



From the Dean's Desk

The most important real estate acquisition in Jewish history happens in this week's parsha, when Avraham buys *Maarat Hamachpela* to bury Sarah. It was the first piece of Eretz Yisrael acquired by a Jew, the buying of which raised the holiness of the land.

This second issue of *From the Dean's Desk* ([here's the first issue](#)) talks about how we at the Sy Syms School of Business are following in Avraham's footsteps by bolstering the real-estate education of our next generation of leaders so that they, like Avraham, can bring holiness to everything in the world.

Dr. Noam Wasserman
Dean

Undergraduate News

New Minor in Real Estate

We have created a **Real Estate Minor** open to every student regardless of major, consisting of three Real Estate courses: Real Estate Finance, Real Estate Management and Real Estate Capital Markets. In the future, we will explore having undergraduates take graduate-level Real Estate courses (see below) as part of their minor.



Other undergraduate items that might be of interest:

- **“Dualing”** – [A new FAQ](#) explains how students can do dual-majors or a major-plus-minor among the three undergraduate schools.
- **Fireside Chat** – Please check out the blog post on [our first Honors Program event](#), a fireside chat at WeWork Corporate Headquarters that covered prospects, progress and passion.

Graduate News

New MS in Real Estate

Next fall, we will launch a 36-credit [Master of Science in Real Estate](#) to prepare students to work in the global real estate market. The program will prepare students for the fast-paced world of real estate through **foundational courses** on every aspect of being a real estate professional, including financial analysis, modeling, analytics, quantitative evaluation, hard asset development and deal-making along with important legal, accounting and tax considerations.

The student **capstone project** will incorporate development, finance, architecture and technology, all done while students **build professional networks** with our faculty and the hundreds of members of our Real Estate Alumni Club and Real Estate Executive Circle.

For YU seniors, there will be a 50% tuition discount via YU's Pathways program. The application deadline for Pathways is January 31.

Faculty News

Real Estate Program: New Academic Director

Dr. Andreas Christopoulos, who has served as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Finance and Real Estate at Sy Syms since 2017, will be teaching our undergraduate Real Estate Finance and Real Estate Capital Markets courses while also acting as Academic Director of the MS in Real Estate. He will ably assisted in his work by the co-chairs of the Sy Syms Finance department, [Dr. Avri Ravid](#) and Dr. [Archishman Chakraborty](#).



Dr. Christopoulos joined Yeshiva University after having positions at Rice University, University of Texas at Austin and the University of Scranton. He earned his PhD in Quantitative Finance from Rutgers University in 2014. He has an MBA from Cornell University and a BA from Vassar College.

Prior to academia, Dr. Christopoulos served in several senior executive roles in the securitization industry. His research has been broadly reviewed across the globe by academic peers and professionals alike, and he is an active speaker at national and international academic conferences and industry [seminars.be](#) teaching in our Taxation program.

If you missed the first issue of *From the Dean's Desk*, which provided a broader overview of our initiatives over the last few months, [please take a look](#). If you have questions or comments about anything in these newsletters, please let me know