Skandha Suhas Badrinarayan

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (Gies College of Business) | December 2027 **GPA:** 3.9/4
Bachelor of Science, Finance; Minor in Business Analytics
Relevant Coursework: Financial Markets, Accounting, Corporate Finance, Data Science, Business Analytics, Leadership

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

AbbVie Chicago, IL, USA
Jr. Business Systems (Market Research) Summer Analyst May 2026 – Aug 2026
- Analyzed operational and AI risks across the market research organization, identifying workflow and control gaps
- Evaluated 10+ security vendors across capabilities, needs, and risk criteria to support enterprise technology decisions
- Developed MRTHub, an agent-driven platform, aiding scoping for market research projects, winning AI Hackathon
- Built DISHwatcher, a full-stack monitoring platform tracking 160+ enterprise endpoints for thousands of employees
- Centralized real-time diagnostics, service status, and business-impact insights, winning 1st place in the HackVie

OrchardEDU Portland, OR, USA
Co-Founder and Head of Business Development Aug 2025 - Present
- Co-founded an AI-native platform transforming instructor course materials into curriculum-aligned education content
- Led customer discovery with professors and pilot schools while recruiting advisors and technical co-founders
- Built AWS infrastructure cost models and multiyear financial projections supporting the RPI Catalyst grant application
- Analyzed the $163B EdTech market to develop a tiered B2B SaaS strategy targeting departments, deans, and districts

The Institute of Internal Auditors (Portland Chapter) Portland, OR, USA
EDGE Rising Star Volunteer Aug 2025 - Present
- Designed and facilitated 10+ GenAI training sessions for internal auditors from F500 companies and IIA chapters
- Researched emerging GenAI tools, governance, and data-security risks to develop responsible-adoption curriculum
- Conducted stakeholder interviews with auditors to align training content with enterprise workflows & business needs
- Coordinated meetings and maintained member, alumni, and board records across professionals in various countries

Kiotek Digi Networks Portland, OR, USA
Strategy & Investment Analyst Intern Jan 2022 - Mar 2024
- Screened 20+ investment deals across the US and India, assessing high-growth ventures across four industry sectors
- Conducted market sizing, competitive benchmarking, founder diligence, and interviews to evaluate attractiveness
- Developed investment memos and a ranked opportunity pipeline, presenting recommendations directly to the CEO
- Identified critical risks in a prospective investment, supporting the CEO's decision to discontinue further evaluation

EXTRACURRICULAR EXPERIENCE

Illinois Business Consulting — *Senior Consultant* Aug 2025 - Present
- Built a 100-variable market-sizing model across 12 segments, quantifying a $70M entry opportunity for a F500 client
- Developed a GenAI usage framework for a F100 client, reducing leakage risks while enabling enterprise adoption
- Evaluated technology vendors and regulatory requirements, identifying $1.4M in annual savings across HIPAA/GDPR

The Daily Illini — *Opinions & Food Writer* Sep 2026 - Present
- Write biweekly articles on topics including UIUC's culture, social media misinformation, and American exceptionalism
- Research developments in technology, finance, and global politics to build evidence-based reports for a wide audience
- Cover vegetarian dining, Indian culinary traditions, and campus food culture for *Chambana Eats*

Illinois Equity Research Association — *Co-President* Aug 2024 - Present
- Led tech and industrials sector research teams, mentoring 30+ members in financial modeling and investment theses
- Developed a 10-week equity research curriculum covering valuation, 3-statement modeling, and investment memos
- Increased member retention by 30% via hands-on workshops, structured mentorship, and project-team engagement

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Technical: Financial Modeling in Excel; Microsoft Office 365; AI/Python (Pandas, NumPy, scikit-learn); Prompt Engineering
Certifications: Adventis Financial Modeling Level I & II; Illinois Data Science Discovery; Goldman Sachs Possibilities Summit
Publications: *The Young Investor's Club* (Amazon); *The Mind of Suhas* (Substack); *The Daily Illini* (Articles)
Languages: English (Native); Spanish (Conversational/Reading); Tamil (Conversational/Reading); Telugu (Conversational)
Interests: Technology; Startups; Creative Writing; Photography; Formula 1; Cars; Soccer; Basketball; Cricket; Poker; Sitcoms