

CEO SPEAKER SERIES

Moderated by Spencer Coutts, this CEO Speaker Series brings real estate leaders to campus for candid conversations about their journeys, challenges, and successes. Each event features an hour-long discussion followed by an interactive Q&A session, creating an invaluable opportunity for students to gain real-world insights from accomplished executives.

Recent USC graduates and real estate professionals will also join these events to share their experiences transitioning from student to professional, offering a complete perspective on career development in real estate.

Join us for engaging discussions, meaningful networking, and complimentary pizza. This series is part of a joint collaboration between TREA and MREFA.

Event Details

 6:45–8pm

 Wednesday, Feb. 19

 JFF LL105

Scan to RSVP



Michael Schwartz

Founder & CEO at SmartStop

Michael Schwartz, Founder of Strategic Storage Trust, Inc. (SmartStop), has 33+ years of real estate experience and has transacted over \$6.5 billion in commercial real estate. He led the \$1.4 billion sale to Extra Space Storage and oversaw \$1.2 billion in equity returns to investors. SmartStop owns and operates over 200 properties in 22 states and Canada, ranking as the eleventh-largest self-storage company in the U.S.



Damian Gancman

CIO & CFO at Cityview

Damian Gancman, Partner at Cityview and member of its Investment Committee, oversees the firm's acquisitions, asset management, joint venture strategy, and investment operations. With 19 years at Cityview, Damian plays a key role in driving its mission to develop and manage value-add and opportunistic multifamily housing in transforming neighborhoods across the Western U.S.