

## Gianna A. Z. Bern

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### SUMMARY

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Associate Teaching Professor of Finance and Academic Director of the University of Notre Dame's Master of Science in Finance (MSF) program. Academic career follows a 25-year business career in corporate finance and recognized authority on the global energy markets. Finance professional with a business career in energy market analytics, global fixed income, credit analysis, capital structure analytics, commodity risk management, and international project finance. Accomplished at developing capital structure strategies for energy sector companies and generating value through risk-management and line-finance positions for major financial services and energy corporations.

### EDUCATION

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, BOOTH SCHOOL OF BUSINESS;** Chicago, Illinois **1989**

**Master of Business Administration in Finance**

Specializations in Finance and International business; Time Inc. Scholar

**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, STUART SCHOOL of BUSINESS;** Chicago, Illinois **1987**

**Bachelor of Business Administration**

Major: Accounting

### ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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**UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME,** Mendoza College of Business, Finance Dept. **2014-Present**

In 2014, Gianna Bern joined Mendoza College of Business's finance faculty. As the inaugural Academic Director, Master of Science in Finance (MSF) program, Gianna provides administrative leadership on curriculum and admissions, and is the faculty liaison. The MSF degree program is based on Notre Dame's Chicago campus. The cohort-based program is in its fifth year. Gianna Bern provides leadership on both the MSF Curriculum Committee and the MSF Admissions Committee. Bern teaches in the MSF, MBA, and the BBA programs in the Mendoza College of Business. Gianna Bern is in her second term as Academic Director.

- **Associate Teaching Professor of Finance**  
**Academic Director, Master of Science in Finance program**  
May 2014-present
- **Adjunct Asst. Professional Specialist**  
January 2014-May 2014

#### **Academic Endeavors:**

- In 2015, Launched Notre Dame's Master of Science in Finance (MSF) executive education program with the inaugural MSF class of 2016.
- Developed Financial Statement Analysis (FIN 30100) new undergraduate required finance course in Fall 2014.
- Developed Financial Statement Analysis I and II (MSF 60100 and 60130) as core courses in MSF degree program.

#### **Contributions to the Practice:**

- Invited speaker and consultant to several corporations, investors, and governments in the U.S. and abroad (2008-present).
- Elected board member, Pullman Educational Foundation and Pullman Educational Foundation Investment Committee (September 2018).

### AUTHORED WORKS

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*Investing in Energy: A Primer on the Economics of the Energy Industry (Wiley June 2011)* business textbook.

### AWARDS

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- 2018 Outstanding Professor Award, MSF program

## SERVICE

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### College Service:

- Faculty member, MSF Curriculum Committee 2014-Present
- Faculty member and Director, MSF Admissions Committee 2014-Present
- Faculty mentor, Building Bridges mentor program to under-represented ND Mendoza undergraduates 2016-Present
- Faculty mentor and advisor, MSF program 2015- present
- Faculty mentor and advisor, undergraduate BBA finance program 2014-present
- Faculty participant, Junior Parent weekend, February 2019
- Faculty participant, Girls Who Invest, June 5, 2018
- Faculty participant, Junior Parent Weekend, February 2017
- Faculty speaker, Applied Investment Management program, Spring 2015
- Faculty speaker, Notre Dame Women in Business undergraduate luncheon 2014.

## MEDIA

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- *USA Today* (January 30, 2019) Interview: *Deadly violence. Dire economy. How the Venezuelan Crisis could affect the U.S.*
- *Wall Street Journal*, interview and quoted on earnings season (January 29, 2017), “*Big Oil Firms Look to Save, While Smaller Upstarts Want to Spend.*”
- *Wall Street Journal*, interview and quoted on global energy markets (July 29, 2016), “*Low Crude Prices Hammer Big Oil Companies.*”
- Associated Press, published in *New York Times*, CNBC, *Washington Post*, and ABC interview on earnings season, (Feb. 2, 2016) “*BP Reports 91% Plunge in fourth quarter earnings*”
- *Financial Times*, interview and quoted on global energy markets (Jan. 8, 2016), “*Saudi Aramco Confirms Share listing Deliberations*”
- *Bloomberg Television* (March 19, 2015), television interview: *Where are Crude Oil prices headed next? Provide commentary on global energy markets.*
- *BBC Radio*, interview on global energy markets, February 23, 2015
- *Bloomberg Television* (Nov. 28, 2014), television interview to provide commentary on global energy markets.
- *BBC Radio*, interview on global energy markets, Nov. 26, 2014
- *PBS NewsHour* (July 2014) television interview to provide commentary on global energy markets.
- *Bloomberg Television* (over 10 television appearances from 2010 to 2014) to provide commentary on global energy markets.
- *Bloomberg News*, over 30 interviews and quotes from 2010 to 2014 to provide commentary on global energy markets.

