# STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT 5e





FRANK T. ROTHAERMEL



# Strategic Management















**FIFTH EDITION** 

# Strategic Management

#### Frank T. Rothaermel

Georgia Institute of Technology













#### STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT, FIFTH EDITION

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# **DEDICATION**

To my eternal family for their love, support, and sacrifice: Kelleyn, Harris, Winston, Roman, Adelaide, Avery, and Ivy.

-Frank T. Rothaermel







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# **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

#### Frank T. Rothaermel

Georgia Institute of Technology

**Frank T. Rothaermel, PhD,** a Professor of Strategy & Innovation, holds the Russell and Nancy McDonough Chair in the Scheller College of Business at the Georgia Institute of Technology (GT) and is an Alfred P. Sloan Industry Studies Fellow. He received a National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER award, which "offers the National Science Foundation's most prestigious awards in support of ... those teacher-scholars who most effectively integrate research and education" (NSF CAREER Award description).

Frank's research interests lie in the areas of strategy, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Frank has published over 35 articles in leading academic journals such as the *Strategic Management Journal, Organization Science, Academy of Management Journal, Academy of Management Review,* and elsewhere. Based on having published papers in the top 1 percent based on citations, *Thomson Reuters* identified Frank as one of the "world's most influential scientific minds." He is listed among the top-100 scholars based on impact over more than a decade in both economics and business. *Bloomberg Businessweek* named Frank one of Georgia Tech's Prominent Faculty in its national survey of business schools. The Kauffman Foundation views Frank as one of the world's 75 thought leaders in entrepreneurship and innovation.

Frank has received several recognitions for his research, including the Sloan Industry Studies Best Paper Award, the Academy of Management



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Newman Award, the Strategic Management Society Conference Best Paper Prize, the DRUID Conference Best Paper Award, the Israel Strategy Conference Best Paper Prize, and he is the inaugural recipient of the Byars Faculty Excellence Award. Frank currently serves or has served on the editorial boards of the *Strategic Management Journal*, *Organization Science*, *Academy of Management Journal*, *Academy of Management Review*, and *Strategic Organization*.

Frank regularly translates his research findings for wider audiences in articles in the *MIT Sloan Management Review, The Wall Street Journal, Forbes,* and elsewhere. To inform his research Frank has conducted extensive fieldwork and executive training with leading corporations such as Amgen, Daimler, Eli Lilly, Equifax, GE Energy, GE Healthcare, Hyundai Heavy Industries (South Korea), Kimberly-Clark, Microsoft, McKesson, NCR, Turner (TBS), UPS, among others.

Frank has a wide range of executive education experience, including teaching in programs at GE Management Development Institute (Crotonville, New York), Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgetown University, ICN Business School (France), Politecnico di Milano (Italy), St. Gallen University (Switzerland), and the University of Washington. He received numerous teaching awards for excellence in the classroom including the GT-wide Georgia Power Professor of Excellence award.

When launched in 2012, Frank's *Strategic Management* text received the McGraw-Hill 1st Edition of the Year Award in Business & Economics. In 2018, the 4th edition of the text received McGraw-Hill's Product of the Year Award in Business & Economics. Frank's *Strategic Management* text has been translated into Greek, Korean, Mandarin, and Spanish. Sixteen of his case studies are Most Popular among the cases distributed by Harvard Business Publishing.

Frank held visiting professorships at EBS University of Business and Law (Germany), Singapore Management University (Tommie Goh Professorship), and the University of St. Gallen (Switzerland). He is a member of the American Economic Association, Academy of Management, and the Strategic Management Society.

Frank holds a PhD degree in strategic management from the University of Washington; an MBA from the Marriott School of Management at Brigham Young University; and is Diplom-Volkswirt (M.Sc. equivalent) in economics from the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany. Frank completed training in the case teaching method at the Harvard Business School.

