

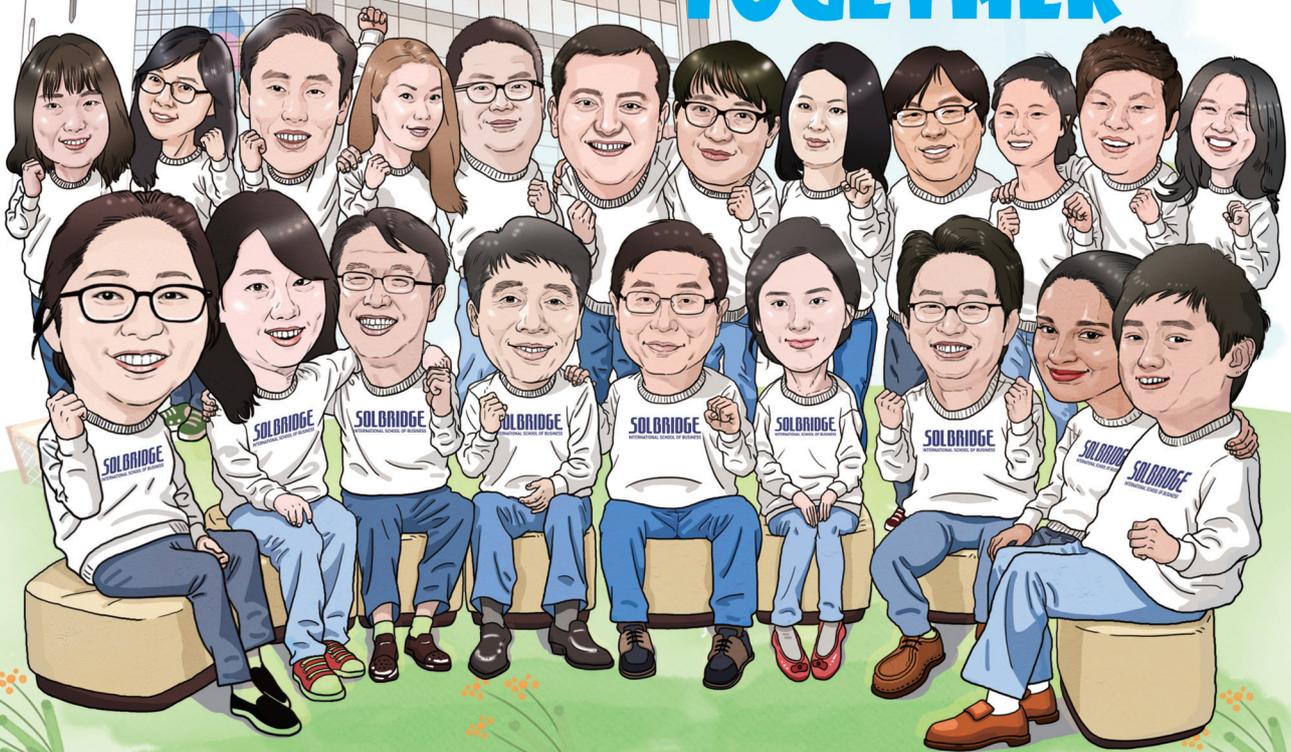
April 2016  
Volume 3, Issue 1



# Sol-Mag

The Magazine for All SolBridgers

# HAMKE TOGETHER



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Sol-Mag The Magazine for All SolBridgers



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April 2016

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## Message from the Editor

Yes. It's finally out. Sol-Mag, in its third year of publication, greets all prolific writers and avid readers for their sincere support issue after issue.

The past fall semester 2015 was filled with many interesting new programs. We organized the Chuseok/Korean Thanksgiving Donation Campaign, and Sol-AGOTF: Chapter 1. The latter one was the Anti Garbage Operations Task Force campaign, an environmentally friendly drive to raise awareness on green spaces. Students had to pair up and go around the city to pick up garbage. The response was – as usual - very positive and competitive. Successful pairs were the ones that participated in all three sessions and collected the most number of garbage bags. They were rewarded with a scholarship amount for all their hard work. We extend our sincere gratitude and congratulations once again.

