

# McNulty Leadership Venture Fellows

Recruiting Information Session  
February 14, 2024



# Agenda



## 1. Wharton Leadership Ventures Overview

- a. How does WLV fit into the McNulty Leadership Program?
- b. What are Wharton Leadership Ventures?
- c. Venture Calendar & Partners

## 2. What is the Venture Fellow Program?

- b. Venture Fellow Purpose
- c. What do Venture Fellows do?
- d. What are the responsibilities of VFs?
- e. How does the VF role differ from Participants and Guides?

## 3. Becoming a Venture Fellow

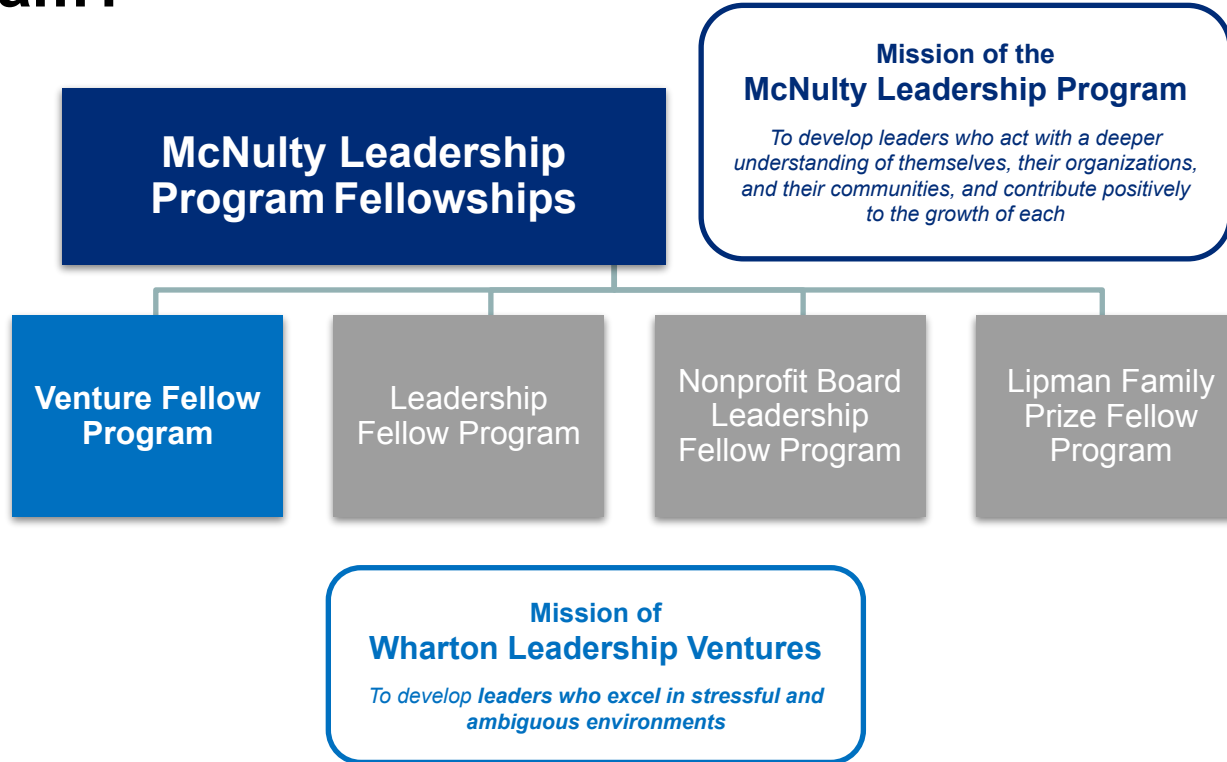
- b. Why should you become a VF?
- c. Why did VF24s become VFs?
- d. What is the culture that defines us?
- e. What does it take to become a VF?
- f. How to apply for the VF program?

## 4. Q&A



# Wharton Leadership Ventures Overview

# How does WLV fit into the McNulty Leadership Program?



# What are Leadership Ventures?



## Experiential Leadership Development

- Leadership Ventures are **goal-oriented** immersive experiences designed to facilitate **self-discovery**, **leadership development**, and **character building**.
- Participants experiment with different **leadership approaches**, receive real-time **feedback**, and step outside of their comfort zones to **overcome physical and mental challenges** in **team-based, high-pressure** environments.

