

the INSIDER

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Stockholm School of Economics in Riga



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LINEDATA SERVICES

SOME TIME HAS PASSED SINCE OUR VALENTINE'S DAY ISSUE, AND, OF COURSE, THERE ARE A LOT OF CHANGES. TERRIFYING FINANCE IS OVER, AND YEAR 2 STUDENTS (AS THEY TOLD US) NOW KNOW WHAT REAL HAPPINESS IS... MACRO HAS STARTED, MAKING CHAOS IN HEADS OF Y1s. SPRING HAS ARRIVED, AND WE ARE JUMPING OVER THE PUDDLES, BLINKING WHEN LOOKING AT THE BRIGHT SPRING SUN AND DREAMING ABOUT HOLIDAYS. THE NEW INSIDER ISSUE ALSO HAS A LOT OF CHANGES. WE RENEWED DESIGN AND ADDED ONE NEW COLUMN WHICH RECOMMENDS A NICE PLACE TO VISIT IN THE CENTRE OF RIGA. OF COURSE, THE MAIN TOPIC IS DAYS OF OPPORTUNITIES, BUT, APART FROM SERIOUS STUFF, WE HAVE A LOT OF FUN STUFF TO OFFER YOU.

AS ALWAYS, WE WANT TO THANK ALL THE PEOPLE WHO HELPED US TO CREATE THIS ISSUE, AND NAMELY JELENA, KRISTINA, MAIJA, AISTE, LIENE, REINHOLDS AND EGLE. WE WISH YOU BRIGHT SUN AND CREATIVE MOOD! ALSO, SPECIAL THANKS TO THE PERSON WHO GAVE US THIS WONDERFUL PICTURE FOR THE COVER, ANNA KUSTIKOVA WEILANDE.

THINK WIDER, AND YOU ARE WELCOME TO DAYS OF OPPORTUNITIES!

CHEERS,

THE INSIDER



MORTEN'S COLUMN

ACRONYMS

ACRONYMS HAVE PROLIFERATED IN RECENT YEARS, NOT LEAST BECAUSE OF THE EU (EUROPEAN UNION) THAT HAS ALSO GIVEN RISE TO SUCH ONES AS ECB (EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK), EU15 (EU MEMBERS STATES BEFORE THE 2004 ENLARGEMENT), NMS-8 (THE NEW MEMBER STATES FROM EASTERN EUROPE) AND, UNBELIEVABLY, CTBOIS, WHICH STANDS FOR "CLOSE TO BALANCE OR IN SURPLUS" AND IS USED WITHIN SGP, THE STABILITY AND GROWTH PACT OF THE EMU, ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION.

BUT THERE ARE MANY OTHERS, OF COURSE. G7, THE GROUP OF SEVEN RICH INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES (US, UK, FRANCE, CANADA, ITALY, GERMANY AND JAPAN). RUSSIA TRIED TO SNEAK IN BUT ONLY MANAGED TO MAKE IT G7+1 AND NOW WE HAVE G20 INSTEAD.

RUSSIA HAD MUCH MORE SUCCESS ELSEWHERE: BRAZIL, RUSSIA, INDIA, CHINA – BRIC – THE GROUP OF RAPIDLY GROWING LARGE EMERGING ECONOMIES. BUT WHEREAS BRIC STANDS FOR (SOMETIMES) SUCCESSFUL ECONOMIES, IT IS RATHER DIFFERENT WITH PIGS – PORTUGAL, ITALY, GREECE AND SPAIN – THE UNREFORMING LAGGARDS OF THE EUROZONE. SOMETIMES IRELAND IS ADDED, MAKING IT PIIGS, BUT I THINK THAT IS UNFAIR.

OF COURSE THIS MEANT THAT I HAD TO CREATE MY OWN ACRONYM IN ORDER TO BECOME FAMOUS BUT I HAVEN'T HAD MUCH SUCCESS WITH IT YET. HUNGARY, ESTONIA, LATVIA AND POLAND WAS MY IDEA, AND IT SHOULD END WITH A '!' – WHEREAS HUNGARY AND LATVIA HAVE PLAYED ALONG ESTONIA AND POLAND HAVE BEEN UNCOOPERATIVE RENDERING, AT LEAST FOR NOW, MY ACRONYM USELESS. BUT HOPE SPRINGS ETERNALLY!

NEWS FROM THE SA

THE STUDENT Association

SPORTS.COM

Dear All,

Almost three months have passed since the new SA started its work and soon it's time for us to officially take over the board. We were given some time to prove ourselves, to get more familiar with the work our positions require. Looking back to the first board meetings I can proudly say that each of us has taken most out of 'the trial period' and developed much during that time. The goals for the new SA are clear and we will give our best to make them happen.

Discounts in sports centres, feedback sessions and surveys for courses, new Mac in the lobby, lost and won battles against Wi-Fi, Yearbook assignments, Bloody Valentine – those are just a few cross-outs in our to-do list. New ideas and challenges are added to it and, day by day, the list gets longer. All we can do now is to wait for the last steps of the takeover process to be completed. After the final part (which they say is going to be legendary!) we are ready to give all to make your lives better, easier and more interesting than ever before.

In the name of the new Student Association,

Birgit Annus

Vice-President

The 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympic Games are over. Latvia was the most successful from the Baltics with 2 silver medals, one by Martinš Dukurs in men's skeleton and another by Juris Šics and Andris Šics in Double' Luge. Estonia follows with 1 silver won by Kristina Šmigun-Vähi in ladies' 10 km Free Cross-Country Skiing. And then comes Lithuania, yeah, as Morten would say, "wish you better luck next time"

Continuing with information more related to SSE Riga, our basketball team had 4 games in February, and although they lost all four, the players made their best. The victory over BA School of Business and Finance (Banku augstskola) was close, but eventually the match ended with a score of 74:76. Frisbee players had 7 games in February participating in Latvian National Frisbee Indoors Championship. The guys' team managed to improve their best score of the season to 4:13; girls kept 13:2, so congratulations to them. Also, from 5th to 7th of March volleyball team took part in the International University Cup 2010. This competition showed us that we have a lot of things to improve, as the results were not satisfying.

To bring some good news, I would like to let you all know that from the beginning of March SSE Riga students will have a chance to go swimming in Ķīpsala for 2 LVL during weekdays from 07:00-14:00.

To sum up, I am extremely grateful that so many people have contributed to improve schools image on the sports arena. Still, I would like to encourage everyone to take advantage of the great possibilities provided by our school and advise you to lead a healthy lifestyle and do more sports!

NB (Sports.Com advises for March): more sports => more energy for both studying and partying => double win

Madis Sulg, Sports.Com



LEIF MUTEN SOCIETY

Leif Mutén Society decided to reward the best performer in Financial Economics for the patience, persistence, hard work and ambitions demonstrated during the course. That is why LMS announced a scholarship of 500 EUR to a top score according to exam grades.

In April it is planned to organize general meeting and new board elections. As a rule, only members of LMS can apply for a position in the board. You can expect more detailed information about elections closer to April.



First of all, the first part of preliminary competition – CESIM business simulation - is over and Peak Time 2010 participants are about to engage into the 'green' case study. When preparing it, McKinsey promised to surprise us. And they did. Let's wait and see whether Peak Time participants will surprise them.

Secondly, Peak Time 2010 organizers are glad to announce that Soros Foundation has joined the ranks of financial supporters. Moreover, rumor has it – European Commission is planning to show their support for this year's event as well.

Finally, guest lecturers are now the hot topic on Peak Time plan-desk. Any preferences?