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## **PREFACE**

The market for strategy texts can be broadly separated into two overarching categories: traditional application-based and research-based. Traditional application-based strategy books represent the first-generation texts with first editions published in the 1980s. The research-based strategy books represent the second-generation texts with first editions published in the 1990s. I wrote this text to address a needed new category—a third generation of strategy content that *combines* into one the student-accessible, application-oriented frameworks of the first-generation texts with the research-based frameworks of the second-generation texts. The market response to this unique approach to teaching and studying strategy continues to be overwhelmingly enthusiastic.

To facilitate an enjoyable and refreshing reading experience that enhances student learning and retention, I *synthesize* and *integrate* strategy frameworks, empirical research, and practical applications with current real-world examples. This approach and emphasis on real-world examples offers students a learning experience that uniquely combines rigor and relevance. As John Media of the University of Washington's School of Medicine and lifelong researcher on how the mind organizes information explains:

How does one communicate meaning in such a fashion that learning is improved? A simple trick involves the liberal use of relevant real-world examples, thus peppering main learning points with meaningful experiences. . . . Numerous studies show this works. . . . The greater the number of examples . . . the more likely the students were to remember the information. It's best to use real-world situations familiar to the learner. . . . Examples work because they take advantage of the brain's natural predilection for pattern matching. Information is more readily processed if it can be immediately associated with information already present in the brain. We compare the two inputs, looking for similarities and differences as we encode the new information. Providing examples is the cognitive equivalent of adding more handles to the door. [The more handles one creates at the moment of learning, the more likely the information can be accessed at a later date.] Providing examples makes the information more elaborative, more complex, better encoded, and therefore better learned.\*

Strategic Management brings conceptual frameworks to life via examples that cover products and services from companies with which students are familiar, such as Facebook, Amazon, Google, Tesla, Starbucks, Apple, McDonald's, Nike, Disney, Airbnb, and Uber. Liberal use of such examples aids in making strategy relevant to students' lives and helps them internalize strategy concepts and frameworks. Integrating current examples with modern strategy thinking, I prepare students with the foundation they need to understand how companies gain and sustain competitive advantage. I also develop students' skills to become successful leaders capable of making well-reasoned strategic decisions in a turbulent 21st century.

I'm pleased to introduce the new 5<sup>th</sup> edition of *Strategic Management*. My distinctive approach to teaching strategy not only offers students a unique learning experience that combines theory and practice, but also provides tight linkages between concepts and cases. In this new 5<sup>th</sup> edition, I build upon the unique strengths of this product, and continue to add improvements based upon hundreds of insightful reviews and important feedback from professors, students, and working professionals. The hallmark features of this text continue to be:

- Student engagement via practical and relevant application of strategy concepts using a holistic Analysis, Formulation, and Implementation (AFI) Strategy Framework.
- Synthesis and integration of empirical research and practical applications combined with relevant strategy material to focus on "What is important?" for the student and "Why is it important?"

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<sup>\*</sup>Medina, J. (2014), Brain Rules: 12 Principles for Surviving and Thriving at Work, Home, and School. (Seattle: Pear Press), 139–140.

PREFACE X

- Strong emphasis on diversity and inclusion by featuring a wide range of strategic leaders from different backgrounds and fields, not just in business, but also in entertainment, professional sports, and so forth.
- Coverage of a wide array of organizations, including for-profit public (Fortune 100) companies, private firms (including startups), as well as nonprofit organizations. All of them need a good strategy!
- Global perspective, with a focus on competing around the world, featuring many leading companies from Asia, Europe, and Latin America, as well as North America. I was fortunate to study, live, and work across the globe, and I attempt to bring this cosmopolitan perspective to bear in this text.
- Direct personal applications of strategy concepts to careers and lives to help internalize
  the content (including the popular myStrategy modules at the end of each chapter).
- Industry-leading digital delivery option (Create), adaptive learning system (SmartBook), and online assignment and assessment system (Connect).
- Standalone module on How to Conduct a Case Analysis.
- *High-quality* **Cases,** well integrated with text chapters and standardized, *high-quality* and detailed teaching notes; there are three types of cases that come with this text:
  - 12 ChapterCases begin and end each chapter, framing the chapter topic and content.
  - 12 MiniCases in Part 4 of the book, with one MiniCase tailored specifically to each chapter with accompanying discussion questions. All of the cases are based on original research, provide dynamic opportunities for students to apply strategy concepts by assigning them in conjunction with specific chapters, and can be used in a variety of ways (as individual assignments, group work, and in class).
  - 22 full-length Cases, authored or co-authored by Frank T. Rothaermel specifically to accompany this text; 12 of these cases are included complimentary in 5e Connect.

