



AABS NEWSLETTER # 7

FEBRUARY 2008 – APRIL 2008

1. LOOKING BACK

- 1.1. AABS board meeting 23 February 2008
- 1.2. AABS MBA Directors study visit 1 – 13 March 2008

2. LOOKING AHEAD:

- 2.1. AABS members meeting and dean's workshop May 2008
- 2.2. Faculty Development Initiatives: TPM 4
- 2.3. AABS Case competition

3. OTHER

- 3.1. GBSN/MERC Conference
- 3.2. 2008 Africa Small Medium Micro Enterprises Awards:
- 3.3. Growing Inclusive Markets forum

4. NEWSLETTER

1. LOOKING BACK:

1.1. AABS BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 2008

The AABS Board had their first meeting of 2008 on 23 February 2008 at the UCT Graduate School of business. Erasmus Kaijage took over as chairperson of the Association from Nick Binedell. Juan Elegido from Lagos Business School and Frank Horwitz from UCT Graduate school of Business joined the board, joining current board members Franklyn Manu (GIMPA), Idrissa Mbengue (ISM), George Njenga (Strathmore).

It was agreed that the focus for 2008 will be on:

- Strengthening the Association through awareness nationally and internationally, by improving the website, attendance at international conferences and events and trying to generate media attention
- Raising the standards of business schools in Africa. This will happen through raising the admission criteria into the association in 2009.
- Finding funding for the Association to ensure that it is sustainable independent of the International Finance Corporation by 2009.
- Increasingly developing the relationships between business schools and business leaders by regularly bringing deans and directors and business leaders together.
- Beginning to explore the possibility of new projects including:
 - A workshop on research and the practice of management in 2009
 - A programme managers workshop in 2009
 - A Deans/Directors trip to the East in 2009



AABS Board members meeting UCT:

From left to right: Frank Horwitz, Sam Nganga, Sarah Tinsley, Juan Elegido, Erasmus Kaijage, Idrissa Mbengue, Nick Binedell, Jonathan Cook, George Njenga

AABS MBA DIRECTORS STUDY VISIT 2009:

Nine MBA Directors from nine AABS member schools went to visit London Business School, IESE and ESADE in Barcelona, Warsaw School of Economics in Warsaw and Maastricht School of Management in Maastricht.

The purpose of the trip was to expose MBA directors of African business schools to best practice among global business schools, to gain insight from senior business school management, and to work together on identifying how best to develop excellence in management education in Africa.

A major focus of the trip was meeting individual deans and senior managers who shared their experiences with us and at the same time we discussed models for Africa to ensure management education that is relevant to Africa.

Some of the topics the group explored included:

- The strategy behind management education, including for example which academic programmes to offer (MBA, undergraduates, specialised MBA, diplomas etc)
- Operational and system issues in running an excellent MBA
- The design of the MBA and or similar programmes
- Managing faculty
- Creating an optimal learning environment
- Liaising with employers and other stakeholders.

“I found the program very useful. On the whole I discovered that as program administrators we are all dealing with very similar pedagogical and administrative/organizational issues even though we live on different continents. It seems to me that what is important is for us all to provide a world class management education and at the same time adapt to our peculiar environment. The exposure was good, and I am hopeful that our hosts also benefitted from our visits. I need to add that the networking among us was definitely an added benefit.” **Josiah Cobbah, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration**

“Great experience and exercise to benchmark against other business schools in Europe. Also able to celebrate the successes we have accomplished in SA in terms of business schools. A great networking opportunity internationally and with the other African delegates – makes me realise even more how critical it is to develop more management education institutions in SA and to attract and develop world class faculty. Also, that it is a business imperative for the continent to retain and attract talent back into Africa. Thank you for a valuable learning opportunity.” **Shireen Chengadu, Gordon Institute of Business Science**

2. LOOKING FORWARD:

2.1. AABS BOARD MEETING, MEMBERS MEETING AND BUSINESS LEADERS DINNER:

The AABS board will be meeting on the 16 May 2008 at Strathmore in Nairobi.

The annual AABS members meeting will be taking place at USIU in Nairobi on the 17 May 2008 followed by a Business Leaders Dinner at the Safari Park hotel where Mugo Kibati, CEO of East Africa Cables, will be doing a presentation on "Economic Prospects in East Africa", for further information please contact Sarah at tinsleys@gibs.co.za

2.2. TPM 4

Planning is well under way for the fourth annual Teaching the Practice of Management. This year's TPM will be taking place at USIU from 19 - 23 May 2008. The workshop is fully booked with 70 delegates from over 12 countries. Paddy Miller (IESE), Jonathan Cook and Terrence Taylor (GIBS), Mike Ward (University of Pretoria), Enase Okonedo (Lagos Business School) and Mbithe Anazy (USIU) make up the faculty teaching team.