BOARD GAME CLUB

Board Game Club has successfully survived Finance and is back with the Table Football Tournament. It will begin on March 15, the deadline for application is March 13, 23:59. The next event in our minds is the tournament of Settlers of Catan, which is planned to happen sometime after Easter.



DEBATE SOCIETY

On 29th, 30th, and 31st of January SSE Riga Debate Society participated in Jacobs Open Tournament in Bremen, Germany. We were represented by two teams and one judge; one of the teams broke into semi-finals and took 8th place out of 24. Overall, the tournament was really much fun.

On 19th and 20th February our teams took part in Mykolas Romeris University IV hosted in Vilnius, Lithuania. It was much more successful for us, with 2 teams breaking into semifinals and taking 4th and 5th places out of 32. SSE Riga graduate Arvydas Ziobakas together with an Estonian debater Anna Karolin won the tournament.

In the closest future we plan to participate in two more tournaments, one also held in Vilnius at the end of March, another one taking place in Kiev, Ukraine, at the beginning of May. Stay tuned!



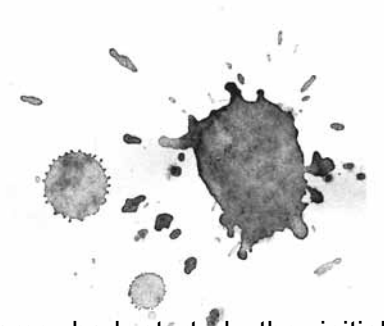
CHARITY CLUB

Hey everybody,

Another issue of "the Insider" is on SSE Riga tables. Quite a long period of time has already passed in the year 2010 and we have only around 4 months left till the end of this academic year! For Charity Club this means planning new events for the spring and summer periods; thus, we are looking for volunteers. We need a handful of people who like to participate in organizing of large events. If you are interested, just call us (+371 26545367) or approach us at the school. We will find something for you, from small practical tasks to connecting people, finding sponsors, etc. The main goal is to do good things together.

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY...

THE INVESTMENT GAME



The Investment Game '10 has ended. It definitely hasn't been an easy task to organize and to run the game, as we, the board of the Investment Fund, faced many challenges starting from fund raising and ending with programming. But, in the end, the game turned out to be rather successful, as the players were trading with never seen before enthusiasm to fight their way to the top. In this article we will provide a couple of insights on how it all happened.

The organizational side was problematic yet solvable and challenging yet rewarding. With the financial assistance of our sponsors, NASDAQ OMX Riga and Pivot Capital Management, and the helping hand and sincere devotion of so many people we managed to overcome all the obstacles.

We also have to thank our fellow Year 1 students for their essential help in promoting the Investment Game. Before the official start of the game schools and universities around the Baltics were marked with the Investment Game'10 posters. Moreover, forums and Facebook pages were flooded with invitations to participate in the game (even a few bans could not stop the stream of promotion). Media coverage in the Baltics was ensured by NASDAQ OMX Riga, Delfi, Traders. It, and MarketNews. Therefore, when only a few seconds were left before the first orders, the board of iFund was calm. We only needed to set-up data feed, update the news, and upload weekly market overviews.

However, when the game had started, the initial calmness vanished quickly. Instead of seeing the stock market data running smoothly from our three data providers to the iGame server, there were certain complications with collecting data, and an interim station was needed to ensure that the markets actually worked. So for the first week a simple Acer laptop with SSE Riga Internet became a super-risky game server, and instead of "Hello" we started each and every day with, "Is everything okay with the data?" In addition, some programming skills were crucial for renewing all the tickers and keeping track of gazillions of numbers and codes,. Thus, the Chief Investment Game Organizer Dmitrijs became a full-time programmer for the first week's nighttime. Although some interruptions in the data feed were inevitable, all the problems were eventually solved.

It was worrying and at the same time extremely entertaining to watch Dmitrijs anxiously calling the data providers, programmers and all the iFund board members around 20 times a day (at any time of the day – early in the morning or late at night) to get all the problems solved. As entertaining as it was, although some of the problems were inevitable and unexpected, the amazing thing was that he always got them solved in the shortest time possible.

Another extremely important issue was publishing market overviews. Luckily, with a sincere contribution from market overview teams, participants of the game were able to enjoy high-quality overviews of all markets present in the game. Also, this year the overviews section was complemented with stock picks that were

INVESTMENT

GAME



positively welcomed by participants of the game. The idea was simple: each week there would be buy recommendations for one or two stocks for each market provided by a special team of Y1s.

A couple of words should also be said about the game's participants. Overall, there were 4500 players this year. Even though the number of players was smaller than last year, they were much more active – they spent more time in the game and made more orders than last year. Another interesting fact is that, unlike previous years, when Lithuanians represented the majority of players, Latvians were more active this year. We were also happy to see promotion in Sweden and Finland work out, as we saw quite a large number of Swedes and Finns playing the game.

It was also interesting to see the Estonian market being the most popular market throughout the whole game.

This was due to the spectacular performance of the Tallinn Stock Exchange in January.

So this is pretty much all about the Investment Game '10. The closing ceremony will take place at the end of March, where we will award the game's winners and the best Market Overview teams. It has been fun for us to organize the game, and we hope that the participants have enjoyed the game and have gained experience in trading and financial markets in general. We look forward to the next year's Investment Game!

Pavel Osipovs

SMALL STORIES OF A BIG CORPORATION

Jevgenia, an SSE Riga graduate, has been working in Nokia for 2 years. She shared her experience of surviving in a big corporation and also gave some pieces of advice to our students.

NOKIA

Already during Year 1 (in 2005-2006) I've heard about working in Nokia Siemens Networks (later NSN) from some SSE Riga graduates who were employed by Nokia NET before the two giants merged in Telecom industry. It seemed to be a dream job because those guys were bouncing around the world in never ending business trips, and, not surprisingly, it really appealed to a young and curious person like me. Kristian, the head of Global CFO BE Deployment & Support team, has had a very special relationship with SSE Riga for many years: on the initiative of Kristian, Nokia continuously was a golden sponsor of PeakTime... During Peak Time 2008 an e-mail came from SSE Riga almost-graduate who was already employed by



NSN. He wrote about an opportunity to have an interview and work for it. It was the day of Peak Time party, so at 3 a.m. or 4 a.m. I had a word with this guy and asked to add my name to the applicants list. Right after that - I can't remember very well how, though - I managed to get home and proofread and send my CV (which I'm sure nobody ever opened), set an alarm clock (!), and at noon I had my interview with Kristian. Yes, certainly I was curious about this job, but it was so unexpected that I remained very calm



and relaxed. It was more a conversation with a potential employer when he tried to give a short introduction into the cryptic job lying ahead, and as a matter of fact I was asking more questions than talking about my 'qualities and strengths'. We agreed that we will meet again in 1-1.5 months when he'd be back to Riga again, and that was it. Next, we met in the middle of June (meanwhile I've asked about life in NSN), and I made up my mind. I was to start in September 2008 after a long and lazy summer break.

THE BEGINNING

It was interesting and exciting to start working in NSN but at the same time quite difficult, I should admit. I had a long vacation right before the start and was in a very good and unstressed mood. Well, the unstressed mood has changed very fast. You would understand this when you start working in a multinational company for the first time.

CORPORATE SLANG

First of all, they speak a different language - the corporate language of acronyms and abbreviations, and the only way to learn it is by working with it every day. The beginning is painful - you need to ask every second word from your colleagues to get the meaning of the sentence. And of course the job specifics add to this complexity - my department is dealing with Finance & Control Deployment & Support. This area is extremely technical, e.g. my position official name is: ERP F&C RPDM, Global CFO BE Deployment & Support. Also, internally we

are referred to as RPMs, RCMs, RCOs, PDSs, Tier2, and so on... Maybe there are some other names to remember. Actually this is very normal for corporate language, but when it is your first experience of such kind, it is quite amusing & confusing to deep-dive.

