

GENE J. KOVACS, PhD

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ACCOUNTING RESEARCH | BUSINESS ECONOMICS | ANALYTICS

Expert accountant, financial analyst, business economist and data-based strategist with deep and broad experience in identifying, framing, analyzing and solving complex business and investment-related performance, operational, competition, valuation and disclosure-related issues. Highly skilled, efficient and effective researcher and analyst who regularly presents ideas, analyses and results in a clear and concise manner to diverse and questioning audiences. Talented and enthusiastic teacher, mentor and leader of teams of diverse and highly-skilled professionals and academics who is responsible for the overall success of large research projects.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Academic Accounting Research
- Financial Statement Modeling and Analysis
- Corporate Finance and Market Research
- Teaching, Mentorship, Leadership and Management
- Industry Performance and Scenario Analysis
- Valuation
- Risk Analysis and Mitigation
- Quantitative Analysis (incl. Data Identification, Statistics and Econometrics)

EDUCATION

PhD Business (Accounting) , Columbia University	2004
Columbia University Doctoral Fellowship 1999 – 2003	
AAA / Deloitte & Touche / J.Michael Cook Doctoral Consortium Fellow 2002	
Merriwether Fellow 2001 – 2002	
Post-graduate Accounting Coursework , University of Southern California	1997
MBA Finance, Accounting and Strategy , University of Chicago	1997
BS Finance and Economics , Babson College	1993

EXPERIENCE

BRYANT UNIVERSITY Smithfield, RI 2018 – Present

Visiting Professor, Accounting

Principles of Financial Accounting, Principles of Managerial Accounting, Financial Reporting I and II, Research and Communication (Masters in Accounting Program), Reporting and Controlling Resources (MBA Program)

EJKOVACS CONSULTING, INC. San Diego, CA 2017 – 2020

Founder and CEO

Independent consultant specializing in economic, strategy, and finance/accounting-related engagements. Past engagements include:

- Evaluating the revenue recognition policies and related profitability of mutual fund advisors for several mutual fund complexes that utilize internal advisory and subadvisory models. Revenue recognition policies were assessed for their consistency with GAAP by comparing the nature of contractual relationships between: 1) funds and advisors; 2) fund advisors and third-party subadvisors; and 3) fund advisors and affiliated subadvisors, to the relevant revenue recognition indicators in Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 605 and 606.

- Assessing the managerial accounting systems of mutual fund advisors to determine the reasonableness of fund-level advisor profitability resulting from cost allocation methodologies implemented by mutual fund complexes. Our evaluation included examining client management accounting practices for consistency with fundamental cost accounting techniques and accepted industry practice. We also analyzed the effects of alternative cost allocation methods on fund-level advisory profitability to determine whether reported profitability was consistent with arms-length transactions between advisors and subadvisors (e.g., Gartenberg factors).

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH Long Beach, CA

2017 – 2018

Lecturer, Accountancy

Intermediate Accounting and International Accounting

ANALYSIS GROUP, INC. Boston, MA and Los Angeles, CA

2004 – 2016

A fact-based economic, financial, and business strategy consulting firm to Fortune 500 companies, government agencies, and top law firms across multiple industries.

Vice President

2010 - 2016

Manager

2006 - 2010

Associate

2004 - 2006

Responsible for developing strategy and leading broad-based teams (analysts, client FP&A, Marketing and Tax staff, industry, and academic experts) to identify, frame, analyze, and resolve complex, multi-billion dollar business problems (industry and company performance, operational, competition, valuation and disclosure issues). Key contributor to teams' success and concurrently led multiple, diverse consulting projects and work streams, generating multi-million dollar annual revenues. Selected engagements include:

- Led cross-functional team, including client FP&A, Marketing and Tax professionals, at a large software manufacturer to evaluate existing transfer pricing strategies and recommend adjustments to future licensing agreements. Quantified more than \$20 billion of R&D and Marketing intellectual property in support of a licensing and distribution agreement valued in excess of \$60 billion. Developed methodology for generating annual P&L statements and long-term growth rates to forecast 10 years of \$10+ billion operating income in support of licensing agreement valuation.
- Assessed competitive landscape and estimated future profitability of the railroad industry as part of a request by the industry regulator, Surface Transportation Board (STB), to upgrade the cost of capital methodology used to allocate regulated revenues and determine profits. Developed and recommended a new methodology that was adopted by the STB and enabled higher, more stable annual allowed rates of return: 11.5% versus an original 8%.
- Formulated a methodology, as part of a \$65 billion shareholder litigation, for analyzing whether \$5 billion of natural gas and oil derivative contracts were a contributing factor to a 95% stock price decline for a large energy trading company. Results confirmed that the derivative contracts had a minimal effect on the company's financial leverage and stock price, reducing our client's liability by \$8 billion, or 80%.
- Designed and executed a comprehensive analysis of financial reporting strategies in the financial services industry. The leverage effects of window dressing transactions were quantified at large financial institutions by examining the financial statement differences of security repurchase transactions (Repo 105) that qualified as sales rather than debt financing. The aggregate effects of the largest transactions resulted in under-reporting financial leverage by as much as \$50 billion (20%) through a reduction of liabilities on a \$600 billion balance sheet.
- Evaluated M&A auction strategies for a healthcare REIT based on a valuation of economic damage caused by improper disclosures following a proposed acquisition. Results confirmed that improper disclosures were made by a competing bidder to harm its competitor. With this evidence, the judge found in favor of AG's client who was awarded \$125 million in damages.

