

## Home Page **Enhance the Value of Your MBA**



Dan Dry

**Tracey Pavlishin**  
**Director, Alumni Affairs**

Let me begin by thanking the nearly 40,000 GSB alumni for all that you do. Across the globe, you create companies, lead corporations, and rethink the very nature of business, sometimes transforming entire industries. By graduating from Chicago GSB, you have accepted the invitation to aspire to greatness. You are part of a unique and powerful network.

In many ways, the value of your MBA is determined by the strength of the GSB alumni network. It is your time and effort that creates the network connecting alumni, students, and faculty. The alumni office facilitates networking opportunities in more than

70 cities and regions globally in partnership with alumni clubs and affinity groups. Our strength and reputation are defined by your

successes. To maintain our elite standing in the global community, we must collaborate in achieving our goals.

Many alumni ask me how they can help, and there are several ways. Some of the key areas are highlighted here because they specifically target Dean Snyder's priorities of strengthening the alumni network, support-

ing our students, and broadening our corporate partnerships.

1. Represent the GSB well and help us improve the visibility of the GSB within your community.
2. Participate in your regional alumni club.
3. Help us strengthen the alumni network by keeping your contact information current in the online community directory at *directory.ChicagoGSB.edu/alumni*.
4. Encourage your company to post open positions at the GSB for alumni and students. Also encourage them to recruit students from the GSB. For more information, visit *ChicagoGSB.edu/cdo* and *ChicagoGSB.edu/recruiting*.
5. Help strengthen corporate partnerships with the GSB by obtaining corporate sponsorship for your local alumni events.

As always, if you are currently an active alum, I thank you for your dedication. If you are interested in getting involved, please visit *ChicagoGSB.edu/alumni* to find a GSB alumni group in your region or your area of interest.

Please feel free to call or e-mail me directly (*tracey.pavlishin@ChicagoGSB.edu*) with any questions. It is my priority to strengthen the alumni network and I welcome your ideas on how to improve the value of the Chicago GSB degree.

To maintain our elite standing in the global community, we must collaborate in achieving our goals.

CDO Update **Getting a Job in Asia**

Dan Dry

**Linda Eunson**  
**Director, Career**  
**Development Office**  
**Singapore**

A headline in the May 10 edition of the *Wall Street Journal* read: “For MBA students, a good career move means a job in Asia.” My phone started ringing. The September 13 edition of the *Straits Times* (Singapore) ran this headline on the front page: “Job creation rate highest in 4½ years.” More phones ringing. The Career Development Office in Singapore has seen a huge increase in calls from companies and search firms seeking candidates in Asia, up from two or three calls per month only four months ago to two or three calls per day. Most of the major search firms in Asia also are looking for additional staff. That’s the good news.

The reality, however, is that getting a job in Asia from *outside* Asia is difficult, just as getting a job in the United States from *outside* the United States is difficult. It’s not impossible, but it is difficult, and here’s why.

There is plenty of local talent on the ground in Asia that is not only more accessible but likely more affordable than hiring an expatriate. In addition, there is increasing competition from returning Asians who can no longer get U.S. visas or who want to return to the region and be part of the growth. These individuals often also have the advantage of speaking a local language and knowing the culture. They may even have work experience in Asia.

With the economic downturns of the past few years, there has been a growing trend by multinational corporations (MNCs) in Asia to hire locals and/or localize expatriates. The big expatriate packages of the past have either disappeared or been drastically cut except at the highest levels. For most non-Americans, the lower tax regimens in countries such as Hong Kong and Singapore can often mitigate the lack of expatriate perks, but for Americans who are taxed on their

worldwide income, this can make working in Asia less financially attractive.

However, there are many reasons other than financial to come to Asia. People return because their roots are in Asia, to broaden their international experience, and/or to expand their scope and breadth of responsibilities.

So how can you obtain a position in Asia from abroad? One route is to obtain a job with an MNC in your home country, work there for a year or two, and network yourself into Asia through the firm and with GSB alumni. Another possibility is to pursue a project with an Asia angle and then look for an opportunity to get transferred. There are more than 6,000 MNCs headquartered in Singapore. Whatever route you take, be prepared to spend some time in Asia.

Consider the experience of one GSB alumnus from the full-time program: He is of Asian descent, but had no Asia experience. His initial attempts to find employment in Asia from the United States failed. He eventually approached his company in the United States and asked them for a transfer to Asia, which resulted in a position in Singapore. Another alumnus from the United States, who had a few years of experience in investment banking, contacted alumni in Singapore. He was told that he needed to be on the ground in Asia, and once he made the move, his alumni contacts responded. He is now working for a GSB alumnus at one of the major investment banks in Singapore.

Working in Asia could help you advance in your career, but it will require your commitment and effort. If you would like to evaluate the risks and rewards of such a move, contact the Career Development Office at [ChicagoGSB.edu/cdo](http://ChicagoGSB.edu/cdo).