WEIGHT YOUR WORDS

The corporate world is very political. And it also depends on the region, I believe. From my experience, you have to weight every word, and what you say always depends on whom you are talking to. You really need to be careful in understanding where you are, spotting your colleagues 'limits'. With some it is fine to say "sh*t" when you are emotional, but with some it is unacceptable. In a corporation you might work with a very diverse group of people, and it is fine to be open and informal, but what may seem to you 'normal and relaxed', may be ridiculous and insulting to others. Believe me, there is no need to tell your line manager how much you've been partying during your first business trip and how many shots you had last night. People have very different views on these things, and even if your work is perfect, for some this may not always be enough. "Big brother" is watching you, even after office hours, especially if you are on a business trip and company invests into your enabling. They prefer to be sure that they are not wasting money, and you are taking it seriously.

PROMISES THEY WILL NEVER FULFILL

During a job interview most probably you will be brainwashed about endless opportunities and bonuses that you will get - growth, benefits packages, etc. In reality, you will get only what is formalized and is quantitative in your job agreement. It will take you a



long and exhausting fight to implement the paragraphs with abstract definitions. It also depends on who you talk to during your interview, if it is the head of some global department, he or she might be just not familiar with your local legislation. Your local HR (which in many cases is dealing with anything else but people management), however, will find a way and justification to avoid materializing your promised paradise. This is not because they are evil, but because companies are saving money (especially nowadays), and in multinationals you have 'guidelines and concepts' that are implemented locally. Every concept has a limitation and a room for interpretation; and one should have guts to take a risk and interpret it in a way that will result in a higher expenditure for the company. It does not mean, though, that you should not give it a try - just keep your expectations realistic. And, of course, keep in mind that there are armies of fresh new graduates like you, and before getting a candy you need to prove that you are worth it. So this all makes your start much more complicated.

A BIG BIG GIRL IN A BIG BIG WORLD

You are 21-23 when you graduate. And this is young for a corporation, really young. Of course, a lot of depends on a position you start with. Mine could be described as "an expert in internal processes". Technically, one part of the job is to go to different countries and people (most of them are at least 10 years older than me) and train them how to do things correctly in the system of corporation. There is a sort of psychological barrier for some to be taught by someone as young as I am. And I really recommend you not to disclose your age to everyone.

It is also normal that people make mistakes; and there might be cases when colleagues you are working with in a project are making mistakes which affect you. And there's nobody else around but you to tell this.

It may be sometimes painful to receive such feedback for a person who is more experienced than you. In my first project I had a case of such misunderstanding; it took me a lot of patience to mitigate the conflict and "swallow" comments about my age and experience, which other person made. And I am not the only one who has faced such a situation.

MORE ABOUT RESPONSIBILITIES

So, as I already said, I work in F&C Deployment and Support team. Since Nokia NET & Siemens COM merged in telecom industry, we align the two former companies to one Mode of Operation. There is a huge internal project ongoing, it is quite exciting to realize that you are directly participating in one of the greatest current Change Management projects in the world. One part of this Change Management process is ERP Deployment: primitively speaking, it takes money to maintain all those systems, and you minimize your IT costs significantly having only one type of software for ERP. This is not only about creating a correct tool modification, but also about training people, identifying local specifics and deviations from our prescribed global Mode of Operation; finding ways to satisfy local legal requirements, but at the same time also stay within our standards. This is what my team deals with. ERP team is like aliens coming and setting new standards, the local businesses follow the new way. That's what makes me travel quite a lot. It is not always so easy, though, of course we try to cut travel costs and every cent that we spend is closely monitored, but it is unreasonable to do some tasks remotely so we try to find a way to spend the least but get the best outcome. I can tell you that I am still not so tired of traveling after 1.5 years, but it is annoying to pack-and-repack too often, and searching for a new apartment every half year may be "slightly" stressful. But I am not complaining at all. I generally enjoy new places, I like meeting new people, I left a big piece of my heart in Budapest with new-found friends. And I should say that the work itself is quite interesting; my brain is always active and searching for solutions. I think I have also learned to be much more patient than I used to be.

Jevgenija Lakisova



*Our official sponsor
of St. Valentine's day
party :)*

INTERVIEW WITH TĀLIS PUTNIŅŠ

AGE: 27

FAMILY STATUS: IN A RELATIONSHIP

FAVORITE BOOK: LEONARDO COHEN "THE SPICE BOX OF EARTH"

CANNOT SPEND A DAY WITHOUT: TIME HAVING MOVED FORWARD

I HAVE NEVER: SEEN SUCH A GLOSSY PIECE OF STUDENTS' PRESS AS "THE INSIDER"

LANGUAGES SPOKEN: LATVIAN, ENGLISH

PARTYING VS. STUDYING: 20% / 80%

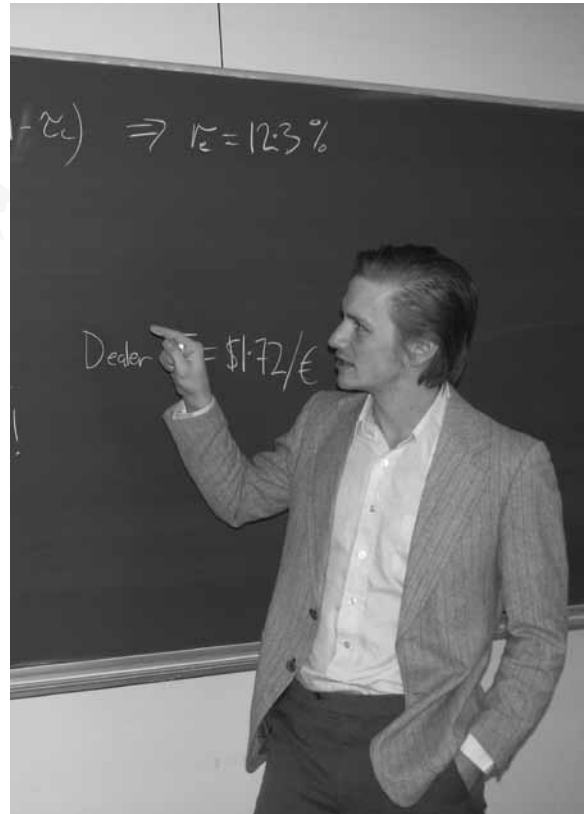
BLONDES VS. BRUNETTES: BLONDES

PLEASE, TELL US A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOURSELF FOR THOSE WHO WERE NOT AT THE FIRST LECTURE WITH YOU.

I was born in Adelaide, Australia. After finishing university there, I went to Royal Military College and graduated as General Service Officer. Then I moved to Sydney to study Finance further. I've been doing a Ph.D. there and also working as a research assistant. After finishing my Ph.D., I moved to Riga.

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO STUDY FINANCE?

I was inspired by a high school teacher I had. The insights in economics and finance I gained from him both in the classroom and outside in various discussions really inspired me to study finance further. It was also after discussions with him that I started trading stocks. At that time I was too young to own stock on my own name. So I started trading on my dad's name, and I was fascinated by a bunch of questions that I couldn't answer and couldn't understand, e.g., why do stocks have a certain price? Why does that price change? How does information that a person might have gets impounded into prices? Curiosity on those questions inspired me to study finance.



TELL US ABOUT YOUR WORK EXPERIENCE

As an undergraduate I worked a bunch of students' jobs just to get by, such as selling newspapers, selling ties, participating in drug trials for the Medical Department of my university. Then, as my studies progressed, I started doing research assistants and teaching assistant's work, and I started to learn more about finance. This was my first time full-lectureship, but I've been lecturing different courses before in the University of Sydney and a couple of other research institutes around Sydney as well.

