

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



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Mission Statement

The **Master of Financial Accountability Internship Advisory Board (MIAB)** empowers **Master of Financial Accountability Program (MFAc)** Students to succeed as business professionals by facilitating career development activities, co-ops, internships and graduate jobs that enhance academic and professional growth.

We also facilitate the operations of the MFAc Student Society and MFAc Alumni Board, both essential to our success.

To achieve our mission, volunteers on several MIAB working groups operate with the assistance of professors, students, York administration, MFAc alumni and employers



Introduction

This is the second Annual Report of the **Master of Financial Accountability Internship Advisory Board (MIAB)**. It was inspired by co-op students of the **Master of Financial Accountability Program (MFAc)**, a graduate program designed to engage international students to enhance corporate governance quality.

MIAB is a not-for-profit organization created in August 2019 to facilitate MFAc Students' success by enabling co-ops, internships, and graduate jobs. It does this by searching for relevant paid and unpaid employment opportunities, equipping students with career skills, networking with alumni, having an informative website and working closely with various University offices.

MIAB was established a few months before the entire university community faced unprecedented challenges brought on by the global pandemic. Through a collaborative effort, MIAB accomplished everything highlighted in this report.

MIAB is a voluntary organization run with the assistance of professors, students, MFAc alumni, employers, and the York University administration.

The Master of Financial Accountability Internship Advisory Board comprises several working groups including Administration and Communications and the Internship working groups.

MIAB also facilitates the operations of the MFAc Student Society and MFAc Alumni Board, both essential to our success. Together with our other stakeholders, we organize a variety of orientations, skills development, panel discussions and recruitment events for our MFAc students. All these activities are carefully crafted to bridge the gap between our MFAc regular courses and the job market.

MIAB complements the Financial Accountability Practicum (FACC6850), a course that, among other things, provides students with the opportunity to undertake financial accountability related work.

During the practicum course, students are employed to work at least 300 hours in internships. Students hone their technical skills and enhance verbal and written communication through daily work and participation in business meetings.

You can find more information about the MFAc Program, courses taught, and requirements through this link: <https://mfac.gradstudies.yorku.ca/about/>.

If you are interested in the current MIAB structure and team, please check the [Organizational Structure](#) and [Our Team](#) sections for detailed information.

Most importantly, we would like to record our sincere gratitude to all those who have helped facilitate internships over the past few years and those volunteers who have built and maintained the **Master of Financial Accountability Internship Advisory Board**.

Impact and growth

Major Achievements

MIAB has been growing rapidly. Most of our students are international students new to Canada. They recognize the importance of an internship program to help them with their career. We have helped many students through employment opportunities. For a list of student placements see our website.

Internships

1. Arranged over 50 paid or unpaid internships with various profit, non-profit and government organizations. Internships include prestigious organizations external to York University.
2. Arranged unpaid internships with MIAB providing Canadian work experience to improve our students' credentials for subsequent work internships and post-graduation employment.
3. Provided or recommended most of the internship employment opportunities for FACC6850.

Skills Development

4. Consistently increased the number of volunteer internships directly with MIAB enabling students to hone their technical and communication skills.
5. Organized 36 career skills sessions with excellent participant ratings. Students have been awarded MIAB Career Skills Certificates adding to their resumes, while benefiting from the practical skills taught.

Promotional Activities

6. Developed a MIAB website and LinkedIn presence. Our website is a comprehensive source of information for students, employers, recruiters, and alumni. It has attracted an increasing number of visitors.
7. Collaborated with the Office of the Dean to prepare an [MFAc program video](#) as a marketing tool to promote the program.
8. Helped FACC6850 consistently grow over 50% in 2022-23 over 2021-22

Networking

9. Formed a working relationship with York's Alumni Network to help us offer mentoring and speed mentoring events.
10. Facilitated counselling sessions involving alumni and MFAc students.

