

# Student Profiles 2023-2024

Brandon Adams – MRED (Part-time, First-year)



My name is Brandon Adams and I am a graduate student in the Masters of Real Estate development program at the USC Price School. I am currently enrolled as a part time student as I will be continuing my current job in Acquisitions and Asset Management at Goldrich Kest while attending USC. In my current role I oversee a portfolio of 4 billion dollars' worth of multifamily apartment units, 11 million square feet of Commercial space

and 5 marinas. Previously, I was a Portfolio Manager at TruAmerica Multifamily helping Support the 16-Billion-dollar portfolio optimizing performance and responsible for all refinance, disposition and capital events. Before TruAmerica, I was a development and

Acquisitions Analyst at Caruso working on the Palisades Village Development as well as working at Festival Companies (500MM Portfolio) right after University. As an undergrad, I attended University of Michigan with a Bachelor's Degree in Economics completed in April 2016.

## Taji Abdullah – MRED (Part-time, First-year)

Taji is a Senior Real Estate Office at the Port of Los Angeles. Currently, he helps to deliver development projects that provide additional open space, encourage public access, and take a sustainable approach to design, planning, and urban architecture at the LA Waterfront. Taji has been a dedicated public servant since completing his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Finance at California State University, Northridge in 2008. He has attained diverse transactional experience within the aviation and maritime industries at the federal and municipal levels. Taji has led teams to perform asset management, budgeting, data analytics, leasing, and property management. Throughout his career, Taji has completed over 40 commercial real estate transactions that ranged from \$500K to \$100M.



Among other professional accolades, Taji has earned the CCIM<sup>®</sup> and CPM<sup>®</sup> designations and completed the Viterbi Data Analytics Bootcamp and Ross Minority Program in Real Estate at the University of Southern California.



## Shea Bartolino – MBA/MRED (Full-time, Second-year)

Before attending USC, Shea worked in asset management at the ConAM Group in San Diego, CA. ConAM is a multi-family real estate investment and property management company focused on developing and managing best-in-class apartment communities throughout the continental United States. As a financial analyst, Shea created and led the CARES Act program encompassing 10,000 units and 3,000 prior tenants, ensuring the collection of over \$5,000,000 in federal rental assistance. Shea also worked on performing quarterly valuations and researched value-add projects to identify major capital renovation undertakings. Prior to this, Shea spent ten years in the United States Navy before receiving his Bachelor of Science in Real Estate Development with a Minor in

Business from the University of California San Diego in 2022.



**Opher Benrimon** – MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

Opher is the Head of Development and Chief of Staff for Uncommon Developers (UD), a real estate development company based in Los Angeles. Since 2013, Opher served a key role in developing large projects in California totaling \$600M. Most notable are The 24 Campus - a 24 acre mixed-use development in Chatsworth consisting of 700 apartments and 250,000 s.f. of commercial space and the acquisition of a 565 Acre site for the entitlement and development of an 8M SF Industrial Park (distribution centers) in the High Desert area of California. Opher's responsibilities include overseeing all of Uncommon Developers' departments as well as managing the development process including Land Use analysis, selecting and managing project teams such as architects and engineers, as

well as performing financial analysis and all other processes related to entitlements and design development. Opher received his Bachelor of Arts at Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2011.

## Alex Borrás – MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

Alex is a professional who blends strategy and forward-thinking solutions to the processes and management in the architecture and construction industry. His architecture background and real estate experience brings a distinctive approach to selective highperforming portfolios as a project manager for Jones Lang LaSalle. With over fifteen years of experience, he has collaborated to deliver full-cycle in a wide range of project types by focusing on design excellence, dedication, culture, and mentorship. His primary focus is on creating long lasting relationships by understanding and balancing owner and client expectations while leveraging from capital planning to project delivery with efficient workflows, communication, and project performance. Alex completed his education in 2011



at the Tecnologico de Monterrey (ITESM) in Monterrey, México, with a Bachelor of Architecture.