I have taken great pride in authoring all the case materials that accompany this text. This additional touch is a differentiating feature from other offerings on the market and allows for strict quality control and seamless integration with chapter content. All case materials come with sets of questions to stimulate class discussion and provide guidance for written assignments. High-quality case teaching notes that more fully integrate content and cases are available to instructors in the **Connect Library**.

In addition to these in-text cases, McGraw-Hill's custom-publishing Create program offers all of the cases and teaching notes accompanying the current as well as prior editions (www.mcgrawhillcreate.com/rothaermel).

#### What's New in the Fifth Edition?

I have revised and updated the new edition in the following ways, many of which were inspired by conversations and feedback from the many users and reviewers of the prior editions.

#### **OVERVIEW OF MAJOR CHANGES IN 5E**

- Section "Stakeholder Strategy and Competitive Advantage" now in Chapter 1.
- Section "Vision, Mission, and Values" now in Chapter 2.
- New section "Strategic Decision Making" in Chapter 2.
- New section "From External to Internal Analysis" in Chapter 4.







#### XVI PREFACE

- Three new **ChapterCases:** Five Guys (Chapter 4), Alphabet and Google (Chapter 11), and Theranos (Chapter 12); all other ChapterCases revised and updated.
- All new or updated and revised **Strategy Highlights** (two per chapter).
- Revised and updated module on How to Conduct a Case Analysis.
- Five new MiniCases (Uber, PayPal, JCPenney, GE, and BlackBerry), featuring not only success stories but also failures; all other MiniCases revised and updated. One MiniCase per chapter, tightly integrated with learning objectives. Detailed and high-quality teaching notes are available in the Connect Library.
- Three new full-length Cases (Airbnb, Nike, and The Vanguard Group); all other cases including most popular ones such as Amazon, Apple, Best Buy, Facebook, McDonald's, and Tesla, among others, are revised and updated. Detailed and updated case teaching notes, as well as financial data for these cases, are available in the Connect Library.

## IN DETAIL

#### **CHAPTER 1**

- Revised and updated ChapterCase: "Tesla's Secret Strategy"
- New Strategy Highlight: "Does Twitter have a Strategy?"
- New Strategy Highlight: "Merck's Stakeholder Strategy"
- Improved chapter flow through moving the updated section "Stakeholder Strategy and Competitive Advantage" into Chapter 1 (from Chapter 2)

#### **CHAPTER 2**

- Revised and updated ChapterCase: "Leadership Crisis at Facebook?"
- New section: "Strategic Decision Making"
- New exhibit: "Two Distinct Modes of Decision Making"
- New exhibit: "How to Use a Devil's Advocate to Improve Strategic Decision Making"
- New Strategy Highlight: "Teach for America: How Wendy Kopp Inspires Future Leaders"
- Improved chapter flow through moving the updated section "Vision, Mission, and Values" into Chapter 2 (from Chapter 1)

#### **CHAPTER 3**

- Revised and updated ChapterCase: "Airbnb: Disrupting the Hotel Industry"
- New Strategy Highlight: "Blockbuster's Bust"
- New Strategy Highlight: "From League of Legends to Fortnite: The Rise of e-Sports"

#### **CHAPTER 4**

- New ChapterCase: "Five Guys' Core Competency: 'Make the Best Burger, Don't Worry about Cost'"
- New section: "From External to Internal Analysis"
- New Strategy Highlight: "Dr. Dre's Core Competency: Coolness Factor"









PREFACE XVII

#### **CHAPTER 5**

- Revised and updated ChapterCase: "The Quest for Competitive Advantage: Apple vs. Microsoft"
- New Strategy Highlight: "PepsiCo's Indra Nooyi: Performance with a Purpose"

#### **CHAPTER 6**

- Revised and updated ChapterCase: "JetBlue Airways: En Route to a New Blue Ocean?"
- New Strategy Highlight: "Cirque du Soleil: Finding a New Blue Ocean?"

