

HVF.

SPRING 2022 SEMESTER REPORT



PROPELLING FORWARD.

Founding HVF Managing Directors from right to left: Adam Folsom, Emily Kist, and Keith Nordling.



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Husker Venture Fund

A LETTER FROM

THE MANAGING DIRECTORS

DEAR MEMBERS, DONORS, ADVISORS, AND NEIGHBORS,

The Husker Venture Fund has undergone remarkable growth over the past year as we have pursued our mission of providing a hands-on investment experience and investing in early-stage Nebraska startups. As you'll see in the following report, we have invested in three companies, won awards and competitions, and built an environment for our students to thrive.

No matter how many articles that feature the three of our names, the people that are responsible for HVF's accomplishments are our students and advisors. We have been unfathomably lucky that all of these highly motivated people decided that this was a worthy investment of their time. It's this commitment by our supporters that have gotten us everything we have accomplished, and we are so grateful.

We are so thrilled to pass the reigns to the next team of Managing Directors, Senior Associates, and Associates. We are highly comforted by the fact that these returning students will be behind the wheel and leading HVF to success. We cannot wait to see HVF leave a legacy at Nebraska Business for many years to come.

Signing off,

Emily Kist, Adam Folsom, and Keith Nordling

Emily Kist, Adam Folsom, and Keith Nordling
Managing Directors: Husker Venture Fund



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Husker Venture Fund



To pursue our mission of providing a distinguished hands-on investment experience, UNL students will be able to foster relationships in the startup community, engage with Nebraska and Midwest entrepreneurial opportunities, and fund home-grown innovative ideas and solutions.

MISSION STATE MENT

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Husker Venture Fund members asked some of the best questions I've gotten in my entire investment or fundraising process. I hope I can make them proud.

Jackson Stansell, CEO and Founder of Sentinel Fertigation
Husker Venture Fund's First Investment

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DUE DILLIGENCE PROCESS



GROUP PITCH

HVF Members hear the founder pitch in-person or virtually. Our members have the chance to ask questions, as well.



CREATE TEAMS

Due diligence teams are formed. Senior Associates take the lead on deals, and Associates are assigned to help.



CRAFT REPORT

Each student takes on a few sections of the report. On average, 5-10 members have the chance to work on each report.

The members involved in Husker Venture Fund have the opportunity to go through a traditional venture capital due diligence process. Startups are sourced through our social media presence and local and campus connections. The Managing Directors conduct an initial screening of each company and founders are invited to pitch if the deal aligns with our fund's investment thesis and goals. Our members hear a pitch from the Founder and the due diligence process begins. Senior Associates pair up and are tasked with leading a deal team of 5-10 students. The due diligence report contents are split into sections such as financials, founder diligence, competition, etc. A due diligence call with the Founder and team takes place where they can raise relevant questions that have become prevalent throughout the diligence process. Once due diligence is completed, the deal team pitches the investment to our advisors and the rest of the group. All students then participate in a final vote for investment. This year HVF heard 10 companies pitch!

SPRING SUCCESSES



2ND PLACE VCIC FINISH

Six members of HVF competed for the first time in the Venture Capital Investment Competition. VCIC is the world's largest venture capital competition with over 120 university and graduate school teams competing. The HVF team finished 2nd in the West Coast region. The team was composed of Ateev Bhandari, Ben Hohensee, Jimmy Whebbe, Ian Anderson, Adam Folsom and Emily Kist.



OUTSTANDING NEW STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Student Impact Awards celebrate the outstanding contributions to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln community by the more than 550 Recognized Student Organizations and their leaders. In April, Husker Venture Fund was awarded the Outstanding New Student Organization. Members Adam Folsom, Keith Nordling, Maria Heyen, and Sam Lilly represented HVF at the Student Impact Awards.



TULSA STARTUP WEEKEND

Managing Directors Adam Folsom and Emily Kist had the opportunity to attend Tulsa Startup Weekend hosted by Atento Capital and College Ventures Network. Adam and Emily spent the weekend listening to pitches from student founders and sharing the mission of Husker Venture Fund with other student run funds from across the country.

PUBLIC SUPPORT

N2025



The University's N2025 Strategic Plan outlines the aims, strategies, expectations, and targets for the first five years of the 25-year vision articulated within the N150 Commission Report.

Husker Venture Fund was recognized as one of two student organizations actively advancing the following AIM.

