

Sept. 2019

Alumni Relations Office – Columbia Business School

A few things to consider for context [on the Bloomberg Ranking]:

- In Bloomberg’s 2018 ranking of top business schools, Columbia ranked #7, up from #9 in 2017.
- A portion of this ranking is derived from alumni opinion surveys. The classes surveyed for the 2018 ranking were the classes of 2010, 2011, and 2012.
- While Bloomberg’s recent editorial on alumni satisfaction provided more insight from the alumni surveys, it’s important to note that the information is a snapshot of alumni sentiment from 6, 7, and 8 years in the past.
- As an additional factor, classes graduating in the years following the financial collapse of 2008 experienced uncertainty and employment-related challenges that influenced their perceptions about the school and its alumni network.
- Since those classes graduated:
 - The core curriculum and electives have been updated, entrepreneurship as a focus has been strengthened throughout the curriculum and in terms of the access and resources available through the Lang Center for Entrepreneurship.
 - The School has increased its focus on building a stronger community among current students and recent alumni, and increasing alumni presence on campus.
 - To keep pace with the changing needs of the market, Career Management Center has expanded support and resources for students in enterprise search and in an array of non-traditional industries.
- In the Economist’s 2018 ranking, which surveyed the Class of 2017, among M7 peer schools, CBS ranked #4 in networking potential, #5 in perceived effectiveness of the alumni network, #5 in opening new career opportunities, and #5 in education experience, supporting the success of these efforts.

We will continue to update curriculum and create engaging programming for recent alumni and alumni—that’s our goal at CBS. Rankings fluctuate each year and our aim is to focus on what we can directly impact. That said, we will plan to provide more information around rankings to students and alumni, so the understanding of their importance/impact/affect is also clear.