Impact on FACC 6850

Internships are a key component of many programs. MFAc provides an internship program that is attracting a growing number of students.

MFAc Internship Advisory Board (MIAB) provides coordinator positions that help students kickstart their careers while still studying. These positions also afford international students the opportunity to gain Canadian job experience. Coordinators often successfully compete for subsequent internships with organizations such as banks and utility companies. For students who arranged their own internships, many did so with the help of job postings, mentoring, career skills qualifications and courses.

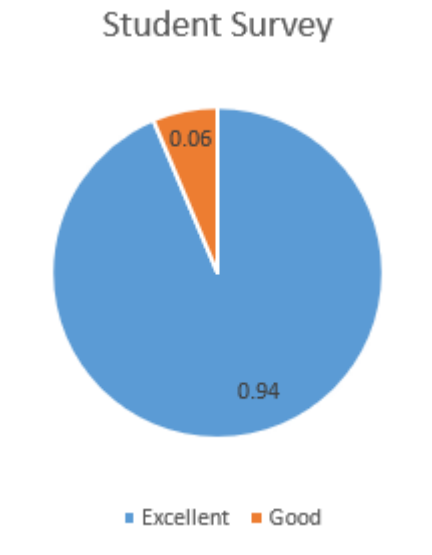
MIAB is supportive of students. The flexibility of MIAB is one of its greatest advantages.

MIAB offers students a hybrid working environment and flexible work hours to accommodate different time zones and class schedules. MIAB prides itself on providing a supportive and collaborative work environment.

Career Skills Sessions – Survey Results

36 career skills sessions were held during the year. MIAB received completed career skills program questionnaires from 90 students.

We received a significant percentage of “Excellent” ratings for the overall course with a 94% student satisfaction.



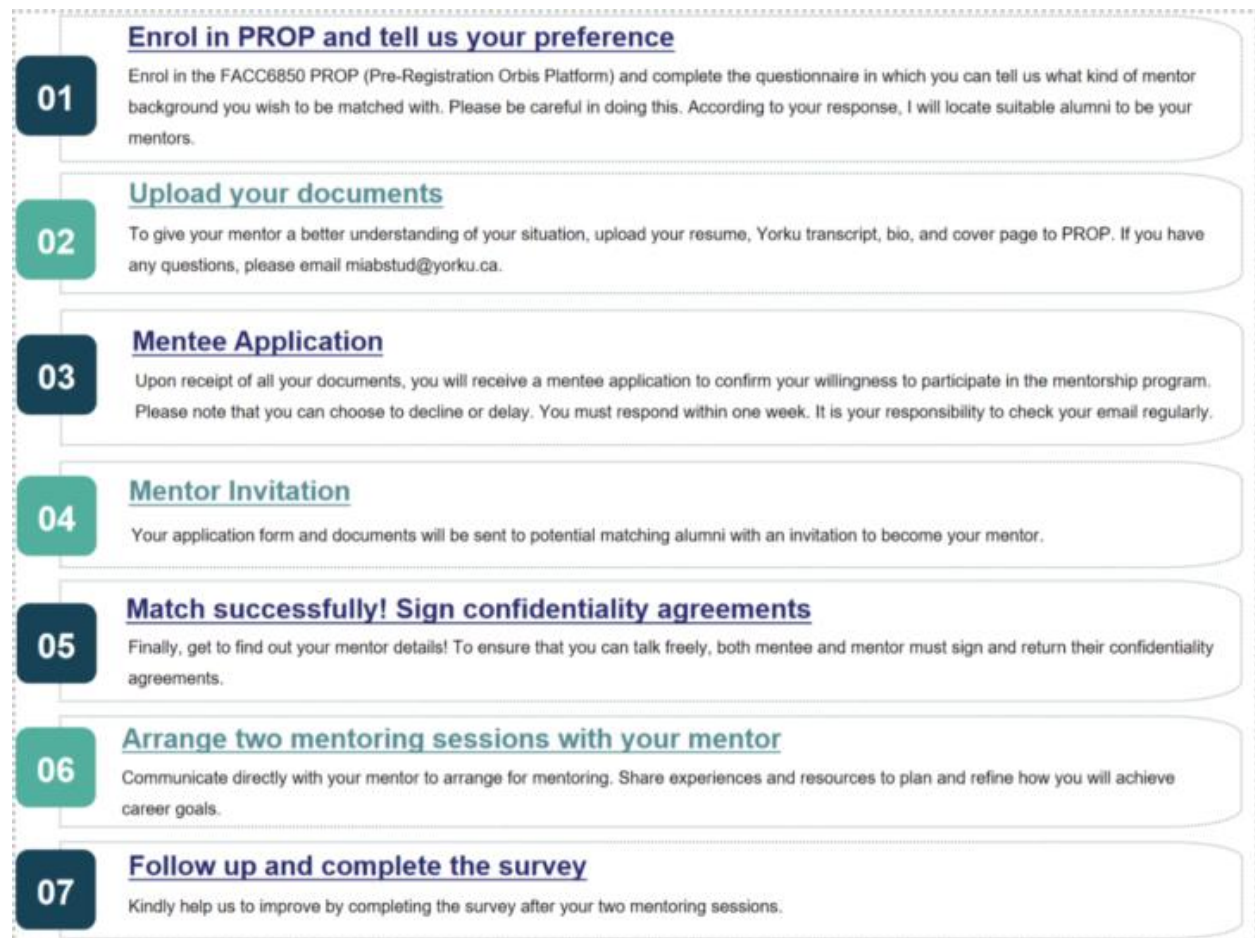
Based on students' feedback, MIAB improved scheduling of career skills e.g. offering longer (two hour) sessions and a series of sessions on specific topics such as the use of functions in Excel.