In February 2016, we saw a new batch of students graduate from SolBridge. Smart for sure, they were generous with their time as well. Their high disposition to extracurricular activities throughout their studies translated naturally into a continuous contribution to their alma mater. Now, as alumni members, they are here to share some their incredible stories with us in the hopes of encouraging many stroll similar paths.

We start the spring semester with high team spirit. Sol-Mag celebrates the untiring dedication of the staff members on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. Under the theme HAMKE, Korean for “together,” we boast the importance of team-work in any organization that is serious about taking things to the next level. In this issue, we feature the following departments: Academic Affairs, Student Services, Career Development Center, and International Relations. Aside from these, many more dedicated staff members work behind the scenes. We are proud to work together and make SolBridge a unique place for all.

Let's go, SolBridge!

**Deborah Bang**





# Sol-AGOTF

## Chapter 1: Fall 2015

Join Us Now!



**SOLBRIDGE**  
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Check your SolBridge e-mail for further details

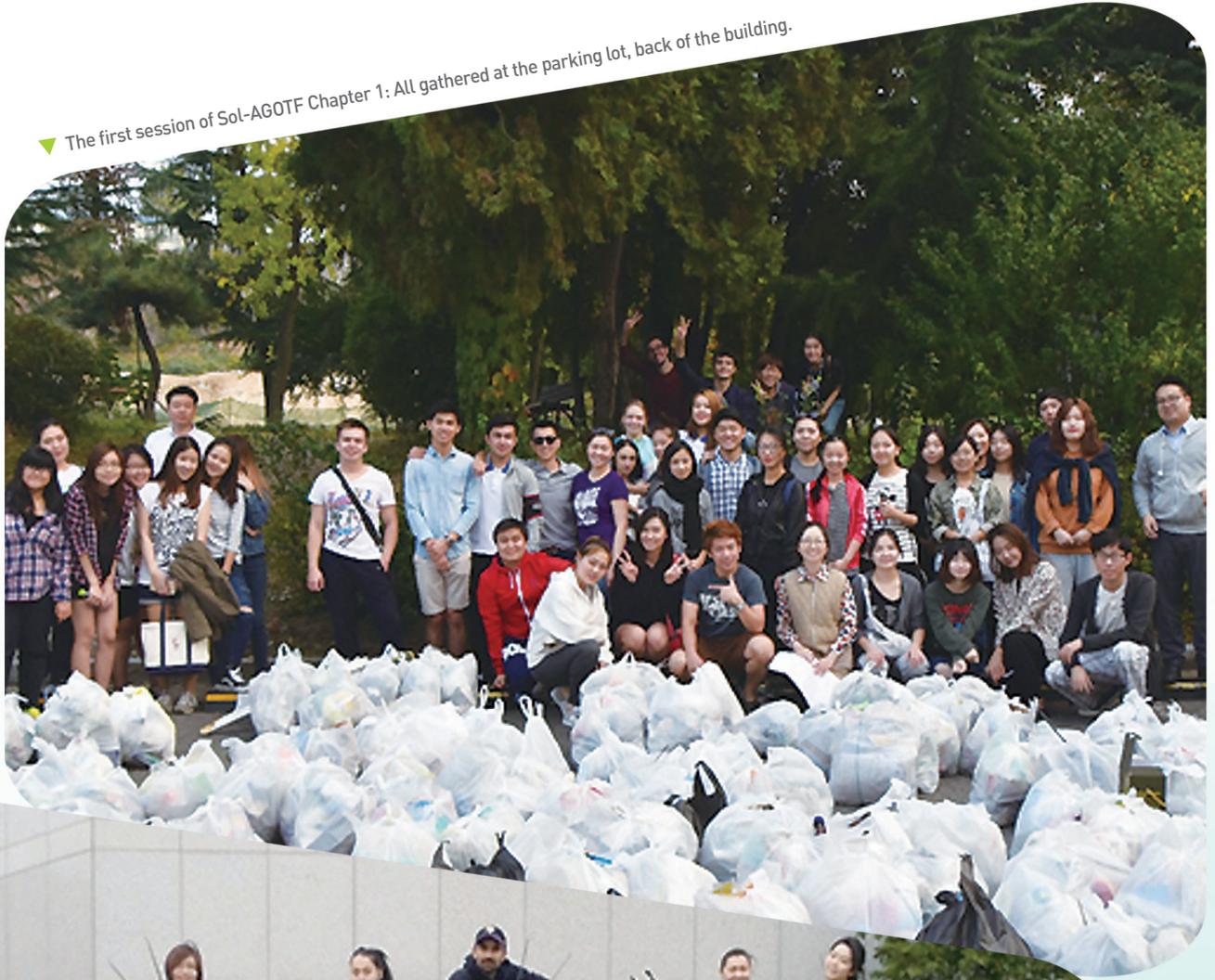
## Winning Teams

No.	Teams	No.	Teams
1	<b>D-Warriors</b> Muhammad Wassem Jalal Chen Hu	7	<b>Fresh Storm</b> Ayan Zhursinbayeva Dongxue Lyu
2	<b>TG</b> Ulugbek Azimov Yerzhan Araltay	8	<b>Just So!</b> Tuangthong Thongnoppakun Madinakhon Alijonova
3	<b>Eco-Friendly Bono</b> Noraini Binti Mohd Yusuf Bo-Yeon An	9	<b>Green-Fellowship</b> Ilyas Shayandin (Sevir) Siyuan Meng
4	<b>Sol-Cleaning Squad</b> Cinta Iole Amidjaja Vladimir Kim	10	<b>Miracle Workers</b> Ngoc Phuong Thao Nguyen Natasha Kenang Kania
5	<b>Sol-Keeping</b> Antonio Sanchis Peiro Jeong-Hee Koo	11	<b>Shining Sisters</b> Jin-Yung Park Yiwen Wang
6	<b>Garvengers</b> Young-Eun Kweon Minhui Fang		





▼ The first session of Sol-AGOTF Chapter 1: All gathered at the parking lot, back of the building.