"Innovate student experiences that prepare graduates to be life-long learners and contributors to the workforce in Nebraska and the world"

HVF is proud to be contributing to the strategic goals and greater advancement of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

UNL WIDE INITIATIVE

GLOW BIG RED



Glow Big Red is a 24-hour giving event to advance the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, that encourages ask all Huskers, near and far, to support UNL with a gift to scholarships, colleges, programs, student organizations, inclusion, mental health and many other areas on campus.

Giving to Husker Venture Fund during Glow Big Red doesn't impact our Venture Fund of \$1M, but it directly impacts our student organization funds.

Husker Venture Fund had a \$1,000 goal to help finance a variety of member-driven expenses. Thanks to all who donated - HVF shattered our goal and raised \$4,500 during Glow Big Red!

UNL WIDE GIVING SPREE



HUSKER VENTURE FUND: SPRING 2022 INVESTMENT



Nestimate

Nestimate is reimagining the pension for the 21st-century teaching participants how to turn assets into income. Nestimate fills a gap in the retirement planning space brought on by the new Safe Harbor law (2019) by presenting retirement data in a clear, concise manner. Many plan participants are unable to understand the financial modeling that it is typically presented in. Insurance companies are limited in creating a platform of their own due to certain regulations. As such, Nestimate seeks to both educate plan participants while also serving as a tool for fiduciaries to showcase offerings while also taking care of the regulatory burdens.

Founder and CEO Kelby Meyers is a Lincoln, Nebraska local. Meyers graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2012 with a degree in business administration. HVF members had the opportunity to personally connect with Kelby to chat about Nestimate and Meyer's own entrepreneurial journey.

Nestimate pitched to HVF and went through the due diligence process in March. HVF followed through with a \$25,000 investment.



HUSKER VENTURE FUND: SPRING 2022 INVESTMENT



SNAPPY WORKFLOW

Snappy Workflow was founded by CEO Dusty Birge and President Curtis Kayton in November of 2021. Snappy Workflow seeks to help electric utility companies lower inspection costs by up to 95% by automating thermal inspections through thermal-mounted vehicles. Snappy Workflow offers automated line patrol by mounting a 360-degree camera alongside the thermal cameras in order to give companies imaging data at their discretion.

Founder and CEO Dusty Birge is a serial entrepreneur. Birge had two successful exits prior to founding Snappy Workflow. Both Birge and Kayton are both alumni of the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

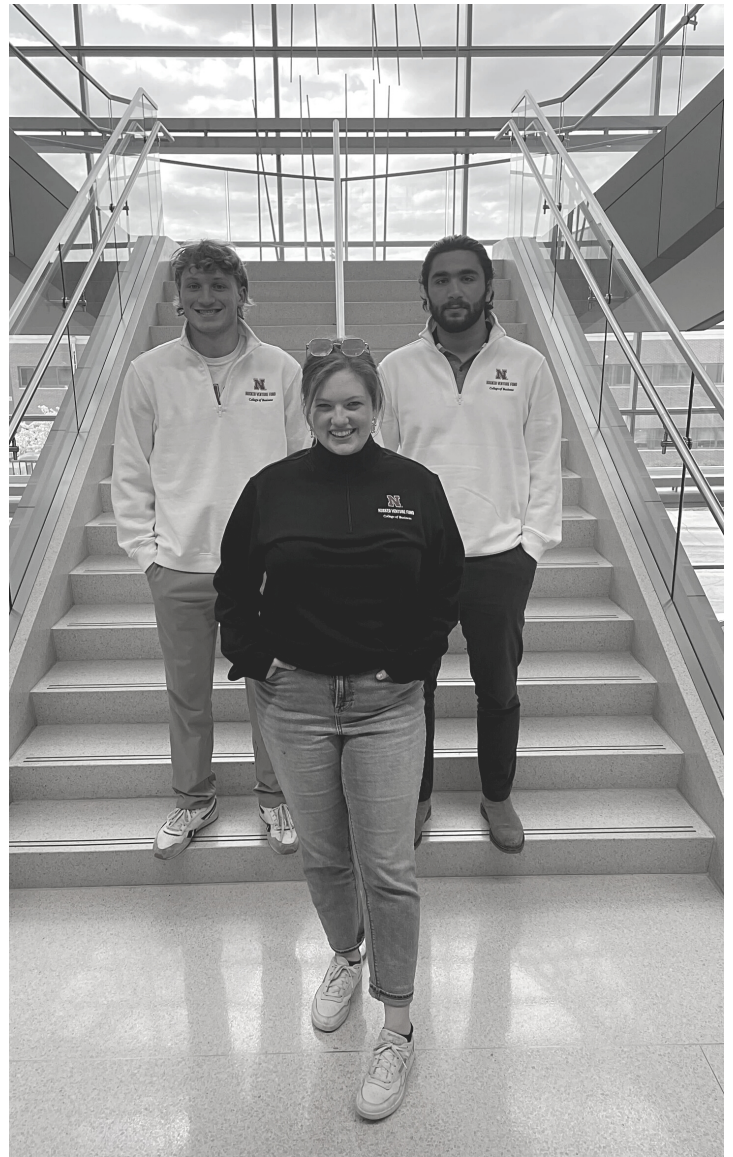
Birge and Kayton have leveraged every benefit of the Nebraska-startup ecosystem. Snappy Workflow graduated from the NMotion accelerator, and have investments from Nebraska Angels and Invest Nebraska.

