



# SolBridge uarterly Newsletter

## **Global Connect - Greater Strides in Business Education**

#### Hello, New Semester!

Welcome to Spring 2025! 🍸



As we begin this new semester, let's embrace the opportunity to grow, learn, and make a positive impact on the world around us. Together, we can explore new ideas, contribute to sustainable solutions, and work towards creating a more inclusive and better future.

Let's focus on quality education, environmental responsibility, and the power of collaboration—key pillars of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This semester is not just about academic achievements but about making meaningful contributions to society, both locally and globally.

I'm excited to embark on this journey with all of you. Let's make this semester our most impactful one yet!

Wishing you a productive and inspiring Spring 2025!



#### **Graduation**

# Celebrating the Achievements of the Fall 2024 Graduates

On December 20, 2024, the SolBridge community gathered for a truly memorable graduation ceremony to celebrate the remarkable achievements of the Fall 2024 graduating class. Held in the 4th-floor auditorium, the event brought together students, faculty, and families in a day filled with pride, inspiration, and joy. Graduates from diverse academic programs—BBA, MBA, MS, and PhD—were honored for their dedication and excellence. Special awards, including the Best Paper and Best Dissertation, recognized outstanding academic contributions.

The emotional valedictorian speeches highlighted the transformative journey each student experienced at SolBridge, emphasizing resilience, growth, and the strong global connections made along the way. In a touching tribute to the class's diverse and vibrant spirit, the ceremony ended with a festive performance by the SolBridge Music Club, celebrating both the achievements of the graduates and the holiday season.

With their hard work celebrated and their futures ahead, the Fall 2024 graduates are now ready to make a lasting impact on the world. Congratulations to this exceptional class—your journey is just beginning, and the world awaits your brilliance!

#### **READ MORE**













#### **PhD Graduation - Focus**

#### **Celebrating Our Fall 2024 PhD GraduatesI**

It is with immense pride that we celebrate the accomplishments of our PhD graduates from the Fall 2024 cohort. These exceptional students have not only completed rigorous academic programs but have also contributed invaluable research to their respective fields. Their hard work, dedication, and resilience throughout their studies at SolBridge have set them apart as true scholars, and their achievements deserve to be recognized and celebrated.

Throughout their time at SolBridge, our PhD graduates have been immersed in advanced research, overcoming challenges and pushing boundaries in pursuit of knowledge. Their dissertations reflect not only their academic prowess but also their commitment to addressing real-world issues and advancing the frontiers of business and management.

Their research has had a lasting impact on both academia and industry, positioning them as leaders in their fields. As we reflect on their academic journeys, we also acknowledge the support of faculty mentors and the broader SolBridge community. It is through collaboration, intellectual curiosity, and shared passion that our PhD students have grown into the brilliant scholars they are today.

Looking ahead, we are confident that these graduates will continue to make significant contributions to their fields and lead with innovation, research, and integrity. We are excited to see where their academic journeys will take them and proud to call them part of the SolBridge legacy.

Congratulations to the Fall 2024 PhD graduates—your future is bright, and the world eagerly awaits the impact you will make!



## **SolBridge Special Events**

#### Competition: Driving Global Innovation and Collaboration

The 12th International Business Plan Competition (IBPC) at SolBridge International School of Business showcased global talent and innovative solutions. Held from January 13-17, 2025, this year's focused competition on developing internationalization strategies for Briolf Group, a leading chemical company. With nine universities from diverse countries, including South Korea, India, the Philippines, and more, participants worked on real-world business challenges such as establishing a spray paint manufacturing plant and identifying opportunities in the South Korean chemical sector.

The competition emphasized practical, strategic thinking and innovation, with insightful guidance from industry experts like Mr. Manuel Sainz, Asia Regional Director of Briolf Group, and Professor Gilbert Tumibay of SolBridge. The event highlighted the importance of collaboration, global perspectives, and preparing the next generation of business leaders.

