



New Directors - May 2026

Pedro L. Acre

Senior Vice President and Head of Innovation and Social Ventures

M&T Bank

Boston, MA

Pedro L. Arce is a senior banking executive and community development leader with over three decades of expertise in business banking, strategic growth, and community economic development. Currently serving as Senior Vice President and Head of Innovation and Social Ventures for M&T Bank. He started his career with Bank of Boston in 1990 and has remained attached to the New England banking scene for over 35 years.

A results-driven leader, Pedro consistently delivers exceptional outcomes, including:

- Leading his team to 167% loan production goals in 2023, ranking second across the entire M&T Bank footprint. Total performance was also well over 100% in 2023.
- M&T Bank made substantial gains in SBA lending moving up to 9th from 44 in 2023 and to 4th place in 2024. M&T has been named minority lender of the year by the SBA during Pedro's stint as Team Leader.
- Exploring new business development opportunities in agri-business, food science, hard tech and microlending in partnership with organizations like ACCION/Ascendus and Common Capital.
- Building strategic partnerships with organizations such as INICIO Ventures and Hispanics in Philanthropy, furthering opportunities for underrepresented founders in technology.

Beyond banking, Pedro is committed to education and professional development. He served as an Adjunct Professor at Suffolk University from 2007-2018 where he taught several MBA courses. As a Learning Fellow at Boston University, he teaches and provides support on value creation, data analytics, risk, globalization, and ethical leadership, fostering the next generation of business leaders.

Previous Roles and Accomplishments

Before joining M&T Bank, Pedro held influential roles at Eastern Bank, where he launched a de-novo operation in Lawrence Massachusetts and implemented an Urban Banking plan developed by him in 2007. As President and CEO of Veritas de novo Bank, he successfully raised \$13 million in capital and secured full regulatory approvals, demonstrating his

entrepreneurial and operational expertise. The Great Recession of 2008 prevented the opening of Veritas Bank. At TD Bank, he managed over \$200 million in residential mortgage sales annually while leading economic development initiatives across underserved markets in Massachusetts. He was TD's Community Development Manager for Massachusetts from 2002-2004.

In earlier roles, Pedro contributed to the creation of the nation's first bilingual SBA Small Business Information Center (BIC) in downtown Lawrence Ma when he was Bank of Boston's Community Development Manager.

Education and Multilingual Proficiency

Pedro holds a Master of Science in Multinational Commerce from Boston University, a Master of Arts in Business Management from Cambridge College, and dual bachelor's degrees in Sociology and Legal Studies from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Fluent in Spanish and English, he also maintains professional proficiency in Portuguese.

Leadership and Community Engagement

Pedro is deeply involved in community service, holding current board positions with organizations such as the New England Council, Mass High Tech Collaborative, Beyond Soccer (Lawrence, MA), and FORGE Impact. He has served in advisory roles with Vamos Ventures and ACCION USA, as well as on numerous boards, including the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston's Community Development Committee. He was appointed to serve on the Mass Housing Board by Governor Deval Patrick in 2010. His passion for fostering equitable economic opportunities is evident through his board activity and co-founding of several impactful organizations, including Lawrence Community Works CDC and the Merrimack Valley Economic Development Corporation.

Innovator in Economic Development

Community economic development activities are diverse, with highlights such as completing a large-scale high school building project in Lawrence, Massachusetts, which was delivered on time and under budget.

Bryan Cain, Ph.D. **President** **Endicott College** **Beverly, MA**

Bryan Cain, Ph.D., is Endicott College's eighth president, appointed by the Endicott Board of Trustees in March 2026.

Prior to his appointment, Dr. Cain served as Acting President for much of 2025 and then as Interim President, guiding the College through a period of significant momentum and transition.

During his tenure in these roles, Endicott celebrated several transformative milestones, including the opening of the new Admissions Welcome Center; the successful branding

and national promotion of the Endicott Experiential Edge across major media outlets, including Chronicle and The Boston Globe; record-breaking undergraduate and graduate application volume; the summer completion of the Wylie Center & Tupper Manor renovations; and Endicott's first \$75 million fundraising campaign, which surpassed \$63 million in December 2025.

Before stepping into presidential leadership, he served as Executive Vice President, acting as senior advisor, chief of staff, and strategic partner to the President, overseeing Board of Trustees relations, Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations, Communications and Marketing, Student Affairs, Special Events, and Title IX compliance. He also led the College's first comprehensive, integrated communications and marketing strategy, launched new Living Learning Communities, and expanded mental health and wellness resources.

He serves on the board of the LGBTQ Leaders in Higher Education and is a member of the Society of Presidential Historians in Academia.