#### Daniel Brunelle, CPA – MBA/MRED (Part-time, Third-year)

Prior to attending USC, Daniel spent 4 years as a sole proprietor specializing in lowincome market-rate housing, low -income house flipping, and project-based multi-family rentals across Georgia and South Carolina. Prior to starting his own low-income housing operation, Daniel worked as a Commercial Real Estate Underwriter for First Republic Bank and was responsible for loan sizing and approvals, meanwhile creating bankapproved underwriting models, reviewing leases, and analyzing low income housing project- based vouchers. While working for First Republic Bank, Daniel began sourcing, repositioning, and managing residential real estate with his first purchase in April 2019 of

an 8-unit low income building in Los Angeles which then propelled the start of his business. Daniel acquired, repositioned, and earned a Project based HAP contract for his building while becoming approved to do business with HUD nationwide. Since then, Daniel has used his HUD approval to source, renovate, and manage a rental portfolio of 14 houses while successfully flipping 7 houses. Daniel specifically targets assets in LMI i(Low to Moderate) census tracts areas where first time home buyers have access to discounted interest rates at the time of disposal through the Community Reinvestment Act. Prior to entering the real estate industry as an underwriter, Daniel worked as an external auditor for EY's Financial Services group in downtown Los Angeles and earned his C.P.A. license. Daniel received his BS in Accounting from University of Maryland's Robert H Smith School of Business.





Luis A. Carmona – MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

Luis has been working in the real estate industry since 2007. Luis is Co-founder of Hollymont Capital a boutique real estate investment and development company focused on urban in-fill multifamily development projects and Section 8 Value-add projects. Current projects include a multifamily development project in the Silver Lake neighborhood of Los Angeles. Luis is a licensed real estate broker and holds a B - General Building Contractor license in the State of CA. Luis provides Design Build services to other property owners through his company Angelus Design Build. On the brokerage side Luis has experience with multifamily, industrial, development and lease transactions. Luis completed his undergraduate at San Diego State University with a BS in Business

Administration: Finance with Emphasis in Financial Services.

## Victor A. Casanova – MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

Victor is a Project Analyst at Highridge Costa, one of the leading developers of workforce, senior, mixed-income, and mixed-use affordable housing. As part of the Land Acquisitions and Project Management teams, he specializes in sourcing new opportunities and driving current projects through the development cycle. Victor is passionate about community service and well-being by doing good. With colleagues, he created a food pantry that delivers food to formerly homeless veterans in permanent supportive housing. Victor earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance from the University of California at Riverside, completed Goldman Sachs' 10KSB Program,



and was selected as an SBA Emerging Leader. In the MRED program, he looks forward to leveraging the experience to enhance the lives of lower-income families and senior households through the continued development, preservation, and operation of quality new and repositioned affordable housing.



### Abriel Chan – MRED (Part-time, First-year)

Abriel Chan is the Vice President, Americas at QuadReal Property Group, with over seven years of experience in investing across various property sectors and strategies. Abriel is currently focused on expanding QuadReal's US industrial and data center platforms. He began his career at Colliers on the investment brokerage team based in Vancouver, Canada. Abriel graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of British Columbia in 2014 and is a CFA Charterholder. He is also a member of NAIOP and ULI.



Jennifer Chen – MRED (Part-time, First-year)

Jennifer is currently an underwriting analyst at CBRE, the global leader in commercial real estate services and investments. As a member of the CBRE Multifamily Capital ("CMC") division, her team works primarily as a Fannie Mae DUS lender, specializing in originating and underwriting multifamily assets across the United States. She has assisted in screening and underwriting over 95 deals, totaling in over \$2.3 billion of loans. Prior to her role at CBRE, Jennifer worked as a Treasury Analyst at Colony Capital, Inc., a private equity real estate and investment management firm in Los Angeles. Jennifer is also an active member of CREW (Commercial Real Estate Women). She received her Bachelor of

Arts in Psychology and Social Behavior from the University of California, Irvine in 2014.

### Judy Chou – MRED (Part-time, First-year)



Judy holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley, and has gained extensive experience in the real estate industry. She previously served as an Assistant Project Manager at Standard Portfolios for a period of five years and later joined CBRE as an Associate Real Estate Manager for a further two years. Currently, she is employed at MetLife Investment Management - Equity, where she holds the position of Senior Financial Analyst within the Asset Management Team. Judy has recently accomplished several noteworthy achievements, including contributing to the closing of an Office Building worth \$235M, the disposition of 24 NNN retail sites worth \$141M, and the capital recapping of 2 Multi-Family properties totaling \$331M. Her role at MetLife

involves asset management, development, acquisition support, business plan creation and execution, leasing, budgeting, capital planning, quarterly valuation, underwriting, and dispositions for multifamily, retail, and office assets.