IS THERE ANYTHING SPECIAL OR UNIQUE ABOUT SSE RIGA STUDENTS AS COMPARED TO AUSTRALIAN STUDENTS?

In comparison, SSE Riga students are more motivated and hard-working. That makes it somewhat more interesting to interact. The sense of humor is very different there.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR HOBBIES

One hobby I have is brewing beer. I own a small brewery in a small sea-side village, just a little bit south from Sydney. Another hobby of mine is restoring old, antique French cars. They are a rare thing in Australia, and there are not many around, but I've got three of them: old 1975 model Renault's. I used to spend a lot of my weekends rebuilding engines and switching parts around to keep the cars in a running order. It was a great joy to drive these vehicles, now that they are so old and the engine is so primitive in the way it's constructed, and yet it can still drive you out several hundred kilometers in the countryside. Also, in Sydney I sang in a small local ensemble and in a men's choir, and I danced in a folk dancing group. Actually, I also lead a folk dancing group. We collected dancers from all around Australia to form a decent size group, and we were able to dance here during Dziesmu Svētki.

YOUR MAIN VALUES IN LIFE?

As the number one I'd put moral integrity, this idea of saying and doing what you know is right and what you know is morally the correct thing to do. Not what is the most comfortable or the most popular. That means often taking personal sacrifices to do what you believe is the most correct. Within that is the idea of honesty, even more, it is the moral courage of speaking out against things that are wrong, even though that is going to come at a personal cost. These things challenge you as you live your life and it is often not the most self-satisfying in the short run, but it is the principle by which you can sleep easily at night.

WHAT WAS THE HAPPIEST MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE?

It was when I found out that I'd got a silver medal in Australian National Beer Competition; the happiest because it was the most surprising and shocking event in my life that I'd least expected.

WHAT IS THE GREATEST CHALLENGE YOU HAVE FACED IN YOUR LIFE?

A significant challenge was before flying out for Latvia, after I packed my favorite 15kg of finance textbooks in my suitcase and was left with 5kg of luggage space, deciding what to put in those 5kg to be able to live in Latvia for a year. After arriving at SSE, I found that most of the hardcopy textbooks I brought with me JB (Jevgenijs Babaicevs) had as pdf.

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 10 YEARS?

Probably doing research and teaching, these are the two things that I'm really quite passionate about. I'm not sure whether it will be in finance or some other area, but I'm fairly convinced that those two things I'll

be still doing in 10 years time. Other topics that interest me are the behavioral aspects of finance, even towards psychology, and understanding how peoples' cognitive exhibit influence behavior and how that causes classical finance models to break down. Another field I could end up is brewery; you can do a Ph.D. in some brewery-related subjects, e.g., in Czech Republic, Germany, and the U.S. I would also like to raise a family.

ONE IMPORTANT LESSON YOU HAVE LEARNED FROM YOUR LIFE EXPERIENCE?

Not to pass up opportunities that you might pass up because you're too risk averse to take on the challenge. Sometimes people are too scared of not succeeding, so they let the opportunity go by. There's nothing worse than the regret that sets in afterwards. The lesson I've learned is the following: don't be scared to give it a shot, fail, try again, fail, and try again.

RECIPE FOR A HAPPY LIFE?

inding your own passion in life, finding something that you really love above all other things, and, once you've found that thing, then throw yourself at it. To find your passion – travel the world, explore different fields of knowledge, take risks, take opportunities, give things a shot. I think people end up unhappy because they think too much about what society's expectations of them are. Those types of people will end up not being happy about their lives because they are not maximizing their own expected utility function, but instead their parents or society's imposed utility function.

YOUR WISH TO SSE RIGA STUDENTS.

My wish for each of you is to find your own passion and pursues it. SSE Riga students make a big point of party vs. study. You will know that you have found your passion in life when you can no longer tell the difference between these two things because your study/work is a party!

Liene Grizāne

Madara Devko



Days of Opportunities

2010

15th annual Stockholm School of Economics in Riga Career Fair

Partners



Alma mater

oriflame

natural swedish cosmetics

Main partner



Employer of choice



Event partner

Official Guide

Diana Pauna
DoOrs to the future

March 26th
is approaching!

Read the full list of participating
**companies &
universities**

Word from organizers



proud to welcome 6 new enterprises and 2 new universities to the event.

Furthermore, this year's event has been expanded so that it would live up to its name – the *Days of Opportunities* will last for a whole week (March 22- March 26). You will have the opportunity to participate in guest lectures held by various business professionals in the days preceding the main event on the 26th of March. Finally, we would like to welcome our third sponsor – Latvijas Mobilais Telefons has joined our long-term partners Oriflame and KPMG in supporting the Days of Opportunities.

Why should you participate?

Companies



Universities



Guest Lectures



Monday, March 22nd
Peteris Kisis (Strategic Planner)

Insights that incite: unearthing powerful insights that lead to measurable business results



Tuesday, March 23rd, 16:00-17:00
BALTA guest lecture on insurance



Wednesday, March 24th, 13:00-14:00
Evija Mieze (Associate Director at Transactions & Restructuring dep.)

Fraud in the current economic situation and the factors behind fraud risk. Evija will present different cases of fraud from KPMG's international as well as regional experience.



Thursday, March 25th, 15:30-16:30
Uldis Bariss (Vice President)

The lecture will cover principles of the electricity market with a focus on the Baltic states. Moreover, the development and future perspectives of this market will be discussed by Mr Bariss who is responsible for finance and sales in Latvenergo.

*detailed information will follow via email before the Days of Opportunities

Attend all 4 guest lectures and win an iPod!*



Opening speaker

Nils Melngailis CEO of Parex bank

Mr. Nils Melngailis is the CEO of Parex banka since December 2008. After he took office Parex banka successfully completed the negotiation process with its syndicated lenders. Furthermore, an agreement for the EBRD's entrance in Parex banka's shareholders structure was signed. Prior to his appointment to Parex banka's Board he held the position of Executive Director at Lattelecom and was employed as Partner at IBM Business Consulting Services Northern Europe bureau, as well as Partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers in London and Partner in Charge of the Baltic region. He also managed Coopers & Lybrand in Latvia.



Main speaker

Juris Binde CEO of Latvijas Mobilais Telefons

Mr Binde is the president and the founder of the leading telecommunication company in Latvia Latvijas Mobilais Telefons. Additionally, he was a member of the Supervisory Council of a/s DnB NORD Banka Latvija from 2002 to 2009. Since 2008 he is a Docent of Vidzeme University College.

He started his career at VEF in 1978 as a designing engineer and in 9 years he became Chief Technologist and Head of Technology Department in the Research Institute VEF.

Mr Binde is an Honourary Doctor of Riga Technical University (Dr.h.c.) and also an Officer of Three-Star Order.



Interview with Diana Pauna

Doors to the Future

Anniversaries are usually a time for looking back on the past and taking a glance at the future. In order to do this for the 15th anniversary of the Days of Opportunities we interviewed our pro-rector Diana Pauna who has witnessed every event since the establishment of DoO back in 1996.



Where did the idea of organizing a career fair come from and who was the first organizer?

The concept is borrowed from Stockholm (SSE) and initiated by the administration of SSE Riga. Career fairs were not known in Latvia at the time, so SSE Riga pioneered the format in Latvia. Matiss Paegle, who at the time was the president of the SA, organized the first event. He had a very good relationship with the SA in Stockholm, and their experience helped in setting up the first event. So DoO has been organized solely by students from the very beginning.

Why do students as opposed to the school itself organize the event?