▲ The last session of Sol-AGOTF Chapter 1

▼ Sol-Ecofinders: Diana Kim (left) and (Andrew) Yn Suk Pak (right)



▼ Green-Fellowship: (Sevir) Siyuan Meng (left) and Ilyas Shayandin (right)



▲ More Green-Fellowship: (Sevir) Siyuan Meng (left) and Ilyas Shayandin (right)



▲ Green-Fellowship Member: Ilyas Shayandin



◀ Sol-Keeping: Jeong-Hee Koo (right) and Antonio Sanchis Peiro (left)

▼ Student Services Staff: Mr. Charlie Kim



▲ Power Ranger Member Yue Zhao (front) with Wish Angel Member (Tim) Sang-Hoe Kim (back/right) and Student Services Assistant Aziz Iminov (back/left)



▲ Double S Group: Meng Wang (right) and Song-Heun Nam (left)



▲ Shining Sisters: Yiwen Wang (left) and Jin-Young Park (right)



▲ Sol-Cleaning Squad Member: Vladimir Kim

▲ TG Member: Yerzhan Araltay



# Academic Affairs

The Academic Affairs Office assists students with their course registration, course drop, transfer of credits, exchange opportunities, dual degree programs, requests for leave of absence, transcripts, certificates, and makes sure students have a successful academic experience. In addition, they are responsible for organizing the welcome convocation and the commencement ceremony. If you need any help regarding enrollment, courses, class, grade, or graduation, please feel free to come to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor.



Steve Jeong



Rachel Lee



Jamilya Zhaxybayeva



Academic Affairs Team

# Student Services

SolBridge Student Services is located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the building to assist students with their payment of fees, scholarships, banking, medical insurance and medical services, visa applications, driver's license and vehicle registrations, residence affairs, locker rentals, print cards, meals, and part-time job opportunities on campus. It is also responsible for organizing excursions and other programs that will encourage the development of a well-rounded Asian Thought Leader.

