

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dream Exchange Director of Research Dr. Ioannis Floros Named Guest Editor of Academic Journal Special Issue on AI and Corporate Information

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee finance professor will oversee a Review of Corporate Finance issue examining how AI, machine learning, and social media affect what is known about companies and how they perform

CHICAGO, October 19, 2026 — Dream Exchange today congratulated its Director of Research, Dr. Ioannis (Yianni) Floros, on his selection as guest editor of a special issue of the Review of Corporate Finance. According to an announcement from the Sheldon B. Lubar College of Business at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the journal's editorial advisory board named Dr. Floros to edit the issue, titled "Information Environments and Firm Outcomes in the Era of AI, Machine Learning, and Social Media."

KEY POINTS

- Dr. Floros has been named guest editor of a special issue of the Review of Corporate Finance on information environments and firm outcomes.
- He is the Hans G. Storr Associate Professor of Finance at UWM's Lubar College of Business.
- He holds the appointment in his academic capacity. The journal has no affiliation with Dream Exchange.

In corporate finance research, a company's information environment refers to what investors and markets are able to learn about it. More and more of that information now passes through machine-read filings, algorithms, and social media. The special issue will collect research on how those changes affect firms.

Dr. Floros studies security offerings, corporate decisions to go public, small-cap financing, financial contracting, and financial disclosure. He served from 2012 to 2013 as a Visiting Academic Fellow at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, where he was the leading economist for rules related to the JOBS Act.

“Investors now learn about a company through far more channels than an annual report and an analyst's note. This issue is a chance to bring careful research to bear on what that shift means for firms, particularly the smaller ones that have always had the hardest time being seen,”

said Dr. Floros.

“Dr. Floros has spent his career studying how growing companies reach capital and what investors need to know before they commit it. We congratulate him on an appointment that reflects the regard his peers have for his work,”

said Joe Cecala, founder and chief executive officer of Dream Exchange.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Dream Exchange?

Dream Exchange is a stock exchange in formation, led by founder and CEO Joe Cecala. It is pursuing registration with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission as a national securities exchange through the Form 1 application process. If approved, it would become the first minority-controlled company to operate a licensed stock exchange in the United States.

What is a venture exchange?

A venture exchange is a proposed type of regulated public market for small and mid-sized, early-stage companies to list and trade their shares. It does not yet exist in the United States and would require federal legislation like the Main Street Growth Act to be enacted into law. It is intended to give smaller companies a route to public capital and to give everyday investors a supervised way to invest earlier than private markets allow.

What is the Main Street Growth Act?

The Main Street Growth Act is federal legislation, expected to be proposed in Congress, that would authorize the creation of venture exchanges in the United States. It has not yet been enacted. Dream Exchange supports the passage of the Main Street Growth Act, or of similar legislation, as the legal foundation for a public market built for smaller companies.

Who is Joe Cecala?

Joe Cecala is the founder and CEO of Dream Exchange. He is a securities attorney and certified public accountant who has worked on more than 100 capital-raising events for small businesses across a 30-year career. Mr. Cecala is a longtime advocate for the Main Street Growth Act and the creation of venture exchanges.

Why does small business capital access matter now?

Americans are starting businesses at a record pace, with new business applications reaching nearly 5.5 million in 2023, the highest annual total on record, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Yet in the Federal Reserve's 2025 Small Business Credit Survey, about one-third of small firms reported a funding gap after applying for financing. Venture exchanges are intended to help address that gap.

ABOUT DREAM EXCHANGE

Dream Exchange will be pursuing the registration filing process with the Securities and Exchange Commission, seeking registration as a national securities exchange and authority to be a marketplace that facilitates the trading of securities in the national market system. While it builds its registered stock exchange and develops the necessary infrastructure, it will also focus on providing an “on-ramp” for small to mid-sized companies to access the public markets once legislation like the Main Street Growth Act is enacted into law and venture exchanges are created. Learn more at www.dreamex.com.

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