

THE BEST of MBS

RUTGERS MASTER OF BUSINESS & SCIENCE (MBS) DEGREE | 2025 YEAR IN REVIEW



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Congratulations to all our hard-working Master of Business and Science (MBS) students, alumni, faculty, and staff on another incredible year! As Executive Director of the Professional Science Master's (PSM) program, I'm delighted to share the 2025 MBS Newsletter with you.

This year, our program continued to grow and innovate—introducing new opportunities for learning, collaboration, and professional development. From the launch of our new AI Engineering course to career-focused events like Virtual Fridays, Student Huddles, and mixers, 2025 was filled with moments that strengthened our community and prepared our students for a modern-day workforce.

As always, our mission remains clear: to provide an education that blends advanced science with essential business skills—equipping our students to lead, innovate, and make a positive impact in every field they pursue.

Take a look back at all we accomplished together in 2025. Here's to another extraordinary year of lifelong learning at MBS. Wishing you all a happy and successful 2026!

Dr. Deborah Silver
Executive Director - Professional Science Master's Program



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WHAT'S NEW IN 2025?

ANOTHER STELLAR YEAR OF INNOVATION

AI Engineering Course

We've introduced a new course covering an emerging field: AI engineering. In "Special Topics: AI Engineering," taught by Bryan Bischof, students learn how companies implement AI software.

Student Huddles

Abbe Rosenthal and Brenda Rodriguez hosted a series of Student Huddles over the summer for MBS students. In these workshops, students learned how to boost their energy, manage time effectively, and gain a better understanding of their student resources.

Design Thinking and Innovation Workshop

We hosted a day of design at the Rutgers Makerspace. Students took part in a dynamic, hands-on experience diving into design thinking principles and applying them to real-world challenges. Students walked away with a prototype and a certificate in design thinking.

"Fundamentals of Regulatory Affairs" Welcomes New Instructor

We welcomed Raquel Mura as the instructor of "Fundamentals of Regulatory Affairs," part of our Drug Discovery and Development concentration. Mura brings a wealth of

expertise in regulatory strategy, operations, compliance, and policy, and will help our students navigate the evolving world of regulatory affairs with confidence. From the MBS community, welcome!

Study Abroad in Taiwan: Engineering Management in High-Tech Industries

In 2026, we'll host a study abroad opportunity in Taiwan! Students will gain global insight into operations and process management in one of the world's most advanced technology centers—Taipei, Taiwan. This trip is open to all MBS concentrations. "This course connects theory to global practice. You'll see how Taiwan's tech ecosystem operates from the inside," said Dr. Hae Chang Gea, director of our Taiwan study abroad program.



Design Thinking and Innovation Workshop

SAY HELLO TO NAVIGATE 360!

We launched a new student success app just for MBS students! Navigate360 is designed support your academic and professional success. Within this app, you can hand-raise to get quick support from your advisor, connect with study buddies, keep track of your to-dos and reminders, and more.

MAKING MEMORIES

JOYFUL MOMENTS SHAPING BRIGHT FUTURES



New Student Orientation

We welcomed the newest Master of Business and Science students through our online and in-person orientations! Students received a copy of our book: Science Meets Business: A Playbook for Lifelong Learning.

Our International Student Community

We hosted events benefitting our international student community. To kick off the spring semester, we held a warm welcome where students heard from RU Global Speaker Stephanie Acuna and MBS alumna Supreet Kaur. And at the beginning of the fall semester, international students gathered to mingle and speak about their professional goals and learned about MBS and Rutgers resources available to them.

International Student Lunch



Happy Hour

MBS students, alumni, staff, and faculty mingled at the Center for Labor Education for a Happy Hour! This was an opportunity for current students to connect with alumni and expand their networks beyond their concentrations.

Summer Barbeque

Our summer barbecue kicked off the fall semester by bringing together students, faculty, and staff for an afternoon of connection and community.

Student/Alumni Barbeque



GROWING PROFESSIONALLY

HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED



Scents of Success with Givaudan

Virtual Fridays

Executive Coach Abbe Rosenthal hosted a series of professional workshops tailored to MBS students. She has taught students how to stand out in the job market, prep for the Rutgers Career and Internship Mega Fair, level up their LinkedIn profiles, and more. These workshops continue to equip students with the tools needed to make a lasting impression in a professional setting.

