

Do Women Make Better Businessmen

AGSE and RMIT Universities teamed to present the first public debate on entrepreneurship – “Do women make better businessmen”. The event was held at the RMIT Capitol Theatre, Melbourne, in November 2002. The AGSE debate team took home the winning cup, confirming the argument that women indeed do make better businesswomen. Dr Geoffrey Drummond, DBA supervisor, and two MEI students, Julie Birtles and Andrew Wilkinson, led the AGSE debate team. (Pictured right: Dr Geoffrey Drummond left, Andrew Wilkinson centre and Professor Adolph Hanich holding the cup, right)



Police Join the Ranks of Australia's Future Entrepreneurial Leaders



Victorian policeman, Inspector Robert Stork, has been awarded the 2003 Silk Miller Scholarship for a Master of Business Administration at the Australian Graduate School of Entrepreneurship (AGSE), Swinburne University. The three-year scholarship is valued at \$26,600. (Stork pictured left with AGSE Director, Professor Adolph Hanich)

Inspector Stork, who is Officer in Charge of the Road Safety Task force, and an active member of road safety advisory councils, won the scholarship for his outstanding performance to date and career potential within the police force. Stork was aware of the need to enhance his management skills due to his high-ranking position in the force and hopes that the MBA will help him further his career within Victoria Police.

“My promotion to Inspector means that I have now moved from Operational Member to Manager,” Stork says. “While I hold a graduate certificate in police management, I recognise the importance of higher education for police members seeking appointment to executive management level. Winning the Silk Miller Scholarship at AGSE has provided me with a fantastic opportunity to pursue higher education and this will greatly assist my future career.” This is the second Silk Miller Scholarship to be awarded. The first scholarship was awarded to Inspector Bill McKendry in 1999. Just one day after

completing his MBA at the Australian Graduate School of Entrepreneurship in 2002, McKendry was appointed Director of Crime Prevention Victoria in the Department of Justice. “A strength of the program for me was meeting and learning with so many dynamic and motivated fellow students from diverse backgrounds,” McKendry said. “As I was studying, Victoria Police was undergoing some restructuring and the MBA’s focus on practical change management was very valuable.”

The AGSE hopes to continue to attract members of the Police Force to their award winning graduate programs, not just through the Silk Miller Scholarship but for career members of the force from all divisions. “At the AGSE, preparing tomorrow’s entrepreneurial leaders for the community sector is part of our key priorities. We are delighted with the quality of the scholarship winners from the Victoria police force and we look forward to extending this strategy to other sectors in the future.” said Professor Adolph Hanich, Director AGSE.

Inspector Stork will commence his MBA in March. He hopes that the Silk Miller Scholarship will continue to help keep alive the memory of Gary Silk and Rodney Miller who died in the line of duty. “I will be continually motivated by the memory of Victorian policemen Sergeant Gary Silk and Senior Constable Rodney Miller to gain an education, which will assist both current and future members of the force, and the community,” he said.

The Silk Miller Scholarship was created by the AGSE in 1999 to commemorate the lives of the officers who died in the line of duty in 1998. The aim of the scholarship is to provide broad business management and entrepreneurial skills and knowledge to allow progression within the Victorian Police force.

Swinburne MBA Awarded 5 Stars

In June 2002 the Swinburne MBA was awarded five stars (the highest ranking available) by the Graduate Management Association of Australia (GMAA). The GMAA is the nationally recognised and leading Professional Association for graduates having MBA, DBA and other postgraduate business management qualifications in Australia. The star rating is based on a recent survey of Australia’s 90 postgraduate courses by the GMAA and the Good Guides Group, and is published in “The Good Universities Guide to MBA and Graduate Management Programs (2003 edition, page 16)”.

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Vladivostock Student Wins MBA Merit Scholarship



Ms Natalia Inchina, the first MBA student from Vladivostock in Far East Russia to study her Master of Business Administration (MBA) program at the AGSE, has won the highly contested scholarship worth \$AUD16,100. This is the second successive year a European student has won the MBA Merit Scholarship.

For each intake, AGSE awards one Merit Scholarship to the student who has achieved the highest grade point average across all enrolled subjects in the first stage of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program.

The Scholarship covers 50% of the total tuition fee.

The best part about doing her Swinburne MBA, Natalia said, is the realisation of her potential which was highlighted by the academic

challenges she faced during the course of the program. The teaching staff at AGSE challenged her constantly, and this was made possible by the small interactive classes, which made for a nurturing yet challenging learning environment.

The most important thing she will take with her to her new career, Natalia said, is the ability to create what she calls "the managerial toolbox", that is, how to identify business opportunities and the appropriate use of the methods, tools and strategies needed to exploit them. Another important thing is taking advantage of the networking opportunities made available as a result of doing the Swinburne MBA course. Natalia enjoyed meeting "like minded" business people, fellow students who shared similar business interests, yet had different cultural educational backgrounds and work skills.

Best Entrepreneurial Educator of the Year

Congratulations ■■■

AGSE is delighted to announce that for the second year running the Best Entrepreneurial Educator of the Year Award has been won by a Swinburne professor.

Dr John Bailey was presented with the award at the Business Higher Education Round Table (B-HERT) Gala Dinner on Wednesday 20th November 2002. The award recognises the importance of education in the process of developing and nurturing

entrepreneurs, and to showcase best practice in entrepreneurial education. It includes a Qantas voucher to the value of \$3000 which is intended to be used by the winner to visit some appropriate overseas institutions.

John is an outstanding ambassador for the entrepreneurship education cause in this nation. He has been both an academic and a pracademic in entrepreneurship over the last twenty years, and has been involved with the Swinburne Entrepreneurship program

virtually since its inception. John has also contributed to the wider field through his research, his books and other publications. He is a frequent presenter at conferences both in Australia and abroad. His advice is sought by government policy makers as well as by corporate clients.

Last year, the award was presented to Professor Emeritus Murray Gillin for his work on entrepreneurship education in Australia, a career that spans over forty years.

Entrepreneurs Network Launch

An informal network for entrepreneurs and innovators was recently launched by the AGSE, known as the Swinburne Entrepreneurs' Exchange. "The Exchange provides a meeting place for those with an interest in discussing and advancing innovative and entrepreneurial ideas and concepts in a non-threatening, social setting," explained Geoff Dillon, Development Partner for the AGSE. "Innovation needs to become a mainstream, top of mind issue for business, as without it many of today's companies and industries will simply wither up and die. The Exchange will assist that process."

The AGSE's Professor of Entrepreneurship Tom McKaskill advised that the Exchange "is aimed at stimulating and developing a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in Victoria, leading to new business generation and growth within existing businesses. It's open to all, including staff and students from other universities, media, public service program providers and financiers." From March 2003 the Swinburne Entrepreneurs' Network will be held at the Victorian Wine Precinct at Federation Square. The Exchange is sponsored by Cran Cameron Partners, an innovative business consultancy practice. For further information contact: Geoff Dillon phone: 03 9214 5872 email: gdillon@swin.edu.au

Entrepreneurship Conference 2003

AGSE will launch the first Australian Corporate Entrepreneurship Conference from the 27-29th August 2003. This event will focus on corporate entrepreneurship and its impact on the bottom line. Keynote speakers will include corporate entrepreneurship experts from Australia and overseas. Workshops will be held during the Conference. For further information:

www.ceiconferene.com

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