## Chapter Update **Events, Changes in Leadership**

**Penka Bergmann**  
Associate Director,  
Europe

**Dana Cushingberry**  
Assistant Director,  
North America

**Carrie Goldin**  
Associate Director,  
Student Relations

**Annica Nyström**  
Associate Director,  
North America

It's Business Forecast season, and several clubs around the world are organizing events. Without the help of alumni leaders, this event series could not be as successful as it is. Visit [ChicagoGSB.edu/bfl](http://ChicagoGSB.edu/bfl) to find upcoming events in your area.

London was the site of this year's European Leadership Conference in May. About 10 European alumni club leaders met with **Penka Bergmann**, **Shelley Nason**, and **Annica Nyström** from the alumni/development team to discuss best practices, events in Europe, and plans for increasing Chicago GSB's visibility throughout Europe.

The biannual Leadership Conference was held in Chicago in conjunction with Alumni Weekend in October. More than 25 alumni club leaders shared best practices and gained new insight in volunteer leadership and alumni programming.

### Event News

**Belgium:** More than 25 alumni and current students enjoyed an informal evening at a happy hour in September held by the **Belgium Alumni Club** at Café Belga in Brussels. The club also hosted a guided tour at Royal Museum of Art History in Brussels in October. The tour of the exhibition "Art Nouveau and Design, 1830–1950" attracted 20 people.

**Chicago:** More than 75 alumni attended the **Chicago GSB Black Alumni Association's** inaugural all-class reunion to connect with old classmates, tour the new Hyde Park Center, and witness the unveiling and dedication of the CBAA Group Study Room in the Hyde Park Center (see "Alumnae Recall Early Days of Black Experience," page 48).

The **Finance Roundtable** hosted a conversation with key thinkers from the Bush administration and Chicago GSB on the future of Social Security and its effect on U.S. markets

and the economy. The event featured **Robert Aliber**, professor emeritus of international economics and finance; **Randall Kroszner**, professor of economics and a member of the Council on Economic Advisers under Bush from 2001 to 2003; and Mark Warshawsky, assistant secretary for economic policy, U.S. Department of the Treasury.

**London:** Alumni in London will be launching the first Finance Roundtable in Europe soon. If you are interested in organizing or participating, please e-mail **Peter Maas, '05 (EXP-10)**, at [maas\\_peter@hotmail.com](mailto:maas_peter@hotmail.com).

**Korea:** The **Chicago GSB Korean Alumni Club** held a dinner event in July at Orient Restaurant in Seoul, which attracted more than 30 alumni and guests.

**Netherlands:** Alumni gathered for a wine tasting and to share the latest news at Wijnkoperij Otterman in August at an event sponsored by the **Netherlands Alumni Club**.

**UK:** With the opening of the London Campus, the **UK Alumni Club** is gaining momentum and membership. At a committee meeting in late August, the current committee came together with new volunteers and recruited more than 25 new club members at the London Campus opening event on September 12 (see "Opening Draws 350 to Chicago GSB's London Campus," page 13). If you're interested in club events in London, please e-mail [penka.bergmann@ChicagoGSB.edu](mailto:penka.bergmann@ChicagoGSB.edu).

**Zurich:** The Zurich Alumni Club hosted an evening discussion on private equity in November. **Marcel Erni, '91**, co-chairman of Partners Group, and **Stefan Hepp, '90**, CEO of Strategic Capital Management, spoke to the crowd.

**Worldwide:** Save the date for Worldwide GSB Night on April 6, 2006. If you would like to help coordinate an event in your city, please contact the alumni team at [gسالumni@ChicagoGSB.edu](mailto:gسالumni@ChicagoGSB.edu) or 773.702.1484.

### Changes in Leadership

We welcome our new presidents:

*Germany*

**David Hart, '97 (EXP-2)**

*Philadelphia*

**Rebecca Li-Huang, '98**

*Tokyo*

**Michimasa Soga, '96**

We would like to give a special thanks to our outgoing presidents for their enormous contributions to the school:

*Germany*

**Katharina Jobe-Gräfin Esterházy, '97 (EXP-2)** (now holding a European role in CWIBAN)

*Philadelphia*

**Benjamin Bader, '98**

*Tokyo*

**Hideya Yamanaka, '94**

You can get in touch with us or other alumni in your region at any time. Build your network, attend events, or start a club—there are many ways in which you can stay connected with Chicago GSB and each other. For club details and to see up-to-date alumni news, visit [ChicagoGSB.edu/alumnicommunity](http://ChicagoGSB.edu/alumnicommunity).

### Update Your Information

Updating your information ensures that you will receive notice of all the alumni events taking place in your region. To update, please visit the new and improved Com-

community Directory at [directory.ChicagoGSB.edu/alumni](http://directory.ChicagoGSB.edu/alumni).



**Alumni & Student LPF**

Save the date for the next LPF sponsored by the Office of Alumni Affairs and Development!

**May 5, 2006, 5:30–7:30 pm, Chicago, Illinois**

For more information, visit [chicagogsb.edu/alumni](http://chicagogsb.edu/alumni) or contact Carrie Goldin at 773.834.4346 or [carrie.goldin@ChicagoGSB.edu](mailto:carrie.goldin@ChicagoGSB.edu).

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The University of Chicago Graduate School of Business