

Dear fellow alumni,

We can't believe it's already been a month since we shared our last newsletter. Much is happening and we want to make sure you stay on top of the latest news and events, especially around the 10 year celebrations. We hope you get involved and be sure to follow the links to more information.

10 Years of IOMBA!

The main 10 Year Anniversary event will take place on the weekend of **5-7 September** in Geneva. Activities will include a reunion party, the annual Alumni General Assembly and a chance to meet the newest IOMBA class. More information coming soon but please mark your calendars and get in touch with your classmates about getting together for a reunion!

10 IOMBA parties around the world to celebrate 10 years of IOMBA

In honor of 10 years of IOMBA, we want to celebrate with 10 parties around the world. Use this Facebook [event](#) to find other IOMBies in your area, announce your party details, and most importantly, upload and share photos!

Finally, if you'd like to get involved around the 10 year celebrations or have ideas you'd like to share, please email us at alumni.chairman@iomba.ch.

Practicum Grant

The Alumni Association recognizes that it can be financially challenging to pursue a career you love and get the right experience. We would like to support IOMBA students to achieve their career dreams by offering to help offset some of the cost of entry into the sector, whether it's an airline ticket to the field or incentive to follow your passion.

With this in mind, we are excited to launch the Practicum Grant. The grant will be available to deserving students who have found an opportunity for impact they would love to seize and who also demonstrate a willingness to proactively contribute to strengthening the IOMBA alumni network. We will be awarding a total of 1,500 CHF to up to three students, with applications due by the end of June.

Announcements

The IOMBA class of 2014-2015 will include up to 20 accepted students, of which 9 are dual degree students from the University of Pittsburgh, Georgetown University, Moscow State Institute of International Relations and National Taiwan University.

The existing partnership with UNCTAD now has been extended for an additional student at the Department of Debt Management and Financial Analysis System, in addition to the two other research positions in area of CSR. IOMBA has also signed a four-year agreement with the Oak Foundation for one student to do research.

Upcoming Events



13 June | Geneva Forum on Social Change

The theme of this year's Geneva Forum on Social Change, organized by students in the IOMBA class of 2014, is Impact Investing. Aurore Bui (class of 2011) will kick-off the event with a keynote followed by a panel featuring the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship, Accenture Development Partnerships, and Quadia Impact Finance. Your Alumni Association is a key sponsor of the event. For event information, please visit www.gfsc.ch.

16 June | Graduation After-Party

Alumni are invited to Brasserie des Halles de l'île starting from 9:45 pm to celebrate with the graduating class the end of their academic year.

Past Events

3-4 May | Geneva Marathon

Alumni from across the years ran in the 10th annual Geneva Marathon for UNICEF, raising money for a great cause.



26 May | Book Launch

On the occasion of the publication of the book "Management of International Institutions and NGOs: Frameworks, Practices and Challenges", the Geneva School of Diplomacy and the IOMBA Alumni Association co-hosted a roundtable with authors Daniele Alesani (Class of 2007) and Eduardo Missoni (former IOMBA Professor). Coupons are still valid until 30 June 2014 for 20% off the book with the code **LRK69** at the checkout at www.Routledge.com.

Links to Alumni

In this section, we aim to inspire by sharing some initiatives alumni are involved in.

- Andrea Bouch (2010) is working at Fluxx, a comprehensive grant management platform that connects relevant data to the people and organizations you work with. It might just be what your organization needs!
- Marina Ruta (2011) amongst other activities in India and Geneva, is collaborating to the imminent launch of a start-up called the Ground Up Project. The Project will catalyze impact aggregation and partnership opportunities across sectors and regions to make small-scale projects drivers of environmental change.

- Dweep Chanana (2005) is Founder and President of [Benefiit](#), a network of professionals facilitating access to direct investment opportunities into high-growth, high-impact businesses.

**Featured Alum:
Mattia Villa, Class of 10/11**

"If you think about beneficiaries, you will be likely to make very few mistakes."



I first heard this quote at a lecture during my time at IOMBA and it has been my mantra for the entirety of my postgraduate life.

As I was about to finish IOMBA in 2011, along with my double degree at Bocconi University in Milan, I felt like my brain could barely hold all I had learned in Voie Creuse, and I was longing to experience the field and to put my IOMBA-earned skills to use.

I kicked it off with an internship at the Democratic Governance unit at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the Dominican Republic, where I was supporting government capacity development projects, and facilitating workshops for Haitians and Dominicans. The UN is where I knew I wanted to work, and it was a meaningful time to be in the Dominican Republic before the presidential elections, and visiting Haiti after the 2010 earthquake. On top of collecting some invaluable material for my thesis on disaster response and early recovery, it was incredibly fascinating and rewarding to finally be able to see the poetry of the IOMBA texts spelled out in the prose of fieldwork.

It was both a motivating and informative experience, but working from within the system of the UN also left me feeling that I might need a detour. [Continue reading...](#)

Get involved, get support, get connected

Make sure to connect with us on Facebook and LinkedIn. We use LinkedIn to make professional connections with alumni and professors, share knowledge and post new job openings.

Share your more personal stories and announcements on our Facebook Group and follow our Facebook Page for public announcements.