#### Albert Chu – MRED (Full-time)

Albert is currently the Operational Manager for Tierra Management, Inc. in Pasadena, CA, a multi-family real estate investment and property management company with investments throughout Southern California and parts of Nevada. In his role, Albert oversees the operations and management of the firm, construction and renovations of the properties, and all personnel matters. In addition, he supports financial reporting and accounting, acquisitions, and compliance. He has particular exposure to low-income and Section 8 housing, and he interfaces regularly with public officials, regulatory agencies, and non-profit organizations. Albert received Bachelors of Arts in Psychology and East Asian Languages and Cultures from USC in 2020, and he is passionate about creating

intersections of social equity and environmental sustainability with real estate.



Aaron Cohen – MRED (Full Time)

Aaron began his Real Estate career as an Associate at Marcus and Millichap, with a focus on retail properties across Southern California. His responsibilities included sourcing and underwriting deals, negotiating contracts and managing the closing process. Putting Real Estate on hold, Aaron became a certified agent in Baseball and Basketball, representing professional athletes in both sports in his time at TWC Sports, a boutique sports representation firm in Los Angeles. Due to his background in Finance and Real Estate, he eventually transitioned into the Wealth Management business at Marest Capital where he is tasked with generating new business, analyzing individual companies for investment decisions, and structuring portfolios to align with client goals. Aaron graduated with a B.S.

in Business Administration from USC in 2013 with a focus in Finance and Real Estate and is passionate about furthering his career in the Real Estate industry.

## Charlie Cooper - MRED (Part-time, First year)

Charlie joins USC working as an asset manager for Emmett Ochs Investments, a private equity real estate investment firm with the sole focus of acquiring, repositioning, and managing high quality apartment buildings in the West Los Angeles submarket. The company boasts a fully integrated platform of acquisition, finance, property management, leasing, and construction oversight. Charlie joined the firm in 2018 with primarily property management and construction related responsibilities. He now acts as the lead manager for the firm's \$300MM AUM portfolio, overseeing all capital expense projects while building and maintaining subcontractor relationships. He also assists with acquisitions and investor relations reporting for the various funds raised by the firm. Charlie earned a



bachelor's degree from the Boston University Questrom School of Business in 2018, concentrating in real estate. He completed a graduate level UCLA extension course in real estate investment analysis in 2019.



Jake Douglas - MRED (Part-time, First-year)

Jake is an Acquisitions & Development Associate for Mar Ventures Inc. (MVI), an integrated real estate firm based in El Segundo specializing in the acquisition, masterplanning, and redevelopment of underutilized or obsolete properties and ongoing management of the completed assets. In this position, Jake underwrites potential acquisitions of office, retail, multifamily, and industrial properties as well as hold/sale scenarios for properties owned and managed by MVI. Jake is also heavily involved with design coordination, construction management and working with municipalities for MVI's projects seeking entitlements and building permits. Jake received a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Washington in the spring of 2019.



Maxwell Erickson - MRED (Full-time)

Max is a licensed architect with four years of experience at Hart Howerton, a multidisciplinary design firm with offices in San Francisco and New York focused on designing 'complete environments' through expertise in planning, architecture, landscape architecture and interior design. He worked on all phases of architectural services from conceptual design to construction administration. Projects include golf clubhouses in Washington and Florida, mixed-use ski villages at Big Sky and Park City, a private horse ranch in Northern California, a family estate in Park City and several single-family residences at the Santa Lucia Preserve, a gated community and nature preserve in

Carmel, CA. He is skilled in hand drawing, traditional and vernacular architecture, new urbanism and passive sustainable design solutions. Max earned a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Miami in 2019.

## Andrea Escalante MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

With over 20 years of experience in engineering, construction and facilities, Andrea has worked on numerous new builds, TI renovations, and critical facilities throughout the southwest region. Most recently, Andrea has worked as the managing Director of Engineering Services for USC Facilities Planning & Management. Since 2005, Andrea has been part of teams adding 5 million square feet to the USC campuses, including transformative spaces such as the USC University Village, the Michelson Center for Convergent Bioscience, and the USC Data Center. Andrea's responsibilities include collaboration with consultants and contractors, project planning, master planning, and



project budgeting. Beginning her career in Los Angeles as a consulting engineer, Andrea has worked on both engineering and construction teams specializing in hospitals and data centers. Andrea holds an MSEE from USC Viterbi School of Engineering and is LEED, AP accredited.