#### **CHAPTER 7**

- Revised and updated ChapterCase: "Netflix: Disrupting the TV Industry"
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#### **CHAPTER 8**

- Revised and updated ChapterCase: "Amazon's Corporate Strategy"
- New Strategy Highlight: "P&G Diversification Strategy: Turning the Tide?"

#### **CHAPTER 9**

Revised and updated ChapterCase: "Little Lyft Gets Big Alliance Partners and Beats Uber in Going Public"

#### **CHAPTER 10**

- Revised and updated ChapterCase: "IKEA: The World's Most Profitable Retailer"
- New Strategy Highlight "Does GM's future lie in China?"

#### **CHAPTER 11**

- New ChapterCase: "'A' is for Alphabet and 'G' is for Google"
- New exhibit: "Formal and Informal Building Blocks of Organizational Design"
- New Strategy Highlight: "Zappos: Of Happiness and Holacracy"

#### **CHAPTER 12**

- New ChapterCase: "Theranos: Bad Blood"
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#### **MINICASES**

- 12 MiniCases, one for each chapter; each MiniCase is closely tied to the chapter's learning objectives and includes discussion questions and detailed teaching notes.
- Five new MiniCases: Uber, PayPal, JCPenney, GE, and BlackBerry
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XVIII PREFACE

#### FULL-LENGTH CASES

- Three new full-length cases (Airbnb, Nike, and The Vanguard Group); all other cases, including most popular ones such as Amazon, Apple, Best Buy, Facebook, McDonald's, and Tesla, are updated and revised.
- Detailed and updated case teaching notes as well as financial data for these cases are available for instructors in the Connect Library.

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- The **Test Bank** includes 100 to 150 questions per chapter, in a range of formats and with a greater-than-usual number of comprehension, critical-thinking, and application or scenario-based questions. Each question is tagged to learning objectives, Bloom's Taxonomy levels, and AACSB compliance requirements. Many questions are new and written especially for this new edition.







PREFACE XIX

The Video Guide includes video links that relate to concepts from chapters. The video links include sources such as Big Think, Stanford University's Entrepreneurship Corner, The McKinsey Quarterly, ABC, BBC, CBS, CNN, ITN/Reuters, MSNBC, NBC, PBS, and YouTube.

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Frank T. Rothaermel Georgia Institute of Technology

Web: ftrStrategy.com
Email: frank@ftrStrategy.com







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University of Idaho

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Auburn University,

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Jeff Barden

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Geoff Bell
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The Ohio State
University

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Heidi Bertels

City University of New York, Staten Island

Lorenzo Bizzi

California State University, Fullerton

Audrey M. Blume, D.B.A. Wilmington University

Tim Blumentritt
Kennesaw State University

William C. Bogner *Georgia State University* 

David S. Boss *Ohio University* 

Michael Bowen
University of South Florida

Nathan A. Bragaw Louisiana State University

Dorothy Brawley
Kennesaw State University

Wm. David Brice California State University, Dominguez Hills

Michael G. Brizek South Carolina State University

James W. Bronson University of Wisconsin, Whitewater

Jill A. Brown
Bentley University

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Barry Bunn Valencia College Richard A. L. Caldarola Troy University Marco Ceccagnoli Georgia Institute of Janice F. Cerveny Florida Atlantic University Clint Chadwick University of Alabama, Kenneth H. Chadwick Nicholls State University Jay P. Chandran Northwood University

