

During 2004 it was Mexico City's turn, and –following the global character of the Wharton community- the next “Wharton Global Alumni Forum” in Latin America will be held, for the first time, in Santiago de Chile.

We are extremely proud that our country has been chosen to host this meeting that, as it is traditional, will be a valuable opportunity to meet with old friends, other MBA program alumni, faculty members, politicians and businessmen, many of them internationally recognized leaders of public opinion.

As you know, Wharton is known for its cutting edge activities in public and private debate issues, and for its agenda-development activities, always envisioning the future. These alumni reunions have proven to be an unbeatable opportunity to reinforce that spirit and, besides the lecturers, the Dean Mr. Patrick T. Harker and several members of the faculty will be coming to Chile.

Considering the successful Mexico experience –with an attendance of 400 leaders from various countries around the world- and the former years' experiences, we are already working to ensure the success in Santiago's meeting, to be held on June 30th and July 1st, 2005, in the local The Ritz–Carlton Hotel.

Also, it will be a new opportunity to meet professors and ex students of INSEAD, a business school that shares a common view with Wharton in commercial education issues and with which it has an alliance since 2001.

However, the success of the “Wharton Global Alumni Forum – Santiago de Chile 2005” will largely depend on the diversity of the participants that, with multiple contributions and visions, shall enrich the debate. Furthermore, if we consider that the Wharton and Insead alumni community in Chile is formed only by around 100 persons, we need graduate students from other countries to come to Chile. In this sense, the challenge is to transform this forum into an event that can't be missed (a must) in our agenda; and we are confident that we will achieve it.

These will be two days of meetings around attractive presentations and interesting discussion panels. In addition and to attract more alumni from throughout the world, we are working to offer them a complete and attractive parallel program of social and cultural activities, together with various tourism activities to experience the breathtaking landscapes in the Chilean North, enjoy our wine growing areas or, if they prefer, to amaze themselves with the mystery of our moais on Easter Island.

From this first communication onwards we want to be in permanent contact to tell you about the progress and news about the next alumni forum in Santiago. In the meantime, I inform you that from today, you will find in the official

“Wharton Global Alumni Forum – Santiago de Chile 2005” web site (www.whartonchile.com) detailed information about the subjects to be covered, as well as each of the interesting activities related to this meeting. In the same web page you can register for the Forum and we sure hope you bring along your spouses.

Beforehand, we thank any input or suggestion you want to send to strengthen up and make this meeting even more attractive.

Don't forget that we expect you to participate in our Forum. Register now!

My kind regards,

Claudio Engel
WG'83 WF'00
Chairman of the Organizing Committee