## Marte Formico – MRED (Full-Time)

Marte is a Development Associate at DeNardi Wang Homes (DWH), a boutique real estate development firm in the bay area that specializes in for sale housing projects. DWH focuses on the acquisition and entitlement of residential projects in select bay area cities. Since joining in 2020, he has worked on numerous projects and the entitlement of over 400 residential units with deal value north of 400M. Marte's main responsibilities include land acquisition, project underwriting, and project accounting/cost control. Marte graduated from UC Davis in 2020 with a bachelor's degree in Managerial Economics with a minor in Accounting. He was also a member of the UC Davis Division 1 Men's soccer program and served as team captain his senior year.



John George – MRED (Full-time)

Prior to attending USC, John was a Vice President of Acquisitions and Asset Management at Castlegate Property Group, a boutique multifamily investment firm focused on acquiring apartment complexes for value-add repositioning in primary markets in the southeast. While at Castlegate, he was responsible for oversight of all financial due diligence and underwriting efforts and helped acquire and close over \$180 million of total capitalization value. Additionally, he oversaw a 10-asset portfolio comprised of over 1,700 units and lead the day-to-day asset management activities. Prior to Castlegate, John worked as an acquisitions associate at Simpson Housing, a national multifamily investment firm that owns and operates over 20,000 units across the United States. While

at Simpson, John helped close over \$1 billion of transaction value. John earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance magna cum laude and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Real Estate magna cum laude from University of Georgia in 2015.

## Ty Hack – MRED (Part-time, First-year)

After graduating from the University of California Irvine with a Bachelor of the Arts in Drama, June of 2018, Ty was hired as a project manager for Van Daele Homes, a private developer and home builder based in Riverside, CA. During his four-year tenure at Van Daele, he managed entitlements, plan check, permit issuance, and construction for a multitude of single-family tract home projects ranging from 50-150 units throughout Southern California. In October of 2022 Ty was hired as a Development Associate at TA Partners in Irvine, where he is tasked with underwriting, budget management, and project coordination of single-family, and large-scale multi-family projects at every stage of development throughout Southern California.





### Matt Harband – MBA/MRED (Full-time, Second-year)

Matt spent his career prior to USC at the intersection of real estate and sustainability, and is doing the MBA/MRED in order to pivot into development. This Spring, he interned in Development and Acquisitions at The Ratkovich Company in Los Angeles. Prior to graduate school he worked for three and a half years at PE firm Agriculture Capital, in San Francisco. There he focused on deal sourcing and due diligence for acquisitions of farmland and associated industrial assets. He also worked on investor relations and capital development, connecting with a global LP base to raise another investment fund for the firm. He began his career working in environmental consulting and brownfield remediation on behalf of developers and property owners. Matt grew up in the San

Francisco Bay Area (East Bay) and graduated from Cornell University in 2017 with bachelor's degrees in Urban Planning and Environmental Sciences.



Michael Hernandez – MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

Michael is the Executive Vice President of Real Estate and Development for Inter-Con Security Systems, Inc. In this role, Michael manages the company's real estate interests, ranging from asset management, office procurement, and spearheading the development initiatives of the company. Over three and a half years, Michael has led the acquisition process of an 800-acre development site and doubled the square footage of the portfolio. Prior to this role, Michael spent 8 years with Worthe Real Estate Group where he ran the financial processes of acquisition, disposition, recapitalization and refinancing over its Southern California portfolio of 5.7 million square feet. Over his career, Michael has

placed +\$140M of equity with various institutional partners with +\$240M of financing on complex development and value-add investments across office, multifamily, and soundstage investments. Michael graduated from the University of Notre Dame, where he was a member of the football team.

## Michael Jurado – MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

Michael has over 14 years of experience as commercial general contractor. Since 2007, he has managed over \$100 million in total project value. Michael has experience in tenant improvements and ground-up construction, often working with developers and architects in a design-assist capacity. His building experience includes multi-unit housing, affordable housing, hospitality, industrial (concrete tilt-ups) warehouses, schools, aviation buildings and hangars, media studios, office, and retail. He is a licensed as a general building and general engineering contractor in California. Michael received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the United States Naval Academy and completed is Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).