2.3. AABS CASE COMPETITION

The AABS Case competition closes on the 30th April 2008. Cases will be judged by a committee made up of board members and international faculty. Winners will be announced after the cases have all been reviewed. The prize will be \$1000 for the top three cases, a certificate for the author of the case and the member school. More information can be found on the AABS website or contact tinsleys@gibs.co.za

3. OTHER NEWS:

3.1. GBSN ANNUAL MEETING:

July 9-10, 2008: UNLOCKING POTENTIAL: The Importance of Management Education

United States International University Campus, Nairobi Kenya

On behalf of MERC and USIU, we are pleased to invite you to participate in the 3rd Annual Meeting of the Global Business School Network, the first to be held in Africa. The theme this year is promoting local business schools as innovative tools for national development.

Representatives of business schools, foundations, civil society, government and companies from around the world will come together to discuss the importance of management education in implementing successful growth and development strategies.

We look forward to welcoming you in Nairobi.

Freida Brown

Guy Pfeffermann

Vice Chancellor,

USIU CEO, MERC

To register please visit us at: www.mercnetwork.org

MERC, a nonprofit organization, seeks to equip business and management schools in the developing world with the tools necessary to meet local demand for skilled management professionals across sectors. As the secretariat of the Global Business School Network (GBSN), comprised

of the world's leading business schools, MERC has access to a unique and powerful tool for strengthening management education around the world. MERC enhances the institutional capacity of developing country management schools by linking them to global best practices. As a result, local management schools provide a stronger pool of leadership and management talent for businesses, social sectors, NGOs, and public institutions.

A spin-off of the World Bank Group's International Finance Corporation, MERC has an established track record in management education capacity building and is currently working in Africa, Asia and Latin America. MERC is collaborating closely with Goldman Sachs' 10,000 Women initiative; Johnson & Johnson; the Gates Foundation; and the World Bank to strengthen business schools in developing countries and develop innovative new management training programs. MERC is a partner of the Association of African Business Schools and the European Foundation for Management Development.

3.2. 2008 AFRICA SMALL MEDIUM MICRO ENTERPRISES AWARDS:

Dina Potgieter, Africagrowth Institute: "It is now very clear that the development of Africa depends on the growth of the SMME sector. This sector provides more than 95% of Africa's workforce. To acknowledge and appreciate the important role the sector plays in promoting wealth and prosperity in the continent, the Africagrowth Institute will be celebrating the achievements of Africa's Small Medium Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) on Thursday the 23rd of October 2008 at Cape Town (South Africa) with a conference and Award Ceremony.

The 2008 Africa SMME Awards aim to recognise the success and vitality of the Africa SMME sector. This unique annual awards program has been established specifically to acknowledge, encourage and celebrate excellence amongst African SMMEs by giving them the opportunity to gain valuable exposure and well-deserved recognition for their global expansion ambitions. Winners of the Awards will feature prominently in the media. the Africagrowth Institute's goal is, therefore, to help the Africa SMME business sector grow and prosper, and to market Africa as an investment destination for the rest of the world.

This is an appeal for you to enter the 2008 Africa SMME Awards event and your enterprise might just be a category finalist and then eligible to win one of six 2008 Africa SMME of the Year category awards: (1) Industrial Sector Award; (2) Trade Sector Award; (3) Services Sector Award; (4) Best New Business Award; (5) Most Innovative Enterprise Award; and (6) Young Enterprise Award. All six category winners will become finalists for the overall African Union SMME of the Year Award."

The closing date for entries is 31 July 2008.

Please contact Dina Potgieter, Africagrowth Institute, Tel: (021) 946 1791, Fax: (021) 946 1652, Website: www.africagrowth.com, E-Mail: dina@afriacgrowth.com

3.3. GROWING INCLUSIVE MARKETS FORUM:

Organizers of the first International Growing Inclusive Markets Forum are pleased to announce that - thanks to our sponsors - in our first round of acceptances of proposals, case presenters and

facilitators from twenty seven countries worldwide have received confirmation of their participation. Countries presently represented are:

Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Ghana, India, Iran, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland, Rwanda, Sénégal, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States of America.

In addition to these case presentations, organizers are pleased to confirm that in addition to representatives of the Institutional Supporters (CIDA, IDRC and UNDP), confirmed keynote plenary panelists now include senior representatives of Ashoka, Développement International Desjardins, Shell Foundation, Trust Africa and the UK Department for International Development.

The Forum will bring into being a unique 'network of networks' of academics and practitioners working on genuinely inclusive, pro-poor markets, from the perspective of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprise and entrepreneurship. The Forum prioritizes presentations from participants living and working in the Global South but delegates from the Global North are also strongly encouraged to present and participate in a spirit of genuine mutual learning. Contributions to the Innovation Roundtables are now especially encouraged. These workshops will lead to a number of important policy recommendations arising from the Forum.

Date: Halifax, Nova Scotia, June 20th and 21st 2008

Further information: www.gim2008.ca & info@gim2008.ca

4. AABS NEWSLETTER:

We welcome feedback and comments on the AABS newsletter as well as member news, conferences/events relating to Management in Africa and articles regarding management education in Africa to be considered for the AABS newsletter. Please send enquires to tinsleys@gibs.co.za