Everybody's business: beyond Gustavson’s classrooms

Gustavson students were big players in the 2014 PitchIt! competition on January 28, where Commerce and MBA students formed all or part of 15 of the 21 teams that entered. Congratulations to the top five finishers! Michael Wilson and Darrin Mah (both COM ’14) pitched Nightshade, a nail varnish that signals the presence of Rohypnol and GHB. Tony Nielsen (COM ’15) and Devin Landis proposed That Giving Thing, a website that tracks the momentum of a single good deed through QR codes that link individuals to acts of kindness. Derek Odland’s (COM ’14) Snabb Rentals, Austin Singhera and Pavitar Sidhu’s (both COM ’17) Medical Solutions, and Brina Martens’ (COM ’15) b. martens also got enthusiastic nods (and $300!) from the judges.

Service management, supply chain, operations...

Responsible Travel Week Feb 10-16

The 2002 Cape Town Declaration defines responsible tourism as minimizing negative economic, environmental, and social impacts, generating greater economic benefits for local people, enhancing the well-being of host communities, improving working conditions and access to the industry…and much more.

The International Centre for Responsible Tourism is a community of responsible-tourism practitioners in business, government, NGOs, conservation and heritage. Their work focuses on the principles of the Cape Town Declaration on Responsible Tourism, and they work to originate markets and destinations around the world, to harness tourism to make “better places for people to live in and for people to visit.”

Anti-corruption proceedings online

The issue of corruption has raised challenges worldwide in the process of sustainable development. Accomplishment of poverty-eradication and sustainability objectives has been affected by growing corruption in different societies and sectors. The Faculty of Business at the University of Botswana, in academic association with the PRME Secretariat in New York, held a day-long series of workshops on January 7, 2014. The proceedings of “Integrating Anti-corruption in Management Education: Strategic Issues and Way Forward in Southern African Context” will be available online. Details are in the Events section of the PRME website.

Human resources

Organizations increasingly seek to integrate sustainable development into their core goals, strategies, and operations. However, organizations cannot fully realize their sustainability initiatives without a motivated and skilled workforce. Such employee engagement efforts require the active leadership and involvement of human resource departments, which are responsible for developing systems for selecting, training, appraising, and rewarding employees.