#### Ahmed I. Kabir – MRED (Part-time, First-year)

Ahmed is a Senior Associate for the Office and Life Science team at Nuveen Real Estate. He manages the overall function and delivery of a project's life cycle from inception to turnover and the strategic relationship between Nuveen and its JV partners. Prior to Nuveen, Ahmed was at CIM Group where he transitioned from a general contractor to a real estate development specialist to focus on the full cycle of the business. He was involved in all aspects of a project from acquisition and due diligence, construction, leasing and marketing, turnover and occupancy. He executed ground up and TI projects for office, hotel, retail, restaurant, multifamily, and industrial in excess of \$100 million dollars. Ahmed began his career in the general contracting industry at Austin

Commercial, Webcor Builders in 2014 where he held several roles in on-site project management and preconstruction for ground up mixed-use and high-rise buildings valued at \$250+ million dollars. Ahmed graduated with a B.S. in Construction Management from California State University, Northridge in 2014.



2017.

Ramsey Kassih – MRED (Part-time, First-year)

Ramsey works as a Vice President of Originations at CoreVest Finance, an affiliate of Redwood Trust, Inc. (NYSE: RWT) focusing on debt solutions for both multifamily and largescale single family real estate investors. As a firm, CoreVest has closed over \$20B in loans on more than 140,000 units. In his role, Ramsey is responsible for sourcing, managing and closing complex commercial real estate debt transactions. Deal types include multifamily ground-up construction, value-add bridge, term loans, and scattered site residential portfolio term loans. Ramsey has directly originated \$151.5M in Term Loans and \$163.5M in Bridge Loans, totaling \$315M originated over his career. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Economics, with a minor in Political Science from University of California, San Diego in

### Gaelan Kerr-Koppel – MRED (Part-time, First-year)

Gaelan is a Vice President of Acquisitions and Asset Management at JMA Ventures where his main responsibilities include new deal sourcing and underwriting, partner negotiations, project management, and asset management. Gaelan has over 8 years of experience in the commercial real estate investment industry having started his career at PwC where he earned his CPA. Gaelan begin his tenure at JMA in 2016 as a financial analyst and has since participated as a key investments team member on successful closings of over \$1.6 billion in gross real estate transaction volume across multifamily, mixed-use, office, retail and hotel product spanning ground-up development, adaptive re-use, and



acquisitions/dispositions. Gaelan leads the firm's qualified opportunity zone efforts and serves as deal lead on JMA's 243-room QOZ hotel development project in Avon, Colorado. Gaelan earned his Bachelor of Arts in economics and accounting with a minor in history from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2014.



### Justin Kim – MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

Justin started his career in commercial real estate sales as an Associate at Marcus & Millichap's Downtown Los Angeles office in 2016, specializing in multi-family products. He was awarded the company's Pacesetter Award during his first three months and was nominated as "2018's Broker Nominee" in the Los Angeles Business Journal. After his career in brokerage, Justin joined Pro-Energy Saver as a project manager. He collaborated with multi-family owners, developers, and Metropolitan Water to reduce the overall water usage throughout Los Angeles County in new and existing developments. Now, Justin works with Impact Housing as an Associate Development Manager, where he evaluates and manages their real estate development projects. Justin will graduate from

the University of California San Diego in June 2022 with a B.S. in Real Estate Development.



Eugene Lee – MBA/MRED (Part-time, First-year)

Before joining the academic community at USC, Eugene Lee held significant positions at Banc of California and Axos Bank. At Banc of California, Eugene currently serves as a Commercial Real Estate Underwriter and Real Estate Construction Portfolio Manager. In this dual role, Eugene underwrites multifamily, affordable housing, bridge commercial real estate (CRE), and commercial construction loan facilities ranging from \$1 million to \$50 million. Additionally, he manages a \$500 million residential and commercial real estate construction loan portfolio. Previously, Eugene worked at Axos Bank as a Commercial Real Estate Underwriter. During his tenure, he originated and underwrote in excess of \$1.2 billion in construction, bridge, and revolving CRE facilities. Eugene's

education includes a Bachelor of Arts in Business Economics from the University of California, San Diego.

### Daniel Ling - MRED (Full-time)

With over 6 years of architectural experience and 4 years in design management, Daniel has worked on various notable projects in London. As an Architect, he worked on awardwinning projects with a focus on multi use residential schemes. Daniel transitioned towards design management for the opportunity to work on the tallest residential luxury tower in London for Brookfield Multiplex. He is experienced in all stages of the project lifecycle for both consultant and client. Prior to USC, he managed the design of one of the largest regeneration developments in Europe, for 20,000 homes. Daniel qualified as an Architect in 2016 from London Metropolitan University and completed his Bachelor's and Master's of Architecture at the University of Plymouth, UK.