Snappy Workflow pitched to HVF and went through the due diligence process in April. HVF followed through with a \$25,000 investment.

2022/2023

MANAGING DIRECTORS

Congratulations to the new Managing Directors of the Husker Venture Fund for the 2022-2023 academic year. Samuel DeZube, Maria Heyen, and Ateev Bhandari have been active members in HVF and the Nebraska startup ecosystem throughout the year. The future of HVF is in great hands moving forward!



SAMUEL DEZUBE

Samuel is a sophomore finance major with minors in computer science and math in the Raikes School of Computer Science and Management. He currently works as a Software Engineer for a startup called Project Unicorn based out of Irvine, California. He also is an intern for the Nebraska Angels. Outside of his career, Samuel loves to write songs and play concerts at local bars in the Lincoln area.

MARIA HEYEN

Maria is an international business and Clifton Builders Management major in her junior year. Maria has previously interned at Nelnet as an Innovation and Venture Capital Intern and she currently interns with Nebraska Angels as well as Yoo and Co. Accelerators out of Phoenix, AZ. Last year, Maria was a finalist at UNL's New Venture Pitch Competition. Maria is originally from Astoria, Oregon, and grew up an avid surfer on the Oregon Coast.

ATEEV BHANDARI

Ateev is a senior accounting and business major originally from Amritsar, India. He is an Accounting & Finance Intern at Ameritas. Ateev is a student tutor in the College of Business Teaching & Learning Centre and enjoys helping others reach their full academic potential. His favorite food is fried dumplings. Ateev will be graduating in December 2022 and pursuing in MPA at UNL.

GRADUATING SENIORS



Managing Director & Co-Founder

EMILY KIST

Emily Kist graduated in 2022 from the College of Business with a major in finance. Upon graduation, Emily will be moving to Minneapolis, MN, and working for Nelnet's Venture Capital and Corporate Innovation team as a Corporate Financial Analyst.



Managing Director & Co-Founder

ADAM FOLSOM

Adam Folsom graduated in 2022 from the College of Business with a double major in finance and Clifton Builders Management. Adam intends to pursue a career in venture capital outside of Nebraska.



Managing Director & Director of Social Media and Outreach

KEITH NORDLING

Keith Nordling graduated in 2022 from the College of Business with a major in finance. Upon graduation, Keith is moving to Prior Lake, Minnesota. He plans to take some time enjoying the summer on the lake and growing his e-commerce retail company, Cow Bay Clothing.



Senior Associate

ANTHONY MARFISI

Anthony is a 2022 graduate of the College of Business with a major in finance and a minor in accounting. Anthony will be pursuing a career in venture capital after graduation.

GRADUATING SENIORS



Senior Associate

IAN ANDERSON

Ian Anderson is a 2022 graduate of the Jeffrey S. Raikes School of Computer Science and Management. Upon graduation, Ian will be moving to Omaha, NE to continue his career as a Software Engineer at Workshop, a Nebraska-based seed-stage startup building a delightful internal communications platform.