Congratulations to all participants for their outstanding contributions, and a special thank you to Briolf Group, faculty, and staff for making the event a success. Stay tuned for more updates as SolBridge continues to inspire and nurture global business talent.









## **SolBridge Special Events**

#### Saint Mary's College of California Visits SolBridge for Winter Program



This winter, SolBridge International School of Business hosted a week-long winter program with students and faculty from Saint Mary's College of California. The program focused on cultural exchange, academic collaboration, and global connections. Participants engaged in lectures, workshops, and networking activities centered on business and innovation in Asia, while also experiencing Korean culture through traditional cuisine and city tours.

The visit was a valuable opportunity for both institutions to connect, and SolBridge looks forward to future collaborations that continue to foster global leadership and cultural understanding.



### SolBridge Special Events

# Bridging Cultures, Solving Real-World Challenges: Asian Business Consulting Program



In Winter 2024, twelve SolBridge Master's students participated in the Asian Business Consulting (ABC) Program, a collaborative initiative with Universitas Prasetiya Mulya (PMBS), National Taiwan University (NTU), and SolBridge. The program offered a unique cross-cultural learning experience, where students tackled real-world business challenges faced by Taiwanese companies.

The five-day program included company visits, industry lectures, and intensive consulting sessions. Students developed international market strategies for Taiwanese businesses Heroic Faith, Ideal Venture Studio, and Chun Shui Tang. The final day culminated in high-stakes presentations to senior management, where students demonstrated their solutions and strategic insights.

Through this hands-on experience, students gained practical exposure, enhancing their global perspectives and business acumen. The ABC Program exemplifies SolBridge's commitment to experiential learning, equipping future leaders with the skills needed to succeed in a competitive global marketplace.

#### First Semester Survival Guide: Navigating Life at SolBridge

Writer: Kozhakhmetova Aziya (Alumni)

As the new semester begins, here are key tips to help you settle into life at SolBridge:

#### **Campus Life:**

- Check Your SolBridge Email: Stay updated with important announcements, deadlines, and event notifications.
- Join Student Clubs: Enhance your university experience, build leadership skills, and make new connections through the Club Expo.
- Utilize Study Spaces: The Student Lounge offers study spaces, so arrive early to secure a spot.
- Avoid Elevator Congestion: Leave 15 minutes early for class to avoid delays caused by crowded elevators.
- Expand Your Network: Use MySolBridge and networking events to connect with peers, professors, and professionals.

#### **Academics:**

- Adhere to the Attendance Policy: Mark your attendance as required to avoid affecting your academic performance.
- Understand Course Participation Requirements: Review syllabi to know how participation impacts your grade.
- Access the Bloomberg Terminal: For finance students, this resource is available in the library for coursework support.
- Seek Academic Support: Visit the Tutoring Lab for assistance in subjects like writing, IT, and language studies.

These tips will help you navigate your first semester smoothly and succeed academically at SolBridge.





#### Orientation Week Recap WATCH

We kicked off Spring 2025 with an unforgettable Orientation Week at SolBridge, where we welcomed an enthusiastic group of new students to our dynamic community. The week was filled with vibrant activities designed to help students connect, learn, and dive into the rich culture of Korea.

To make the experience even more engaging, students were divided into small groups, each guided by a peer group leader – a senior at SolBridge who offered valuable insights and support. From teambuilding exercises that sparked new friendships to surprise sessions that added an extra element of fun, there was never a dull moment!

Students also got a comprehensive introduction to Korean law and safety, ensuring they feel secure and confident as they begin their journey here. In addition, we explored the exciting global opportunities that await SolBridge students, providing a glimpse into the incredible experiences that lie ahead. Here's to an amazing start to a memorable semester!





## **Sol-Challenge Winners**

During Sol-Challenge, students teamed up to explore the SolBridge campus, complete fun missions, and connect with new friends. The challenge led them on an exciting scavenger hunt to discover hidden spots and learn more about the university.

In a heartwarming twist, the winners' prizes were donated to UNICEF in their names, making the event even more impactful.

