

## Dear fellow alumni,

With the holiday season upon us, this is our last newsletter of the year sharing some updates and events from the program and alumni. Wishing you all happy holidays and a restful break!

---

## Past Events

### 10 Year IOMBA Anniversary Gala | September 2014

A big thank you to all the organizers and guests for making the 10 Year Gala such a success! A great chance to meet old friends and make new ones, the Gala attracted more than 50 alumni, partners, and current students for a fun evening of cocktails, dinner and dancing. As a result of generous bids during the silent auction we were also able to raise CHF 1420! Check out the photos and feel free to add yours to the [album](#). Due to the event's success, we hope to make this an annual reunion, so keep your early Septembers 2015 open!

### General Assembly | September 2014

Alumni gathered for the annual General Assembly, this year at the Impact Hub Geneva, to look back at the past year's alumni association activities, review updates from the IOMBA program and discuss upcoming activities in 2015. As a bonus activity, we invited a photographer to take professional head-shots of the attendees.



---

## Practicum Grant

In June, the Alumni Association awarded the first round of Practicum Grants to two ambitious recent graduates, allowing them to extend their internships and gain valuable experience as they launch their careers in the development sector.

With your support, we hope to raise another CHF 1,500 to inspire the next class of IOMBA students to create and pursue unique internship opportunities in a field of their passion. Similarly to the previous round, grants will be available to deserving students who have found an opportunity for impact they would love to seize; and who additionally demonstrate a willingness to proactively contribute to strengthening the IOMBA alumni network. If you'd like to make a donation towards the Grant please contact [Liat.Langenkamp@gmail.com](mailto:Liat.Langenkamp@gmail.com).

---

## Announcements

**Rob Lynam** (Class of 2007) will be the IOMBA program Director ad interim during Monica Patry's maternity leave. The Alumni Association wishes Monica all the best and welcomes Rob during her absence.

This year marks the second year of the International Organizations Management MOOC, which gives the program great visibility. Improvements have been made to two key modules, and our own alumna **Cassandra Quintanilla** (Class of 2011) featured a lecturer for the Marketing and Fundraising module! The 5-week course attracted over 43,000 registrants, of which about 4,000 completed it.

IOMBA ranked #53 in Europe on the Top MBA Global 200 Business Schools Report 2014/2015, indicating that European employers consider IOMBA in the top schools from which to recruit. See the full ranking [here](#).

---

## Upcoming Events

### **Ski Weekend | 30 January – 1 February 2015**

Alumni, friends and family are invited to the annual Ski Weekend, this time in Leysin, Switzerland. Hurry and book your place in the hotel by December 31<sup>st</sup> for the discounted rate! More information is available on the Facebook [event](#).

### **IOMBA High-Level Forum | 29 April 2015**

The current IOMBA class is initiating a conference on "Women in Leadership" at UNIMAIL, the University of Geneva. Stay tuned for more details!

### **Meet-ups with Professors**

Keep an eye on the IOMBA Alumni Facebook [Group](#) for announcements of meet-ups with visiting professors.

---

## Alumni Volunteering

In the first month of the 2014/2015 IOMBA intake, two of our newest Alumni gave back to the program by volunteering to host two workshops designed to improve basic skills, and offered tips in preparation for ten months of MBA studies.

**Colin Paterson** (Class of 2014) hosted a "Public Presentation" workshop and provided a series of tools and concepts that students can use to continually improve their presentation skills over the year. Drawing on his undergraduate background in Drama, recent IOMBA experience and desire to give back to the IOMBA program, Colin delivered an interactive workshop which included topics such as projection, spatial awareness and use of PowerPoint.

**Nick Kootnikoff** (Class of 2014) offered an "Introduction to Excel" workshop to the current IOMBA students on behalf of the Alumni Association. The workshop included basic tips to maneuver through Excel, essential formulas, data analysis and manipulation, graphing and pivot tables in preparation for the financial courses throughout the year. Nick's background as a professional accountant and years of experience with Excel made him the ideal workshop facilitator.

Whether it's speaking about your experiences, hosting workshops or inviting current students to your organizations, there are many ways for Alumni to give back to the program. Have a volunteering idea? Get in touch! [alumniassociation@iomba.ch](mailto:alumniassociation@iomba.ch)

---

## Links to Alumni

Some inspiring projects from our alumni..

- **Michael Hirsch** (Class of 2009), through his work at the World Health Organization, published an article in *Globalization and Health* on ways medicine price information mechanisms can contribute to increased price transparency and how this may affect access to medicines for developing countries. You can find the full article [here](#).
- **Katherine Scigitano** (Class of 2012) will spend the next three months supporting Syrian refugees in southern Turkey with Save the Children Australia. Following her previous work with UNICEF in Somalia and Pakistan, she has been continuously supporting governments and organizations to strategize, plan and deliver quality education to children living in crisis-affected and fragile settings.
- **Yann Folly** (Class of 2008) has transferred within Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to join the Inactive Polio Vaccine team as of October 2014. He's looking forward to making the vaccine available to all 73 Gavi countries by the end of 2015 in order to help reach the Millennium Development Goals.

## 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.