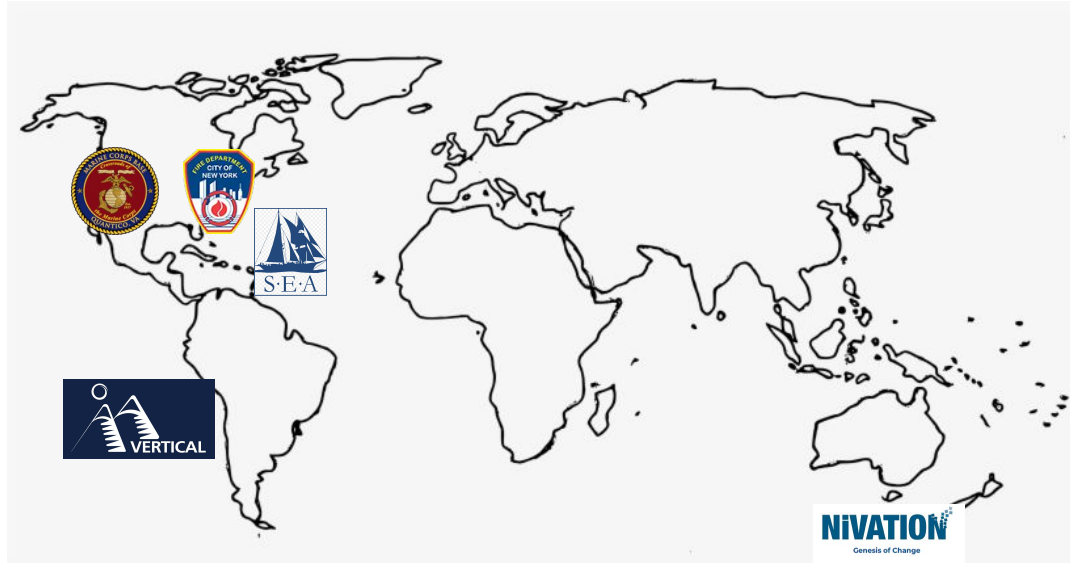
## Examples

- **Expeditions:** Plan, motivate, and execute a summit attempt or navigation through wilderness via trekking or sailing (7-9 days)
- **Intensives:** Undergo military or firefighting simulations (1-2 days)

**NOT:** An outdoors hike/excursion or vacation

- The Venture itinerary reflects the intentional structure and material needed to make this an irreplicable experiential leadership development opportunity.

# Venture Offerings & Partners (2023-2024)



## Fall Expeditions

- Atacama Desert

## Winter Expeditions

- Tall Ships Sailing
- Isla Navarino
- New Zealand - Mountain to Sea
- Antarctica

## Spring Expeditions

- Small Crew Sailing
- Vodudahue
- Cerro Castillo
- Andes Mountaineering

## Intensives (Fall & Spring)

- FDNY Firefighter Simulation
- Quantico Military Simulation



*\*2024-2025 Venture offerings list is tentative.*

# What is the Venture Fellow Program?



# The Venture Fellow Purpose



## Growth, Adventure, and Servant Leadership

*The purpose of the Venture Fellows is to **seek and facilitate growth in ourselves and Venture participants.**  
We aim to do this through responsible adventuring in the outdoors and leadership development activities in experiential settings.  
**We lead by example to find ways to serve and improve the communities around us.***



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# What do VFs do?



## Before the Venture

- Manage participants sign-up and waitlist
- Coordinate pre-trip info sessions and gear checks
- Conduct 2:1 goal discussions with participants
- Collaborate with partners to develop a venture plan
- Ensure participants are as venture-ready as possible

## During the Venture

- Collaborate with local partners ('guides') to develop and execute the Venture Plan
- Serve as leadership partners and facilitate curriculum delivery for participants
- Provide guidance to participants on how to facilitate effective After Action Reviews, feedback, and reflection
- Act as information focal point in crisis conditions

## After the Venture

- Debrief with VF community and transfer knowledge
- Compile documents about venture to be passed down for next year
- Support the VF Selection Committee in recruitment of the next Venture Fellow class

**NOT just run the ventures, but also serve as an ambassador to the VF program and commit to keep improving the program**



# How does VF role differ from participants & partners?



## Venture Fellows

- **Support 1-2 rope teams** throughout the venture
- Functions as a **Servant Leader** - VFs **operate in the background**
- Resource for participants & Leaders of the Day
- Provide overarching guidance during After Action Reviews

## Participants

- Part of a 5-7 person rope team to complete various challenges
- Provide feedback to facilitate leadership development of peers
- Functions in both a directive leadership capacity as LOD and as supporting teammate

## Partners (Guides)

- Transfer knowledge of trekking, navigation and camping, etc
- Ensure safety and wellness of all participants
- Design and implement the itinerary of venture with VFs
- Engage in AAR(s), providing feedbacks not only on outdoor techniques, but also leadership development

