TEACHING MORE THAN JUST FINANCE
Dr. Mihov shares his goals and philosophy for how he approaches teaching the Neeley Fellows. Read about it below.

“I have enjoyed teaching the Financial Management course for the Neeley Fellows since the inception of the program (around 2005-2006). This has allowed me to observe - and hopefully, contribute to - the program grow and elevate and to stay in touch with many of the Fellow alumni.

My main job is to teach the Fellows critical thinking skills for decision making. Finance is a fun subject (or a career) for many Fellows who enjoy solving puzzles that life and business throw at us. In Finance, this starts with a high level of domain knowledge, which can be very technical, and sometimes intimidating. But this is just the start. The fun part is translating that knowledge to complex problem solving, using real data, quantitative analysis, and financial models. This is an eventful and complicated journey from “how” to “why.” Ultimately, the only way to attempt to be successful at providing the “right” solution to a problem is to learn how to ask the right questions in a rigorous, disciplined way.

My biggest joy and reward for teaching the Fellows comes from the occasional note from current students and recent alumni who credit my philosophy and contribution to their successes in internships, job interviews, and careers.”

- Dr. Vassil Mihov

Thank you Dr. Mihov!

“Dr. Mihov was the first professor to spark my interest in finance. I found his lectures engaging and projects incredibly applicable to the real world. I remember during my sophomore year thinking that the assigned projects were just another instance of Fellows being asked to do rigorous projects for the sake of learning; I was pleasantly surprised in my first internship to find that the quality and attention to detail demanded by Dr. Mihov was in line with what my superiors desired. On day one of the internship, I was asked to put together a report on the future of mining commodities - it was my experience in Dr. Mihov’s class that prepared me to pull together and present a 50-page report in a short period, and I’m sure, in part, helped contribute to my receiving a return offer for my junior year internship. Throughout the last three years, Dr. Mihov has been an instrumental mentor to me both in determining my path here at TCU and my career after graduation.”

- Sarah Goldberg, Class of 2020
BUILDING COMMUNITY

“As VP of Membership and Programming, I have the chance to encourage Neeley Fellows to be intentional with and to learn more about one another outside of an academic setting. It’s a cool way for us to grow in friendship and simply have fun in a stress free environment.” - Payton Corah, NFSO VP Membership

“In the Fall semester, I took my last class within the Fellows program. Since a large amount of our cohort had studied abroad in the previous semester, it had been a long time since we all had a class together. I really enjoyed being back in a classroom where every student was engaged and contributed unique ideas and questions. And it’s also pretty awesome to be a part of a course where all the students are great friends with each other; it not only facilitates more meaningful conversation, but it also provides for a much more enjoyable experience. I definitely will miss the Fellows classes, but I am beyond thankful for the relationships I have formed with everyone in the cohort,” Dalton Standish, Class of 2020.

SENIORS’ LAST CLASS TOGETHER

““It was a privilege to have lunch at the Chancellor’s house because we got to see the benefit of going to a smaller school where there are faculty, staff, and professionals that actually care about the students.” - Victoria Sealfon, Class of 2021

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FORT WORTH STOCK SHOW AND RODEO ALUMNI EVENT

“I had so much fun going to the Fort Worth Rodeo with my friends from each cohort and getting to see some Neeley Fellows professors! We enjoyed the photo booth in the National Cowgirl Museum and it was a great way to network in a fun and exciting setting!”

- Reilly Cornell, Class of 2020

Have an idea for the next Alumni Event?

We are want to know of any ideas you may have for future Alumni Events. If you have any ideas, please email FellowsImpactingFellows@gmail.com with any recommendations!
As we look for the next cohort in the Neeley Fellows program, we host multiple events that allow interested students to not only learn the logistics about the program, but also to get to know the current Neeley Fellows. We all know what makes the Neeley Fellows program great is the people, so we wanted to give them the chance to get to know the best part.

**Informal Conversations and Dwell Biscuits**

The Dwell Info Session was a success this year. Current fellows parked on the first floor of the Brown-Lupton University Union with boxes of biscuits from Dwell Coffee and Biscuits and chatted with current freshmen interested in the program at this come-and-go session.

**Neeley Fellows Unplugged Session**

This year, the NFSO Board mixed up the Unplugged event by adding a panel to the program. Panelists were asked questions for the first 15 minutes of the program. Then students were encouraged to go to different tables to talk to current fellows. It was a great way for students to ask more personalized questions.

**Resume Workshop**

This year, a new resume format was introduced into the application process, requiring applicants to format their resume to a one-page, more traditional format. Thus, we introduced a resume workshop. Current Neeley Fellows volunteered to help applicants with choosing which experiences to highlight, formatting, and other guidelines.

**CFA INSTITUTE RESEARCH CHALLENGE**

The CFA Institute Research Challenge is an annual global competition that provides university students with mentoring and training in financial analysis and professional ethics. Students sign up in teams, and each member is tested on their analytical, valuation, report writing, and presentational skills. We were so proud of the TCU team who entered the competition, which consisted of four senior Neeley Fellows: Connor Fragen, Madelyn Carlson, Reilly Cornell, Jake Langsford, and Dalton Standish made up the team. The TCU team won the local level competition in Houston, Texas. Each member received $1000 in scholarship. The team will advance to the Americas regional competition on April 20-21st in New York. We are wishing them luck!
We are so grateful for each member in our cohorts, and we know you and your cohorts are changing the world one relationship at a time. Please email FellowsImpactingFellows@gmail.com with any recommendations for next quarter’s edition of Fellows Impacting Fellows to be featured in the Neeley Fellows Forum. We would love to hear how Fellows are impacting Fellows!

Fellows Teaching Fellows

We are very lucky to have alumni who are willing to come back and teach current Neeley Fellows about various topics during the allotted lab time. Most of these lessons are vital and cannot be learned in a textbook. Check out the topics covered in the labs below.

Blake Newman, Class of 2016, presented on building and maintaining one’s personal brand to the sophomore class. Blake highlighted the importance of networking and its influence on one’s brands.

Chase Bruton, Class of 2012, and Burton Cowles, Class of 2015, led a junior lab on using data to tell a story, which built off of the new Business Analytics course that is offered junior year.

Caleb Slavin, Class of 2011, visited the juniors to discuss his experience on getting an MBA. He talked about the various considerations about the types of programs and schools, as well as deciding when to get the degree.

Many people have talked about how Peter Severson has had an impact on them, as he has shared advice, invited us into his workspace at Pinterest, and has always given current Neeley Fellows encouragement. When Lauren Rasmussen asked for advice while searching for internships, Peter wrote, “seek the internship that gives you the deepest learning experiences. This may be hard to spot from the outside, so look for sharp teammates, a breadth of work scope (quantity analysis in finance or marketing and quality skills like problem-solving & communications), ambitious goals for a summer project and a slight feeling of apprehension on your end (this is usually an internal signal for risk, which is key for personal growth).”

Thank you to all of our alumni who are always willing to help like Peter. Fellows would not be the same without you all.
We truly believe that no matter where you end up location wise or who you marry, you are a Neeley Fellow forever. You will always have this group of friends that you suffered through accounting with to celebrate all of your greatest achievements in life.

Class of 2016
Anna and Jared Cline
January 4, 2020
Malibu, California

Class of 2017
Kevin and Christina Page
November 2, 2019
Fort Worth, TX

Class of 2018
Carly and Blake Shrauner
October 19, 2019
Dallas, TX