MEMO

Subject: Mathematics in Finance at NYU-Courant and Financial Engineering at NYU-Poly

Hello,

Several of you have voiced concerns about employers’ ability to distinguish between the Mathematics in Finance Masters program at NYU-Courant and the Masters degree in Financial Engineering at NYU-Poly.

To address these concerns, please let us provide you with some background and address two specific questions in the NYU-Poly policy (how NYU-Poly students should refer to themselves, and availability of placement services). At the end of this e-mail, you will find our recommendations for you in order to make the most out of your degree.

Some background
Polytechnic Institute of New York University (NYU-Poly, for short), formerly Polytechnic University, is since July 1, 2008, an affiliate of New York University. The institution, founded in 1854, is the nation’s second-oldest private engineering school. The Finance and Risk Engineering program, in addition to its main campus in New York City at MetroTech Center in downtown Brooklyn and Wall Street at 55 Broad Street, maintains collaborative and exchange programs with the University of Paris (Dauphine) and soon to be signed with other institutions such as Ajou University (Korea).

The Department of Finance and Risk Engineering at NYU-Poly provides several academic tracks leading to a master’s degree in financial engineering, including corporate finance and financial markets, computational finance, risk finance and technology and algorithmic finance.

Are NYU-Poly students also NYU students?
In the FAQ section on the NYU-Poly site (see, http://www.poly.edu/about/affiliation/FAQ) the answer to this question is:

“Polytechnic Institute of NYU (Poly) is affiliated with NYU (vs. being fully consolidated as a school). During the affiliation period, you are a student of NYU-Poly. After the consolidation, students will be NYU students.”

This means technically speaking that until the schools are fully consolidated, Poly students cannot refer to themselves as “NYU students.” However, it is fully reasonable that students refer to themselves as “NYU-Poly students.” This is consistent with the policy at the Wasserman Center where students from NYU-Poly are asked to list the school on their resume as “NYU-Poly” or “Polytechnic Institute of NYU.”

Are placement services at the Wasserman Center available to NYU-Poly students?
Yes, they are, see http://www.nyu.edu/careerdevelopment/about.php

So how can you distinguish yourself from similarly named programs (such as NYU-Poly's Financial Engineering program, or the Mathematics Department's regular MS in Mathematics program)?
We ask you to consider the following recommendations when preparing your resume or biographical information for other purposes:

• Include “NYU-Courant” or “Courant Institute, New York University” (not just “New York University”) if you have graduated from the Courant program. Include “NYU-Poly” or
“Polytechnic Institute of NYU” (not just “New York University”) if you graduated from the department of Finance and Risk Engineering at NYU-Poly.

- Include the full name “MS in Mathematics in Finance” if you graduated from NYU-Courant. Include “MSc degree in Financial Engineering” if you graduated from NYU-Poly. Both of these degrees are broadly recognized in the financial industry.
- Consider including additional details of particular courses you took (particularly advanced ones which are rarely taken by students in other programs).

Finally, we ask you to report to us should you come across students from any other schools or programs that misuse our school or degrees. This way we can deal with such infringements in a direct and effective way with their respective schools.

Regards,

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