



Dear Finance Alumni,

Here are the latest updates and information from the BYU Marriott finance program.

Student Orientation



252 New Finance Students

This fall the finance program welcomed **252 new students**, further strengthening our vibrant academic community. Finance now represents **14% of the total BYU Marriott student population**, making it the **largest undergraduate program in the school**.

During the first week of the semester, students gathered in the Hinckley Building for our formal finance program orientation. The drone photo above captures this impressive group of new arrivals as they begin their journey in the program.

Orientation also included an afternoon at the CLAS Ropes Course in Provo, giving students the chance to connect in a fun, relaxed setting before classes were fully underway. From the giant swing and zip line to the rock wall, canoes, adventure park, and leap of faith, the experience fostered teamwork, camaraderie, and lasting connections.



Learning Beyond the Classroom



NetTreks

Over the past year, more than 200 finance and pre-finance students took part in NetTreks, traveling to California, New York, Texas, Washington, and destinations along the Wasatch Front. NetTreks give students firsthand exposure to top companies, meaningful networking opportunities with alumni, and practical preparation for internships and future careers.

If you are interested in hosting a NetTrek group at your company, please reach out to Troy Carpenter (troy_carpenter@byu.edu) or Tanya Harmon (tharmon@byu.edu).

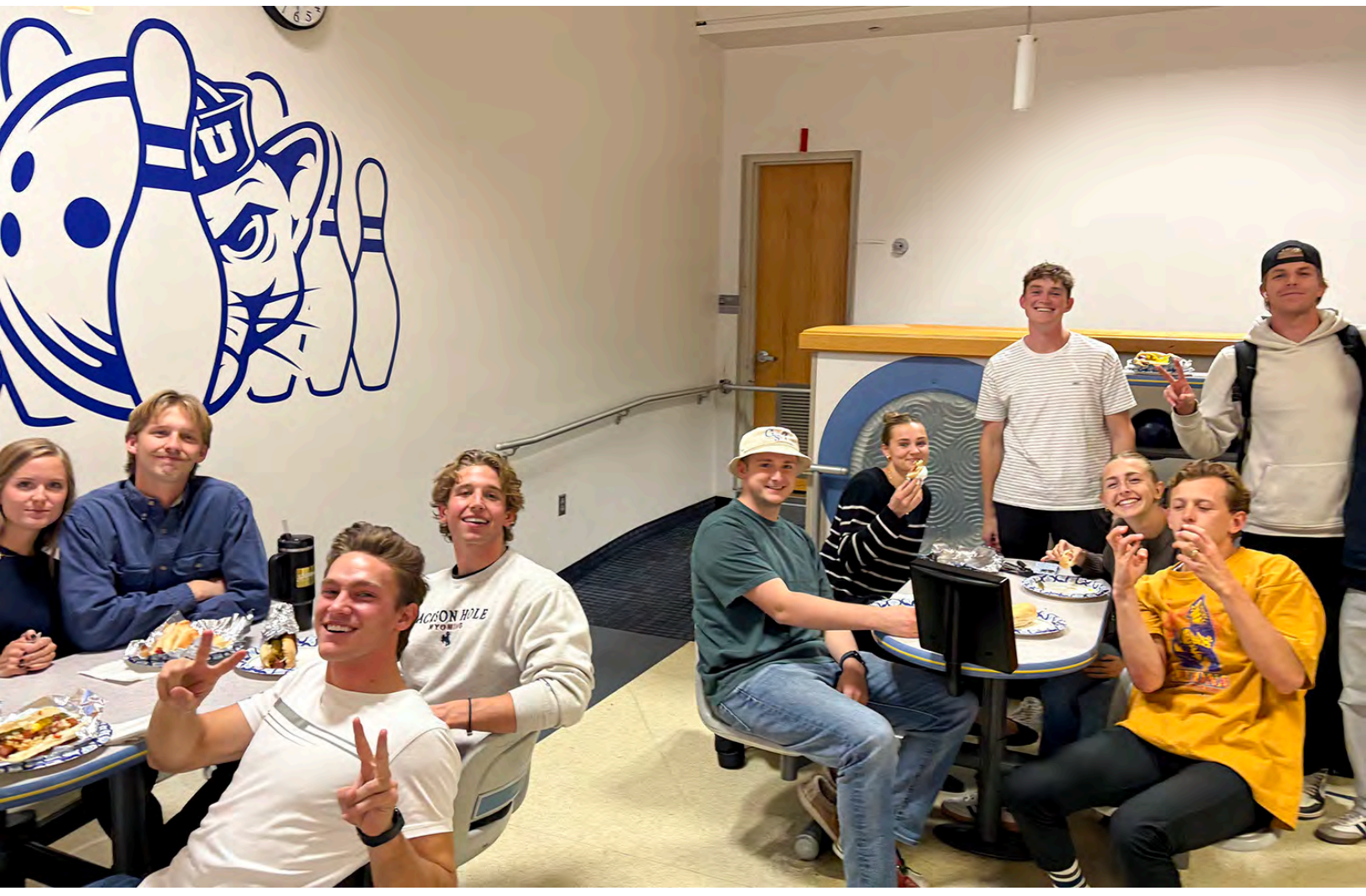




Upcoming Finance Conferences

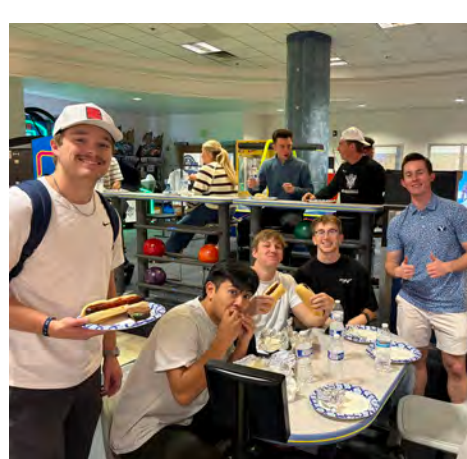
- **Financial Services Conference:** Friday, February 13, 2026
[>>> Click for more information and to register <<<](#)
- **Corporate Finance Conference:** Friday, March 13, 2026

Finance in Action



Let the Good Times Bowl

Finance students gathered at the Wilkinson Center in November for their annual night of bowling, food, and fun. With J-Dawgs in hand and strikes on the lanes, students enjoyed a relaxed evening together. Those who bowled three strikes in a row walked away with a turkey shirt—and some serious bragging rights.



The Faculty Behind the Numbers

Finance classes may be demanding, but our faculty make the experience meaningful and rewarding. Time and again, students share their appreciation for professors who challenge them, support them, and inspire them. Here are a few of their thoughts.



About Professor Bronson Argyle

"I took Fin 453 from him, and it was the hardest class I have and will ever take in my life. That being said, it was also one of the best classes I have ever taken. Argyle not only teaches finance but also how to navigate life through his class and by example. His class pushed me to be better and taught me to think differently about the world."

About Professor Mark Johnson

"He is truly amazing. He combines finance with gospel principles in memorable ways. He is inclusive and encouraging."

About Professor Ian Wright

"I just recently took Fin 432 with Wright, and it was an amazing class. What made it amazing was not the finance material we learned—but the life lessons. Professor Wright is not afraid to share experiences, and more times than one, he shared gospel principles when I truly needed to hear them. I walked out of the class with not only knowledge in world finance but also more knowledge of God and who I wanted to be as a person."

