

# Aida Sijamic Wahid

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<http://scholar.harvard.edu/aida/>

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## EDUCATION

May 2012 **Harvard University, Harvard Business School**, Boston, MA  
(expected) **DBA – Accounting**

**Dissertation:** *Director Heterogeneity and its Impact on Board Effectiveness*

**Committee:** Paul Healy (Chair), Suraj Srinivasan, Gwen Yu

June 2005 **CPA, State of Massachusetts, since 2005** (active reporting license)

May 2002 **Brandeis University, Brandeis International Business School**, Waltham, MA  
M.A. - International Economics and Finance

May 2001 **Brandeis University**, Waltham, MA  
B.A. – Economics

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## RESEARCH

### INTERESTS

**Research Interests:** Impact of firm-level, independent party, regulatory agency, and country-level monitoring mechanisms on firm reporting behavior, decision outcome and performance.

**Teaching Interests:** Financial reporting, financial statement analysis, audit, managerial accounting.

### WORKING PAPERS

#### “Director heterogeneity and its impact on board effectiveness”

I examine the impact of director heterogeneity on board effectiveness and find that boards diverse along tenure and rank dimensions perform significantly better at CEO monitoring tasks. These results are confined to the subsample of firms with weaker governance. Diversity improves boards’ effectiveness only the extent that a firm chooses to take advantage of its benefits. Board diversity for window-dressing purposes is unlikely to be effective in improving governance.

#### “Admitting mistakes: An analysis of restatements by foreign firms listed in the US”

(with Suraj Srinivasan and Gwen Yu, *under review*)

We find that foreign firms from countries with a weak rule of law are less likely to restate their financials than those from strong rule of law countries, despite having higher levels of earnings management. After controlling for materiality of the restatement, such firms are more likely to opt for less visible disclosure methods when restating their financials. These findings suggest that for cross-listed firms, less frequent restatements can be a signal of opportunistic reporting rather than high quality earnings.

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## WORK IN PROGRESS

Accounting complexity and auditors' incentives: Joint determinants of audit effort and quality (data collection stage)

Litigation risk of foreign firms listed in the US (with Suraj Srinivasan and Gwen Yu, data analysis stage)

Professional directors and agency problem (with Kyle Welch, data analysis stage)

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2008 **Harvard Business School - Financial Reporting & Control**, Teaching Fellow  
Conducted twice-weekly review sessions for the first year MBA class (900 students) for all professors teaching the class, under supervision of course head, David Hawkins
- 2008 - 2010 **Harvard Business School - Business Valuation & Analysis**, Teaching Fellow  
Provided assistance to students conducting valuation projects for six consecutive semesters for prof. Eddie Riedl, Suraj Srinivasan and Sharon Katz.
- 2007 **PricewaterhouseCoopers - Audit**, Instructor  
Conducted two-week training sessions for associates at the firm on audit concepts and methodology.
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## WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2004 - 2007 PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP, Boston, MA  
**Senior Associate, Assurance and Business Advisory Services**
- 2001 - 2004 CELENT COMMUNICATIONS, Boston, MA  
**Treasurer & Finance Manager**
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## CONFERENCES and PRESENTATIONS

- 2012 Financial Accounting and Reporting Section (FARS) – Chicago, IL  
(upcoming) Presenting “*Admitting mistakes: An analysis of restatements by foreign firms listed in the US*”
- 2011 Journal of Accounting & Economics 2011 Conference – Philadelphia, PA  
American Accounting Association Annual Meeting – Denver, CO  
Information, Markets and Organizations – Boston, MA
- 2010 University of Texas Austin Spring Conference – Austin, TX  
Information, Markets and Organizations – Boston, MA
- 2009 American Accounting Association Annual Meeting – New York, NY  
University of Texas Austin Spring Conference – Austin, TX  
Information, Markets and Organizations – Boston, MA
- 2008 Information, Markets and Organizations – Boston, MA

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## AWARDS

2007-2011 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Fellowship, Harvard University  
2007 Mentoring & Teaching Award, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
1998 - 2001 Fink Memorial Scholarship, Brandeis University

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## ACTIVITIES

Member, American Accounting Association (AAA)  
Member, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)  
Member, Institute of Management Accountants (IMA)  
Member, Massachusetts Society of Certified Public Accountants (MASCPA)  
Committee Member, Academic Committee of MASCPA

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## REFERENCES

### **Paul Healy (Chair)**

JAMES R. WILLISTON PROFESSOR OF  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN, DIRECTOR  
OF RESEARCH  
Harvard Business School  
Morgan 395  
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### **Suraj Srinivasan**

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### **Gwen Yu**

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