



VANDERBILT

## GMAT Club Chat with Owen (Vanderbilt) Admissions Team

Bailey McChesney (Sr. Asst. Director of Admissions at Owen)

Brook Meissner (Director, Owen Career Management Center)

Mukesh Maguluri (Current MBA Student, Class of 2016)

January 28, 2016.



### Web Resources:

- Owen Business School Website: <http://www.owen.vanderbilt.edu/>
- Owen FT MBA Class of 2018 Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-owen-vanderbilt-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200256.html>
- Owen MSF 2016 Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-vanderbilt-owen-msf-2016-intake-applicants-207626.html>

		<b>HAPPENING NOW: Live Q&amp;A with Vanderbilt (Owen) Admissions!!</b>
		<b>Topic set by Narenn on Thu Jan 28 2016 20:35:12 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)</b>
21:08	Narenn	<b>Hello Everyone, Thank you for joining GMAT Club Vanderbilt Q&amp;A session today and BIG welcome to Vanderbilt Team Members.</b>
21:08	Narenn	<b>Bailey McChesney (Senior Assistant Director, MBA Admissions)</b>
21:09	Narenn	<b>Brook Meissner (Director, Owen Career Management Center)</b>
21:09	Narenn	<b>and Mukesh Maguluri (Current MBA Student, Class of 2016)</b>
21:09	Narenn	<b>Today Bailey, Brook, and Mukesh will answer your questions regarding applications, essays, interviews, careers services, student community, and life at Owen.</b>
21:09	Narenn	<b>We apologize for starting the chat session early due to scheduling conflict. This chat will be ended at 8:30 AM instead of 9 AM. We regret the inconvenience caused.</b>
21:09	Narenn	<b>This chat is open for Q&amp;A. Pls ask your questions to Bailey, Brook, and Mukesh.</b>
21:08	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	<b>Welcome all! I'm one of the 4 MBA Career Management Center coaches. I focus on working with our students seeking positions in finance (financial services &amp; corporate finance) as well as our international students.</b>
21:09	Vanderbilt_Student_Mukesh	<b>Hi everyone - My name is Mukesh and I am second year MBA candidate at Owen. I am a CPA from India and have worked in IT consulting, banking, and finance before coming to Owen. I interned at an equity research firm last summer and got a couple of offers in corporate finance in Nashville for full-time. I look forward to answering your questions.</b>
21:11	Vanderbilt_ADCOM	<b>I'm Bailey McChesney and I've been with the Owen MBA Admissions Department for 5</b>



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	<b>_Bailey</b>	years. One of my favorite things about our MBA program is the ability to tailor the curriculum to you and what you want to do. Some of the most popular career paths are Finance, Marketing, Health Care, Consulting, Operations, Entrepreneurship, Human and Organizational Performance
21:11	<b>karant</b>	I would like to know more about the program and why it is unique?
21:13	<b>Vanderbilt_Student _Mukesh</b>	Sure Karant. There are many things that are unique about Owen. If I had to name a few, the small class structure, the collaborative environment, the rapport you can build with your professors and staff here are some of the best.
21:15	<b>Vanderbilt_ADCOM _Bailey</b>	Hi Karant - I think the support students receive here is unparalleled. There is not a day that goes by that I don't walk down the hall and see students in their CMC Coaches Office. Same goes for the faculty offices.
21:17	<b>VanderbiltCMC- Brook</b>	Karant, from a career management perspective I know we are unique in that we start working with students soon after they are admitted and then commit to coming to Owen. This is an example of the personalized experience our students have.
21:12	<b>Narenn</b>	Thanks for the brief introduction, Mukesh. Can you tell us the reasons behind choosing Vanderbilt over other US programs for MBA? How is your experience in Owen so far? And finally what are your post MBA goals and how Owen MBA is helping you prepare to achieve your goals?
21:15	<b>Vanderbilt_Student _Mukesh</b>	Good questions, Narenn. I applied for business schools with good finance curriculum and was admitted to multiple schools in the US. I chose Owen for two reasons - the conversations I had with the second years and of course, Nashville. Everybody I spoke to at Owen came out of their way to answer my questions and help me take a decision.
21:17	<b>Vanderbilt_Student _Mukesh</b>	I am having the time of my life at Owen now, enhancing my financial and analytical skill set and participating in multiple clubs and initiatives. My post MBA goal is to get into corporate finance, and the finance classes I took at Owen went a long way in helping me achieve that goal
21:15	<b>Karthik</b>	Hello . I would like to get a deeper understanding of the Leadership Development program and the 360 degree assessment as part of it.
21:15	<b>Vanderbilt_ADCOM</b>	Hi Karthik- I'm happy to discuss the Leadership Development Program. Before students



