

Celebrating *IAESTE* Day in Switzerland

The 18th of October 2013 was definitely a red-letter day for lots of people. For those who missed this year's IAESTE DAY in Switzerland, reading the following report hopefully will be as if they would have been there themselves.



The coming together of young professionals, experienced alumni, IAESTE members and partner organizations has proved to be the perfect breeding ground for the growth and prosperity of new inspiration. Under the slogan "How internationality takes shape in your future career and in the professional reality of our partner companies" IAESTE Day took place at the partner company Alstom in Baden. Around 80 visitors were invited to listen to four exciting lectures with various types of internationality in career and in everyday business as a central topic.

The Career Center at ETH offered with "Career with Heart" an interesting insight into what there is to look for to pursue an appropriate and satisfactory way in one's personal and professional career.

The contribution of Cinfo encouraged interactive exchanges on "How culture influences communication". A Swiss alumnus for example, told from his own experience that the strong hierarchy of norms in Japan prevented an employee to advise him of an obvious scientific error. The experience of a Chinese intern however has shown him that the Swiss culture is more similar to the Chinese culture than the German concerning directness in communication.



Two employees of Alstom shared their personal experiences in international activities at a globally active concern. Thus, the participants got to know which challenges one has to face when one is involved in the commissioning of a power plant in Bangladesh or which extreme security precautions are necessary in the Nigerian daily work and what kind of impact an international activity can have for personal life.

A representative from Novartis inducted the participants into an exciting project of major healthcare that enables PhD students from around the world to advance their own research in their home country and obtain the necessary skills to do so through an internship in Switzerland.

Finally a special highlight was a stand organized by a Local Committee with Raclette and other Swiss specialties. Old friendships were cultivated during the aperitif and lots of new ones have been formed!



Many interns continued the evening in a bar and used the opportunity to celebrate also an event which even the Queen's coronation anniversary cannot keep up with:

65 years IAESTE - Happy Birthday!

