



## Brandeis University

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SCHOOL

Our Master of Arts in International Economics and Finance (MA) program features an innovative curriculum around our core strengths in international finance, economics and business. The MA targets the financial and economic skills needed to understand forces driving the global economy and the operations of international capital markets.

**Key elements of the MA curriculum include:**

- a conceptual framework for understanding global markets
- an ability to apply skills and expertise to real-world trends and challenges
- concrete skills in data and financial modeling and analysis
- in-depth study in finance, business and economic analysis, marketing, real estate, and data analytics
- stem-designated: enables international students to extend practical training for up to 36 months after graduation



The common program at BFA is the Master of Arts in International Economics and Finance. (MAIEF)

“The Brandeis MA develops strong analytical and quantitative skills in the classroom and through hands-on learning experiences with business firms. It supports students' personal development with an inclusive, multicultural environment and leads to many career options.”



Aldo Musacchio, MA Program Director

### MA Program Alumni Profile and Spotlight:

- Born in Chicago and raised in Western India, Nisha Sheth arrived at Brandeis IBS with dreams of one day gaining a foothold in corporate America. Today, she is a partner at PwC in New York City. **Nisha Sheth**
- He has invented his own koan: “The key to looking for a job is to not worry about the job.” That’s easy for Santoso to say. The graduate works as a Senior Associate at Boston Consulting Group. **Marshall Santoso**

### **What inspired you to come to Brandeis?**

- I wanted to live in or near a big American city, and I wanted a school with an international focus. I stumbled on Brandeis IBS and thought, ‘This is just what I’m looking for.’ **Nisha Sheth**
- It all started when Santoso showed up at a job fair hosted by the Association for Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting (ALPFA) at Brandeis International Business School (IBS). He connected with Recruiter A from Ernst & Young and sent a “nice to meet you, I’m interested in valuation work. **Marshall Santoso**

### **Describe your student experience.**

- The case method and team-based learning were challenging initially. We were required to speak up in class, and it took me a while to find my voice. The supportive Brandeis community helped build my confidence further. **Nisha Sheth**
- After earning his bachelor’s from Brandeis, Santoso went for his master’s right away. He credits his core classes as giving him a “broad set of financial knowledge” and the career center advisors with constantly encouraging him and providing chances to practice and hone his interview skills. “They do a lot of workshops and put the emphasis on knowing yourself, so when interviewers ask about your qualities; it comes out as second nature.” **Marshall Santoso**

### What does your job entail?

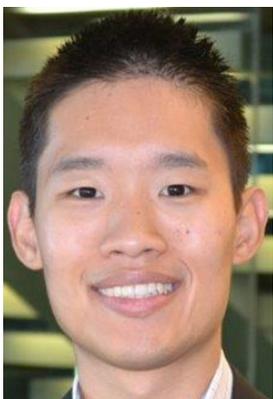
- I started in the TP division of PwC's tax group in Boston. By 2006, I had earned my CFA charter and was ready to try something different by focusing on valuation services in the M&A practice. While my work can be highly technical, I spend a lot of time forging relationships with clients and mentoring and coaching junior employees. I believe in giving back. A lot of people helped me get to PwC and through the partner process, so now I give back to Brandeis through recruiting efforts and helping the next generation of professionals at PwC. **Nisha Sheth**

### What's your advice embarking on their careers?

- Be open to different experiences. Don't be shy about taking risks. At first, I was scared about moving to New York, but when I thought about all the people at PwC who had invested in me, I realized I needed to take the leap. It's important to do things outside your comfort zone. When you're uncomfortable, that's when you grow the most. **Nisha Sheth**
- That practice came in very handy. With less than 24 hours notice, Santoso nailed the interview of his dream job, overcoming a snowstorm to arrive on time to boot. "I put a lot of emphasis on making a connection versus being interested in getting a job," he said. "The big thing about competing with yourself is that you always want to be the best you can be." **Marshall Santoso**



**Nisha Sheth** Partner Pricewaterhouse Coopers: .



**Marshall Santoso** , Senior Associate Boston Consulting Group