### Justin Lininger – MRED (Full-time)

Justin comes with an extensive background as a construction project manager and owner's representative. Since graduating from the University of Hawaii with a degree in political science in 2011 and transitioning to construction management, Justin has held progressing roles in a multitude of owner industries that include healthcare, consulting, emerging proptech, and Fortune 100 companies. Most notably, Justin served as Lead Construction Project/Program Manager for Nike Inc., where he executed a \$1+ billion campus expansion consisting of 3.2M SF of added office, mixed-use, R&D, retail, parking, and fitness facilities. Justin currently manages asset operations for Brookfield Properties, including 2.4 million SF of high-end retail, and 10 million SF overall. Justin looks to

leverage his comprehensive experience in the planning, design, and execution of multiple project types and asset classes to a career in real estate development.



### Sendi Madoshi - MRED (Full-time)

Sendi was an underwriter/assistant relationship manager at Umpqua Bank for the last four years. Her primary responsibilities included co-managing client relationships, underwriting new loan originations, conducting site inspections and annual property performance reviews. Sendi also contributed to sustaining other revenue-generating activities by partnering with relationship managers and other colleagues to assess mutually beneficial arrangements with clients. Her portfolio spanned over \$300 million in loan outstandings, with individual loan sizes ranging from \$10 million to \$90 million concentrated in various asset classes including multi-family, industrial, retail, and office. Sendi obtained her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in

Finance from California State University, Long Beach in 2012.

## Sarah McDowell – MRED (Full-time)

Sarah is pursuing the Master's of Real Estate Development as a full-time student. Prior to USC, she has 6 years' experience as a mechanical engineer designing HVAC. As a licensed engineer Sarah worked for Arup, an international company, on a variety of high-rise mixed-use, office, and hospitality projects across the nation. Working with developers, architects, and contractors, she designed HVAC for commercial buildings and campuses from 200,000 to 1 million square feet. She transitioned to sustainability and energy consulting for the past two years advising companies, schools, and municipalities on energy saving and decarbonization strategies. She managed an energy audit for a



national client resulting in 15% potential energy savings. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Physics from Loyola University Chicago and a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis in 2015.



men's tennis team.

### Aidan McNulty – MRED (Full-time)

Prior to USC, Aidan was a Senior Financial Analyst for two years at Fairfield Residential in San Diego, CA. Fairfield Residential is a fully integrated operator and investment manager in the multifamily space, which has developed over 375 multifamily projects (\$17B total project costs). While at Fairfield, Aidan's primary role involved creating, improving, and revising detailed financial models for developments throughout their lifecycle in the Western United States. Prior to Fairfield, Aidan worked as a structured debt banker covering real estate private equity firms in New York for four years at two major international banks, SMBC and ING. Aidan received his Bachelor of Arts in Economics with a minor in History at Boston College in 2017, where he was also captain of the varsity



Griffin Morgan - MRED (Full-time)

Prior to attending USC, Griffin was the Vice President of Third Party Originations for CoreVest Finance. In this role, Griffin developed a new real estate platform for the firm in addition to the analysis, acquisition, pricing, and sale of \$140M+ of real estate loan portfolios in 2022H2. He previously served as a Business Development Director at PeerStreet, a first-of-its-kind online platform for investing in real estate debt which has funded over \$4 billion in loans since it was founded in 2013. Griffin managed a team of Underwriters, Associate Relationship Managers, and Transaction Coordinators to secure funding of \$600M+ of real estate backed loans. Griffin received his Bachelor's degree from

Johns Hopkins University in 2016 where he majored in Economics and Minored in Entrepreneurship and Management.

## Craig Pilla – MBA/MRED (Full-time, Second-year)

Craig started his career as an acquisitions intern with Normandy Real Estate Partners, a boutique commercial real estate investment firm that focused on value-add office properties. He was responsible for modeling various value-add office properties in the New York City and D.C. metro area. Prior to attending USC, Craig worked on the Prime Brokerage Risk team at Societe Generale – one of the largest banks in France. He was tasked with evaluating and monitoring the credit risk and trading risk of SG's institutional clients' derivatives portfolios. Craig led management of risk monitoring on the cleared swaps product platform, which supported over 150 clients. He also analyzed client sample



portfolios, monitored intraday P&L, and oversaw clients that traded REITs. Craig received his Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Northwestern University in 2018.