## TEACHING

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### Spring 2014

- Multinational Corporate Finance FIN 70500, MBA program

### Fall 2014

- Financial Statement Analysis, FIN 30100, BBA undergraduate finance program

### Spring 2015

- Financial Statement Analysis, MSF 60100, MSF program
- Financial Statement Analysis, FIN 30100, BBA undergraduate finance program

### Fall 2015

- Risk Management, MSF 70640, MSF program
- International Finance, MSF 70500, MSF program
- Financial Statement Analysis, FIN 30100, BBA undergraduate finance program

### Spring 2016

- Financial Statement Analysis, MSF 60100 and MSF 60130, MSF program
- Financial Statement Analysis, FIN 30100, BBA undergraduate finance program
- Introduction to Corporate Finance, FIN 20150, BBA undergraduate finance program

### Fall 2016

- Risk Management, MSF 70640, MSF program

- Multinational Financial Management, MSF 70500, MSF program
- Financial Statement Analysis, FIN 30100, BBA undergraduate finance program  
**Spring 2017**
- Financial Statement Analysis, MSF 60100 and MSF 60130, MSF program
- Financial Statement Analysis, FIN 30100, BBA undergraduate finance program  
**Fall 2017**
- Risk Management, MSF 70640, MSF program
- Multinational Financial Management, FIN 70500, MBA program
- Financial Statement Analysis, FIN 30100, BBA undergraduate finance program  
**Spring 2018**
- Financial Statement Analysis, MSF 60100 and MSF 60130, MSF program
- Financial Statement Analysis, FIN 30100, BBA undergraduate finance program  
**Fall 2018**
- Risk Management, MSF 70640, MSF program
- Multinational Financial Management, FIN 70500, MBA program
- Financial Statement Analysis, FIN 30100, BBA undergraduate finance program  
**Spring 2019**
- Financial Statement Analysis, MSF 60100 and MSF 60130, MSF program
- Financial Statement Analysis, FIN 30100, BBA undergraduate finance program

## PRESENTATIONS

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- Universidad de Los Andes, Second annual Center for Financial Markets 2019 November 19, *Have Recent Increases in Crude Oil Prices Resulted in Increased Investment in the Energy Sector?*

## BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

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**BROOKSHIRE ADVISORY AND RESEARCH, INC.;** Chicago, Illinois

**2008-2014**

### Principal

Founded Illinois registered investment advisory practice focused on energy sector investment analytics, risk management hedging strategies, and global energy markets. Developed numerous corporate seminars that are taught in the US, Canada, Europe, Latin America, and Asia. Practice authors and publishes independent equity investment research and custom energy market analytics for clients. Advises international corporate and institutional clients on investment strategies, international project finance, and risk management hedging strategies. Frequent commentator on energy markets on *Bloomberg News*, *Bloomberg Television*, *Dow Jones Newswires*, and other major media. Authored Bloomberg Finance textbook, *Investing in Energy: A Primer on the Economics of the Energy Industry*, published by *Wiley & Sons* (June 2011).

- Taught managerial through executive level seminars: international project finance, financial statement analysis, capital structure analytics, futures, options, risk management hedging, at global corporations.
- Published energy market investment research on *Capital IQ* and *PennEnergy* investment platforms
- Prepared private placement memoranda for a \$2 billion in revenue financial services client.
- Prepared investor memorandum for a \$130 billion in revenues global integrated energy company.
- Faculty member of The Oxford Princeton Programme – premier energy industry programme for commodity risk management, Oxford, England.
- Invited speaker at several investor conferences, CFA conferences, and other energy industry forums.
- Consultant to various corporate Board of Directors
- Consultant to various investors

**FITCH RATINGS INC.;** Chicago, Illinois  
**Senior Director and Energy Sector Head**  
**Latin America Corporate Finance**

**2006-2008**

Senior analyst in global oil, gas, and power sectors. Managed portfolio of approximately 50 Latin American oil, gas, and electric utility companies. Primary analyst for 14 global oil and gas corporations. Extensively traveled throughout South America meeting energy sector executive management. Published energy sector research and company ratings reports.