Organizing DoO gives a valuable and unique experience for students. The event has developed a strong identity; students are highly motivated to participate in organizing the event. Also, each organizing team brings innovations to the event and keeps improving it.

Was the name "Days of Opportunities" used from the very beginning?

No, until 1999 the event was called "SSE Riga Career Days". The name was changed when other schools in Latvia started to organize career days as well and claimed that SSE Riga shouldn't use "Career Days" in the official name of the event. Pavils Jurjans, the Vice President at the time, came up with the name "Days of Opportunities".

Who were the first participants?

There were approximately 10 companies present, all of them multi-nationals – KPMG, Hansabanka, PwC etc. Local companies were unfamiliar with the concept of career days and did not participate in the first events.

What does DoO mean for you personally? Which event has been the most memorable for you?

Each year the day itself is a very busy one for me. It is filled with attending presentations, meeting the alumni, and establishing new contacts. Meeting old and new friends makes it a special day. Still, I would have to say that the very first event was the most memorable one for me. I don't remember all the details of it, but I do remember the feeling and the novelty.

What do you expect of this year's event?

I'm looking for results that could be measured in jobs and internship placements. Currently many of graduates choose to continue studies as opposed to working for a couple of years beforehand. I believe that they should work at least for some time before going to graduate schools, and this is where I expect DoO to help them. So, during tougher times the event becomes more important – before the crisis students had many job offers that the role of DoO diminished considerably and we even had problems with attendance.

Where do you see the event heading?

Well, the concept itself has worked very well so far. It seems that after the introduction of study fees there has been a change in attitude. Instead of just intellectually strong students who want to study at a good school we have students who genuinely want to study economics and business. The companies will recognize this and as the economy picks up again the event will possess great potential. Taking this into account I expect DoO to expand to new sectors such as the medical industry, fashion, wood processing companies, etc. Also, I really like the idea of Days of Opportunities – guest lectures and other activities happening throughout a longer time period will enhance the event greatly. Even though students can have opportunities to develop themselves every day, let me slightly paraphrase the logo of the DoO 2004 and wish the Days of Opportunities be the DoOrs to the future!

INTERNSHIPS

IN THE LIGHT OF COMING DAYS OF OPPORTUNITIES WE DECIDED TO ASK YEAR 2 AND YEAR 3 STUDENTS TO SHARE THEIR INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE WITH US. ACTUALLY, WE ALSO WANTED TO PROVE A HYPOTHESIS THAT IF YOU HAVE A FREE COFFEE MACHINE AT YOUR WORKPLACE, THERE IS ALSO A HIGH PROBABILITY OF GETTING A SALARY :) UNFORTUNATELY, THE RESULTS WERE MIXED, SO WE DID NOT DRAW ANY CONCLUSIONS... AT LEAST HERE ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS WHERE YOU CAN LOOK FOR INTERNSHIPS THIS SUMMER!

ZANE KOKINA (Y2)

COMPANY: Public Relations Agency PR Stils

POSITION: Project Assistant

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES: I helped organizing PR campaigns, brainstormed in their creation, wrote an application project for EU Funds.

WHAT YOU LIKED: Colleagues, sense of responsibility and the given credit of trust.

WHAT YOU DIDN'T LIKE: hmm... don't know, probably the mistakes I made due to my lack of experience.

DID YOU GET A SALARY: Yes

FREE COFFEE MACHINE: Yes

RIHARDS BERGS (Y3)

COMPANY: GE Money Bank

POSITION: Junior Analyst (at Risk Department)

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES: Providing secure processes of risk management

WHAT YOU LIKED: Work really helped me to develop my skills, to learn a lot of new things that one can learn during working, not studying.

WHAT YOU DIDN'T LIKE: Attitude towards the employees was not friendly.

DID YOU GET A SALARY: No

Free coffee machine: Yes

AKVILE DUDULYTE (Y2)

COMPANY : Lietuvos draudimas (Insurance of Lithuania)

POSITION: Intern at Marketing Communication Department

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES: I worked with the customer loyalty program and was responsible for the company's advertising program on Facebook. I was also responsible for the company's brand image in the 5 point-of-sales.

WHAT YOU LIKED: I participated in the autumn marketing strategy brainstorms and presentations and had extremely nice colleagues, and now I really miss our lunch breaks, chats, birthdays' celebrations, and friendly atmosphere in the office. Moreover, I was very excited to wear formal dresses each end every day in the office.

WHAT YOU DIDN'T LIKE: Being used to extremely busy and efficient SSE Riga working style, sometimes I just felt that I had too little work to do. I also didn't like that my working day started at 8:00 in the morning

DID YOU GET A SALARY: Unfortunately, no

FREE COFFEE MACHINE: Yes

LIVA GUDULE (Y2)

COMPANY : Marketing and design "Mandarins"

POSITION: Project Manager's Assistant

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES: Developing a strategy for a marketing project, creating offers for potential clients.

WHAT YOU LIKED: I was able to do some "real stuff", which included creativity. Another plus was that I was able to choose when and where to work as long as I did the work till the deadline.

WHAT YOU DIDN'T LIKE: I was left with a feeling that, as I came from this school, managers trusted and believed me to an extend that did not provide me with enough instructions and directions for my tasks. Thus, sometimes I felt more like a manager, not his assistant.

DID YOU GET A SALARY: No

FREE COFFEE MACHINE: Yes

Maija Marincenko

GEOCACHING

Are you looking for a fun way to discover exciting places in Riga, Latvia (or any other country) or simply spend a good weekend? Then Geocaching ("jee-oh-cash-ing") is the right thing for you. It is a modern day treasure hunting game which uses the coordinates of a GPS signal and clues to find a hidden cache. The rule is that non-cachers must not notice you, so discretion is always appropriate.

According to Wikipedia, the first type of such a cache was hidden on May 3, 2000 by Dave Ulmer of Beaver Creek, Oregon. Today there are more than 950 000 active caches in over 100 countries and all 7 continents (including Antarctica) and hundreds of caches in Latvia. To understand why geocaching has become so popular the process has to be enjoyed in life, so reading an article can only give a glimpse of what it is. I would describe it from the perspective of an explorer who is thrilled by the act of discovery and the experience itself. Nowadays when there are few white spots on earth, and average citizen is comfortably cruising his well-known roads, it is a great pleasure to tread the paths that you did not even expect to exist.

Geocaching can be divided into urban and countryside type each having its charm. The urban caching is as the name suggests happening in cities and caches are often placed near memorable places and tourist attractions. For example, Riga has caches located near the National Opera, the Dome church, and also on the Vanšu bridge. In contrast to these, there are caches that bring you to city parts that you normally would not wander in as a tourist. The best time for caches is late evening or night when there are less people around as sometimes obtaining the cache requires actions which would, mildly saying, look suspicious. The countryside caching also has caches in great places: near notable natural and architectural sites. The great thing is that almost every cache has a story behind it, the reason why it is placed there. For instance, some are in memory of places where famous battles took place, such as the Christmas battle of WW1. Without a cache a person not acquainted with history would probably never imagine visiting this place (of course, except for primary school excursion). Some geocaching trips also include collecting and disposing of litter and waste found, and the game itself has a generally green attitude towards nature. The cacher leaves the place as he found it or even better – cleaner than before.

The game is also about friendship and respect for other people. Players are themselves responsible for the actions they take and for preservation of caches.

If you have read this far you most probably wonder how exactly you start geocaching. To find your first cache you need to have its coordinates and maybe a hint to help you in case you face difficulty (the nearest cache is one block away from SSE Riga). The biggest and probably best website for caching is www.geocaching.com which includes the coordinates and also help for beginners. The GPS devices can be quite expensive, so at first you can simply look up the cache on the google maps, reaching the approximate destination is often sufficient to find the cache. Using a mobile phone with a built in GPS device is also a good option. Probably this article does not do justice to the real fun of the process. So don't just sit there and think about how it could be, but go out and find your first cache.