### **Cameron Ricks** — MRED (Full-time)

For the last eight years, Cameron has been working as a Mortgage Originator at First Colony Mortgage, a lending firm averaging \$2B in volume per year. Cameron focused on originating loans and quarterbacking clients through the structuring, processing, underwriting, and closing of residential loans. Additionally, he has built lasting relationships with real estate agents and home builders to garner referrals. Prior to mortgage lending, Cameron attended Brigham Young University where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Marketing from the Marriott School of Business in 2012. In addition to his professional and academic endeavors, Cameron has acquired and

personally manages a portfolio of value-add residential properties exceeding a combined value of \$4M.



Brennan Riddle – MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

Brennan's professional experience spans several facets of real estate. Over the past 13 years, he has worked for a loan brokerage firm, a private equity firm with trades valued at over \$6bn, a real estate holding company with a \$120mm asset portfolio, an international wealth management firm, and a real estate development company with assets valued at over \$300mm (current position). Brennan's experience covers a range of disciplines including real estate finance, property valuations, entitlements, construction, dispositions, and investor relations. He has expertise in maximizing the value of varying asset classes from raw, unentitled land to fully built, value-add projects. Brennan founded a fleet asset management company in 2012, Red Peak, Inc., where he has developed administrative and

leadership experience concerning organizational structure, licensing, insurance, and taxes. Brennan earned a bachelor's degree in Marketing from California State University, Northridge in December 2013.

## Ben Rifkin – MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

Ben moved to Los Angeles from New York in 2017 after graduating from SUNY Binghamton with High Honors in Economics to start his career on the DLJ Real Estate Capital Partners and Clarett-West Development team. He assisted with the repositioning of a 100,000sf landmarked office building, and separately, two large scale mixed-use ground up projects containing a combined 1,042 residential units and 130,000sf of ground floor retail, all in various phases of development. Following the completion of these projects, Ben recognized the value in taking a more active role in the management of DLJ's Los Angeles assets and was assigned the role of asset manager. Working with building management



across DLJ's portfolio he oversees retail and residential leasing, creates annual operations budgets, and works on selective capital expense projects aimed at improving tenant satisfaction.



#### Julian Saadeh – MRED (Part-time, First-year)

In 2020, Julian earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from USC Marshall School of Business with a minor in Real Estate Development from Sol Price School of Public Policy. He works with the property development division of Investment Concepts, Inc. ("ICI") which owns and operates a real estate portfolio in four western states (California, Nevada, Arizona and Oregon), consisting of approximately 8,000 multifamily residential units, 30 neighborhood retail centers (roughly 2 million rentable square feet) and an office building. Julian's duties include overseeing all aspects of ICI's larger capital improvement projects, new developments and tenant improvements through ICI's

licensed general contractor, First Quality Builders, Inc. He is also a California certified property manager (CPM), licensed real estate broker, and active real estate investor.



Raymond Salem – MRED (Part-time, First-year)

Raymond is a dynamic real estate professional with almost a decade of experience in investment, asset management, and consulting. As the Asset Manager at Tripalink Real Estate, he leads the financial and operational aspects of the company's 1,100-unit investment portfolio, which includes student housing, co-living, multi-family, and mixed-use projects across multiple states. Prior to joining Tripalink, Raymond operated his own successful investment, asset management, and consulting firm, where he managed his own portfolio and advised other real estate owners and managers on acquisitions/dispositions, operations, and value-add projects. He is a proven leader in the industry, with a track record of delivering results for his clients and stakeholders.

Raymond earned his bachelor's degree in finance from California State University, Northridge.

## Matthew Schwartz – MBA/MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

Matthew graduated in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in International & Area Studies with a concentration in Sustainable Development from Washington University in St. Louis. After graduating he began working for Lincoln Property Company in Nashville, Tennessee where he built an ESG management service. After three years in Nashville, Matthew moved home to Los Angeles and began working for LPC West as a project manager on their Netflix account. He spent almost three years with LPC West at Netflix before starting his own company, RE Wild Management. Matthew returned to Netflix where he is continuing to build office and technical space and has most recently begun building the Ojai playhouse theater in Ojai, California.