# What are the responsibilities of VFs?



**VFs are Wharton students focused on the highest standards of self and peer development. Their tasks include:**

- **Manage the logistics** to make the Ventures happen (each VF is generally tagged to one Venture)
- During the Venture **coach participants to support their learning process** and help achieve their goals
- **Lead by example within the Wharton community** to demonstrate the VF ethos
- **Promote the WLV program** and be a strong brand ambassador
- Utilize our skill sets and find impactful ways to improve the WLV program and **leave it better than how we found it for future classes**

## **Mandatory time commitments**

- *VF August Training:* 8 days from **Aug 17-24, 2024**
- *VF Winter Training:* 3 days in mid-Nov 2024 (specific dates TBD)
- *Selection Process:* January to April 2025
- *Weekly average:*
  - Vary heavily based on cyclical nature of program; typically heavier in Q2 and Q3
  - Expect to spend 5 hrs/week **minimum**
  - These go towards activities including Venture facilitation, training, committees, initiatives



# Becoming a Venture Fellow

# Why should you become a VF?



**An irreplicable experience to develop yourself and your peers through intense outdoor activities while expanding leadership skills, adventure knowledge, and forming bonds that will last a lifetime**

- Build on the Venture learnings exponentially through the **peer-guidance role**; relive Ventures through each of your participants and **learn deeply from each individual's journey**
- **Learn directly from seasoned adventure leaders (partners/guides)** who have real-world experience deploying key leadership skills in high stakes environments
- Practice being an effective leader through mentorship, facilitation, and leading from behind
- **Find your family at Wharton** - strong emphasis on service, community, and the VF ethos to support an incredible and wholesome culture
- **Leave a legacy by** making Ventures happen & serving in the leadership development and stretch experience of your peers

## **What makes VF a unique opportunity?**

- VFs may receive **training in leadership development facilitation and outdoors activities** over ~4 sessions including: *multi-day leadership simulations, FDNY, and Quantico*
- **VF programming extends throughout the whole year** to facilitate consistent development and culture building (trainings, leading Ventures, joining Ventures)
- Truly a well-rounded experience balancing physical and mental challenges and adventures
- Expand your wilderness skills and confidence with a fantastic group of adventure buddies

# Meet the VF24s!



**Birthdays** Age range 26-33

**Countries Represented** USA, China, Romania, India, Australia, Zimbabwe, Costa Rica, South Korea, Canada

**States Represented** 3 VFs are from CA!  
NC (2), TX (2), UT (2), NJ (2), PA, MA (2), OH, MD, NH

**Undergraduate Institutions** 3 from BYU (go Cougs), 2x Dartmouth, 2x West Point, 2x UNC, 2x Michigan, Yale, UChicago, Columbia, UPenn, etc.!

**Favorite Philly Spots** Top Spot: Schuylkill River Trail (5)  
Honorable Mention: Angelo's Pizza

**Dream Job at Age of 5** 5(!) astronauts 🚀, 2 NFL players 🏈  
1 secret agent, 1 dinosaur (not a dinosaur expert)





# Why did VF24s become VFs?

## Alyssa Sohn

alysohn@wharton.upenn.edu



### Why did you apply to be a VF

Encouraged by a fellow veteran, I applied to be a VF to take on a coaching and support role, empowering venture participants to explore their leadership styles in awe-inspiring settings.

### What makes a good VF in your opinion

Model for others what good team membership looks like by being reliable, punctual, solution-oriented, and curious. Make space for fun. Your team's success = your success.

### What has been the most rewarding experience so far

Watching my Aotearoa team, TMF, climb Tarn Col through Arthur's Pass National Park. Having TMF come in first while rafting through the Waimakariri River. Almost floating away during a river crossing. And of course, August training.

## Philip Morgan

philipem@wharton.upenn.edu



### Why did you apply to be a VF

I was excited to find and build a strong community of like-minded classmates with whom I could learn, grow, and develop alongside in a non-traditional and exhilarating learning environment.

### What makes a good VF in your opinion

Personal diligence, humility, and a willingness to sacrifice on an individual level to achieve collective success in a host of scenarios, despite the presence of ambiguity and adversity.

### What has been the most rewarding experience so far

Aug. and Nov. training gave me so many opportunities to reflect on and challenge my own leadership competencies and behavior. Because of them, I've made bonds that I will last a lifetime and learned so much about leadership from my peers' examples.

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# Why did VF24s become VFs?