About Professor James Brau

"Brother Brau has always believed in me. From the get go, he inspired me to pursue my dreams, and he helped me nearly every step along the way. I owe a lot of my future to him."

About Professor Colby Wright

"He helped me gain a passion for finance, demonstrated how to really teach, connected with us as students, and demonstrated a love for the gospel of Jesus Christ every day. I loved his class."

Stories from Finance



Heidi Wakefield's unexpected shift into finance eventually led her to six internships, ranging from commercial real estate to corporate finance.

[More >>>](#)



Learning his first investing lessons in his grandfather's armchair, **James Fletcher** came to believe that investing in people creates great returns.

[More >>>](#)



"It's nice to be in a place where we do research and care about academic pursuits but also take the gospel seriously," says **Tyler Shumway**.

[More >>>](#)

Find a variety of finance-related articles in the finance section of the BYU Marriott Stories website at <https://marriott.byu.edu/stories/finance>. You can also check for fellow classmates in the [Class Notes](#) directory.

Tell Your Alumni Story

Our team is continually looking for opportunities to highlight BYU Marriott alumni in our publications and online. Are you interested in being highlighted? If so, just fill out our [alumni questionnaire](#).

How to Get Involved

We are grateful for everything that so many of you already do. Thank you!

We welcome your help. We need your help. Most importantly, students need your help. We want you to connect you more meaningfully to BYU Marriott finance students. These two actions are the most helpful: interacting with students and making a donation.

Not everyone can do both of these things all the time. But when you do a bit more in each of these areas, your interest and investment in the students and the program will automatically increase, and student outcomes will improve.

- **Interact with students.** Meeting inspiring alumni who already work in finance helps students become more likely to experience good career and life outcomes.
- **Donate.** It's not about receiving your money—it's about receiving your commitment and assisting our students in ways we otherwise wouldn't be able to.

You can donate by clicking below and choosing the Pay It Forward Fund. This fund directly supports finance students, which enhances their experience within the finance program.

[DONATE](#)

Donated funds help train student leaders, support student travel, provide networking meals and student recognition/incentives, and much more. Money is a challenge in most organizations, and the finance program is no exception. We are grateful for even the smallest amount! You can set up a recurring donation, and your donation is tax deductible.



Let us know how you would like to be involved by completing the engagement form found on the alumni page of the [finance website](#). Click the button below for details and to select your areas of interest.

[Alumni Page](#)

We welcome your involvement. Thanks for your continued support.

For comments regarding the finance newsletter, email marriottmag@byu.edu.

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