#### Jason Selmier — MRED (Part-time, First-year)

Jason's career over the last decade spans across development, operations, asset management, and brokerage. He has worked with various asset classes including multifamily, office, retail, and hospitality, having been involved in over \$1 billion in development projects and investments. He has worked for prominent developers, such as The Irvine Company, and for one of the largest brokerage firms in the country, Marcus & Millichap. Growing up, and through his sophomore year as an undergraduate student, Jason worked in his family's general construction business in the San Francisco Bay Area. Most recently, Jason started Westbourne Real Estate Advisors: bringing together his background of combined experience in construction and real estate

development to offer boutique brokerage and development services to high-net-worth and family office investment firms. Jason graduated from University of San Diego in 2014, earning a BS in Finance.



Loren Smith – MRED (Part-time, Second-year)

Loren is currently Vice President of Asset Management at Park Street Partners, a private equity real estate firm that acquires & repositions multifamily properties across the country. He's responsible for the implementation of the value-add strategies for each property & is currently positioning the PSP portfolio for a profitable exit. He previously worked as an Associate at Lippnik & Son Construction, a custom home builder in Newport Beach. Loren graduated with a BS in Business Management from Brigham Young University-Idaho in 2017. In the coming year he will be accepting a position as COO at Evergreen Capital.

### Chen "Terence" Tao – MRED (Full-time)

Terence Tao has worked in the real estate industry for almost a decade, specializing in acquisitions and asset management of income-generating multifamily assets in major U.S. markets. A seasoned investment manager, Mr. Tao has directly acquired and managed real estate assets valued at over \$2 billion USD (or 3,000 units by count) and has delivered above-market returns to investors in all exited deals. In 2022, Mr. Tao founded Pienza Lane Capital, a real estate investment company focused on value-add opportunities in the multifamily sector, and is currently serving as the CEO of the firm. Prior to founding Pienza Lane Capital, Mr. Tao has worked for BCEG International Investment-US, Inc., a global commercial real estate investment manager, and Relevant Group, a Hollywood-



based real estate developer. A returning trojan, Mr. Tao received his Master's Degree in Urban Planning from University of Southern California in 2014 and Bachelor's Degree of Engineering from Sun Yat-sen University in 2012.



## Seth Townsend – MBA/MRED (Full-time, Second-year)

Prior to attending USC, Seth served as Senior Land Acquisition Manager for Lennar, one of the nation's largest residential home builders and developers. Seth started his career with Lennar in Southern California where he was responsible for land acquisition efforts in the San Bernardino and Riverside County regions. In 2018, Seth then assisted in the creation of a new division of Lennar in Salt Lake City. During his time with Lennar, Seth has been involved in sourcing, underwriting, and negotiating land transactions of more than 3,000 residential lots across Southern California and Utah. Seth graduated cum laude from Brigham Young University in 2016 with a degree in Business Management emphasizing in

Business Strategy. In addition to the MRED, Seth is also currently pursuing an MBA at the USC Marshall School of Business.



Aaron Twersky – MRED (Part-time, First-year)

Aaron has made a name for himself in the real estate industry by specializing in tenant representation and investment sales of commercial real estate throughout Southern California. Upon graduating in 2017 with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance from Indiana University's Kelley School of Business, Aaron joined Stone-Miller and has since been responsible for the closing sales of more than \$100,000,000 of real estate. He has also assisted his clients in leasing more than 400,000 square feet of office, industrial and retail space in various parts of the Western United States. Aaron's expertise in the field includes completing, owner-user sale transactions, helping clients procure commercial, private and SBA financing, securing 1031 exchange properties, portfolio acquisitions and

dispositions, and sale-leasebacks. He has established himself as a reliable and trustworthy advisor to his clients and is known for his exceptional communication skills and attention to detail.

## Ryan Werner – MRED (Full-time)

As a Senior Associate working for a leading multi-market brokerage team at Cushman and Wakefield, Ryan was involved in over 775,000 SF of lease and purchase transactions with consideration valued over \$175 million dollars. In 2022, Ryan was nominated by the Association of Silicon Valley Brokers as a final candidate for the "Rookie of the Year" award. Previously, Ryan worked as a Property Associate & Assistant Property Manager for Paramount Group Inc., where he assisted with the management of a 1.6 million SF mixed use asset in San Francisco. Additionally, Ryan worked on an engineer team at Devcon Inc., where he assisted with the ground up development of Adobe's world



headquarters in San Jose. Ryan graduated from Santa Clara University in 2020 with a BS in Finance and a Minor in Real Estate. He was also a 4x letterman and team captain on the Men's Division I Water Polo program.