Mentor Program

MIAB offers a [Career mentoring program](#) that connects students with experienced alumni and external industry mentors to provide personalized career guidance to support students' career development. The mentoring program also includes alumni-related career skills sessions, group discussions and speed mentoring sessions.

From May 2022 to May 2023, our career mentoring program successfully connected approximately over 25 students with a mentor to support their future career development.

This process chart guides students participating in the MIAB mentorship program.



Our Services

MIAB

Master of Financial Accountability Internship

Career Skills Sessions

Career skill sessions are designed to help the MFAC student develop technical skills and help with their career path development. MIAB held 36 career skill sessions in 2022-23.

Panel

MIAB held panel discussions and speed mentoring with alumni and experienced individuals to assist students. Coordinators collected feedback to help MIAB make future improvements.

Orbis Platform

FACC 6850 Orbis Platform enables students to upload their information, and for MIAB to help them find internship opportunities specific to their needs.

Internship Advisory

MIAB ensures up-to-date information is available from the York University's job search, immigration, and communication skills advising teams and departments.

Job Postings

MIAB coordinators monitor job postings by providing weekly update emails and web postings of the Careers Education and Development Centre, LinkedIn, Indeed, and various other sources.

Book Club

Online book club meetings were supported in 2022-23. These provided an excellent opportunity for students to engage with professors, classmates, alumni, and other business professionals in a social setting.

Orientations

At least two orientation events were offered each term introducing new students to York's various departments, and MIAB coordinators who are available to assist them.

Mentoring Program

The MIAB Mentoring Program provides current MFAC students with networking opportunities through panel discussions and speed mentoring, to further develop and explore career possibilities with MFAC alumni.

Website

The MIAB Website is designed to offer all MFAC students and alumni the most pertinent and up-to-date information on internships, and resources for career development.

Financial

MIAB has a budget of \$8,500 for its activities. This is spent on Career Skills sessions.

Funding is provided by the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies for a research assistant.

Our website is self-administered but relies on the WordPress resources of the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies.

Classrooms are provided for our activities by the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies and New College.