## Beom Shin

sbshin@wharton.upenn.edu



### Why did you apply to be a VF

I had a glimpse of what my insecurities and demons were in my first year venture; this opportunity seemed like THE supportive organization I can address these qualities surrounded by amazing people, and where I can serve to pay what I've learned forward

### What makes a good VF in your opinion

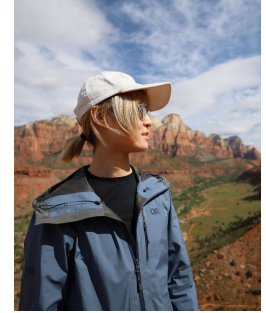
Humility & selflessness. You'll just be the version of yourself you were without these qualities. Learned the more you put others' interests before you, the faster you soak everything in and grow

### What has been the most rewarding experience so far

Among a billion moments, traveling with VFs after our ventures in Chile. Truly felt these are people I completely trust, have fun with, call on each others' \*\*, be vulnerable with, and just be a family with

## Connie Nie

niek@wharton.upenn.edu



### Why did you apply to be a VF

I applied to be a VF to practice servant leadership and embrace personal growth along with a tribe of adventures whom I deeply value and cherish

### What makes a good VF in your opinion

Kind, empathetic, and valuing long-term growth, finding strength in subordinating individual needs for the greater community, and promote an inclusive and fun environment

### What has been the most rewarding experience so far

After a week of hiking through sweat, dust, and blisters, and nights with bugs, my fellow VFs honored me the VF Patagonia jacket and announced that I had earned my spot as a VF!

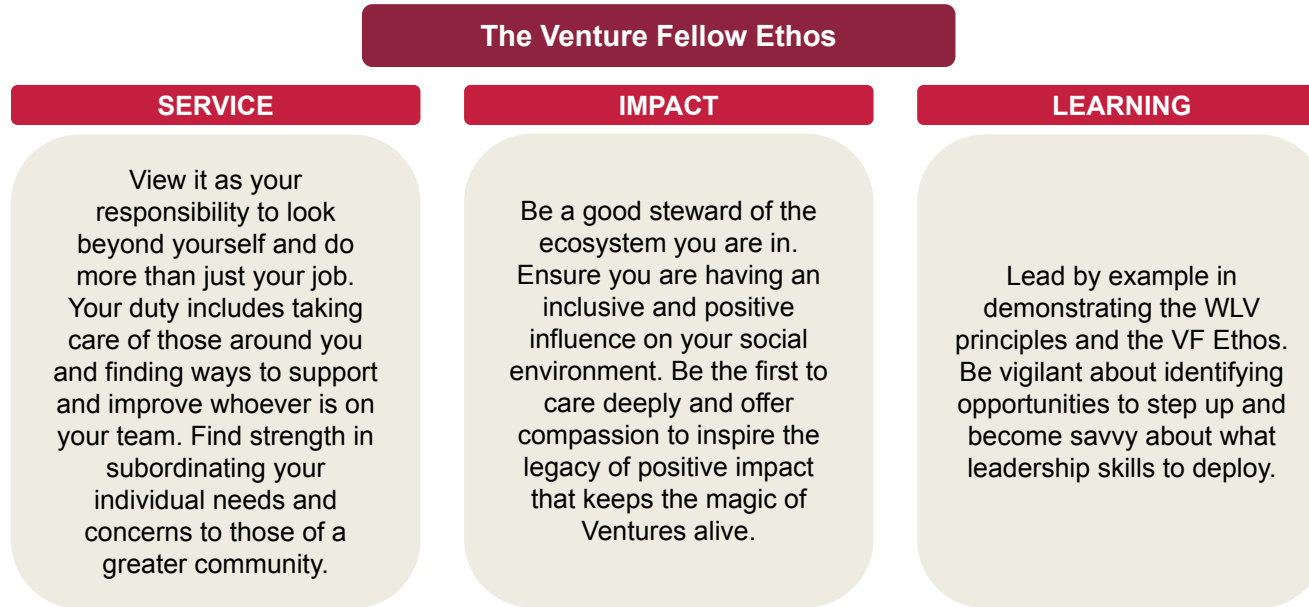
# What is the culture that defines us?



