-President*

Shlok Badlaney, *Co-President*

Yicheng Liu, *VP of Marketing*

Taocheng Zou, *VP of Operations*

Darshan Dadia, *VP of External Relations*

Yiyang Tu, *VP of Community Development*

Shifei Li, *VP of Finance*

Advisor:

[Pete Kyle, PhD](#)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/msfaumd

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Constitution:

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Master of Finance Association, do hereby establish this Constitution in order that our purpose is realized to its fullest extent.

ARTICLE I – Name

The organization's name is the Master of Finance Association, hereafter referred to as "MFA", or "the Organization". The governing body of the MFA shall be called the MFA Board, hereafter referred to as "the Officers", "Executives" or "the Board". The MFA shall be affiliated to the governing body.

ARTICLE II – Purpose

MFA is established to enhance the academic, professional and social experience of Master of Finance students by providing a good network environment and coordinating all student-run activities.

The MFA is charged with, but not limited to:

- i. Promoting and enhancing the reputation of the Smith Master of Finance program;
- ii. Enhancing the educational experience and professional development of all members;
- iii. Providing a good networking environment for Smith community and enhancing communications among Finance students, alumni, faculty and professionals; and
- iv. Adding value to the program by coordinating student-run events and activities.

In order to accomplish these efforts, the MFA shall work in conjunction with the Smith Master Student Association (hereafter referred to as "SMSA") and other clubs. The MFA understands and is committed to fulfilling its responsibilities of abiding by University of Maryland policies.

ARTICLE III – Membership

Active membership shall be limited to persons officially connected with the University of Maryland, College Park as faculty, staff or registered students. Active voting membership is limited to currently registered MFA students only. The following requirements are necessary to constitute active membership:

- i. Dues are required for membership. The specific amount will be set by the board and subject to change.

"MFA" openly admits students to its membership and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, personal appearance, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, or on the basis of rights secured by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

ARTICLE IV – Officers

MFA will be governed by the following means:

1. Two Co-Presidents will preside at all meetings of MFA at which official club business is conducted. The Co-Presidents will maintain the power to appoint all committee chairpersons, present all motions to the body present, work with logistic planning for MFA and other large-scale events and shall be present at 80% of the meetings of MFA. At least one Co-President shall preside at each meeting at which official organization business is conducted.
2. MFA shall also maintain a Vice President of Finance who will handle all dues, accounts, new members, rule observations at state meetings, protocol, etc. and who shall develop the clubs' budgets during the appropriations process.
3. MFA shall also maintain a Vice President of Marketing and Communications who will be responsible for organizational communications and the design and maintenance of MFA website. The Vice President of Marketing and Communications will oversee the collection of any student body data needed for MSFA strategy. In addition, the Vice President of Marketing and Communications shall be responsible for the announcement of all MFA meetings.
4. MFA shall also maintain a Vice President of Administration who will be responsible for the administrative issue regarding events and activities with offices in Smith School and University of Maryland and will handle rule observances at all meetings at which official organization business is conducted and track membership. The Vice President of Administration will also be responsible for logistics of all MFA activities and events as well as the recording and posting of MFA meeting notes.
5. MFA shall also maintain a Vice President of External Relations who will act as a liaison between the student body and the external relations office. The Vice President of External Relations will be responsible for meeting with Master Program Office and alumni relations, as well as facilitating alumni involvement in MFA events and initiatives. In addition, the Vice President of External Relations will be responsible for creating and maintaining an

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alumni database and organizing professional development events such as guest speaker events, workshops and career panels.

6. MFA shall also maintain a Vice President of Community Development who will create and manage all Smith community events, including networking with other Smith clubs and associations. The Vice President of Community Development will be responsible for creating event themes and timelines.

ARTICLE V – Operations

1. Voting Eligibility

Those members meeting all requirements of active voting membership as set forth in Article III will be granted voting privileges.

2. Election Process

Individual officers shall be elected by a majority vote of eligible voting members of MFA. A board may be elected in the place of individual officers. The board shall run as a slate. Members of the outgoing board/officers' votes shall count twice. All elections will be held on an annual basis in two phases within the timeframe set by MSFA. The President will take nominations from the floor, the nomination process must be closed and the movement seconded. The nominated parties will be allowed to vote. All voting shall be done by secret ballot to be collected and tabulated by the Co-Presidents, Faculty Advisor and one voting member of MFA appointed by the outgoing President. The election will follow the following process:

a. First Phase (Elect 7 persons to the board) – Mid Sept.:

- i. Students with interest reply emails with short introductions and resumes;
- ii. Interviews by board members.

b. Second Phase (Locate each person to a specific position) – Dec.:

- i. Each candidate can apply for at most two interesting positions;
- ii. For positions that only one person votes for, that person fills in that position;
- iii. For positions that more than one person vote for, short presentation and voting will take place. Each vote from old officers counts for two points and that from potential officers for one point; and
- iv. For positions that none votes for, the rest will fill in.

3. Removal

Any officer of MFA in violation of the Organization's purpose or constitution may be removed from office by the following process:

- a. A written request by at least three members of the Organization.
- b. Written notification to the officer of the request, asking the officer to be present at the next meeting and prepared to speak.
- c. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote is necessary to remove the officer.

4. Meetings

All executive board meetings will occur on a weekly basis or other regular basis at a time selected by MFA and will follow the procedure set forth below:

- i. Attendance
- ii. Report by the President
- iii. Committee reports
- iv. Vote on all committee motions and decisions
- v. Any other business put forward by the members of the organization
- vi. Dismissal by the President

ARTICLE VI – Finances

MFA will finance the activities it engages in by the following means:

1. Membership dues (appropriate amount set by MFA);
2. Business School Departmental funds (including MPO, Academic Departments, Centers, etc.);
3. MFA will submit a budget to SMSA on an annual basis and request funding appropriate to the effective operations of the organization for each year; and
4. Fundraising activities and sponsorships in accordance with all University of Maryland policies.

ARTICLE VII – Amendments

The constitution is binding to all members of the MFA. But the constitution is not binding unto itself. Changes to the constitution require the following steps:

1. Amendments to the constitution may be proposed in writing by any voting member of MSFA at any meeting at which 2/3 of the officers is present.

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2. These amendments will be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the executive council or other officer grouping.
3. Proposed amendments will become effective following approval of two-thirds (2/3) - majority vote of officers.
4. Amended constitution should be released in a week.

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