Video recording capability is supplied by the FACC 6850 using Panopto.

Internships are supported by the Internship Office of the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies.

Registration and course administration support is provided by the MFAC Graduate Program Assistant of the School of Administrative Studies.

MIAB is supervised by a course director of FACC6850 – Financial Accountability Practicum.

Overall MFAC supervision is provided by the MFAC Graduate Program Director.

New Initiatives

Increasing Coordinator Positions

We are developing our infrastructure to provide more coordinator positions so that we can build on relationships with alumni. The program is now graduating many students due to successful recruitment efforts in the last few years. The involvement of alumni serves the university well by generating experiential opportunities, providing mentoring, and advancing alumni's careers through networking and potential donations to York.

Second Internships

MIAB is collaborating with various corporate organizations to provide second, paid, co-op opportunities for our students.

Research Assistant

We recruited a research assistant to plan and pilot several new initiatives in 2023 and make recommendations for further improvement.

Major contributors to our success

Thank you all for your dedication. You all made MIAB a better organization.

MIAB Board Members

MIAB Board consists of 11 members. Professor Paul Evans currently leads and co-teaches the internship component of the Master of Financial Accountability program. Tony Stanco also co-teaches and currently serves as Course Director.



Paul Evans



Tony Stanco



Stella Peng



Eshna Bhurtun



Rojin Nobakht



Alvero Sainz



Emily Lau



Ocean Chen



Joseph Kurukulasuriya



Yiqing Zhao



Jiayi Hu

Senior Advisor

Ms. DiMondo is the senior advisor to the Branding & Communication Working Group and current Course Director. She led the writing and completion of this MIAB 2022-23 annual report.



Carmelina DiMondo

2022-2023 MIAB Coordinators

MIAB has two working groups – *Internship Working Group* and *Administration and Communication Working Group*. Student coordinators work 300 hours during their internship with MIAB on either of these two groups. Internships allow student coordinators to enhance career skills including verbal and written communication, Microsoft Office, chairing meetings, minute taking, agenda preparation, and report writing. Students practice these skills through weekly meetings and daily work.



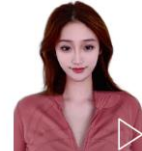
Jiajun (Justin) Hu
Employer Contact Coordinator



Yuxi (John) Lin
Sessions & Events Coordinator



Lu Zhang
Internship Contact Coordinator



Kunyuan (Ashley) Chen
Session Coordinator



Yinuo (Maggie) Sun
Human Resources Coordinator



Zixuan (Krystal) Wang
Student Contact Coordinator



Jiabni (Kellen) Lou
Communication and Administration
Coordinator



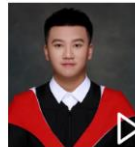
Junhao (Howard) Huang
Administration and Communication
Coordinator



Kaipeng (Randy) Zhou
Human Resources Coordinator



Anyang (Zack) Ning
Student Contact Coordinator



Ziyun (Joshua) Wang
Internship Contact Coordinator



Hao (Alexandra) Zheng
Student Contact Coordinator



Jinxing (Jane) Sun
Sessions & Events Coordinator



ZhiJun (Jun) Xu
Administration & Communication
Coordinator



Junhao (Tracy) Huang
Employer Contact Coordinator



Tianxuan (Tracy) Wei
Human Resources Consultant



Sonanshi Patel
Internship Contact Coordinator



JingWen (Lydia) Hu
Alumni Coordinator



Haowen (Irene) Liu
Employer Contact Coordinator



Han Xu
Alumni & Mentoring Coordinator



Felix Amanor Otu
Internship Contact Coordinator



Yifan Song
Mentoring Coordinator



Jiadi Zhang
Alumni & Mentoring Coordinator



Behnoush
Employer Contact Coordinator



Shan (Mathilda) Lu
Administration and Communication
Coordinator



Frank Tawiah
Internship Contact Coordinator



Ren Ke
Mentoring Coordinator



Feiyu Chen
Communication & Administration
Coordinator



Yan (Joanna) Zhao
Sessions Coordinator



Pengze (William) Wu
Internship Contact Coordinator



Shanji (Hana) Gao
Human Resources Coordinator

Employees of the Month

This award recognizes employees who have a high-quality work performance record, teamwork, diligence, and dedication in carrying out their duties and advancing the mission of MIAB.

