



## News Release

26 November 2021

# Pearson Alumnus Matteo Stefanel Named to College Board

[Matteo Stefanel](#), Pearson College UWC alumnus and founder and managing partner of a global private equity fund management firm focused on investing in financial services companies in Africa and Asia and on select Fintech investments recently joined the international Board of Directors for the Metchosin-based independent school.

“Matteo is a true [Pearsonite](#), one who believes in educational opportunities for youth from around the world and a leader who incorporates his principles into his life and work,” said Board Chair Anne McLellan. “Like all our Board Directors and independent committee members, Matteo is generously volunteering his time and expertise to help guide Canada’s only United World College.”

Stefanel (College Year 19/Italy) attended Pearson from 1992 to 1994 and said that his career and current business, Apis Partners LLB, have been based upon a strong moral foundation.

“Building better lives for more people was the key driver that pushed my founding partner [Udayan Goyal](#) and I to start Apis,” said Stefanel. “One of our [founding principles](#) was the strong desire to create positive social impact in the regions and communities we invest in – a core tenet of our [investment mandate](#) is the recognition and promotion of financial inclusion.”

He also noted that United World College (UWC) values imparted during his time at Pearson informed his business approach to financial inclusion, particularly for those who are underserved in access to financial services. He points out lack of access can mean exclusion from basic services such as getting paid regularly, obtaining credit or a loan and safely transferring funds to overseas family members with minimal cost.

Stefanel and fellow Board member Yaz Romahi recently led a virtual and lively mentorship session with several current Pearson students interested in financial sector careers. He also joined Pearson’s Campaign Cabinet, a group of volunteer alumni devoted to raising funds that help more promising changemaker students from around the world attend the non-profit, scholarship-driven College.

Fluent in multiple languages, Stefanel graduated from Queens College, Oxford with an MA (Hons) in Philosophy, Politics and Economics and has twice been a member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on Financing and Capital (2012-14 and 2014-16). He is married, with three children.

London and Milan-based Stefanel is looking forward to joining Board discussions, at least initially, remotely.

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*We are privileged to learn, work, and live on the traditional territory of the Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) First Nation. [Pearson College UWC](#) was founded as Lester B. Pearson United World College (UWC) of the Pacific in 1974 as unique pre-university school. Up to 200 students from across Canada and around the world chosen based on their promise, potential and demonstrated commitment to actively engage in creating a better world. Students are from up to 160 countries worldwide.*

Contact: Brian Geary | Nikola Mende  
Pearson College UWC Communications  
[bgeary@pearsoncollege.ca](mailto:bgeary@pearsoncollege.ca) | [nmende@pearsoncollege.ca](mailto:nmende@pearsoncollege.ca)