

## **CUS Board of Directors Meeting: AIESEC UBC**

**August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

### **Background**

AIESEC is the largest student organization in the world existing in 1700 different universities and situating in 110 countries. We administer a global internship program that allows young leaders to travel to other countries for job opportunities to enhance their global mindedness and increase their cultural knowledge.

The idea of AIESEC originally began in 1948 as a student initiative to exchange information about various schools and programs that specialized in business and economics. Over the next few decades, AIESEC expanded to include a variety of other internships, including voluntary developmental projects.

### **The AIESEC Values**

1. Activating leadership
2. Demonstrating Integrity
3. Living Diversity
4. Enjoying Participation
5. Striving for Excellence
6. Acting Sustainably

### **Organizational Structure**

This global system functions strictly on student leaders, thus executed like a student-led business. Each university chapter involved in AIESEC acts as an administrative team to:

1. Establish local partnerships with corporate companies to generate work placements for in-coming (non-Canadian) students.
2. Prepare local exchange participants to travel around the globe to their internship destinations.

Members of each university chapter are split into six administrative departments and overseen by vice president's in: Talent Management (internal HR), Corporate Relations, Alumni Relations, Finance, Outgoing Exchange, and Communications. These VP's make up an executive board including that university's AIESEC president and are one chapter of many across the country.

Canada holds a network of 28 university chapters, two of which are under development (Kwantlen as one of them) and possesses one national committee overseeing the entirety of AIESEC Canada. Broken into three different regions based on local realities, AIESEC UBC and seven other university chapters from BC-Manitoba make up the Western Region of AIESEC Canada.

### **AIESEC UBC**

Established in 1958, AIESEC UBC has an extensive relationship with AIESEC SFU and AIESEC UVic. Due to AIESEC's business-like operations, many Sauder students in the past have taken the opportunity to develop their professional skills, network amongst other business students locally as

well as nationally, and gain a competitive edge for their future careers through AIESEC's practical experiences. Currently holding 50 members and planning to expand to hold 65 members after the upcoming September recruitment round, AIESEC UBC is the largest chapter in BC.

In order to amplify student involvement in AIESEC, we develop our local leaders by initiating annual conferences to educate our members and provide department focused training sessions to equip them with effective techniques to excel in their roles.

## **Conferences**

This coming October, AIESEC UBC will be hosting the Western Regional Conference (WRC) 2010 as well as the Coastal Conference of 2010. Each year, the responsibility of hosting the Coastal Conference is alternately passed on locally amongst Vancouver's chapters, while Western Canadian chapters annually bid to host WRC; AIESEC UBC won the bid for WRC and will host both conferences this year.

### **Western Regional Conference**

The Western Regional Conference brings together 150 delegates of the eight universities of Western Canada to activate their potential as AIESEC leaders by:

- Increasing understanding of AIESEC's managerial tasks
- Building regional networks
- Sharing successful business strategies amongst various chapters
- Establishing practical department focused simulation workshops

Sessions are arranged by members of the National Committee and facilitated by highly qualified executive leaders, elected based on their historical performance.

### **Coastal Conference**

Coastal is the Vancouver based conference held annually in early Spring in order to unite AIESEC chapters from UVic, UBC, SFU and Kwantlen and collectively transition new members into their AIESEC responsibilities by:

- Developing their professional soft skills
- Igniting passion and enthusiasm for AIESEC values
- Identifying the specific Vancouver Region reality
- Creating a strong interlinked local network

Sessions and simulations are organized by the local presidents and jointly facilitated by the executive members of the local chapters.