IAB Student Mixer

We hosted a mixer for MBS students and alumni to mingle with members of our Industrial Advisory Board, hearing from MBS Instructor Kathleen Cashman-Walter and IAB member Craig Moran.



IAB Student Mixer

The Scents of Success with Givaudan

Abbe Rosenthal invited Givaudan, a global leader in the creation of flavors and fragrances, for an interactive panel. The Givaudan team for a successful and sensory-filled night of education and networking!

Beauty Means Business: Career Paths Around the Beauty You See

MBS students and other Rutgers undergraduates joined innovators from Kobo Products, global leaders in powder and dispersion tech for cosmetics, for the panel Innovation & Inclusion in Modern Cosmetics, hosted by Abbe Rosenthal. The night included networking, product demos, and insight into the personal care industry.

Middlesex County 2050: Modeling for Sustainable Growth and Infrastructure Planning

How can sustainability professionals navigate a rapidly changing landscape? Industry leaders, government regulators, and academics came together at our panel "Middlesex County 2050: Modelling for Sustainable Growth and Infrastructure Planning" to explore how technology, data, and collaboration can shape resilient growth and infrastructure planning.



Middlesex County 2050

MBS TRAVELS

EXPLORING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

IKEA Field Trip

In Prof. Mark Burgess' "Market Assessment and Analysis" class, students stepped out of their classroom and into action during a trip to an internationally recognized brand: IKEA. Students visited IKEA in Elizabeth, New Jersey, for a night of iconic meatballs, experiential learning, and a presentation from Local Marketing Specialist Michael Lamberty. Online students visited their local IKEAs.

IKEA Field Trip



A Visit to the USPTO

Students in our course, "Fundamentals of Intellectual Property," took a trip to visit the United States Patent and Trademark Office, located in Alexandria, Virginia, to hear from USPTO professionals.



USPTO trip

Capstone Retreat

We continued our tradition of hosting a retreat for students in our "Capstone" course! Students were treated to two days of workshops and team-building, including trips to sites of innovation—the Thomas Edison National Historical Park and the Rutgers Makerspace.



Capstone retreat

NYSCC Supplier's Day

MBS was at the NYSCC's Suppliers' Day, the leading global event for cosmetic and personal care product development! Students and alumni joined us for a meet-and-greet.



Supplier's day

STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS AND GROWTH



MBS Externship Exchange Program Highlights

Student in our Externship Exchange Program completed projects with PruTech Solutions, Inc. regarding IntelliSafety, a software that uses AI to improve campus safety, and shared their insights at [EdgeCon 2025](#).

Additionally, three MBS students made a real-world impact through the MBS Externship Program. Partnering with digital marketing agency NetElixir, students in our UXD concentration used their UX knowledge to audit and redesign the NetElixir e-commerce dashboards and [presented at the Princeton office](#).

NetElixir Project Hand-Off



MBS Student Shares Externship Experience in Guest Blog Post

MBS student Tyler Rice shares how he learned to listen like a scientist while completing externships in a [guest blog post](#). "I began to see the true power of the MBS framework—the fusion of business practices with science disciplines. Scientific literacy doesn't just belong in a lab or research paper; it belongs in the way we think, decide, and communicate."

NYSCC Scholarship Night

We celebrated our partnership with the New York Society of Cosmetic Chemists (NYSCC) with a dinner honoring all MBS students who have received scholarships from the NYSCC.

NYSCC Scholarship Night



A LOOK INSIDE THE CLASSROOM

EXPLORING DAILY HAPPENINGS



MBS Cafe Speaker Series

This year, Prof. Misra continued to host the MBS Cafe series, a series of virtual educational lectures from expert speakers. In the 2025 series, topics included fighting food waste, product management, concept testing and prototyping, and more.

Market Assessment and Analysis Guest Speakers

In the MBS course "Market Assessment and Analysis," Prof. Mark Burgess hosts a series of prominent guest speakers to share their real-world insights with students in his class. All MBS students are invited to join via Zoom. His lecture series features speakers across the drug discovery and development, personal care science, biotech, and food science industries, from companies including Church & Dwight Co. Inc., Premier Brands of America, [Hackensack Meridian Health](#), and more.