Dr. Cain holds a Ph.D. in Higher Education Leadership from Endicott College, where his research examined the university president search process and the responsibility of Boards of Trustees in succession planning. A first-generation college graduate, he is deeply committed to access, student success, and mission-centered innovation. His expertise in strategic resource allocation, advancement, governance, and brand elevation continues to shape Endicott's trajectory as a top-tier institution known for experiential learning, agility, and community impact.

Joseph Gianni
President, Greater Hartford
Bank of America
Hartford, CT

Joe Gianni is president of Bank of America of Greater Hartford, serving as the company's enterprise leader in Hartford. Joe works across the region to connect businesses, families, and individuals to Bank of America's banking and investment teams.

He has held the position since 2018 but has been with Bank of America and its predecessor banks in Hartford since 1989. In addition to his role as president, Joe is the Public Policy Executive for the Northeast United States in which he engages with public officials and local leaders on policy priorities.

He is an active leader in the local community, and in addition to being a trustee for Hill-Stead Museum, he serves on the boards of Connecticut Foodshare, The Governor's Workforce Council, the MetroHartford Alliance, the Wadsworth, and GreenLight Fund.

Grace H. Lee
President & Chief Executive Officer

**St. Mary's Credit Union
Marlborough, MA**

Grace H. Lee is the President & Chief Executive Officer of St. Mary's Credit Union (SMCU), one of Massachusetts' leading community financial institutions. In this role, she provides strategic leadership and oversees all aspects of the credit union's operations, financial performance, and member engagement, driving innovation and long-term sustainability. A respected voice in the financial services industry, Grace is recognized for advancing inclusive growth, strengthening community partnerships, and championing digital transformation strategies.

Prior to joining SMCU, Grace served as Executive Vice President and Massachusetts Regional President at M&T Bank, where she led regional banking strategy, government finance, and corporate social responsibility initiatives. Earlier in her career, she was First Deputy Treasurer and General Counsel for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, managing multi-billion-dollar portfolios and spearheading major policy initiatives across the state.

Named one of Boston Magazine's 100 Most Influential Leaders (2024) and a Pinnacle Award Honoree by the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, Grace is deeply engaged in civic leadership. She serves on the Boards of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, New England Council, Mass High Tech Council, Greater Boston Boys & Girls Club, and Roxbury Community College.

**Jenna Massoud
Deputy Head of Government & Stakeholder Relations, New England
Orsted
Boston, MA**

Jenna leads New England government and stakeholder relations for Orsted. Hired in 2024, she supports the company's Northeast offshore wind projects through state and local government advocacy across Southern New England. She also manages relationships with stakeholders such as environmental NGOs, nonprofit organizations, business groups, and academic institutions, and she leads Orsted's local grants program. She is based in Orsted's Boston headquarters.

Prior to joining Orsted, Jenna spent several years working in Congressman Jake Auciencloss' district office. In that role, she managed outreach to the 35 cities and towns in the Massachusetts 4th district, coordinated grants and federal funding initiatives, led the office's youth-focused programming, and oversaw local priorities including offshore wind and clean energy development.

Jenna earned her Bachelor's degree in English and Political Science from Boston College. Originally from Rehoboth, Massachusetts, she currently resides in Needham. She has deep ties to southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and she is proud to support clean energy projects that will deliver power to the region she considers home.

Jim Merrill
Managing Partner
Bernstein Shur
Manchester, NH

Jim Merrill is one of the Granite State's most respected public affairs professionals. He is an attorney serving as Managing Partner of the Bernstein Shur office in New Hampshire since 2019, while also overseeing Bernstein Shur's Government and Public Affairs practice group in the Granite State. In those roles, he uses his extensive public affairs and communications experience as part of a bi-partisan public affairs firm to provide legislative, strategic, grassroots and media solutions for non-profit, real estate, construction, energy, telecom, healthcare and education clients engaged in complex matters.

Over the past 20 years, Jim has served as a senior advisor to the presidential campaigns of Marco Rubio, Mitt Romney and George W. Bush, helping each of them navigate New Hampshire's historic and demanding First in the Nation presidential primary. Jim has significant State House experience as well, having served for over two years on the staff of former New Hampshire Governor Stephen E. Merrill where he handled the Executive Council and served as a legislative aide, and later, as a legislative advisor at the NH Department of Health and Human Services thereafter. Jim knows that to win – whether at the ballot box, in the State House, or in the court of public opinion – a smart campaign is required. Jim's extensive experience allows him to provide customized communications, grassroots and coalition solutions for clients facing difficult challenges. He works with members of the media frequently and is regularly sought out for comment and context on emerging political issues.