The top winners are:

- 1.Team BBA 2- Tim Titans
- 2. Team BBA 7- 007/11
- 3. Team BBA 11 So Sol Land

WATCH
WATCH



#### **Convocation Ceremony**

The Spring 2025 semester kicked off in style at SolBridge International School of Business with an inspiring convocation ceremony. This highly anticipated event gathered students, faculty, and staff to celebrate the exciting academic journey ahead. Convocation is a special tradition at SolBridge, offering a warm welcome to both new and returning students.

The ceremony featured uplifting speeches, ceremonial moments, and a reaffirmation of our commitment to academic excellence and community spirit. It set an energizing tone for the semester, uniting everyone with a shared sense of purpose and enthusiasm as we dive into new opportunities and challenges together.









#### SolBridge - Clubs

#### **Exploring Student Life: Clubs at SolBridge**

SolBridge International School of Business offers a vibrant student life, with various clubs catering to diverse interests. Whether students are passionate about business, sports, arts, or social impact, there's a club for everyone to join, learn, and connect.

#### **Business & Professional Development**

For students interested in business and strategy, **Sol Business Case Club and SolStartup** provide opportunities to develop problem-solving skills and entrepreneurial thinking. The **SolBridge Debate Society** sharpens public speaking and argumentation.

#### **Sports & Fitness**

Athletes and sports enthusiasts can join **Basketball Club**, **FC SolBridge (football)**, **Sol Run** (running and fitness), and **SolBridge Spike Club (volleyball)**. These clubs offer a great way to stay active and build teamwork.

#### **Arts & Entertainment**

Creative minds can explore music, film, and performance through **Sol Music, SolCinema,** and **ACE Dance Club. Sol Hype** energizes campus events by keeping the student body engaged through creative marketing perspectives.

#### **Gaming & Strategy**

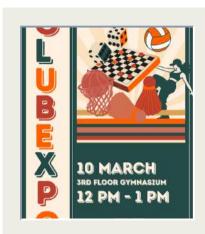
For those who enjoy strategic thinking and gaming, **Sol E-Sports** offer a space to challenge their skills and compete with others.

#### **Community & Impact**

SolBridge students are also passionate about making a difference. **SolImpact and the Sustainability Club** focus on social and environmental initiatives. The **SolBridge Islamic Society** fosters cultural and religious engagement, creating an inclusive environment for students.

With so many clubs to choose from, SolBridge students have endless opportunities to explore new interests, develop skills, and build lifelong friendships. Whether on the court, the stage, or in the boardroom, these clubs help students make the most of their university experience.

## Club Expo























#### **SolBridge-SAS Certification Program**

Graduate and undergraduate students at SolBridge were able to earn Academic certifications in Business Analytics and Data Science. These certifications equipped them with the analytical skills essential for various business domains, preparing them to contribute effectively to global organizations and be part of innovative solutions.





## **SolBridge-SAS Certification Program**

Please find below the list of students who received this certificate (Fall + Winter 2024):

Mccauley Erika Estrella Espinosa
El Jaouhari Nouha
Gupta Divija Sunil Kumar
Kamalpreet Kaur
Peetala Gowthami
Nguyen Le Cam Binh
Poddar Gouree Dineshkumar
Kravchuk Kateryna
Saif Nimra
Suyundikova Maiya
Das Abhishikta
Dixit Pranjali
Kondru Charitha Ram Nirmal
Bouaroua Taki Eddine
Chhatria Teena
Dubey Aarti
Kumar Nitish
Maheshwari Shreya
Nikolaeva Daria
Rhamchaoui Mina
Guan Yipin
Jiang Yue
Kalashnikova Elizaveta
Koweng Elliot Idriss
Ren Yiming
Wang Xuran
Yang Geaodan

## Beta Gamma Sigma - GIVEBACK

## SolBridge x BGS "GiveBack"

SolBridge x BGS "GiveBack" – a sustainable initiative by Beta Gamma Sigma, SolBridge Chapter, is back for its second round, held from March 3 to March 9, 2025. The mission remains simple yet impactful: creating a continuous cycle of donation.