SolBridge Student Services welcomes new students through the airport meet-up service, bus terminal pick-up service, peer group program, and the team-building orientation week. It organizes various volunteer opportunity programs and fun, multicultural programs that help students develop their SolBridge Spirit and a sense of belonging, soft skills, appreciation and understanding of cultural differences, leadership, and team work.



| Dameli Shedenova



| Charlie Kim



| Deborah Bang



| Charlotte Wu

CAMPUS LIFE



# Career Development Center

SolBridge CDC (Career Development Center) provides various programs to help students find and get ready for employment. It offers students many opportunities to learn how real corporations operate. It encourages students to participate in the CEO Mentoring program, job fairs, leadership camps, and a number of special lectures. They also run programs that enable students build up their resume and acquire the relevant practical skills required for the workplace through the NDA Program, Business Consulting Practice, and 2<sup>nd</sup> language classes, including Korean and Chinese. It continuously supports students by notifying them of job vacancies or internship opportunities, and promotes the Resume & Cover Letter Writing sessions and the Pre-Interview sessions to assist them fulfill their career goals.



| Bonnie Cho



| Young-Keun Cho



# International Relations

## Major tasks include:

- Establish MoU's with schools
- Mentor students as needed. Continuous correspondence with prospective students.
- Organize short-term programs
- Conduct tours for special guests
- Maintain and development networks and relationships with different regions
- Promote awareness of South Korea and Woosong University
- Enhance student recruitment
- Liaise with overseas partners
- Take part in international events, conferences, educational exhibitions, etc.



Won-Dae Kim



Byung-Ik Jung



Iskandar Yuldashev



Oksana Hegay



| Nicanor Jung



| Ann Kang



| Kani Nguyen



| Romain Bartolo



| Rakesh Lazar



| (Shoh) Shokhrukh Jobborov

| International Relations "Global Team"



## Also on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor



BB Hwang



Jae-Sik Kim



Lucca Kim



Hyeong-Rak Choi



Takachi Tomonari



Troy Jung



Naima Samuel



Gyu-Han Song



Educating the Next Generation of Asian Thought Leaders

**SOLBRIDGE**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

**One of the Top 5%**  
**Business Schools Around the World**  
**The Youngest Institution**  
**to Receive AACSB Accreditation**



The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business  
The Highest Standard of Achievement for Business Schools Worldwide

“SolBridge, one of the finest business schools in Asia and around the world, pledges to continue to meet, even exceed, the high standards set by the AACSB Board of Directors.”