COMMUNITY AND NON-PROFIT LEADERSHIP

- Board Member, *New Hampshire Business and Industry Association*
- Board Member, *Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester* (New Hampshire's largest outpatient mental health provider) and Chair of MHCGM Development Committee
- Board Member, *Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests*
- Leadership Council Member, *New Hampshire Campaign for Legal Services*
- Board of Advisors Member, *Warren Rudman Center for Law, Justice and Public Policy at UNH Law*
- Trustee, *Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications*
- Past Board Member, *Easter Seals of New Hampshire* and three time chair of its Annual Giving campaign
- Past Board Member, *Daniel Webster Council-Boy Scouts of America* and three time chair of its annual Distinguished Citizen Award event
- Past Board Member, *McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center*
- Past Board Member, *New Hampshire Political Library*

HONORS

- Named in 2025 *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Government Relations Practice
- Named in 2021 by *New Hampshire Business Review* as one of New Hampshire's "200 Most Influential Business Leaders"
- Named in 2009 by *Business NH Magazine* as one of New Hampshire's "25 Leaders for the Future"
- Named in 2008 by *New Hampshire Magazine* as a "Rising Star"
- Named in 2004 by the *New Hampshire Union Leader* as a "Forty Under 40" business leader

EDUCATION

- UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SCHOOL OF LAW, Concord, NH
Juris Doctor, 2001; Member of the New Hampshire Bar Association since 2001
- GETTYSBURG COLLEGE, Gettysburg, PA
Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, 1994

Rob Omberg

Senior Vice President for Government and Community Affairs

Comcast

Portsmouth, NH

Rob Omberg is Senior Vice President for Government and Community Affairs Regulatory for Comcast's District 1, an area covering from Maine to Pennsylvania. Prior to this role Rob served for 8 years as Vice President of State Government Affairs for Comcast in the Northeast Division and also served in an advocacy role in Virginia and West Virginia. Rob also performed state advocacy for the Virginia, Maryland and Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives, and served as legal counsel to the Virginia House of Delegate's Corporations, Insurance and Banking Committee and the Senate of Virginia's Commerce and Labor Committee. Prior to attending law school Rob served in the U.S. Army for 5 years. Rob and his wife Mary live in North Hampton, New Hampshire and are proud parents of 2 boys and proud grandparents to a 2 granddaughters.

Jen Savard

Tax Partner

PwC

Boston, MA

Executive leader with 20+ years in strategic tax advisory and public policy engagement. Brings a strong understanding of the New England business landscape, with a demonstrated commitment to regional economic growth and community engagement. Dedicated to contributing insights, leadership, and cross-sector perspective to advance the mission of the New England Council.

Board & Community Engagement

An active Board Member of the American Cancer Society – Eastern New England. Council Chair of the Annual ACS Cancer Action Network Breakfast, partnering with policy makers, health care providers, life sciences, and the business community to come together around our shared mission – to end cancer as we know it, for everyone.

Relevant experience

Jen is a Tax Partner with a proven track record working with US multinational clients in the pharma-life science sector. She collaborates with diverse teams to navigate complex tax issues and to identify opportunities to meet her client's needs and priorities.

Jen completed PwC's global network leadership development program which further broadened her global network. Jen's network across the US firm is vast, in large part due to a 2018 national tax services tour of duty. Jen spent the year in the Washington National Tax office working with PwC's leadership team to drive significant aspects of the firm's strategic response to US tax reform. While on tour, Jen tracked tax legislative and regulatory developments and provided clients and colleagues with insights and analysis on issues and trends important to them. Jen has coordinated several client events including PwC's Global Tax Symposium, two events with Chairman Neal of the House Ways and Means Committee, and more recently planned tax policy client events with Chairman Dave Camp, Rohit Kumar and Janice Mays. Jen leverages her broad network and tax policy experience to drive value for her clients in a rapidly evolving global policy landscape. In addition to her client responsibilities, Jen leads tax knowledge sharing in the Northeast.

Jen is passionate about quality client service, putting the client first and organizing the right team to meet the client's needs. Jen is known for being collaborative, leveraging her network to bring speed and focus to resolve time sensitive matters. Jen challenges her teams to deliver using the latest technology solutions, adding value and driving efficiency. Jen brings her team's experience at digital upskilling to each engagement and shares lessons learned with her clients as they embark on their own digital journeys.

Jen serves on the Boston Office Market Council and is her practice team's national Inclusion Partner. When not working, Jen enjoys spending time outdoors: paddle boarding, biking, running, and down-hill skiing.