Senior Associate

SHAUN EDGECOMBE

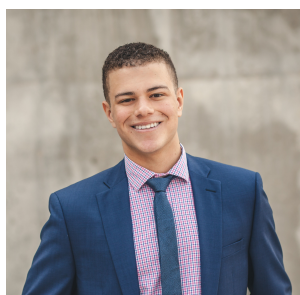
Shaun Edgecombe is a 2022 graduate of the College of Business. Shaun accepted an offer from Charles Schwab as a Business Strategy Specialist and will be working in their Lone Tree, CO offices.



Associate

ANANTH VENKATACHALAM

Ananth is a 2022 graduate of the College of Business with a major in finance and minors in business analytics and mathematics. Upon graduation, Ananth will be living in Omaha, NE and joining Deloitte as a Technology Analyst in their Risk & Financial Advisory practice.



Associate

BRYANT RUSSELL

Bryant is a 2022 graduate of the College of Business with a double major in finance and accounting. He will be going full-time with tech startup Kana Systems in a managerial finance and accounting role.

GRADUATING SENIORS



Senior Associate

DANIEL ELSNER

Daniel is a 2022 College of Business graduate with a major in supply chain management and minors in agribusiness and marketing. He will be moving to Eddyville, IA and will work for Cargill as a Commodity Trading Associate.



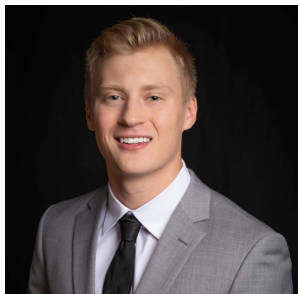
Senior Associate

ROBERT GOSSELEIN

Robert is a 2022 College of Business graduate with a major in marketing and a minor in entrepreneurship. Robert will be moving to Madison, WI and will work for Epic Systems as a Project Manager.



INAUGURAL COHORT



Senior Associate

BLAKE INGAMELLS

Blake is a junior studying finance and economics. On campus, Blake is the President of the Wall Street Scholars Program, Senior Associate for the Husker Venture Fund, and a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. He currently works as an analyst at 31st Street Capital, a Private Equity family office founded in Lincoln, NE. Upon graduation, Blake's first "big boy" purchase is going to be a golden retriever puppy.



Senior Associate

JIMMY WHEBBE

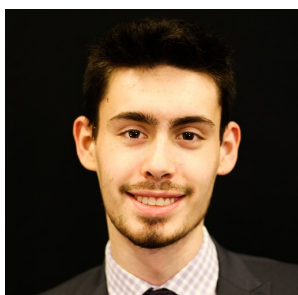
Jimmy is a junior finance and entrepreneurship major from Rosemount, Minnesota. On campus, he is a part of the executive team for the International Business Club and the Sigma Chi fraternity. Jimmy is also a Renewable Energy Intern at Nelnet.



Senior Associate

ROB KHORRAM

Rob is a junior finance major. He currently serves as a Project Manager for an upcoming NFT project on the Cardano Blockchain. He is also a hemp wholesaler to a number of local stores in the Midwest region. Rob's dream vacation is to travel to different countries to try their cuisine.



Senior Associate

SAMUEL LILLY

Sam is a junior finance major with a Clifton Builders minor from Omaha, Nebraska. He is a member of various student organizations and holds positions in several of them, such as the development lead of Camp Kesem UNL. He currently splits his time between the Sterling Financial Group as well as the Nebraska Foundation where he works as a financial research intern. His favorite place is Pereira, Colombia where most of his family lives.

INAUGURAL COHORT



Associate

ALEX ZLATIC

Alex is a junior actuarial science and finance major from Bloomington, IL. Along with being an Associate for the Husker Venture Fund, he is active in the Big Red Investment Club and will be an Actuarial Intern with Mutual of Omaha. Alex also enjoys running and is currently training for the Lincoln Half Marathon.



Associate

DAVID SPITZENBERGER

David is a finance major in his junior year. He will be working at the U.S. Capitol as a Congressional Intern with Congressman Adrian Smith. David is originally from Omaha, Nebraska and his favorite sporting events to watch are boxing or UFC.



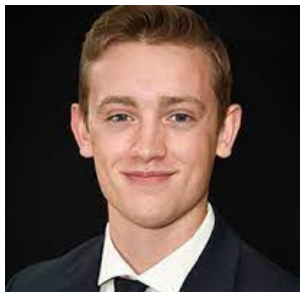
Associate

JASON RATHBONE

Jason is a junior finance major from Waverly, Nebraska. Jason works at the financial aid office on campus. He is starting a Global Business Services internship in May 2022 at Conagra Brands. Jason has a twin brother that attends UNO.