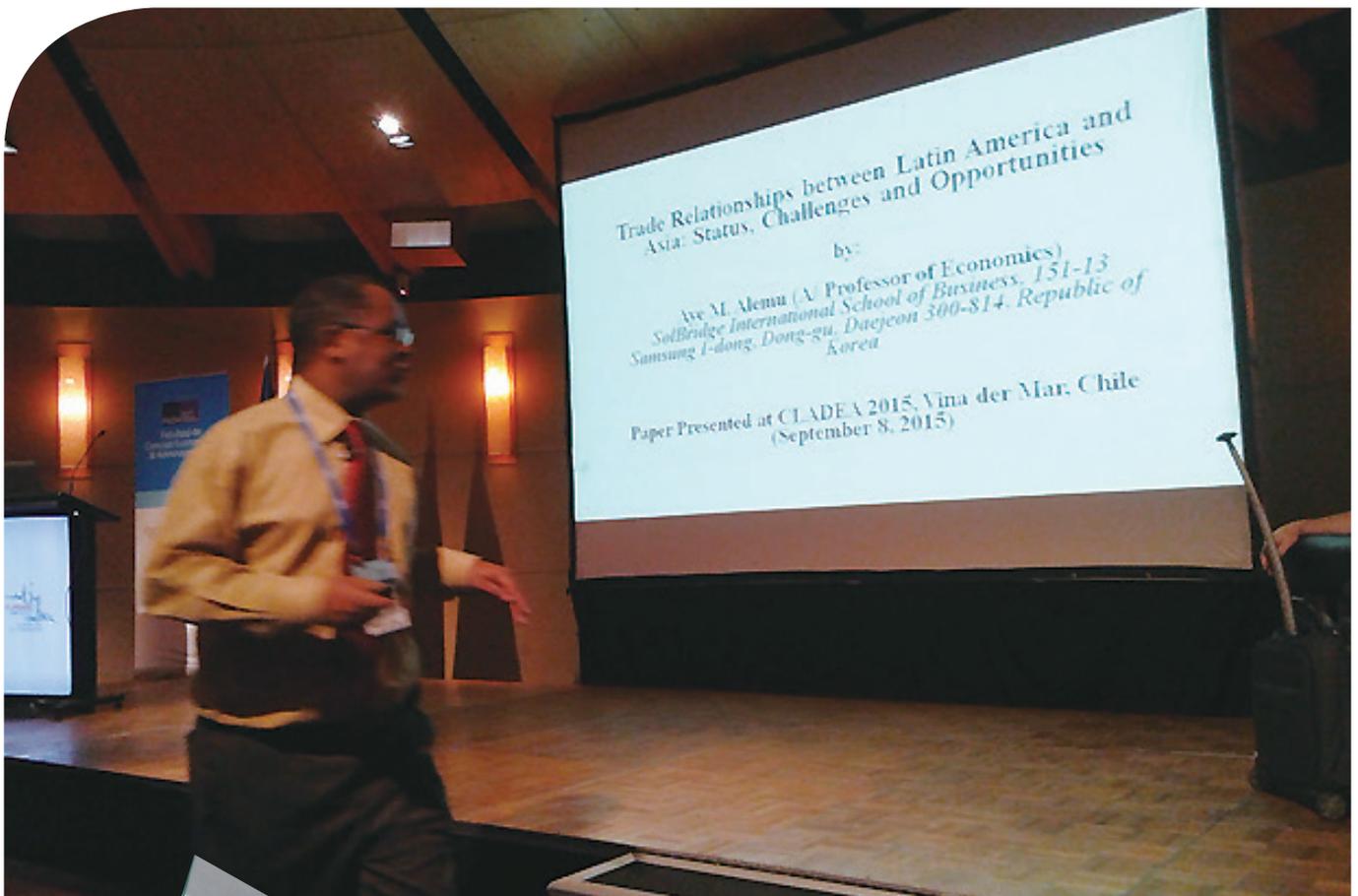
John E. Endicott, Ph.D.  
President of Woosong University  
Vice Chancellor of SolBridge International School of Business





## Notes from Chile

Aye Mengistu Alemu, Ph.D.  
SolBridge International School of Business



Dr. Mengistu presenting his paper in Viña del Mar, Chile.



A plaque of appreciation for Dr. Mengistu

Based on the formal invitation extended to me by the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Science of the University of Valparaiso, Chile, I was honored to be one of the four keynote speakers at the plenary session on the topic “A State Glance to Improve the Level of Exchange in Trade Relationships Between Latin America and Asia,” which was held at Viña del Mar, from September 6-8, 2015. The event was organized by the 50<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Latin American Counsel of Schools

of Management (CLADEA). CLADEA is one of the most important business school networks worldwide, holding 226 affiliated institutions from Latin America, Europe, and Oceania.

My keynote presentation at the panel was titled “Trade Relationships Between Latin America and Asia: Status, Challenges and Opportunities.” It was attended by more than 500 academicians and policy makers from Latin America, Europe, and Asia. The topic provoked a very wide and heated discussion that many found quite interesting. As a result, along with other 2 speakers including the most known Cambridge University economics professor, José Gabriel Palma, I was honored to be awarded the 50<sup>th</sup> CLADEA 2015 trophy.

In addition to my keynote speech and presentation, I met the dean of another AACSB-accredited business school and the dean of a culinary college. It was a very rewarding experience. I learned about Latin American culture and interacted with like-minded people of superb caliber, a great success overall.