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	<b>_Bailey</b>	start school, they take the Hogan Assessment. This assessment tells you what you are good at, what challenges you face, etc. At that point, you meet with a LDP coach to pick the LDP track that works best for you.
21:19	<b>Vanderbilt_ADCOM _Bailey</b>	We have 3 different LDP tracks: A personal approach track here you have a 360 assessment and a personal executive coach; A shared approach track where you have an executive coach with 3 other MBA students (this track allows you to have accountability) and a Flex track which is a shortened version for individuals who have already had extensive leadership coach
21:19	<b>Vanderbilt_Student _Mukesh</b>	Karthik, LDP is a unique program at Owen wherein you will be assigned to a coach after the team discusses your Hogan test results with you. You can choose between individual coaching and group coaching. The 4 individual coaching sessions I had were wonderful. It's like a white board where you can discuss anything and everything with your coach.
21:16	<b>Narenn</b>	Welcome on GMAT Club Brook!! I have the employment stats of Owen which tell us close to 93% students were successful in getting employed within 3 months. Can you tell us in which industries and job functions majority of the students went?
21:16	<b>Narenn</b>	What support and guidance these students received from Career Management Dept?
21:19	<b>VanderbiltCMC- Brook</b>	Thank you, <b>Narenn!</b> In terms of internships, the Finance job function is our single largest (35%) followed by Consulting (17%) and Marketing (17%). For full-time Consulting is the largest (26%) followed by Finance (24%) and Marketing (15%).
21:22	<b>VanderbiltCMC- Brook</b>	In terms of support we provide for our students, in addition to providing webinars and coaching opportunities in the summer before classes start, we also devote at least a day and half of orientation to career management. In our first quarter our 1st year students are paired with a 2nd year peer coach and all of the 1st year students have a resume review.
21:23	<b>VanderbiltCMC- Brook</b>	We also hold career treks: One to Atlanta for consulting, One to NYC for financial services, and a marketing trek this year went to Dallas. We also had a Tech Trek to SanFran and Seattle.
21:21	<b>Vanderbilt_Student _Mukesh</b>	<b>Narenn,</b> CMC is one of the best things about Owen, hands down. We have a number of dedicated CMC coaches who are available from the day you walk in to the school till your



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		<b>graduation to guide you in the process. Apart from the regular help with recruiting, they help you connect with the Owen/Vanderbilt alumni which is very helpful in your job search.</b>
21:18	Karthik	Mukesh can you please explain your experience of the leadership development program and how it has helped you improve
21:21	Karthik	@Mukesh. So I am assuming you chose the personal approach track? Can you share your reasons for that?
21:22	Vanderbilt_Student_Mukesh	<b>Karthik, I chose personal track because I am more comfortable talking to the coach individually and wanted to make the most of my time with him. It turned out to be a great decision. I heard from my classmates here that the group sessions were equally effective as well. It depends on your comfort level.</b>
21:23	Karthik	Also what does a person have to consider while choosing the LDP track. Did you make that decision after discussing with any staff members?
21:25	Vanderbilt_Student_Mukesh	<b>Yes Karthik. We have three dedicated LDP staff members who will debrief your Hogan assessment and explain about the different tracks. They are always available for further discussions. Once you choose your track, you will be assigned to the coach based on your past experience, skill set, and future interests.</b>
21:22	edwales142	Hi guys, please can you talk more about Vanderbilt Business World Shapers?
21:28	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	<b>Hi edwales142 - World Shapers are current students who are selected by a nomination process. The students chosen are typically those who have taken initiative on campus and whom we believe will make a difference in the world. You can read more about it here: <a href="http://www.owenworldshapers.com/">http://www.owenworldshapers.com/</a></b>
21:23	Narenn	Thanks Brook. As a future MBA applicant with focus on Finance, I am personally interested in learning more about placements in finance sector. Can you tell us how many of the Finance placements went in IB, PE, and VC?
21:23	Narenn	Can you name a few companies that offered jobs in Finance sector?
21:27	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	<b>Sure, Narenn. Poets &amp; Quants recently did a great article about how top MBA programs fair on this: <a href="http://poetsandquants.com/2016/01/13/where-wall-street-gets-mba-talent/2/">http://poetsandquants.com/2016/01/13/where-wall-street-gets-mba-talent/2/</a>. We</b>