- Analyzed and rated primarily large Latin American oil, gas, pipeline, oil field service, and electric utility firms.
- Participated in ratings committees for U.S. corporations in the oil, gas, refining, power, and oil field service segments.
- Rated over \$12 billion in public and private corporate bond issuances in 2007 and \$5 billion in 2008.
- Published fixed income research on oil, gas, and energy sector corporations and industry outlook opinions.
- Quoted by key energy sector business media such as *Dow Jones*, *Reuters*, *Bloomberg*, and the *Associated Press*.
- Published press releases and fixed income market commentary on the oil, gas, and power sector.
- Interacted with buy-side institutional investors.

**WHEELS, INC.;** Des Plaines, Illinois  
**Treasury Department**

**2000-2006**

**Manager, Risk Management & Financial Reporting (2005-2006)**

Member, internal credit committee reporting to V.P. Finance. Directly responsible for managing \$2.5 billion commercial lease portfolio and team of three credit analysts. Managed external financial reporting to rating agencies, commercial paper (CP) dealers, and syndicated bank group. Also managed insurance risk management, government compliance, and corporate governance for the holding company and 15 operating companies.

- Built credit department by recruiting and training new credit analysts. Implemented improved credit policies by establishing credit procedures to meet audit standards of external auditors. Maintained investment grade credit ratings.
- Enhanced internal financial models used to analyze capital structure, leverage, liquidity, and other key credit criteria.

**Senior Treasury Business Analyst (2000-2005)**

Reported to CFO, Corporate Treasurer and Assistant Corporate Secretary. Prepared commercial paper (CP) memoranda for CP dealers and institutional investors; developed rating agency presentations, private placement memorandum for lenders and institutional investors, and board of directors' presentations. Conducted annual and quarterly credit analytics on a \$2.5 billion commercial lease portfolio. Managed government compliance and assisted with corporate governance documentation for Wheels and 15 related companies in 40 states and Canada. Assisted in annual financial planning and capital budgeting.

- Managed production of rating agency presentations and commercial paper and bank loan syndication memoranda.
- Developed financial models, evaluated cost-saving initiatives, and financial reporting for Chief Financial Officer.
- Implemented corporate governance and compliance practices enabling Wheels to pass all legal due diligences associated with accessing public capital markets. Assisted with corporate finance planning and budgeting activities.

**BP AMOCO, PLC.;** Warrenville, Illinois (Former Amoco Corporation)  
**U.S. Commercial Sales (Integrated Supply and Trading)**

**1995-2000**

**Risk Management Manager (1998-2000)**

Managed U.S. Commercial Sales' risk management business and daily trading of NYMEX energy futures contracts. Responsible for the market analytics and profitability of selling energy futures contracts (including crude oil, gasoline, and distillate) to commercial customers. Educated corporate clients on hedging as a business tool. Presented monthly economic research and analyses on energy markets including crude inventory levels, supply and demand, and crude oil prices using API, DOE, and IEA data.

- Increased risk management profitability nearly 400% by hedging 67 million gallons of distillate fuel in 1999, a 57% increase over prior year, and managing \$7 million in energy futures positions on the NYMEX generating \$5.2 million in hedge gains.
- Structured and priced derivative transactions (e.g., futures, options, swaps, caps, collars, and forward contracts) for energy commodities and implemented new accounting and invoice payment system for risk management transactions.
- Began as Senior Energy Analyst responsible for analyzing macroeconomics of global energy market (1995-1998).

## **PREVIOUS RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

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Began career at **CONTINENTAL BANK** in 1989, recruited as Senior Associate and quickly promoted to Corporate Banking Officer in 1990. Assigned to a corporate finance group covering Fortune 1000 clients in the Chicago and New York markets. Assisted with divestiture and restructuring transactions by developing financial models and analyses. Prepared credit reviews of clients' financial performance, capital structure, liquidity, and industry position. Analyzed transactions including foreign exchange, interest rate swaps, and other financial products.

## **LICENSES**

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FINRA Series 65 Registered Investment Advisor (RIA), Series 30 Branch Managers license, and formerly registered with U.S. Commodity Trading Commission (CFTC) as Commodity Trading Advisory (CTA) from 2012-2014.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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- CPA candidate in the State of Illinois.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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- CFA Society of Indianapolis, Affiliate member
- AICPA, Affiliate member
- Illinois CPA Society, Affiliate member
- Former member, National Futures Association (2010, 2012-2014)

## **LANGUAGES**

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Conversational in Spanish and beginning Portuguese.