Dr. Mengistu posing with two Chileans in their traditional costumes.



Dr. Mengistu presenting his paper in Viña del Mar, Chile.

# WHY I TRANSFERRED TO SOLBRIDGE

(Zoe) Zhuowen Peng, BBA4  
SolBridge International School of Business  
Sol-Ambassador Fall 2015



Sol-Ambassadors collecting the donations through the free hugs and handshake campaign at the entrance lobby of SolBridge (from left to right): (Shoh) Shokhrukh Jobborov, Douglas Omondi Owino, and (Zoe) Zhuowen Peng

Do I consider myself becoming a better person while attending SolBridge?

After having asked myself this question more than a thousand times, I decided to transfer to SolBridge in the fall of 2014 after completing my one semester exchange program here. And now that I settled for good, I firmly give out my answer without any hesitation, “Definitely, yes!”

The reason I love this place is because I sincerely appreciate all the opportunities

it offers to students semester by semester until one graduates. Yes, I learn business through the courses, but, more importantly, I learned not to be afraid to be myself, who I am.

## SolBridge Made Me the Person I Am Today

During my exchange semester in the spring of 2014, I had the privilege to meet some of the Korean high school students attending a conference on post-secondary studies. I got the chance to answer their questions regarding university life. After the spring semester was over and I went back home during the summer, I remembered the experience and kept pondering on it for some strange reason. When I asked those high school students what they wanted to be in the future, they all had different goals and impressive reasons. Actually, I was just trying to be nice, friendly, and used the general questions as ice-breakers, but the kids were very serious and thoughtful in their replies. I wasn't expecting anything special or deep, but their sincere and pure dreams somehow became food for thought for me later. Some wanted to be computer programmers, another one a chef, a thin boy said he wanted to be a veterinarian because every time he saw a suffering animal and could not do much, he felt bad to just watch it die.



The delivery of rice to the community center: 50 packs of 10 kg-rice

I would have never expected to get these type of answers in China. If I had asked my classmates in our last year of high school the same question, half of the class would have definitely chosen to study business or any other major that would help them earn lots of money fast. Most Chinese students, including those that are pretty smart, will choose a major that will generate money, simply put. We do not dare to think of what we really want to be. We follow social economic trends and

look down on those who study majors that will not bring any cash inflow. We are quick to label them as “irresponsible.”

When I came to SolBridge as an exchange student, I met a lot of people who had unique dreams and were not afraid to act on them. Suddenly, a few classmates came to my mind. One girl wanted to work in the UN in the future and was doing tons of voluntary work in the meantime to prepare her way. Another one, in his hopes of becoming a flight attendant, decided to take a semester off and work in the airport to develop his customer service skills. This other one, a bit older than the rest, enrolled back in school to earn a business degree after being dissatisfied with his previous degree in radiology. Some others decide to take a working holiday and travel and work overseas. If they don't start up their own businesses, they do an internship, or work part-time. In other words, nobody that I knew at SolBridge stood still. They all tried hard to explore themselves, to see what they liked and what made them happy and so forth.

This was the biggest lesson I got from my exchange program at SolBridge. I wanted to be immersed in the type of milieu that included people who try their best to own their lives and be themselves and not just be the puppies of a “system,” which includes the same, boring pattern, all tuned to the same song.

In my twenty years of existence, I never stopped to think about any of this. Before I came to SolBridge, I was not even aware that there was something else. Coming here really opened my eyes. It was literally “a mind-blowing experience” that really changed me into the person I am today.



More Sol-Ambassadors doing the good deed: So-Youn Oh (left) and Yeshica Indra (right).

## Do Not Treat Yourself Like a Child. Always be an Adult

After I transferred to SolBridge, I kept spending my parents' money like it was free water from the heavens. It was okay at first, but then I started to feel bad about it, I don't know why. I watched my classmates being active in many school activities and saving money (or I should say, using money more wisely) and I liked that. They were great role models for me. I realized how spoiled I had been. And decided to earn my own living costs as much as possible.

