

## STUDENT EXPERIENCE



No one escapes the parodies of Wharton Follies



Relaunching Wharton Latin America Conference



Catching up in the MBA Pub

## Student life is incredibly rich at Wharton.

There are countless ways for you to get involved. Join one of the many clubs offered by the Wharton Graduate Association. Challenge yourself by taking on a leadership role at a local non-profit. Or, socialize with friends at Wharton Pub. With the diversity of options available, you're bound to find an outlet that is right for you.

## A renewed focus on community

We know how important it is to build a strong network while you are here. That's why we have completely redesigned the student life program. The new student life structure gives Wharton a more intimate feel — while maintaining the vast resources of a large, world-class university.

Read more on our innovative approach →

We invite you to learn more about our dynamic campus and vibrant community:

- Experience our campus and city by visiting us.
- Gain the perspective of current students in our Student Diarists blog.
- Stay updated on the application process with our MBA Admissions Blog.

---

### Engage with Us



Attend an Event



Read Admissions Blog



Visit Campus



Attend a Webinar



Read Student Diaries

STUDENT EXPERIENCE › An Innovative Approach to Student Life

**Alumni consistently tell us about the important role their classmates played in their Wharton experience – and continue to play in their lives.** So, we are investing heavily in student life. Through additional personnel and a new structure, Wharton is changing the way tomorrow's business leaders are educated.

## Here are some highlights of our fresh take on student life:

### A community of support

It starts with getting to know you and your goals. With so many opportunities to follow your personal path available at Wharton, the Student Life team recommends courses, clubs, leadership opportunities, or other chances for personal growth.

From Day One, we assign you a Student Life Associate Director. Think of these associate directors as personal experience advisors. Along with a hand-picked team of second year Student Life Fellows (SLFs), they will help you maximize your time here. SLFs provide advice and encouragement on student life activities, create opportunities for building social and professional networks, and assist in fostering school spirit.

These roles are part of a larger “board of directors”, a team dedicated to supporting you in every way. In addition to Student Life, you will have point persons for Academics, Career, and Leadership.

### Helping you build a stronger network: a focus on the cluster

A cluster is a group of about 210 students and is comprised of three cohorts (each cohort consists of about 70 students). This is your community, which helps you create close friendships and connections within the larger school. You will get to know members of your cohort through classes and broaden this community through your assigned cluster.

We have developed programming to help you strengthen your ties to the cluster, including:

- **Pre-Term:** Your Wharton journey begins with Pre-Term, in which you start to create the community that will define your class. Your Associate Director of Student Life (See “A Community of Support” above) will lead you through icebreakers and other activities designed to help you get to know each other. Many graduates reflect on Pre-Term as one of their most memorable experiences at Wharton. The Student Life portion of Pre-Term culminates in the Cluster Olympics.
- **Cluster Olympics:** American or European football anyone? Or, how about a game of chess? Put your skills to the test in the Cluster Olympics — or simply cheer on your classmates — as you bond with others in active competition. The Olympics serves as the first taste of a yearlong event called the Cluster Cup.
- **Cluster Cup:** The Cluster Cup is similar to the Cluster Olympics, but spans the entire year and incorporates areas, such as Academic Achievement and Social Responsibility. Win points for your cluster by nabbing a coveted spot on the Director's List (top 10% of the class), conquering Quizzo (a popular Philadelphia quiz game) or dominating a dance-off. It's all about the Cup.
- **Cluster Suppers:** Get a square meal while rounding out your social circle. Suppers are quickly becoming a time-honored tradition at Wharton. Enjoy a delicious meal, relax, and catch up with friends at a monthly cluster supper.

Student Life at Wharton offers countless ways to get involved: view a webinar to learn more.

---

## Student Perspective

---



Overtime at Wharton: Why I Went to Business School & Fight My Rare Disease



Being a Veteran at Wharton



Stretch Yo Self



Welcome to Life as a Wharton MBA



Winter in Philadelphia

MBA ADMISSIONS BLOG › In & Around Campus › Student Life is Reborn in Center City

It's 6:45pm on a Wednesday and the place is already buzzing. A student waits nervously outside a conference room rehearsing lines for an audition. In the main room, Rihanna plays overhead as students eat, mix and mingle, catching up with friends old and new. Elsewhere, student teams work on group projects and executive coaches meet with students to help them better understand their leadership style. It's just another day at Wharton's new 2401 Walnut Street Student Life space.



View of campus from 2401 Walnut Street

The 2401 Walnut space, along with a new Pub at the Armory, are just two of the latest innovations in Wharton's Student Life lineup. With their addition, Wharton now boasts some of the best student life space of any business school in the country.

Both locations were the brainchild of Dr. Kembrel Jones, Deputy Vice Dean for Student Life. Five years ago he envisioned a student life space that would be exclusive to grad students – a place that students could make their own and build a strong MBA community.

"We wanted to bring student life to the students," Kembrel said.

The two new student life spots are conveniently located in center city Philadelphia where most students live – making them ideal for a drop by on the way home from class in West Philadelphia.

He notes that the location of the new pub – just a couple of blocks from 2401 Walnut – has changed who's coming. "The number of

students at Pub is increasing. We also now have more second years in attendance and more partners."

His vision five years ago also included the hiring of four Associate Directors of Student Life. This vision was realized two years ago. Along with a team of Student Life Fellows, the Associate Director's mission is to build community and maximize the experience of the first and second year MBA classes. They advise students on all aspects of student life at their offices, also in the 2401 space.

Here's what you need to know about each of the new digs at Wharton:

#### **2401 Walnut Student Life Space**

The new MBA Student Life space, located at 2401 Walnut Street in Philadelphia, boasts stunning panoramic views of Philadelphia and 19,613 square feet of space to meet, study, and socialize. The floor features a large multi-purpose meeting room, state-of-the-art conference rooms, and more than 20 group study rooms. Conveniently located close to center city, where most MBA students live, it is a welcoming hub used for everything from case study practice to interviews, executive coaching, cluster suppers, and dance practice. During the summer, it's home to Wharton's many entrepreneurs who use the space as an incubator for start-ups.

#### **MBA Pub at the Armory**

Amidst the residential and commercial structures of center city Philadelphia, the Armory is hard to miss. This fortress-like






Inside the Armory – home to the Wharton MBA Pub

castle is steeped in history. It was built in 1901 and houses the oldest cavalry unit in continuous service in the United States. In fact, this troop acted as George Washington's personal bodyguard in the Revolutionary War. Today the Armory serves a completely different sort of troop: MBA students. Each week, beer trucks, caterers, a DJ – and even a stage if necessary – roll through the enormous doors of the Armory – to prepare for that time-honored tradition, Wharton Pub. It's here that students meet and relax after a tough week of classes. When you enter the building, you'll notice a cavernous space, complete with high ceilings. Since it opened a few months ago, the pub has already hosted a dance competition, a Rainbow Pub (pub where the administrators and faculty dress up in drag to support the LGBT community), and a Date Auction. Many more events are in the works for the spring.

To learn more about what's taking place on the student life front, please join the Student Life team and MBA Admissions for a Student Life at Wharton Webinar on Tuesday, February 4, 2014. To learn more and register for the event, please [click here](#).

---

 January 13, 2014 |  MBA Admissions |  In & Around Campus

[← A New Year and a New Round](#)

[Second Year Fall Semester →](#)