

BYU MBA
MARRIOTT SCHOOL
OF BUSINESS

Faith & Belief at Work

MBA Case Competition Re-cap 2023

BYU MBA
MARRIOTT SCHOOL
OF BUSINESS



SORENSEN CENTER
FOR MORAL & ETHICAL LEADERSHIP



EQUINIX

American Airlines 



PayPal



MISSION

Bring awareness to how including the faith and belief systems of a diverse workforce can lead to optimal business outcomes

VISION

Inspire **inclusion**, **compassion**, and **sharing** across faith and belief systems to build a better working world



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This information is confidential and was prepared by the BYU MBA program solely for internal use; it is not to be relied on by any 3rd party

Desired Outcomes

1

NETWORKING & AWARENESS

There is little-to-no awareness of this topic at the collegiate level. This competition brings awareness to the topic and creates a network of allies.

2

TRAINING & MENTORSHIP

Students need help showing up authentically and professionally. This competition gives them practical tools and vocabulary to change their places of work for the better.

3

SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINESS

Businesses are still struggling to find solutions to the problems inherent with faith & belief at work. This competition will add to the discussions on how to best implement effective strategies that make business sense.





FAITH & BELIEF AT WORK
CASE COMPETITION

SORENSEN CENTER

WILLIAM FREDSON &
BUSINESS FOUNDATION

MBA Faith & Belief Case Competition 2023 Snapshot

11

MBA programs*
across the US
sponsored
teams of 4 to compete

*Schools included: Baylor, UPenn, Northwestern, University of Arkansas, Oklahoma State, Boston University, University of Utah, Brigham Young University, Washington University at St. Louis, Notre Dame, Iowa State

Participants represented
Christian, Hindu, Muslim,
Atheist and other religious
backgrounds

132

Hours of labor given by
participating teams in
developing solutions

10

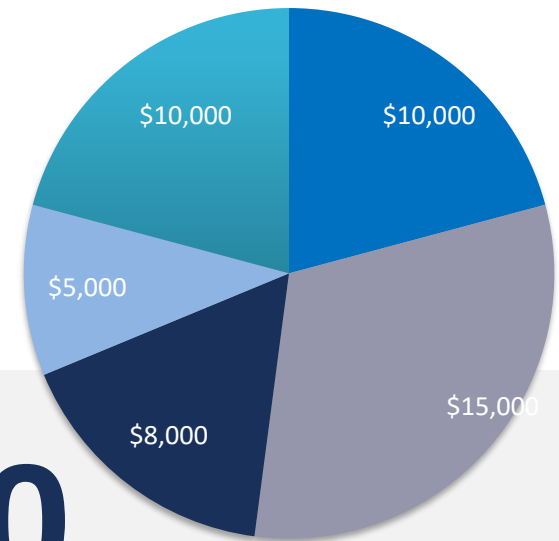
Industry experts
and executives
attended as
judges

Companies represented:
McKinsey & Co.,
American Airlines,
PayPal, Equinix,
FashionPhile, Religious
Freedom & Business
Foundation, Accenture

44

MBA students from multiple
sectors, industries, countries
and belief systems

Dollar Contributions



\$48,000

Total dollars donated by the sponsors: Equinix, American Airlines, Paypal, the Sorensen Center, BYU MBA

*additional contributions 60 Spudnik donuts

Competition Elements



A large conference room with round tables covered in white cloths. People are seated at the tables, some facing away from the camera. The room has large windows on the left side, showing a view of a city and mountains. There are two large screens on the right wall displaying a presentation. The ceiling has several recessed lights and a camera mounted on it. The overall atmosphere is professional and organized.

TRAINING & MENTORSHIP

Training & Mentorship: Sponsor Training



Training & Mentorship: Sponsor Training



Training & Mentorship: Closing Dinner & Keynote



A photograph of three men in a professional setting, likely a networking event. The man on the left is seen in profile, smiling, wearing a dark button-down shirt. The man in the center is facing forward, smiling, wearing glasses and a light-colored patterned button-down shirt. The man on the right is seen from the back, wearing a red and white checkered button-down shirt, and appears to be gesturing with his hand. In the background, there is a large window and a banner that reads "FaithConnect" with a logo above it. The word "NETWORKING" is overlaid in large white capital letters in the center of the image.

NETWORKING

Networking: Pre-Competition Mixer



Networking: Sponsors & Judges



Networking: Faculty Tours of Humanitarian Center



Networking: Closing Dinner & Keynote



INNOVATION

Faith Positively Impacts the Way People Work

- My religion grounds me to what is important in life. Focusing on that helps me navigate bumpy work relationships or stressful problems.
- My morality and work ethic are intrinsically related to my religiosity.
- [...]The way I interact with people, my honesty and integrity on projects, and [my] empathy stems from those values which I believe make me a stronger employee and team player.
- I feel like I hold myself to higher work ethic and standards of integrity.
- My faith in God positively impacts every aspect of my life.