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		were excited to see that Owen tended to fall in the top 20 for almost all of the financial services areas they captured. We 8% of our class go to work in IB this past year full-time.
21:30	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	Some top companies hiring for financial services: Citi, Credit Suisse, Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan, SunTrust, Wells Fargo. Top for corporate finance: Johnson&Johnson, American Airlines, Eastman Chemical, McKesson
21:26	Karthik	@Brook: Can you talk a bit about opportunities in the Tech Domain.
21:27	karant	Can you please name some positions offered by technology firms ?
21:33	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	Karthik & Karant, Amazon has been our top employer (all functions/industries) for a few years running. They particularly recruit for their Pathways Operations program. HP, Apple, and Dell are a couple other tech firms that regularly take Owen students.
21:28	Narenn	Bailey: As per discussion on Owen forum, currently Round 2 interview invites are going out. Is there any deadline set for interview invitations?
21:30	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Hi Narenn, Interview invitations go out periodically after the application is considered complete and the admissions committee has had a chance to review. There is no specific deadline for when a candidate would receive an invitation.
21:33	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Regarding admission, we also have a weekend Open House coming up Feb 19-20. This is a great opportunity to meet other candidates, current students, faculty, staff and get a feel for our community.
21:32	debjeet	What kind of consulting roles are generally offered to international students? I have heard that generally Federal roles are more common but these are not available to international students. How true is that?
21:38	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	debjeet, consulting opportunities (at least strategy consulting) are usually very difficult for our international students to secure. In the past three years I think we have had 1 international student (not from Europe/Canada) land in human capital consulting and 1 land in risk management consulting who didn't have previous US consulting experience.
21:41	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	debjeet, does that answer your question? We have a couple of our students work in government consulting, and I can't think of any international students receiving these in



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		recent years.
21:35	Karthik	@Brook : Thanks for the info.
21:43	debjeet	Thanks Brook. So I assume that these Deloitte roles are available to international students as well, aren't they?
21:43	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	debjeet, Deloitte typically recruits on campus for 3 positions: Human Capital Consulting, Strategy & Ops Consulting, and IB (previously McColl Partners that they purchased).
21:40	debjeet	I see. Thanks Brook. Any ideas on what kind of roles are offered by Deloitte to Owen students?
21:45	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	Yes, Deloitte is open to international applicants for these roles. The challenge for many international candidates is that consulting firms are looking for candidates who are immediately ready to be put in front of US clients. And based on their hiring patterns it seems like many times domestic students are more prepared for this.
21:37	Narenn	<b>Newly Joined Members: We are chatting with Bailey McChesney (Senior Assistant Director of Admissions), Brook Meissner (Director, Owen Career Management Center), and Mukesh Maguluri (Current MBA Student, Class of 2016).</b>
21:38	Narenn	<b>We started this session 30 minutes early due to scheduling conflict and will only be running it until 8:30 AM instead of 9 AM. We regret the inconvenience caused.</b>
21:38	Narenn	<b>So ask your questions about Owen's MBA program to Bailey, Brook, and Mukesh early. Thank you!</b>
21:43	Narenn	Bailey: How are scholarships decided? Typically what percentage of the Cost of Admissions is funded through scholarships? And are there any limits to the % being financed through student loans?
21:44	Narenn	Also do you have tie up with banks/institution for education loans?
21:45	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Hi Nareen - The application for admission is the same as the application for scholarship. All of our scholarships are merit based with the exception of our diversity scholarship and our Forte scholarship. For these two, there is an essay required. About 60% of our students receive some sort of merit-based aid.



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21:46	debjeet	to add to Narenn's question regarding financing options at Vanderbilt -- Would like to know if there are any loan options available particularly for international students and without having the need of a cosignor. Very similar to Prodigy Finance
21:46	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Our Financial Aid office handles everything with student loans so I can't really speak to the max amount someone can take in student loans, but once admitted, our Financial Aid office is happy to chat with anyone about their options for aid.
21:48	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	@debjeet - It is possible to apply directly to Prodigy finance. Here is the page on the website with information re: loans for international students <a href="http://www.owen.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/international-community/index.cfm">http://www.owen.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/international-community/index.cfm</a>
21:44	Karthik	@Brook: What are the companies apart from Deloitte that recruit in the Tech Consulting line?
21:46	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	Karthik, Infosys, Cognizant, Wipro are a couple others who have recruited for these roles.
21:48	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	Karthik, I will say that if you want to focus on Tech Consulting recruiting at Owen, I would encourage you to not just rely on employers that recruit on campus but also to pursue off-campus opportunities. We regularly work with students who do this.
21:49	Narenn	<b>Guys, We will end the chat in 5 minutes. If you have any questions left yet, ask them immediately.</b>
21:51	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	A note for international students -- from what I've seen a limited number of MBA programs report their employment stats for international candidates. We do, and are really proud that the last couple of years are numbers for international students have been on par with domestic students or very close to it.
21:51	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	Here's the link to our employment report: <a href="http://issuu.com/vanderbiltowen/docs/owen-2014-mba-emp-report?e=2354609/10584070">http://issuu.com/vanderbiltowen/docs/owen-2014-mba-emp-report?e=2354609/10584070</a>
21:51	debjeet	That's so good to hear Brook
21:51	edwales142	Well noted Brook
21:52	VanderbiltCMC-	Thanks, debjeet and edwales142. It does help me sleep better at night knowing we are