Reinholds Pirags



A typical place to find a cache

ERASMUS IN THE CITY OF LIGHT

You get a place in the Erasmus Exchange Program and you are lucky enough to go to Paris. You prepare for the trip for five months and you really hope that you will feel special in this city (well, come on, it's Paris!). Then you arrive there, but the feeling that you were waiting for doesn't come. You are worried and you repeat to yourself, "Maia, it's Paris, feel something!", but you don't. And then there is this ordinary day when you go out from the apartment, and probably you are on the way to your university; you feel very comfortable in your shoes; you have your walkman; you have some plans for the evening; you look on the pavement, look around, look in the sky; you take a deep breath; you smile; and you realize that you love Paris...

The first part of our semester my friend Egle called the "cultural one". She bought a good Paris guide, and I had a list of 100 places that I wanted to see. Every day we discovered different parts of the city and its suburbs. I highlighted visited places in my list, Egle put ticks in her to-do-list. We went to university three days per week, and all other days we wandered around the city. Paris is unquestionably beautiful with a crazy amount of things to offer. I admit that I still did not manage to see everything I wanted.

Well, I wrote two paragraphs about my feelings and the city and did not say a word about the studies, which were of course the aim of the program (at least formally). Paris Graduate School of Management gave an opportunity to choose any course from a very long list of subjects. Though the workload is smaller than in our Alma Mater, the subjects are still interesting and useful. I became fascinated by the culture and economics of Asian countries, learnt fancy things about tourism industry, improved my economics skills. A very good thing about PGSM is that maximum amount of people in every class is 30, and, as a result, teachers get to know you well. I received invaluable advice and recommendations from my professors.

On the first week of November we had our mid-terms, which came quite unexpectedly. And starting from the 7th of November the second part of our semester started. I call this part "real Erasmus". We had many guests from Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania visiting us. With our friends



we discovered new restaurants, museums, pubs & clubs, small streets, big boulevards, markets, and paradise shops. Emotions were overwhelming every day. Friday was not such a special day any more. Mondays, Tuesdays, Sundays were as bright and active as any Friday or Saturday! We woke up in the morning in our small but cozy studio with the view on the Eiffel Tower, drank coffee, and hurried to meet another happy day.

In this city I met Rihanna, spoke the most romantic language in the world, ate the tastiest food, met the most interesting people, had the best heartwarming evenings, shook the hand of Vivienne Westwood's son, saw the works of the most talented artists, had the longest walks, danced till the morning light, had the time of my life... Even music in my walkman sounded special in Paris.

I am grateful to SSE Riga for giving me this lucky ticket, to my friends and family with whom I started to love the city, to Egle, Inga, Lena for experiencing all this with me, to new people whom I met there.

Just to conclude, I am not the same after my Erasmus. Now I know where I want to live ;)

Maia Sokolova

THESE MYSTERIOUS EXCHANGE STUDENTS...



FRENCH STUDENTS:

PIERRE LOUIS KIEFFER:

I did not expect that Latvians drink milk during the lunchtime! For French people milk is associated with breakfast and with sweet food, so this practice seems strange for us.

It's not a global generalization, but on the whole I think that Latvian people are less polite than French. I didn't expect this, but sometimes I am shocked because people don't say thank you, while in France for the same situation people generally thank.

ALEXANDRE CORNEZ:

Before coming here I thought I would have a problem with the food. Eventually, I found out that if here isn't such a wide choice we have in France, I must admit I'm relieved, here is nearly everything I need to survive. But, there are still some stuff missing, especially the meat, there is no butcher :(I don't mention the butcher in the supermarket, it's so bad.

SSE RIGANIANS SAY ABOUT FRANCE THAT...

... ALL FRENCH PEOPLE DRINK WINE THREE TIMES A DAY (AGREED 15 PEOPLE OUT OF 22):

PIERRE LOUIS KIEFFER: To my mind it is a little exaggeration, but on the whole it is true that French people drink wine during their meal. It is generally agreed that a meal is not a good meal without a good wine! I think it would be better to say that French people drink wine one or two times a day. In any case it cannot be three times, as French people don't drink wine at breakfast! Not a lot of people drink wine in Latvia, so it is a drawback for us!

ALEXANDRE CORNEZ: Well, it's true that we have good wine, and it's also true that a good wine is good to accompany a good meal. But definitely not three times a day, to my mind French people use to drink wine in some big occasion or during important meals. For instance, usually I don't drink wine more than 3 or 4 times a month on average, and it's the same in my circle (friends and family).

... EVERY FRENCH WOMAN HAS AN EXCELLENT TASTE IN FASHION (AGREED 10 OUT OF 22):

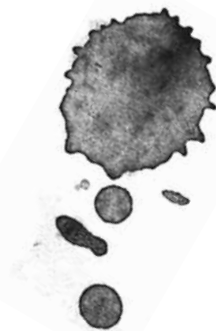
PIERRE LOUIS KIEFFER: It's really funny to see what you think about us! It's difficult to provide a good answer for this question, but I'm convinced that France is associated with fashion and "haute couture". As a result, if you live in France, you have more opportunities to buy clothes coming from well known French designers. Therefore, it's easier for us to have the "excellent" taste in fashion. Finally, a fact that a lot of luxury brands come from France helps in this way.

ALEXANDRE CORNEZ: Yeah! Well I'm not a professional, because I'm not a woman :). But I think they have an excellent taste in fashion indeed.

... ALL FRENCH HATE ENGLISHMEN (AGREED 17 OUT OF 22):

PIERRE LOUIS KIEFFER: I think this assumption is totally wrong, we can't say that. I'm sure without any doubts that there are French people who hate Englishmen (and vice-versa) due to historical events, but we can't made a gross generalization.

ALEXANDRE CORNEZ: I don't think so. There are always people who don't like strangers, but I've never heard of that. Perhaps in the past?



POLISH STUDENTS:

ESTERA RINK AND AGNIESZKA BORKOWSKA:

Before we came here we thought that it would be extremely cold, probably because of the proximity to Russia. However, the weather turned out to be similar to the weather in Poland.

We've heard that there are no night buses here, and at night you have no other option than to take a taxi and taxi drivers are said to be cheating. We haven't check whether there are any night buses, but we definitely know that drivers are cheating.

According to the latest economic situation, we've heard that Latvia suffered a lot during the crisis. Well, we don't think that the current situation is really that bad or maybe we haven't noticed that yet.

We've read that the clubs are very expensive. In reality prices are very similar to those in Poland.

Latvian people are very friendly (well, apart from old ladies in the buses, but I guess that it is the same everywhere).

It's amazing that many people here are multi-lingual e.g. they speak Latvian, Russian, and English without any problems.

SSE RIGANIANS SAY ABOUT POLAND THAT...

... IN POLAND THERE ARE VERY BAD ROADS (AGREED 15 OUT OF 22):

ANSWER: That's true, most of the roads in Poland are terrible, however they're improving and re-building them now because of Euro 2012, so hopefully situation will be better soon.

... PRICES ARE MUCH CHEAPER IN POLAND (AGREED 17 OUT OF 22):

ANSWER: It depends. For example, prices in France or Germany are higher, but they also earn more than Poles. We have some products that are generally cheap, for instance, vodka or meat is much cheaper than in the UK, but most of the prices are comparable to Latvian ones.

