

Mitchell S. Towner

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Eller School of Management, University of Arizona, McClelland Hall 315J

Academic Positions

University of Arizona Assistant Professor of Finance	2015-Present
Southern Methodist University Visiting Assistant Professor of Finance	2019-2020

Education

University of Texas-Austin , Austin, TX Ph.D. in Finance	2015
Lewis & Clark College , Portland, OR Bachelor of Arts, Mathematics and Economics	2009

Published Papers

“Debt and Bargaining Outcomes: Evidence from U.S. Hospitals” *Management Science*, 2020, 66(5): 2083-2098.

“Renewable Governance: Good for the Environment” joint with Alexander Dyck, Karl Lins, Lukas Roth, and Hannes Wagner, *Journal of Accounting Research*, 2023, 61(1): 279-327.

“Quasi-Insider Shareholder Activism: Corporate Governance at the Periphery of Control” joint with Jonathan Cohn and Aazam Virani, forthcoming, *Review of Corporate Finance Studies*

Non-Refereed Publications

“Norway’s Summit On Responsible Investing” *The Journal of Investment Management*, 2014, 12(1): 33-44.

Works in Progress

“Dominated ETFs” joint with David Brown and Scott Cederburg

“Family-Controlled Firms and Sustainability” joint with Alexander Dyck, Karl Lins, Lukas Roth, and Hannes Wagner

“The Role of Proxy Advisors and Large Passive Funds in Shareholder Voting: Lions or Lambs?” joint with Audra Boone and Stu Gillan

“Can Financial Education Override Nudges” joint with Jeremy Douthit

Research Interests

Capital Structure, Corporate Governance, Investor Activism, Institutional Investors, Corporate Finance, Health Care, Exchange Traded Funds

Teaching Experience

University of Texas-Austin: Business Finance FIN 357 (Undergraduates) Summer 2011

University of Arizona: Investments FIN 421 (Undergraduates) 2015-present

University of Arizona: Investment Analysis FIN 521 (Masters) 2016-present

Southern Methodist University: Investments FINA 4326 (Undergraduates) Fall 2019

Professional Offices and Committees

Program Committee Member, Western Finance Association meetings: 2015-2018

Program Committee Member, Midwestern Finance Association meetings: 2018-present

Program Committee Member, Financial Research Network (FIRN): 2019-present

Program Committee Member, FMA Asia/Pacific Conference: 2019-present

Program Committee Member, FMA: 2020-present

Program Committee Member, Eastern Finance Association: 2020-present

Program Committee Member, Australian FIRN Annual Conference: 2021-present

Discussant at Finance Down Under Conference

Faculty Advisory Board, Eller Center for Management Innovations in Healthcare: 2015-present

Finance Department Seminar Coordinator 2016-17

Tenure-track Recruiting Committee 2017-18, 2021-22

Diversity and Inclusion Committee Member for Eller College: 2018

Referee Service

Review of Financial Studies, Management Science, Journal of Corporate Finance, Journal of Banking and Finance, The Review of Corporate Finance Studies, Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, Review of Finance, Review of Accounting Studies

Media Coverage

Columbia Law School's Blog on Corporations and the Capital Markets "Insider Activism"
<http://clsbluesky.law.columbia.edu/2017/04/27/insider-activism/>

Honors and Awards

2019 Best Paper Award at the FMA Global Conference in Latin America

2017-18 University of Arizona Scrivner Teaching Award

2016 World Series of Poker Event #41 Monster Stack Champion

2016 Spring Eller Small Research Grant with Jeremy Douthit

2015 Fall Eller Small Research Grant with Aazam Virani

2015 Cubist Systematic Strategies Ph.D. Candidate Award for Outstanding Research

2014 Stuart I. Greenbaum Ph.D. Outstanding Paper Award at Washington University in St. Louis

2009-12 4-time member of the U.S. Bridge Junior Team for World Championships – 2012 Silver

2003 Junior world champion in "Magic: the Gathering" card game

Student Advising

2020 Ye (Emma) Wang (Committee member), Finance

2022 AJ Veltri (Honor's Thesis Advisor), Economics

List of Collaborators

Aazam Virani, *University of Arizona*
Jeremy Douthit, *University of Arizona*
Jonathan Cohn, *University of Texas*
Stuart Gillan, *University of Georgia*
Audra Boone, *Texas Christian University*
Alexander Dyck, *University of Toronto*
Karl Lins, *University of Utah*
Hannes Wagner, *Bocconi University*
Lukas Roth, *University of Alberta*
David Brown, *University of Arizona*
Scott Cederburg, *University of Arizona*
Erik Mayer, *Southern Methodist University*
Zack Liu, *University of Arizona*

References

Laura Starks (Co-chair)
Charles E. and Sarah M. Seay Regents
Chaired Professor of Finance
University of Texas-Austin
lstarks@mail.utexas.edu

Richard Sias
Tyler Family Endowed Chair in Finance
University of Arizona
sias@email.arizona.edu

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