

Asia Campus

Recent Events

The MBA Opening Ceremony held on January 10th opened doors to a record-breaking number of **373 participants** on the Asia campus. Lured by ravings about the high quality of campus life standards, the chance to jumpstart their entrepreneurial ideas vis-à-vis the Entrepreneurship Center, and of course warm weather and many travel options in the region, the Asia campus is becoming quite popular with our MBA participants from near and far.



Roland Krueger MBA '98J, Managing Director of BMW Asia Pacific, addressed the incoming class, who will graduate in December, on the importance of having a vision during the MBA programme and beyond. His gentle advice on the need to balance student life, time spent working and with the family was well received by the 153 students starting P1.

The Women's Supper held on the 19th of January at the home of **Vanessa Sadler MBA '89J** was well attended by over 40 alumni, MBA participants and partners. At the supper, sumptuous Indian food and wine was served over discussions with two volunteers from the Singapore chapter of **Unifem** who highlighted the increasing problems of child prostitution in the neighboring Batam island, about 45 minutes ferry ride from Singapore.

Singapore Alumni Hosts the Dean. On February 4th, the Singapore Alumni Association hosted Dean **Gabriel Hawawini** and **Joelle du Lac MBA '85J**, Director of Alumni Relations at their monthly **First Friday drinks** at Pho 31, a Vietnamese restaurant and bar owned by alumnus **Marvin Yeo MBA '00J**. About 50 alumni and MBA participants joined the Dean before making their way to a party organised by the French week committee (free flow of Veuve Clicquot of course!).

Alumni in China Forge Ahead to Build a Presence and Network. The China Alumni Association organised a forum on the Retail Industry in China on November 29. The event featured James Lo, General Manager of Carrefour in Shanghai (standing in for Jean-Luc Chéreau, president of Carrefour China, who could not make it due to last-minute emergencies), Ian Strickland, President of B&Q China, and Paul Liu, Chairman of Intermoda Group, the operator of the international retail chain Etam in China. Organised by several alumni including **Frederic Maury YMP '02**, **Min Chen MBA '00J**, **David Evans MBA '00J** and **Helios Li MBA '00D**, it was well attended by a hundred people including alumni from INSEAD and Wharton, members of the Chinese business community and media. The event was moderated by **Guangyu Li MBA '98D**, an Associate Principal of McKinsey and an expert on the retail industry in China. An article concerning the event was written in the South China Morning Post, and INSEAD Alumni Association China was mentioned.

Drawing on the recent success and experience in organising larger scale events, the China Alumni Association joined the France Alumni Association and the Wharton Club of Paris to organise a roundtable event about doing business in China which was held on the 8th of February. This event, entitled **"La Chine, Bulle ou Boom?"** was co-organised by several members of the alumni based in Shanghai including **Min Chen MBA '00J**, **Eric Guichard MBA '91J**, **Fred Maury YMP '02**, **Jenny Qian MBA '02D**, and **David Yu MBA '92J**.

Over in Beijing, alumni have been busy organising networking and social events. In November, an informal gathering in one of the new bars in the city was organised to welcome alumni who recently moved to Beijing including **Daniel Pauwaert IEP '91**. There was also a networking event held on the 16th of December, which led the China Alumni Association Entrepreneur's club in Beijing with Yale and other entrepreneurial and networking clubs in the city.

In early January, **Ninie Wang MBA '03D** organised a dinner to host the Dean of Asia Campus, **Hellmut Schutte**. The dinner was well attended by twenty people including alumni from the MBA class of 1970 to the most recent graduation class of MBA '04D. Two of the attendees were actually in town from New York City and Shanghai. The Chongqing style dinner was held in a private dining room and the intimate atmosphere was apparently very conducive for good conversation and brainstorming on INSEAD's strategic development in China and the region. INSEAD also co-hosted a New Year's party with IMD alumni residing in Beijing on

January 28.

Upcoming Events:

LEONARDO is a new alumni initiative founded by **Arnaud Granger MBA '03J**, **Wilhelm Rohde MBA '03D** and **INSEAD Professor Patrick Turner MBA '78J**, with a mission to foster intellectual curiosity and to create opportunities to connect and build friendships with the Singapore community. **LEONARDO** is a forum for leaders from various disciplines and fields who are interested in sharing their passions, experiences and views in an informal setting with a small and intimate audience.

The first inaugural event will be held at the Raffles Hotel's Bar and Billiard Room on March 19th from 4pm - 6pm, and will feature **Kenny Yap**, the founder of Qian Hu Corporation Limited, the first ornamental fish service provider listed on the Singapore Exchange (SGD 42mn market capitalization). Interested alumni may sign up on the Singapore Alumni Association website. [Click here](#).