

Report from Academy of International Business, Canada Chapter

Summary

The Canada Chapter had a very productive year. Member participation was high at the recent ASAC annual conference in Halifax. The I.B. program was 100% full and this made the conference organizers pretty happy.

Current and Incoming Officers (with Contact information)

Bernie Wolf (York) will stand in for Howard X. Lin as Chapter Chair at the Milan conference. At our next Chapter meeting in 2009, an election will be held to choose a new chair.

Summary of Membership

The International Business Division of the Administrative Sciences Association of Canada, which represents the Chapter, has currently about 100 members.

Summary of Financial Status

The Chapter does not have any financial engagement.

Summary of Meetings Held in 2008

Jointly with the ASAC IB Division, the Chapter had its 2007 program at the annual conference ASAC in Halifax on May 23-27, 2008. There were more than 100 registered members at the conference. Among 21 submissions, 16 papers were accepted for presentation. In total we received 1 submission in French and 20 in English. Thirteen papers were (co)authored by students, which is very encouraging as an indicator of the growing popularity of international business in Canadian business schools.

With the Organization Theory and Strategy divisions, we jointly sponsored a distinguished speaker session. Albert Cannella's (Tulane University) a speech, titled "Business and Universities – Some Words of Caution", was warmly received. The program included one panel session, titled "Product Issues in IB", which is inspired by recent incidents of product recalls concerning China and the high-impact article published by Canadian scholars Hari Bapuji and Paul Beamish on the issue. Three presentations considered the issue from the perspectives of Western consumers, Western distributors, and Chinese manufacturers, respectively. The program also included a symposium regarding another hot topic in IB, that is, knowledge management in the global firm. Issues related to the retention of global intellectual capital, technology sharing within globally dispersed R&D units, and cross-border knowledge transmission were discussed. Finally, the program included a workshop on conducting qualitative research in IM.

Plan for Future Meetings

We have formed the executive team for our next program at the ASAC 2009 annual conference. The conference will be held at Niagara Fall sponsored by the Wilfred Laurier University. The executive team includes Ronald Camp II (Regina University) and Trevor Hunter (University of Western Ontario).

Future Plans

The Chapter will make continuing effort to develop our successful programs at ASAC and to increase AIB membership. Our focus will be those Canadian scholars who are ASAC IB Division members but have not joined AIB. We will use our ever popular program at the ASAC conference to attract scholars outside traditional "IB" field and graduate students.

H. Xiaohua Lin
Chair of the Academy of International Business Canada Chapter
Ted Rogers School of Management
Ryerson University