



E-Newsletter: March 2005

MIBA Alumni Chapter

Produced by: Leslie Argenal, Amir Stamper, Pinar Tabakci, and Wayne Gooden

Alumni Profile: Matt Eggertsson

By Amir Stamper

An early member of the MIBA family, Matt Eggertsson graduated in 1992. In fact, in the era he describes as "before email and the world wide web", classes were held on the Nova High School campus. The main driver of the MIBA program at the time was Dr. Herb Johnson, whom he remembers as a "strict, yet knowledgeable" man. The student body however, was as diverse and international as it is now.



One of the lasting memories about the program for Matt is the International Field Seminar to Germany. During the trip, students visited both the Heidelberg Printing Company and the Frankfurt Stock Exchange.

A native of Iceland, Matt currently runs Eggertsson Trading, Inc. (E.T.I.) in Pompano Beach, Florida. His firm exports air conditioning

components to clients around the world. As a result, Matt often falls back on knowledge acquired in the program and even held on to all his text books for reference.

Matt has had a hard time finding and keeping in touch with fellow alumni and is hoping that others will follow him into the MIBA Chapter and stay in touch.

Keeping in Touch...

By Pinar Tabakci and Wayne Gooden

If you are like most of us, you have probably lost touch with many of the great friends you made in the program. Well, here is an opportunity for you to catch up. We will update you on what your friends are doing and if you would like them to hear about you in this section, just e-mail us at argenal@nova.edu.

Class of 1999

- Simone Champagnie worked with American Express for 7 years. She now works with Air France, managing relationships with US based cruise lines and overseeing special meeting and incentive programs. You can reach her at s.champagnie@usa.net

Class of 2000

- Martin L. Thifault currently holds a position as Supervisor of Logistics & Transportation at Alliance Entertainment Corp. He is also pursuing a Masters of Accounting degree at FAU. Contact him at mlt@mindspring.com

- Jade Y. Chen is the Asst. Dir. of Development at NSU. She is currently focused on assisting with the completion of a capital campaign at the Huizenga School. Jade can be reached at jade@nova.edu.

- Henry Villarreal works at UPS Remedy Mgmt. as a Senior Analyst. His job is to manage yields and profitability for the South Florida District. You can contact him at hvillarreal@ups.com.

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International Field Seminar: Cuba

By Amir Stamper

From the moment we touched down at Jose Marti Airport outside Havana in late September of 2003, things appeared strange, sometimes frozen in time, sometimes strangely on the cutting edge. From riding in a 1953 Chevy Bell Air, to visiting a laboratory that developed vaccines not available elsewhere, the experience was enriching.

We bumped into Fidel Castro at the Hotel Nacional right when we got there, which was a bit surreal. In the following days, his image stared down at us from banners and signs everywhere. Even the lecturers we heard all delivered long sessions of oratory party line jewels that were hard to swallow. In fact, with little air conditioning and long lectures, just staying awake was a mission.

Making up for the dry official reason for our visit was the amazing Cuban culture, music, dance, and spirit. Some of us found pleasure in the cabaret and music shows of the Buena Vista Social Club or the Tropicana Cabaret. Others, myself included,



Hotel Nacional, Habana

ventured to Habana Vieja for some baseball talk and to pick up some Salsa tips from elder master musicians. By Week's end it was hard to leave, but we were ready for the comforts of home. We witnessed families in tears parting with relatives leaving for better fortunes in other countries, some never to return. I renamed Jose Marti, 'The Airport of Tears'. The last impression I have of Cuba is of an Afro-Cuban family breaking into song to an African rhythm, while trying not to cry.

"I renamed Jose Marti, the Airport of Tears"



International Field Seminar: China

By Walter R. Camacho



China European Int'l Bus. School (CEIBS), Beijing

In mid March of 2004 MIBA students had the privilege to have a first hand look at a country that is abundant in history and culture. I was fortunate to be one of those students and visited the regions of Shanghai, Beijing, and Hong Kong. I am proud to say that I returned home

with a deeper understanding and appreciation of a foreign world which many textbooks, media channels, and individual opinions do not always serve due justice.

While visiting China, the MIBA group met and interacted with several government figure heads and respectable MNCs such as Hewlett Packard, Eli Lilly, and APL Logistics. This opportunity allowed our group to understand the challenges, trends, opportunities, and difficulties that a business faces in the Chinese market, whether local or foreign.

In all, the trip to China was a memorable experience that was both educational and exciting. The opportunity to interact with the local community and visit cultural icons was an adventure of its own. Their impressive architecture envies none in the world. That is why I am confident to say that visiting China will be an experience of lifestyle for anyone. I also feel thankful that the MIBA program provided the channel for such rewarding experience.



"...I returned with a deeper appreciation of a foreign world"

Our Website, Behind the Scenes...



By Leslie Argenal



First of all, Sorry! We really did not expect it would take this long to put our second Newsletter together but the website has been a lot more work than we ever expected. Check it out at:

www.nova.edu/mibachapter

We want to take this opportunity to say thank you to Mr. Steve Harvey, the Director of MBA Program Administration, for putting us in touch with Norb Pratts, a very talented Academic Web Developer at the Huizenga School. Norb was able to rescue our site

and provide input when we didn't know where else to turn. We could not have been able to put the site together properly without him. So Norb, thanks a lot for all your help!

We would also like to acknowledge the contribution of our members Wayne Gooden and Josh Bradford. They have both been instrumental in the completion of the site.

Since we started this project we've learned a great deal about web development and because none of us has any real training, most of that learning comes from trial and error. But even with the long hours we have spent on the site it has been lots of fun and we hope that more of you use it as a tool to keep in touch with one another.

Let us know what you think good and bad, it's the best way to keep improving it and providing you with features that you can use and enjoy.

What to Look for...

If you have not taken a look at the Chapter's web site in the last few weeks, you should. We've updated it and added lots of information. The survey questions have been activated and now you can email us directly from the Contacts Page. These are some just of the other features we think you will enjoy:



Calendar of Events – you have no excuses now, all our scheduled events for this year are already posted and all the information you might need to attend an event will be posted on this section several weeks before the event including directions when necessary.



Photos – all the pretty smiles we've captured on camera will be included here. At any time you will find pictures for the last two events. So if you missed an event or are interested in attending the next one, here you can check out what went on, who was there, and how much fun we had.



Message Board – this page is open to all our students and alumni who want to share some kind of information with the rest of us. For example, job or internship opportunities, sale or exchange of class textbooks, if you want to get in touch with a former classmate, etc.



Business Contacts – this section is exclusively for our Chapter members. Here you can advertise the company you work for whether it's your own business or you work for someone else. If there is a possibility to create business opportunities for yourself by advertising to our MIBA community please take advantage of it.

All our members have the opportunity to contribute and have a say about what goes on the website and the newsletter. If you want to contribute stories or have ideas on how to make the site or the newsletter more beneficial for all of us let us know. We would love for you to get more involved!