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	Brook	disclosing this!
21:50	karant	Any broad date for interview invites?
21:52	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	Hi karant - I believe our Director is still working on interview invitations. I would say that since the interview deadline for the 2nd round is March 3rd, a broad deadline would be mid-February.
21:53	karant	Thanks Bailey, Brook, and Mukesh !!!
21:54	VanderbiltCMC-Brook	You are welcome, karant. Mukesh had to head to a class, but I'll convey this to him.
21:54	edwales142	What will be the single most important admission interview advice you guys will give?
21:54	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	We're glad you all were able to join us today. If for some reason, you did not get your questions answered, feel free to email <a href="mailto:mba@owen.vanderbilt.edu">mba@owen.vanderbilt.edu</a> and we will make sure it gets answered immediately. We appreciate your flexibility and are looking forward to working with you throughout the process.
21:55	Vanderbilt_ADCOM_Bailey	edwales142 - Be authentic. We want to know you, your story and why you want an MBA so I always encourage people to do a deep dive in thinking about that before your interview.
21:55	Narenn	Thanks everyone for participating in this chat today.
21:55	Narenn	Thank you very much, Bailey, Brook, and Mukesh, for spending time with us and answering applicants' questions. It was pleasure to have you all on GMAT Club.
21:56	Narenn	We will publish a condensed transcript of this chat in Owen forum in few days. Keep eye on Owen forum ... <a href="http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-owen-vanderbilt-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200256.html">http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-owen-vanderbilt-applicants-2016-intake-class-of-200256.html</a>
21:56	Narenn	Thanks again and have a great day!!
21:56	karant	Thanks Narenn !!
21:56	VanderbiltCMC-	Thanks for having us, Narenn.



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	Brook	
21:56	debjeet	Thank you very much!
21:56	Vanderbilt_ADCOM _Bailey	Thanks, Narenn. It was our pleasure! For candidates, please feel free to reach out if you need anything. We are happy to help.

- 1) 2015 Live Q&A Session Schedule: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/announcement-mba-info-sessions-on-gmatclub-174827.html>
- 2) All Chat transcripts are available to download here <http://gmatclub.com/forum/live-q-a-with-b-school-adcoms-2015-season-174827.html#p1416987>

### GMAT Club's MBA Resources

All MBA Rankings	<a href="http://bit.ly/1FaDIT3">http://bit.ly/1FaDIT3</a>	Application Experiences of Applicants	<a href="http://bit.ly/1lecA6z">http://bit.ly/1lecA6z</a>
All MBA Deadlines	<a href="http://bit.ly/19RSTSX">http://bit.ly/19RSTSX</a>	MBA Applicant Blogs	<a href="http://bit.ly/1Hx5LJE">http://bit.ly/1Hx5LJE</a>
All School Stats	<a href="http://bit.ly/1MPOquZ">http://bit.ly/1MPOquZ</a>	Current Student Blogs	<a href="http://bit.ly/1NPG4rD">http://bit.ly/1NPG4rD</a>
Live Chats with B-School Adcoms	<a href="http://bit.ly/1NJ7v4w">http://bit.ly/1NJ7v4w</a>	All school discussions	<a href="http://bit.ly/1K0N43a">http://bit.ly/1K0N43a</a>
MBA Admission Consultant Reviews	<a href="http://bit.ly/1y6eLpt">http://bit.ly/1y6eLpt</a>	Best MBA Books	<a href="http://bit.ly/1Cvz2qC">http://bit.ly/1Cvz2qC</a>
2015 MBA Applicants' Profiles	<a href="http://bit.ly/1DJKnBO">http://bit.ly/1DJKnBO</a>		
For More Information Visit	<a href="http://gmatclub.com/forum/business-school-and-mba-115/">http://gmatclub.com/forum/business-school-and-mba-115/</a>		