... ALL POLES DRIVE REALLY SMALL CARS (AGREED 9 OUT OF 22):

ANSWER: Heh, this one probably comes from the fact that we used to produce small car Fiat 126p. And because it was produced in our country it was cheap, so most of people drove that car then. Now, we drive all sorts of cars, like any other nation in the world.

KYRGYZ STUDENTS:

CHOLPON MADYLOVA:

At first I thought that nobody speaks Russian in the Baltic countries. But it turned out that there are quite a lot of Russian speaking people in Riga and SSE, including Lithuanians and Latvians. Every second person in Riga speaks Russian.

I thought that food and transport are very expensive here. And it is true, food here is 2-3 times more expensive than in Kyrgyzstan (except alcohol drinks; they are cheaper than in my home country). Bus and trolleybus tickets are 7 times more expensive in Latvia comparing with Kyrgyzstan, and petrol price is twice higher here.

I learnt that people in Latvia like beer. Beer here is very tasty and different from Kyrgyzstan's one. I also like beer in Latvia.

I thought that Latvians like singing national songs and dancing national dances. But I have not seen Latvian dances yet and have not heard any Latvian traditional music so far. So maybe it is not true.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY: SSE has a very specific and unique educational system and culture. SSE is different from any European and Western schools. Educational curriculum is different. I think it is very effective and motivating. The school itself has a lot of international students. Students are very friendly and always willing to help if someone does not understand something in lectures.

SSE RIGANIANS SAY ABOUT KYRGYZSTAN THAT...

... IN KYRGYZSTAN EVERYONE CROSSES STREETS ON THE

SWEDISH STUDENT:

ANTON MUHRBECK:

I thought that Latvians, Estonians and Lithuanians all speak the same or a similar language, which is basically the same as Russian. Well, I guess we all know that it is not true. However, Latvian sometimes sounds a lot like Finish.



I was sure that all Latvians are massive Vodka drinkers. Not true! Latvians are more into beer.

Latvians hate Swedes since SwedBank messed up. Also not true. You guys have all been very friendly!

Only young people speak English. True, the majority of the older generation in Latvia does not speak English.

Latvia is more like Russia. Not true. I have learnt a lot about Latvian culture and history. Latvia is more like a western country than I initially believed, mainly influenced by American culture. I see many similarities to Sweden as well!

SSE RIGANIANS SAY ABOUT SWEDEN THAT...

RED LIGHT (AGREED 9 OUT OF 22):

ANSWER: Actually crossing the street on the red light is something illegal and dangerous. But yes, some people do that. If there are no cars and you do not have time, then why not???

... EVERY KYRGYZ FAMILY OWNS A COW OR A SHEEP (AGREED 7 OUT OF 22):

ANSWER: It is not true. Of course, in rural regions people have small farms, but not in cities.

... IN KYRGYZSTAN CAMELS ARE EVERYWHERE (AGREED 2 OUT OF 22):

ANSWER: Camels???? Camels live in deserts. Kyrgyzstan is a mountainous country, there are no deserts.

... SWEDES BUY ONLY IKEA FURNITURE (AGREED 9 OUT OF 22):

ANSWER: Ha-ha! Yeah, that's basically true. I don't think I have ever been in a house or apartment that does not have something from IKEA.

... EVERY SWEDISH FAMILY OWNS A SMALL RED HOUSE WITH WHITE EDGES AND A LAKE NEARBY (AGREED 7 OUT OF 22):

ANSWER: The red houses with white edges have its origin from a small town named Falun, which also has given the name to the red colour: Falu rödfärg. The colour has been used since the 14th century; it became really popular as it is was cheap and preserved the wood. It is now more a traditional colour, commonly used on wooded houses all over Sweden. So it is indeed very common, and most families that live in major cities own a summer house. The most idyllic Swedish summer houses are painted with Falu Rödfärg and located near a lake. A perfect place to celebrate midsummer's eve!

... SAY SWEDES ARE OVERCAUTIOUS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT (AGREED 15 OUT OF 22):

ANSWER: I have never heard this one before. I wouldn't say overcautious, simply more aware about the situation. I live in Stockholm, which is one of the cleanest cities in the world. This is an image that all the Swedes want to preserve, so people always try to keep the nature clean through laws, recycling, picking the litter up after themselves.

AMELIE CAFÉ

Old Riga is full of nice places which may be not so well-known as Shot Café or French Bar but are still worth visiting. We decided to tell you about such an interesting and probably unknown place in each Insider issue. This time it will be Amelie Café. The name has nothing to do with famous Amelie Poulain from the film, but inside you will definitely feel the French charm, as the furniture, music, a handsome and friendly bartender unite all the small details needed to imagine yourself somewhere on Montmartre.

The place is small yet has two floors. Spiral wooden stairs lead you to the second floor. It is very cozy, with non-standard different colorful lamps and hand-made serviettes on the tables. Four tables of various sizes are accompanied by quaint chairs and sofas. There are two big antique bookcases, offering you books and magazines in different languages. Being here, you get a feeling that you are not in a public place, but in your own apartment, drinking coffee, sitting near the window, thinking about your plans, and watching people down there.

If the second floor can be compared with a living room of a small apartment in the centre of Paris, then the first floor looks more like a kitchen. There are two tables; on massive wooden shelves you will find various porcelain kitchenware and tablecloths which are made for sale by the owner of the café. Some bijouterie is also present there, for instance, tastefully made earrings, bracelets, and scarves.

A massive counter is full of small dishes with different cookies and tea and coffee tins. There is also a good choice of mouth-watering cakes.

Amelie is a perfect place for a chat with an old friend whom you have not seen for a long time and now want to hear all the news and gossip. It also suits you if you are tired of study pressure and want to have a cup of coffee and gather your thoughts. Boys, if you bring your girlfriend here, she will probably remember this date as "the most romantic" :).

The place is in the Old Town, Zirgu iela 7, right behind the Black Cat House. Opened Monday to Thursday 11-20, Friday 11-22. Closed on Sunday.

Jekaterina Kolbina



FILMS TO COME

On March 23rd we are going to watch a highly stylish flick — Requiem for a Dream by Darren Aronofsky (Pi, The Fountain, The Wrestler). It is a bleak story about the world of drugs told from the perspective of four addicted people. Without a doubt, it is a film that everyone should see at least once, and I'm very happy that it received the highest number of your votes.

We need to watch something positive as well, right? How about The Wizard of Oz on April 6th? At least once a month we will watch a must-see classic film, and The Wizard of Oz musical is one of them.

Finally, on 13th of April we are going to watch Coffee and Cigarettes. It is a collection of quirky and witty shorts shot by Jim Jarmusch within 17 years (from 1986 till 2003) with some great actors and artists starring: Steve Buscemi, Cate Blanchett, Bill Murray, Alfred Molina, Steve Coogan, Roberto Benigni, and Tom Waits with Iggy Pop.

A week later — Guy Ritchie's time! We have watched his second feature Snatch. Now it's time to watch the first one — Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels. This cult film is about gangsters, drug dealers, guns, money and three card poker. And it's incredibly funny if you don't mind swearing.

Sergejs Musatovs

GOSSIP*

* WARNING. THIS PAGE CONTAINS MATERIAL WHICH SOME READERS MAY FIND OFFENSIVE. THE INSIDER TEAM DOES NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTENT APPEARING HERE AND THE ACTIONS THAT MIGHT HAPPEN BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS AFTER READING THE GOSSIP PAGE. IF YOU FEEL THAT YOU COULD BE OFFENDED IN ANY WAY, SKIP THIS PAGE. AND REMEMBER, THIS IS JUST FOR FUN ;)

THEY SAY THAT IF A REPORT HAS BEEN WRITTEN BY VAIRIS, IT SHOULD HAVE A DICTIONARY AS AN APPENDIX.

