



May 2005

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Editorial

Do not miss...

...Our next **Happy Hour with Serge Bellanger**. The President of the French American Chamber of Commerce cordially welcomes you to a Happy Hour on Wednesday, May 4th at 6.30pm at Hotel NOVOTEL on "Economy, culture and communication in the current transatlantic context". A cocktail reception will follow. Please RSVP to [Anne de Louvigny Stone](#)

ESSEC USA Community

It happened last month...

...The last **Amis des Grandes Ecoles Event** which took place on Wednesday April 27, 2005 at Calyon Building in New York, was a real success. Congratulations to [aagef](#) organization members for gathering such a wonderful crowd! And a special thank you to our four panelists for sharing with us their relevant advice on "How to Manage your International Career"!

Law Column

EUROPEAN CONSTITUTION: REFERENDUM

A referendum on the European Constitution will take place on **May 28, 2005** (Memorial Day week-end) in New York and throughout the United States. In France, and all other polling places outside of France, it will take place on Sunday May 29, 2005.

If you are registered on the New York polling list, you will receive a notification with detailed information about the voting procedures. Do not forget to notify the consulate with any address change by mail or fax (1.212.606.3614). If you want to vote by proxy, please make sure your representative is registered on this list.

If you are registered in a town council in France, you can as well give proxy to a person listed in the same city in France – not necessarily in the same polling place – (count on a minimum of 15 days of redirecting lead-time to send the proxy to France).

In any case, **you must personally show up to establish the proxy** either at the **consulate** or at **honorary consulates** in Princeton (New Jersey), Buffalo (Upstate New York) and Hamilton (Bermuda). You have to provide them with your representative's first name, last name, date and place of birth, profession and address. [More info.](#)

Job Forum

Ready to relocate

Looking for a position in New York

I am a 1999 ESSEC alumni and I will join very soon an MBA program in the US; Kellogg or Wharton. My French partner, who has a degree in finance, wishes to relocate with me. She is therefore looking for a job or an internship in finance or management-control. But as you know, it is difficult for internationals. That is why I am calling the ESSEC community for help. If you hear about opportunities in such areas, in the whereabouts of Philadelphia or Chicago, please, contact me. Thanks you all!

[See resume](#)

Contact: [Romain ICHBIAH](#)

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AAGEF Upcoming events

Wednesday, May 4th, 2005

**Happy Hour with Serge Bellanger,
President of the French American
Chamber of Commerce**

"Economy, culture and communication in the current transatlantic context".

Time: 6.30pm

Location: Hotel NOVOTEL New York
226 W 52nd street (Bet. 8th Ave. & Broadway)
Paris & London Room

Cocktail Reception to follow

[More info](#)

RSVP to [Anne de Louvigny Stone](#)



Interview of the Month: Isabelle Hen-Wollmarker (ESSEC 93)

Q1: Tell us about your background and current job. What are your responsibilities?

I am in charge of Marketing at AETNinternational, a worldwide expert in factual television. We sell local versions of The History Channel, The Biography Channel, A&E and Crime & Investigation Network outside the US. Our brands and programs are now present in more than 130 countries. My role runs as wide as creating the graphics package of a new network, to organizing our trade-show presence at Television Market (MIP) in Cannes, to attending focus groups before a channel launch in Japan or to developing a worldwide campaign to promote our latest special on the French Revolution or The Crusades. More on AETN at www.aetninternational.com. The biggest advantage of this job: I get to improve my history knowledge every day!

Q2: Why did you decide to come and stay here?

I decided to come here in 1998 after having spent 3 years at the German Pay-TV station Premiere. My soon-to-be husband and I were living 700 km apart and we decided jointly to change jobs and find a place where we could live closer together. With my TV background and his Immunology background, New York was one of the candidate cities we looked at. We both flew to NY in November 97 to interview. We luckily both found jobs 20 blocks apart! When we arrived, we thought we would only stay maximum 2 years, but we fell in love with the city and both our careers progressed very nicely.

Q3: What advice would you give to ESSEC graduates who would like to come to work here?

#1 have a typo-free English Résumé, #2 seek advice from Essec Alumni and friends in the industry you are interested in to find out what is going on in that area and who else you should contact #3 consider doing a 6 months – 1 year internship / freelance job on an easily obtainable J1 visa (student visa) right after finishing their degree in order to build a network and prove your abilities before you have to ask an employer to sponsor you for a more "complicated" visa.

Q4: How do you think your ESSEC background helped you to be where you are?

My Essec background helped me on many levels: the business and marketing know-how, the leadership spirit, the obligation of increasing my experience through internships, the exchange program in Chapel Hill, the Double-degree with Mannheim University and last but not least the alumni network, which ultimately helped me to schedule interviews in NY with executives in the TV-industry.

Q5: What do you consider as your role in the ESSEC family?

I see my role very much as a mentor to Essec Alumni and as a supporter of the school and its development. I have hired many Essec students for internships in the past and have had conversations with others seeking advice. I find it very important to continue to build relationships with Essec-Alumni and I myself have used those relationships for personal or professional advice.

Q6: Why do you think people should participate to the fundraising?

Participating in fundraising has only advantages. It supports the growth of the school, the development of new alumni services & events that will benefit your career, it improves ESSEC's competitiveness in the international market place, the value and awareness of the degree you hold and hence your own value on the market place. You can just participate by giving money (which now also saves you tax dollars) but it is also invaluable to participate in the fundraising activities as this is an experience that will be of great help to you in the future...Every association you are a member of, every business you might launch will be dependent on your ability to raise money from others. What better chance than to build-up your expertise in that area now?!

Thank you Isabelle...

NYBSC Upcoming events

Saturday May 14.

Hiking trip in Harriman Park/Bear Mountain

Join MBAs from Haas and other business schools for a Multi B-School hike in Harriman State Park. With spring bursting at its peak, now is the time to head outdoors. This outing is a "must see," packing five historic or panoramic attractions into a six-mile trek.

Time: 10:15am

Meeting Place: The Glenwood Restaurant (formerly The South Street restaurant) on Highway 17N in Sloatsburg, NY (southern Rockland County).

Cost: no charge.

[More info](#)

Contact: [Paul Huberman](#) at 917-733-9870

Contact the ESSEC USA Chapters:

- [Chicago](#) – Damien Zinck
- [Miami](#) – Ovidiu Sofronia
- [Los Angeles](#) – Stanislas Debreu
- New York – TBA

Thank You

Please feel free to send us your questions, comments or suggestions.

We hope you enjoyed reading this Newsletter and we look forward to seeing you at one of these events.

Best regards,

[Bopharath Iem](#)
ESSEC USA Newsletter Editor