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Golden Gate University

Steve Childers Radford University

Sanjib Chowdhury Eastern Michigan University

Valerie L. Christian Sacred Heart University

Brent Clark University of South Dakota

Timothy S. Clark Northern Arizona University

John Clarry Rutgers University

Betty S. Coffey Appalachian State University

Anne N. Cohen University of Minnesota

Jamie Collins University of Canterbury

**Brian Connelly** Auburn University

W. J. Conwell University of Texas at El Paso

Rick Corum Liberty University

Eva Lynn Cowell University of Tennessee

Cynthia S. Cycyota United States Air Force Academy

Derrick E. D'Souza University of North Texas

Joshua J. Daspit Texas State University

Parthiban David American University

Samuel DeMarie Iowa State University

Irem Demirkan Northeastern University

Geoffrey Desa San Francisco State University

**Edward Desmarais** Salem State University

Steven S. Dionne Georgia State University

Michael E. Dobbs Eastern Illinois University

Mark Dobeck Cleveland State University

Darla Domke-Damonte Coastal Carolina University

Stephen A. Drew Florida Gulf Coast University

Mohinder Dugal Western Connecticut State University

Arthur J. Duhaime III Nichols College

David Duhon University of Southern Mississippi

Danielle Dunne Fordham University

Supradeep Dutta State University of New York, Buffalo

Loretta S. Duus Midlands Technical College

Jason Scott Earl Brigham Young University, Hawaii

Andrew G. Earle University of New Hampshire

Helen Eckmann Brandman University

Linda F. Edelman Bentley University

Alan Ellstrand University of Arkansas, **Fayetteville** 

David Epstein University of Houston Downtown

Michael M. Fathi Georgia Southwestern State University

Kevin Fertig University of Illinois at Urbana, Champaign

James Fiet University of Louisville









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Robert S. Fleming Rowan University

Carla C. Flores Ball State University

**Daniel Forbes** University of Minnesota

Isaac Fox University of Minnesota

Susan Fox-Wolfgramm Hawaii Pacific University

William Foxx Troy University

Charla S. Fraley Columbus State Community College

W.A. Franke Northern Arizona University

Steven A. Frankforter Winthrop University

Anne W. Fuller Georgia Institute of **Technology** 

Venessa Funches Auburn University, Montgomery

Jeffrey Furman Boston University

Nolan Gaffney University of North Texas

Scott Gallagher James Madison University

David L. Gartenberg Seattle University

John E. Gentner University of Dayton

Jim Glasgow Villanova University

Eric Glymph Virginia Commonwealth

University

Devi R. Gnyawali Virginia Tech

Sanjay Goel

University of Minnesota, Duluth

Steve Gove

University of Vermont

Patrick Greek Macomb Community

College

Shirley A. Green Indian River State College

Regina A. Greenwood Nova Southeastern University

Christin Van Wyk Greiman Northwood University

Robert D. Gulbro Athens State University

Michael Gunderson University of Florida

Craig Gustin American InterContinental University

Stephen F. Hallam University of Akron

Marcia McLure Hardy Northwestern State University, Louisiana

Darel Hargrove Central Michigan University

Ahma Hassan

Morehead State University Scott D. Hayward

Elon University / Appalachian State University

Jon Timothy Heames West Virginia University

Richard A. Heiens University of South Carolina, Aiken

Duane Helleloid

University of North Dakota

Kurt A. Heppard United States Air Force Academy

Theodore T. Herbert Rollins College

Kurt Herrmann Brigham Young University

Ken Hess Metropolitan State University

Scott Hicks Liberty University

Glenn Hoetker The University of Melbourne

Phyllis Holland Valdosta State University

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George Hruby Cleveland State University

Tammy Huffman Utah Valley University

Tobias M. Huning University of North Florida

Tammy G. Hunt University of North Carolina Wilmington

Ana Elisa Iglesias University of Wisconsin, La Crosse

Syeda Noorein Inamdar The Chinese University of Hong Kong

John G. Irwin Troy University



Carol K. Jacobson Purdue University

Sean Jasso University of California, Riverside

Scott Johnson Oklahoma State University

Mahesh P. Joshi George Mason University

Jon Kalinowski Minnesota State University, Mankato

Necmi Karagozoglu California State University, Sacramento

Joy Karriker East Carolina University

J. Kay Keels Coastal Carolina University

Franz Kellermanns University of North Carolina, Charlotte

Theodore A. Khoury Portland State University

David King Iowa State University

Brent Kinghorn Missouri State University

Jerry Kopf Radford University

Donald J. Kopka, Jr. Towson University

Frank Kozak Bowling Green State University

Mario Krenn Louisiana State University

Bruce C. Kusch Brigham Young University, Idaho

Melody Waller LaPreze Missouri State University

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John Lawrence University of Idaho