INAUGURAL COHORT



Associate

NATHAN HAUSER

Nathan is from Omaha, Nebraska. He is a junior studying finance and Clifton Builders Management. Nathan will be a Commercial Banking Intern at First National Bank of Omaha this summer. His favorite hobbies are cooking and wakeboarding.



Associate

MARCO CUARAN

Marco is a senior economics and finance double major from Ipiales, Colombia. He is currently a Finance and Accounting Intern at Nelnet. Marco is also involved in Delta Sigma Pi, Sigma Nu, and the Big Red Investment Club. He loves to travel, has lived in three different countries, and speaks English, French, and Spanish.



General Member

SAMUEL GERTNER

Sam is a junior accounting major originally from Monroe, Connecticut. He is an audit intern at KPMG and an international student Bible study leader with The Navigators. Sam grew up playing hockey and is in his tenth season as a hockey referee. He enjoys fly fishing in his free time.



ADVISORS



Investment Advisor

Ben Williamson

Ben Williamson has lead the investment team for Invest Nebraska for the last four plus years and also serves as the company's General Counsel; additionally, Ben serves as Managing Director for Burlington Capital Ag-Venture, a new AgTech seed fund based in the Midwest. Prior to joining Invest Nebraska, Ben spent several years as an in-house corporate attorney and also has experience as a small business owner. Ben has led over 70 early-stage venture deals in his career.



Advisor

Dr. Samuel Nelson

Dr. Samuel A. Nelson has been the Director for the Nebraska Center for Entrepreneurship since August, 2016. He earned his Ph.D. in management from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln in 2011 and joined CBA in 2012 as the Associate Director for the Nebraska Center for Entrepreneurship. He has won the UNL Outstanding Contributions to Students Award a total of seven years. In addition, his former students have secured over 3.5 million in seed funding for their startups. Nelson also serves as a project coach and executive educator for the Governor's Leadership Academy and the Bryan Physicians Leadership Academy.



Advisor

Joe Petsick

Joe co-founded Proxibid in Omaha in 2001. Proxibid's marketplace grew to \$7 billion in annual inventory, before the company was acquired in 2020. Joe is currently the Executive in Residence for the College of Business at the University of Nebraska. In this role, Joe offers an entrepreneurial lens in which to help evaluate opportunities that can help advance the College for students, faculty and the community. Joe has remained active in the startup ecosystem by starting several new companies in which he is currently a co-founder. Joe is also a board member of the Nebraska Angels, and a board member with the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, where he also serves as the chairperson for the Builder's Council. Joe has had the opportunity to work in several high-growth environments in the United States, Europe and Japan.



PRESS

HUSKER VENTURE
FUND MAKES
STUDENT, ECONOMIC
IMPACTS

STUDENT'S
FERTIGATION
STARTUP AWARDED
FIRST HUSKER
VENTURE FUND
INVESTMENT

HUSKER VENTURE
FUND: PROVIDING
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
LOCAL BUSINESS AND
UNL STUDENTS

UNL STARTS ITS OWN
STUDENT LEAD
VENTURE CAPITAL
FUND



PRESS

PANDEMIC SHIFTS
VENKATACHALAM'S
CAREER PATH TO
FINANCE

DOCTORAL
STUDENT'S
FERTIGATION
STARTUP AWARDED
FIRST HUSKER
VENTURE FUND
INVESTMENT

48 STUDENT
BUSINESS TEAMS
COMPETE FOR
\$15,000

HVF. YEAR ONE



THANK YOU

A special thank you to our campus and the Lincoln community who have made Husker Venture Fund come to life. Without your help, support, and ideas, HVF would not be possible.

A special thank you to all sponsors, donors, and faculty for your continued support and investment in the students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. We greatly appreciate your commitment and significant contributions to the development of each of our members.

Lastly, a special thank you to Amy Kloefkorn and the University of Nebraska Foundation team. Your collaboration and assistance has been integral to the success of HVF.

**IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS INTERESTED IN BECOMING
INVOLVED WITH HUSKER VENTURE FUND, PLEASE REACH OUT
TO HVF@UNL.EDU**



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Husker Venture Fund

INTERESTED IN KEEPING UP WITH HVF?
FOLLOW AND CONNECT WITH US



AUTHORED BY MARIA HEYEN
Spring 2022