THEY SAY THAT LOVE IS IN THE AIR :) OF SSE RIGA!

THEY SAY OUR LOCAL MACHO HASN'T HAD SEX SINCE LAST YEAR.

THEY SAY LAURYNAS (Y1) SEEKS ESCAPE FROM THE O&M COURSE IN DEEP PENETRATION.

THEY SAY THAT DRUNKENNESS MAKES A PERSON LET OUT THE TRUTH. THAT'S WHY MARIT IS THE MOST HONEST GIRL IN THE WORLD.

THEY SAY THAT JELENA G. (Y1) DOESN'T GO TO PARTIES BECAUSE SHE IS AFRAID TO KILL SOMEONE WITH HER CAPOEIRA COMBAT MOVES.

THEY SAY THAT PHRASE "YOU'RE KYZAS" GRADUALLY GOT RATHER DELICATE MEANING.

THEY SAY THAT SOME MACRO TAs ARE STILL IN THE FINANCE MOOD :)

THEY SAY THAT BLOODY VALENTINE WAS A BLAST!!!! IF THEY SAY THAT THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRLS COME FROM LATVIA... OUR GIRLS WEARING THOSE RED HOT DRESSES IN THE PARTY PROVED THAT THE BEST ONES ARE AT SSE RIGA!

THEY SAY THAT THE SA SHOULD MAKE A CORNER IN THEIR ROOM WITH AN ELECTRONIC KETTLE AND A MICROWAVE FOR SSE STUDENTS! =) OR ARRANGE A SMALL ROOM WITH THAT!

THEY SAY 1LIT LOST AGAINST 3LIT IN BASKETBALL :) KEEP ON WORKING ON PROJECTS ;)

THEY SAY EDGARAS NEBEKRUSAS

THEY SAY RAPOLAS DOESN'T DRINK ANY MORE

THEY SAY THAT IF GREECE IS NOT THE FAVORITE CHOICE FOR NEXT YEAR ERASMUS, PAULIUS & KAROLIS ARE GOING TO RESIGN..

THEY SAY ŽYBARTAS (Y1) WOULD REALLY LIKE TO SERVE IN THE RUSSIAN ARMY :)

THEY SAY THAT VADIMS (Y1) MADE AN EXCHANGE STUDENT WET DURING THE BREAK. SHE HAD TO STAY 45 MINUTES THAT WAY AND DIDN'T SEEM HAPPY ABOUT THAT... FINISH YOUR JOB NEXT TIME, BOY!

THEY SAY THAT OM EXAM IS SO EXCITING THAT PEOPLE MANAGE TO FALL ASLEEP DURING IT

THEY SAY THAT IF DANES HAD 1 BILLION PEOPLE THEY WOULD SHOW US SOME REAL GDP

THEY SAY THAT FINANCE IS TOUGH IN WHICHEVER POSITION...NO MATTER WHETHER YOU TRY TO DO IT IN THE SITTING POSITION OR LYING.

THEY SAY THAT THIS YEAR, FOR Y2 GIRLS, SPRING AND LOVING MOOD CAME EARLY, WITH FIRST BONDS LECTURE IN FINANCE.

THEY KINDA SAY THERE IS A KINDA GIRL IN Y1, KINDA.. KINDA.

THEY SAY THAT EVENTUALLY EVERYTHING COMES BACK TO YOU.

THEY SAY THAT BY HACKING ADMINISTRATION'S INTRA-NET IT IS NOW KNOWN THAT MORE THAN 50 % OF YOUR GRADES ARE GENERATED BY A RANDOM NUMBER GENERATOR...

THEY SAY DEBTOR IS NOT A HUMAN BEING

THEY SAY SSE RIGA FINANCE: BETTER TO SOLVE IT A THOUSAND TIMES THAN TO SEE IT ONCE...

THEY SAY THAT MACRO TEAM NO. 15 - THE ULTIMATE DREAM TEAM!

THEY SAY THAT EVERY DESCRIPTION OF AN SSE PARTY STARTS WITH "WELL, AS FAR AS I REMEMBER..."

THEY SAY THAT BONDS TA SAYS: "IF YOU DIVIDE MONEY BY MONEY, YOU GET NUMBER."

THEY SAY THAT THEY SAY WHAT OTHERS SAY, SO IT SEEMS THAT THEY SAY WHAT THEY DON'T SAY...

THEY SAY ZEMGUS WANTS TO GO TO JAIL TO BECOME A REAL MAN.

THEY SAY THAT THE NEW IT.COM IS SO INVISIBLY HELPFUL THAT HE'S LIKE AIR - YOU CAN'T SEE HIM BUT YOU KNOW HE EXISTS.

THEY SAY THAT IF GOD BLESSES YOU, THAT DOESN'T MEAN THERE ISN'T ANOTHER SNEEZE COMING.

THEY SAY THAT THE DEMAND FOR ALCOHOL WILL INCREASE DRAMATICALLY IN THE MAXIMA ON PULKVEZA BREZA STREET WHEN FINANCE ENDS.

THEY SAY THAT EVEN GMAIL KNOWS WHERE TO PUT THE RESULTS OF RM ASSIGNMENTS - TO SPAM FOLDER.

THEY SAY THAT VLAV (Y1) IS A CLONED COPY OF PAVEL BEREZOVSKIS.

THEY SAY THAT MARTINS LIBERTS AND MARTINS VEISS ADOPTED VLADIMIRS ZLOTNIKOV.

THEY SAY THAT EVEN A TRIP TO RIMI CAN MAKE A DAY FOR YEAR 2'S :D

THERE IS A SILENCE AMONG YEAR 2'S IF YOU ASK THEM: "WHAT'S HAPPENING?"

THEY SAY THERE IS A SERIAL KILLER SOMEWHERE IN SSER....

THEY SAY THAT FE DOESN'T KILL PEOPLE. I KILL PEOPLE. SO GET BACK TO WORK!

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



THEY SAY THAT EVEN VAIRIS IS SEXY IN THE SUMMER!!!!

THEY SAY FE IS...

THE BEST AND THE TOUGHEST THING AT THE SAME TIME!

THE MOST AWESOME COURSE! AND IT KICKS YOUR ASS TOO

INSPIRING AND MOTIVATING

EXTREMELY INTERESTING

DEMANDING...

IT'S ALL ABOUT HIGH QUALITY. SIMPLY THE BEST COURSE AT SSE RIGA

IT GIVES YOU MANY OPPORTUNITIES BUT ALSO LIMITS YOU SOMEHOW

WE LISTENED TO INTERESTING STORIES ABOUT PETER'S LIFE AND ALSO INTERESTING STORIES TOLD BY SSE RIGA GRADUATES

CHALLENGING!

FINANCE IS FOR LIFE

USELESS AMOUNT OF WORK AND SMALL AMOUNT OF TIME

LONG! PAINFUL! HARD!

NO SLEEP...

WORKING 80 H PER WEEK... NO COMMENTS

IT WAS AN INCREDIBLY INTERESTING EXPERIENCE

BEFORE FINANCE, YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT HAPPINESS IS. BUT AFTER IT ENDED, YOU LOOK AT THE SUNSHINE, SPRING COMING TO LATVIA, AND ANTHROPOLOGY BEING A VERY NICE AND EASY COURSE... YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPINESS IS :-)

I THINK ITS DIFFICULTY IS EXAGGERATED

Day one

is your time to shine

Day one. It's when you show what you're made of. When the doors are opened and the future lies in front of you. When your views count and making a difference is part of the job. From the day you join us, we're committed to helping you achieve your potential. So, whether your career lies in assurance, tax, transaction, advisory or core business services, shouldn't your day one be at Ernst & Young?

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