Mariana J. Lebrn Towson University

Hun Lee George Mason University

Jay Lee California State University Sacramento

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Jon Lehman Vanderbilt University

David Leibsohn California State University, Fullerton

Aristotle T. Lekacos Stony Brook University

State University of New York, New Paltz

Eduardo V. Lopez, Ph.D. Belmont University

Joseph Mahoney University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

David Major University of Miami Paul Mallette

Colorado State University

Tatiana S. Manolova Bentley University

Daniel B. Marin Louisiana State University

Sarah Marsh Northern Illinois University

Louis Martinette University of Mary Washington

Anthony U. Martinez San Francisco State University

Blake Mathias Louisiana State University

Gita Mathur San Jose State University

Patricia Matuszek Troy University, Montgomery

David McCalman University of Central Arkansas

Jeffrey E. McGee The University of Texas, Arlington

Jean McGuire Louisiana State University

Rick McPherson University of Washington

Michael Merenda University of New Hampshire

John M. Mezias University of Miami

Grant Miles University of North Texas

Douglas R. Miller University of North Carolina, Wilmington





Michael Miller University of Illinois, Chicago

Elouise Mintz Saint Louis University

Raza Mir William Paterson University

Kelly Mollica University of Memphis

Mike Montalbano Bentley University

Debra L. Moody Virginia Commonwealth University

Gwen Moore University of Missouri, St. Louis

James P. Morgan Webster University, Fort Leonard Wood

Richard T. Mpovi Middle Tennessee State University

John Mullane Middle Tennessee State University

Canan C. Mutlu Kennesaw State University

Chandran Mylvaganam Northwood University

Louise Nemanich Arizona State University

Don O. Neubaum Oregon State University

Kent Neupert Boise State University

Charles Newman University of Maryland University College

Kuei-Hsien Niu

California State University,

Sacramento

Jill Novak

Indian River State College

Frank Novakowski Davenport University

Jeffrey R. Nystrom University of Colorado

Denver

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Kenny (Kyeungrae) Oh University of Missouri, St. Louis

Don Okhomina Fayetteville State University

Eren Ozgen Troy University-Dothan

Chris Papenhausen University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth

James M. Pappas Oklahoma State University

Audrey Parajon Wilmington University

Ronaldo Parente Florida International University

Srikanth Paruchuri Pennsylvania State University

Christine Cope Pence University of California,

Riverside

Luis A. Perez-Batres Central Michigan University

Clifford R. Perry Florida International University

Keith Perry San Jose State University

Antoaneta Petkova San Francisco State University

JoDee Phillips Kaplan University

Michael W. Pitts Virginia Commonwealth University

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Alan D. Smith
Kent State University/Robert
Morris University

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Ned Smith *University of Michigan* 

James D. Spina
University of Maryland

Peter A. Stanwick Auburn University

Mark Starik San Francisco State University

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Mohan Subramaniam Boston College

Ram Subramanian

Montclair State University

James Anthony Swaim Kennesaw State University

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Jing'an Tang
Sacred Heart University

Linda F. Tegarden *Virginia Tech* 

Robert Thompson University of Texas, San Antonio

Paul W. Thurston, Jr. Siena College

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Middle Tennessee State

University

Kim K. J. Tullis University of Central Oklahoma

Rashada Houston Turner Florida A&M University

Beverly B. Tyler North Carolina State University

Isaiah O. Ugboro North Carolina A&T State University

Tolga Ulusemre Hawaii Pacific University

Barry VanderKelen California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Jorge Walter
The George Washington
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Louisiana Tech University

Jia Wang California State University, Fresno

David B. Wangrow

Marquette University

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Vincent Weaver Greenville Technical College

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Laura Whitcomb

California State University,
Los Angeles

George O. White III
University of Michigan, Flint

Margaret White
Oklahoma State University

Marta Szabo White Georgia State University

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Wright State University







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California State University

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