Guest Lecturers

Almost all MBS courses bring industry expertise to the classroom by inviting guest lecturers to share their expertise. Here are just a few of the many experts we invited into our classrooms in 2025:

- "Intro to AI and ML" – David Hatami shared about ethical AI and how AI will reshape their fields
- "Fundamentals of Intellectual Property" - David Kappos discussed the role of intellectual property in the US and the future of our country in a global economy.
- "Drug Development from Concept to Market" - Vishwa Shah, MBS, spoke about Project Management of the Pharmaceutical Development Process.

"Cosmetic Quality, Safety and Global Regulation" Field Trips

Prof. Jay Goldring took students in the course "Cosmetic Quality, Safety and Global Regulation" on [field trips](#) around New York and New Jersey to see regulation in action. Students went to sites like Bentley Labs, Bell Labs, Sephora, and more.

Sephora Field Trip



CELEBRATING OUR ALUMNI

AN EVENT TO REMEMBER



Readington Brewery and Hop Farm

MBS hosted an [alumni mixer](#) at Readington Brewery and Hop Farm! Alumni, staff, and faculty gathered for a night of mingling and fun. Prof. Braun Kiess, instructor of "Principles of Accounting and Finance," owns and co-founded this brewery. They were treated to dinner from the 2 Much Sauce Food Truck and an ice cream truck. Many thanks to Readington Brewery and Hop Farm for hosting us!



International Alumni Panel

We hosted an [International Alumni Panel](#) that brought together a diverse group of MBS alumni to share their personal experiences in the workforce as international students. They discussed their journey, CPT, OPT, and sponsorship process.

Readington Brewery



MBS ALUMNUS SPEAKS AT NYIFT PANEL

Patrick Riolo, MBS'19, graduated with a concentration in Food Science. In February, he spoke on a panel hosted by the NYIFT during the 2025 Annual Student Night. The topic was "Uncovering Artificial Ingredients: Risks, Regulations, & Revolution."

CAPSTONE & EXTERNSHIP

APPLYING ACQUIRED SKILLS IN REAL-WORLD SETTINGS

Externship Lightning Talks

Through the [MBS Externship Exchange program](#), students work on real-world problems under the guidance of outside mentors and MBS advisors. Externships conclude with a hand-off presentation to mentors and participation in a round of lightning talks, where each team presents a quick recap of their hard work. Since its inception, the MBS Externship Exchange program has facilitated over 1,500 student placements and collaborated with more than 170 partner organizations. Congratulations to all 2025 externs!



Capstone Presentations 2025



Summer Externship 2025 Lightning Talks

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

[Daniel McWhorter](#), MBS'25, graduated with a concentration in Cybersecurity. His cybersecurity journey began after joining the New Jersey National Guard.

"Looking back, I really appreciate all the work that each one of the staff members puts in. Their efforts have made a lasting impact on my journey."



CELEBRATIONS IN 2025

ANNUAL FESTIVITIES, LASTING MEMORIES

Halloween Treats

During the week of Halloween, we treated students in our on-campus courses to goody bags filled with treats!

Graduation

We were thrilled to invite our graduates to celebrate with us at the Rutgers Club. MBS graduates, faculty, and staff mingled during the reception and buffet dinner. PSM Executive Director Dr. Deborah Silver addressed graduates, emphasizing the importance of lifelong learning, professional networking, and the unwavering support of family.

Graduation Celebration 2025



Halloween Celebration 2025



Holiday Party 2025



Holiday Party

The MBS community gathered for our annual [holiday party!](#) This year, students, alumni, faculty, and staff gathered at the Rutgers Club for a night of celebration. The evening featured great food, drinks, a fun photobooth, and remarks from Dr. Deborah Silver. Best wishes for 2026!



OUR STORY

WHERE SCIENCE MEETS BUSINESS

Our Program

The Rutgers Professional Science Master's (PSM) program, was established in 2010 to dually serve the needs of New Jersey's working, science-based professionals and support the STEM-based industries of the surrounding New York / New Jersey metropolitan area.

Our Degree

The Rutgers Master of Business and Science (MBS) degree, is conferred by the graduate schools on all three Rutgers University campuses.

Our Goal

The goal of the Master of Business and Science degree is to train the next generation of individuals to assume key integrator and leadership roles in science-intensive industries and to help translate research into commercialization to fuel innovation and economic growth. [Read more about our Program here.](#)



WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MBS PROGRAM?

Visit us [online](#) or join one of our [informational webinars](#) to start your journey to the MBS degree!

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