

# 2015 EMBA Alumni Awards



**Justin Ettelson**  
EMBA 2001  
Capital Markets Attorney,  
Saul Ewing LLP

## SERVICE TO THE ALMA MATER

Awarded to the alumnus whose efforts on behalf of EMBA/LeBow College of Business/Drexel University have enhanced the stature of the institution and education of its students through voluntary or professional associations with the University.

Justin Ettelson is a 2001 graduate of the Drexel LeBow Executive MBA program. He then went on to law school and joined Saul Ewing LLP, where he is a business lawyer specializing in broker-dealer and investment adviser regulation and operation of capital markets, public and private securities transactions, mergers and acquisitions and venture capital transactions.

Justin was elected to the Executive MBA Alumni Board in 2012. Since then, Justin has accompanied three Executive MBA

cohorts on their international residencies--to Beijing and Shanghai, Prague and Krakow and, most recently, Cusco and Lima. In Beijing, Justin arranged for the EMBA group to be received at a large Chinese law firm for an in depth panel discussion on the practice of law in China.

During the trip, Justin spent time talking with the cohorts about ways they could stay involved with the program post-graduation. An avid photographer, he documented the group's travel and experiences. At the student's

graduation reception, Justin presented each student with a flash drive with journalistic photo highlights of the trip.

Karla Trotman (EMBA 2015 and a new member of the board) expressed her appreciation, explaining that "Justin was with us the whole way, from joining us at

Saturday lunch breaks, the international residency and at our graduation reception. He was there to transition us into becoming engaged alumni and is the example of how I forge my relationships with future graduates."



## ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Awarded to the alumnus who has taken the plunge and successfully started their own business; Success in this case means that he/she is passionate about their growing business, has personal financial interest in the business, and is in leading management roles.

Samuel Gosselin graduated from the Executive MBA program in 2007. Then, two years ago, after a successful corporate career, Samuel decided to give it all up and embark on a new journey, opening his own French restaurant, Josephine, named after his mother, in Boston. "I've run companies in the past, but I always wanted to create my own business and be my own boss", Samuel was quoted in *Boston Magazine*. His dream was to own and run his own restaurant. "I've always loved cooking and good wine, and I just felt this was the natural evolution for me professionally."

According to his classmate, Cindy Conway, Samuel was always seen as the "fearless, and the quite creative, innovative entrepreneur."

Samuel attributes his success as a restaurateur to his passion and hard work, and his comfort and acceptance with the risk level in the industry. He cites being able to use all elements of his knowledge and experience, including that gained from his life experiences and the Drexel EMBA program. He also indicated that the ability to de-construct the company to address key operating elements, and his willingness to do all that is required contribute to his success.

In addition to manning the wine program, Gosselin, a self-styled "handyman" helped to re-design the restaurant space.

He says he has learned that "one has to be driven by a vision and be excited about that vision, listen to experience, and at some point be humble enough and know enough to know when you need help."



**Samuel Gosselin**  
EMBA 2007  
Restaurant Owner,  
Josephine