- Designed and conducted a comprehensive study of municipal financing strategies used to comply with EPA regulations. An estimated \$500 million in cash flow savings were attributed to advanced refunding transactions of ~\$3 billion in synthetic fixed-rate securities. Under various restructuring scenarios, it was estimated that annual revenue growth rates of ~7% would be required to service the outstanding debt. Our analysis contributed to a 50% settlement saving, or \$700 million.
- Estimated \$1.5 billion in transactions costs from de-risking a derivatives portfolio with \$3 trillion of notional value to demonstrate that procedures used by our client to manage and mitigate risks in its derivatives portfolio due to a counterparty bankruptcy were consistent with industry custom and practice. This result contributed to a pre-trial settlement that reduced the client's potential liability 80%, or \$7.2 billion.
- Estimated the stock price effects of a client's multi-billion dollar accounting restatements. By demonstrating that transitory income items were the primary restatement component, rather than permanent income items, the client's liability declined over 90%, from \$2 billion to \$150 million.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, COLUMBIA BUSINESS SCHOOL New York, NY 1999 – 2004

Instructor for MBA & Executive Education Programs

Developed and led sections of Financial Statement Analysis and Accounting Courses for up to 50 students per class.

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS, LLP Chicago, IL 1997 – 1999

Associate - Advanced Development Program

Led engagements for clients with total assets ranging from \$150 million to \$40 billion. Coordinated engagement timing and staffing with clients, developed successful budgets, delegated assignments and mentored other team members. Responsible for directing activities of 3 to 20 individuals.

- Researched competitive landscape and consolidation activity in the banking industry, trading activity in the Collateralized Mortgage Obligation market and the financial statement effects of implementing new FASB pronouncements.
- Prepared financial statements for clients including situations such as equity carve-outs, intra-period restructurings and multiple subsidiary consolidations.

AMERITECH CORPORATION Barrington, IL 1996

Wireless Business Analyst

Developed short- and long-term strategic forecasts for the wireless business; recommended long-term capital expenditure plan to senior management; and developed build-out plan using information on the company-owned infrastructure, wireless spectrum leases obtained through government auction/demand forecasts.

JP MORGAN INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT New York, NY 1993 – 1995

Equity Research Analyst

Developed discounted cash flow models for internal buy/sell recommendations; investigated strategic issues with company managements, industry experts, and economic specialists to develop long-term earnings forecasts for company valuations; prepared industry/sector reviews that were presented to senior management; and analyzed/recommended adjustments to investment strategies for institutional clients.

SELECTED PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS**PUBLICATIONS**

“Think the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Lowered Corporate Taxes, Think Again: Preliminary Evidence from the S&P 500 and Apple Inc.” with Saeed Roohani. The CPA Journal, October/November 2021.

“Universal Basic Buybacks.” Journal of Accounting and Finance, September 2023.

WORKING PAPERS

“Quantifying Intangible Assets Generated From Investments Recognized in Selling, General and Administrative (SG&A) Expenses” with Jaywon Lee and Daniel Ames. (Under review)

“Quantifying the Effects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (“TCJA”): A Case Study on How Apple’s Support for the “Deemed Repatriation” Provision of the TCJA Affected Its Shareholders” with Saeed Roohani. (Under review)

“Foreign Earnings Disclosure Practices of U.S. Firms and Evaluation of Predicted Effects from the Implementation of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act”

“The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (“TCJA”): A Mixed Bag of Tax Policies for U.S. Multinational Corporations”

“The Value Relevance of Unreported Gains and Losses for Held-to-Maturity Securities in Financial Institutions”

“The Information Content of the Share Repurchase Component of Earnings Per Share”

OP-EDS

“Self Employment: The Answer for an Aging Workforce and a Sluggish Economy?” with Kevin E. Cahill and Michael D. Giandrea. On Huffington Post and Boston College’s “Aging & Work: AGEnda” website, March 2014.

“Santa Claus, Easter Bunny, and Traditional Retirement” with Kevin E. Cahill. On Huffington Post and Boston College’s “Aging & Work: AGEnda” website, May 2013.

“Should You Be Counting on the Social Security Trust Fund?” with Kevin E. Cahill. On Huffington Post and Boston College’s “Aging & Work: AGEnda” website, September 2012.

“Greenwill Hunting: Investigating Premiums in the Stock Prices of Clean Energy Firms” with Ted Laguerre and Manesh Jethmal. *Analysis Group Energy Bulletin*, Spring 2011.

PRESENTATIONS

“Enhancing Critical Thinking Through the Use of Data Analytics.” Rhode Island Association of Accounting Professors 2021 Annual Fall Conference. (November 2021)

“Think the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Lowered Corporate Taxes for Multinationals, Think Again: Preliminary Evidence One Year After Implementation.” American Accounting Association Research in Forensic Accounting Conference. (March 2020)

“Financial Reporting & Approach to Damages.” Instructor at Annual Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP New Associate Orientation.”

“Pension Funds in the Defense Industry – Raytheon Case Study.” Eastern Economic Association Conference.

Presented original research at Columbia University, New York University, Rutgers University, and Vanderbilt University.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Faculty Advisor for the Accounting Association student group (Present)

Faculty Advisor for the Cross Country Club (Present)

Accreditation Service Contributor for Intermediate Accounting Courses and MBA Program (Present)

Curriculum Coordinator for Introductory Financial and Managerial Accounting Courses (Present)

Committee for Development of University Pass/Fail Grading Policy (Present)

Panelist for Research and Engagement Day at Bryant University (April 2023)

Committees for Curriculum Development for Introductory Accounting Courses and Data Analytics Course (2019-2021)

Internship Supervisor for Accounting Majors (2020-Present)