”

Introduction Why This Matters Current State Recommendations Risks & Mitigation

Innovation: Student Team Presentations



Innovation: Student Team Presentations



Competition Elements



Awards



Award Ceremony



RESULTS



Closing Comment from Father Greg

CHIEF FLIGHT CONTROLLER, AMERICAN AIRLINES



“We do have a great deal of gratitude at American Airlines **for the opportunity to be a part of this mission.** I’ve found this day to be a very big blessing in my life.

As I close out my career at American Airlines and I realize I have to pass this torch off.

I have wrestled with that because you don’t want to invest your life and passion in something that you don’t think is going to go beyond you.

But today, **what I saw with what BYU brought forth with this event,** and what these Universities brought forth with you young people, **gave me for the first time the encouragement,** the inspiration, and the joy and blessing to my heart that I have committed my life to.

I now know beyond a shadow of a doubt that this is going to move forward because **you are going to be agents of change in corporate America....** And I feel confident today that I am leaving that in good hands.”

Participants' LinkedIn Posts


Walton MBA - University of Arkansas [+ Follow](#) [...](#)
6,241 followers
4d • Edited • [🔗](#)

Thank you to Walton MBA students [Grace Crain](#), [Coleman Davis](#), [Lauren Granger](#) and [Jacob Lancelot](#) for representing the program at the Brigham Young University MBA case competition: Faith and Belief @ Work in Provo, Utah!

The goal of the case competition is to bring MBA students of all beliefs together to network while solving for business needs surrounding the topic of faith/belief at work.

Congratulations to Grace Crain for being awarded "Best Presenter"!

[#WaltonMBA](#) [#Transform](#) [#Advance](#) [#Lead](#)



Lindsey Cohen (She/Her) • 1st
Strategic Marketing | Business & Program Development | Social Impact MBA, Sp...
2w • Edited • [🔗](#)

One day, I hope to be a people manager. As such, I strive to learn about ways in which I can create diverse and inclusive workplaces where people have a purpose and feel like they belong. By doing so, I believe, employees can bring their full and best selves to work. And the organization is better off because of it.


Last week, I competed in [Brigham Young University Marriott School of Business's](#) Faith and Belief at Work [#MBA](#) Case Competition. The topic was about interfaith employee resource groups, and the questions were about metrics, stakeholder buy-in, and change management.

What is needed in the workplace is an insatiable curiosity and concern for others and the desire to seek and understand one another. To our surprise, we may learn that we have more that binds us together than separates us.

Thank you to [Questrom School of Business, Boston University's](#) faculty team, [Greg Stoller](#), [Kabrina Chang](#), [Fatema Fazendeiro](#), [Paul Carlile](#), and [Jevin Eagle](#), for their support and guidance while preparing for the case competition. Another thanks go to the corporate sponsors, [American Airlines](#), [Equinix](#), and [PayPal](#), for supporting us.



Faculty/Judge LinkedIn Posts

 **Rodrigo Tello** (He/Him) • 1st
MBA Manager | Watson Graduate School of Management | Spears School of Bu...
1w • Edited • 🌐


Lessons were learned, memories were made.

Last week, we joined the first National 'Faith & Belief at Work' Case Competition at [Brigham Young University](#) through [Brigham Young University Marriott School of Business](#), [BYU MBA](#), sponsored by [American Airlines](#), [PayPal](#) and [Equinix](#).

It was fascinating (to say the least) to witness the performance of our [Oklahoma State University MBA Program](#) students, along with some of the best business schools out there discussing ways to create a safe, inclusive and diverse environment where several belief systems peacefully collide in the workplace.

My absolute respect and appreciation to our team [Christin Schuler](#), [Bennett Sherrer](#), [Bentley Jeffs](#) and [Alfredo de Jesús Domínguez Faraco](#). Your involvement, passion and dedication were second to none.

Lastly, thanks to [Matt Young](#), [Daniel Snow](#) and the rest of the BYU team for setting a new level of hospitality and we are looking forward to participating next year!



 **Ismael Rivera** (He/Him) • 1st
Legal Operations Senior Analyst at Equinix
3w • 🌐

I had an amazing opportunity to represent [Equinix](#) and my faith at the first Faith & Belief At Work case competition at [BYU MBA](#). It was simply amazing to see so many MBA candidates from different schools present their solutions 1 ...see more



APPENDIX

Student & Judge Networking



Closing Dinner & Keynote



Closing Dinner & Keynote



Closing Dinner



Closing Dinner



Sponsors & Judges



Additional Resources

Link to [Student Solutions](#)

Link to [Deseret News Article](#)

Link to [BYU Marriott News Article](#)

Link to [Religious Freedom & Business Foundation Article](#)

Link to [Event Schedule, Speakers, Sponsors](#)