July 2023: Yuxi (John) Lin – Sessions & Events Coordinator

June 2023: Jingwen (Lidia) Hu – Alumni Coordinator

May 2023: Sonanshi Patel – Internship Contact Coordinator

Zhijun (Jun) Xu – Administration & Communication Coordinator

Jinxing (Jane) Sun – Sessions & Events Coordinator

April 2023: Kaipeng (Randy) Zhou – Human Resources Coordinator

Anyang (Zack) Ning - Student Contact Coordinator

March 2023: Haowen (Irene) Liu - Employer Contact Coordinator

Han Xu – Alumni & Mentoring Coordinator

Tianxuan (Tracy) Wei – Research Assistant

January 2023: Kunyuan (Ashley) Chen – Session Coordinator

Jiahui (Kellen) Lou – Communication & Administration Coordinator

Ziyun (Joshua) Wang – Internship Contact Coordinator

Junhao (Tracy) Huang – Employer Contact Coordinator

Lu Zhang – Internship Contact Coordinator

Hao (Alexandra) Zheng – Student Contact Coordinator

December 2022: Junhao (Howard) Huang – Administration & Communication Coordinator

November 2022: Shanji (Hana) Gao – Human Resources Coordinator

October 2022: Yifan Song – mentoring Coordinator

Pengze (William) Wu – Internship Contact Coordinator

September 2022: Ren Ke – Mentoring Coordinator

Feiyu Chen – Communication & Administration Coordinator

MFAC Alumni

MIAB builds a friendly and long-term relationship with our alumni that actively support our MFAC students.



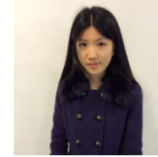
Fery Yuan

Risk Rating Specialist at TD Bank
Degree Earned: Master of Financial Accountability
Year Graduated: 2021
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/bestluck/>



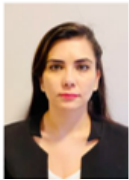
Ziqing(Iris) Wang

Internship Contact Coordinator at MIAB
Degree Earned: Master of Financial Accountability
Year Graduated: 2021
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ziqing-wang-40b3881a0/>



Miya Hong

Investment Analyst at FACT Capital
Degree Earned: Master of Financial Accountability
Year Graduated: 2020
LinkedIn:
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ruoyi%EF%BC%88miya%E F%BC%89hong/>



Elaheh Mohammadisouran

Financial Advisor at TD Bank
Degree Earned: Master of Financial Accountability
Year Graduated : 2020



Eshna Bhurtun

Analyst at Hexarem Inc
Degree Earned: Master of Financial Accountability
Year Graduated : 2020



Ray Lei

Assurance Manager at Yale PGC LLP
Degree Earned: Master of Financial Accountability
Year Graduated : 2016



Ellaha Nesar

Financial Analyst at Angius Consulting Management Limited
Degree Earned: Master of Financial Accountability
Year Graduated : 2016



Zahid Islam

Senior Manager & Team Leader, Commercial Banking
Degree Earned: Master of Financial Accountability
Year Graduated : 2012



Mike Mokhtar

Mike Mokhtar Professional Corporation
Degree Earned: Master of Financial Accountability
Year Graduated : 2013

Presenters

MIAB invited experts from various professional industries to share their working experiences with our MFAC students in the Career Skills Session and provide helpful career development tips to students and alumni.



Binu Mathai

Associate Vice President at TD Bank



Sherif Eltramsy

Relevant Professional Designations and Job-Hunting Skills



Teresa Wang