*We are not VFs because of some static quality within us.*

***We become VFs through the actions we chose to take** when we step into the VF role and during WLVs*

*As ambassadors of this program we define and support our culture through behaviour that demonstrates the following values:*



# What does it take to become a VF?



01	Leadership Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate flexible leadership skills that allow you to navigate various contexts</li><li>• Be willing to push your comfort zone to develop your leadership toolkit</li></ul>
02	Effective Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintain clear and well-organized channels of communication</li><li>• Utilize appropriate methods to ensure the recipient can receive desired messaging</li><li>• Know your audience and communicate in appropriate manners</li></ul>
03	Diplomacy & Team Dynamics Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manage conflicts productively and fairly</li><li>• Prioritize the needs of the team above all and actively seek to care for those around you</li><li>• Showcase positive team behaviours including vulnerability and reliance</li></ul>
04	Adaptability & Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be willing to take action confidently in ambiguous situations</li><li>• Handle failure with positive mindset and extract learnings</li><li>• Observe and understand evolving situations to adapt and find a way forward</li></ul>
05	Emotional Intelligence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand the emotional states of others and respond accordingly</li><li>• Lead with empathy</li></ul>
06	Commitment & Contribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Have the willingness and ability to make the Venture Fellow a top priority</li><li>• Go beyond immediate VF duties to find ways to improve the program</li></ul>
07	Readiness for Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand the nuances of the VF role, the skills needed and the challenges involved</li><li>• Willingness to perform in uncomfortable and outdoors environments<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ <b>Prior experience with Ventures and the outdoors NOT required</b></li></ul></li></ul>

# How to apply to the VF program



## Timeline

- Application (R1)  
**Thursday, Feb 15 - Thursday, Mar 14**  
Application Link [Here](#)
- Interviews (R2)  
**Sunday, Mar 24 - Thursday, Mar 28**
- Offers Extended  
**Wednesday, April 4**

## How to Connect with VFs

- Sign up [Here](#) for a **Coffee Chat** to meet with 1-2 current VFs either in person / virtually in a small group setting
  - **Thu 2/15** and **Fri 2/16**
  - **Thu 2/22** and **Fri 2/23**
- Drop in for **Office Hours** with any last minute questions!
  - **Tue, 3/12** from 12-3pm *Virtual link* [Here](#)
  - **Wed, 3/13** from 12-3pm *Virtual link* [Here](#)

*\*All Coffee Chats and Office Hours are non-evaluative and for informational & educational purposes only.*

# How to apply to the VF program



Apply here: <http://applyweb.com/upenwhar/index.ftl>

It's the same link you used to apply to VF and that other MLP programs use. Once participants confirm their personal information they can select the program they are applying for and answer those specific questions.

## Common Questions:

1. This isn't the right portal – this is where I applied to Wharton (select Venture Fellows in step 2 after they confirm their personal information).
2. If applicants have applied to other MLP programs they'll get the screen in Attachment 2 and often aren't sure where to go next. Click applying again to fill out the form.

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### Online Application Menu

- Getting Started**  
Create a new account or log in using your email address.
  - Create Your Account
  - Account Directions & Information
- Apply Online**  
Get started or continue work on your application today.
  - Online Application

Wharton's Leadership Program of the University of Pennsylvania

**⚠ You have already submitted University of Pennsylvania - Application for Wharton's Leadership Program for Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Test Term 2, Spring 2022, 2022-2023 Cohort, Test Term 2, 2022-2023 Cohort, Test Term 2, Test Term 2, 2022-2023 Cohort, 2022-2023 Cohort, Fall 2021, Test Term 2, 2021-22 Cohort, Test Term 2, Test Term 2, Spring 2021, 2021-22 Cohort, Test Term 2, Fall 2020, Spring 2020, Test Term 2, 2020-21 Cohort, 2019-20 Academic Year, Fall 2019, Test Term 2, Test Term 2, and 2019-20 Academic Year.**

<b>Need to Check Status?</b> If you wish to check on the status of or take action on an existing form (such as changing recommenders), please do so below.	<b>Applying Again?</b> If you wish to fill out the same form (e.g. for a different term and/or program) ... <a href="#">click here to fill out the form.</a>	<b>Might Have an Error?</b> If you feel you have received this message in error, please contact <a href="mailto:help@applyweb.com">help@applyweb.com</a> .
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# Q&A



- Check out the Wharton VF Website [here](#)!
- [Sign up](#) for Coffee Chats + Office Hours with current VFs!
- Please see [here](#) for evolving Q&A doc (2nd tab of sheet)
- Contact any of the below VFs for further questions, including:
  - Romel Singleton [romel@wharton.upenn.edu](mailto:romel@wharton.upenn.edu)
  - Philip Morgan [philipem@wharton.upenn.edu](mailto:philipem@wharton.upenn.edu)
  - Amy Park [parkamy@wharton.upenn.edu](mailto:parkamy@wharton.upenn.edu)
  - Alyssa Sohn [alyssohn@wharton.upenn.edu](mailto:alyssohn@wharton.upenn.edu)
  - Dan Quilty [dquilty@wharton.upenn.edu](mailto:dquilty@wharton.upenn.edu)



# Thank you!

