

On Thursday, January 25th, the Ursinus College Investment Club hosted Matt Yuros (Class of '12), head trader at TFS Capital, an investment company based in West Chester, Pa. Yuros works with computing software like Python and Excel to develop models that help his firm make buying and selling decisions. For the first part of the session, Yuros discussed a simple quantitative strategy that involved trading two public securities, PepsiCo and Coca Cola, and showed how the 200-day moving average of the stocks' price ratio acts as a mean towards which both stocks should regress – a pattern that can be exploited for profit. Yuros then explained that most advanced quantitative analysts today are writing more complicated algorithms with different asset classes in order to garner higher returns. After discussing the trading strategy, Yuros talked about careers in quantitative finance after college. He told students to keep applying for jobs and internships, and the value of cold-e-mailing people at companies in order to get a foot in the door. Finally, Yuros commended the value of an Ursinus degree, claiming that the point of Ursinus is to actually immerse one's self in education, rather than coasting, as occurs at some other esteemed colleges.