#### Here's how it works:

- Start of the Semester: We offer free donated items to incoming students everything they need to start fresh.
- End of the Semester: We collect items like textbooks, kitchen supplies, clothing, electronics, and more from outgoing students.

Any remaining items after a year will be donated to Goodwill, ensuring they find new homes. Join us in this sustainable cycle of generosity as we continue to make a positive impact! Check Instagram and your email for the next one!





## Beta Gamma Sigma - GIVEBACK









## **Diversity and Unity**

## Fostering Diversity and Unity at SolBridge

At SolBridge, we are proud to cultivate a community that thrives on diversity and inclusivity. We believe that the richness of our student body—comprising individuals from various cultural, ethnic, and academic backgrounds—creates an environment that fosters innovation, understanding, and mutual respect. By embracing differences, we create meaningful connections that not only enhance our academic experiences but also prepare us to be global leaders in an interconnected world.

Respecting one another and celebrating our unique perspectives are at the heart of what makes SolBridge truly special. Whether it's through collaboration in class projects, engagement in student clubs, or networking opportunities, we are committed to building a space where everyone feels valued and empowered. Together, we can continue to create an atmosphere where diversity is celebrated, and every voice is heard, respected, and appreciated. Let's make SolBridge a place where we inspire each other and grow together—both as individuals and as a united community.



## Celebrating our Faculty

## **New Visiting Faculty**



**Dr. Maurice Forget** 

#### **TEACHING AREAS**

Human Resources Organizational Behavior Global Leadership Neuropsychology



Dr. Hwansung Ju

#### **TEACHING AREAS**

International Business Innovation Strategy



Dr. Nicole Mallmann

#### **TEACHING AREAS**

Marketing Digital Marketing Branding

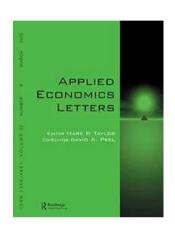
#### **Publications**

## Does corporate shadow banking influence maturity mismatches? Evidence from China

#### **Research Letter**

#### **ABSTRACT**

Using data from Chinese listed companies from 2007 to 2022, we identify a new economic impact of shadow banking: increasing maturity mismatches. The results remain robust across various tests. Cross-sectional tests provide evidence that the positive relationship between shadow banking and maturity mismatches is more significant in samples with greater operating risks, lower investment efficiency, and higher information asymmetry. Overall, our findings indicate that shadow banking exacerbates maturity mismatches through various mechanisms, providing valuable insights for ongoing academic debates and regulatory considerations regarding the economic implications of shadow banking.



Xu, Z., Gan, Z., & Ning, Z. (2025). Does corporate shadow banking influence maturity mismatches? Evidence from China. Applied Economics Letters, 1–7. https://doi.org/10.1080/13504851.2025.2472983

#### **Research Article**

#### **ABSTRACT**



Climate change represents a prevalent challenge for humanity, heavily impacting cities. Enhancing their climate resilience is crucial for mitigating and adapting to associated risks and losses. This paper evaluates the climate resilience of 270 major cities in China by developing an indicator system focused on exposure, vulnerability, and resilience. It analyzes the spatial and temporal evolution trends of climate resilience in Chinese cities and the sources of regional differences using Kernel density analysis and Dagum Gini coefficient decomposition. Furthermore, the research explores the influence of financial investments on urban climate resilience, considering the moderating effect of the urbanization rate.

Li, C., Pan, L., & He, J. (2025). Climate Resilience Assessment of Chinese Cities and The Enhancement Effect of Fiscal Expenditure. Emerging Markets Finance and Trade, 1–15. https://doi.org/10.1080/1540496X.2025.2459750

## Alumni

#### **Share Your Story with Us!**

Your experiences and insights matter! Whether it's a career milestone, a memorable journey, or lessons learned along the way, we would love to feature your story in our alumni community. Inspire others and stay connected -reach out to us at **globalconnect@solbridge.ac.kr** to share your journey!