I got my first job in SolBridge as a peer group leader for the spring 2015 team-building orientation program. I also worked as a research assistant in school and intern at a Korean company off-campus during the summer holidays. Every time there is an opportunity to work, I do it, because I no longer wish to become the spoiled, couch potato of the past.

## Give Back to Society

I became a Sol-Ambassador in the fall of 2015, and was proud to be part of an elite team of students who cared about SolBridge and walked the talk. We organized a donation campaign for the Korean Thanksgiving Holidays (or Chuseok as the Koreans call it) by giving free hugs and handshakes on the first floor entrance lobby and outside the library on the second floor. With the money collected, we bought 50 packs of 10 kg-rice and delivered them to the community center in Jayang-dong on Thursday, September 24, 2015. One week later, we were featured in the community center's newsletter. It was a very rewarding and unforgettable experience overall.

All in all, I must say I am very proud of my decision to transfer to SolBridge. I look forward to my semesters here and to becoming the best SolBridger I can be.



The delivery of rice to the community center: 50 packs of 10 kg-rice

### Chuseok Donation Campaign Collection - Fall 2015

No.	Description	Amount
1	Chuseok Donation Campaign by the Sol-Ambassadors	₩ 453,970
2	Piggy Bank (January 23-September 21, 2015) on the 5th Floor	₩ 85,910
3	Buffet Lunch on the 1st Floor	₩ 665,120
4	Contribution from 5th Floor Staff Members	₩ 45,000
<b>Total Amount</b>		<b>₩ 1,250,000</b>

## 우송대학교 솔브릿지 국제경영대학

교직원, 학생 성금모아 저소득층 위한 백미 기탁



우송대학교 솔브릿지(solbridge) 국제경영대학(행정팀장 이원봉)은 지난 9. 24(목) 국제경영대학 학생, 교직원등 약 200여명이 십시일반 모금한 성금으로 구입한 백미 10kg 50포 (125만원 상당)를 자양동 주민센터에 기탁하였다. 자양동 주민센터는 추석을 맞아 저소득층 가구 50세대(세대당 10kg)에게 전달할 예정이다.

주덕남 기자

SolBridge featured in Jayang-dong Community Center's monthly newsletter for the Sol-Ambassadors' donation during the Korean Thanksgiving Holidays. From left to right, Mr. Won-Boong Lee (Senior Manager of Administration), Deborah Bang, (Shoh) Shokhrukh Jobborov, Charlie Kim, Douglas Omondi Owino, and (Zoe) Zhuowen Peng.

## Dr. Endicott's RA: Achieving the SolBridge Student Dream

(Shoh) Shokhrukh Jobborov, BBA  
2016 Alumnus, SolBridge International School of Business  
Sol-Ambassador Fall 2015  
Woosong Global Scholarship Member

**I**t was December 23, 2014, when I was assigned to the position of Research Assistant (RA) for the President of Woosong University and Vice Chancellor of SolBridge, Dr. John Endicott. Before that, I was working on campus as a Residence Assistant in Sol-Geo International House, and I decided to challenge myself and explore another position in order to diversify my work experience background. I applied to be a Research Assistant and was in shock when I got the e-mail stating that I was assigned to the Vice Chancellor. I think being Dr. Endicott's RA is a dream job for many students at SolBridge, and I am forever thankful for that lucky opportunity.

When I first started my job, I was not fully confident in myself and was thinking that my skills in research may not be enough to assist Dr. Endicott. However, he taught me how to do any given task successfully, so I became much more confident, responsible, energetic, and passionate because his support was always there.



(Shoh) Shokhrukh Jobborov with Dr. Endicott and his Scottish kilt.

While assisting Dr. Endicott, I learned the following:

- To perform general office duties and administrative tasks.
- To search for recently released news and materials for research papers.
- To support public duties.
- To answer the telephone and assist with e-mails.

Through my work, I was able to improve my general knowledge of business and become much more interested in politics and academic papers. I saw my English and Korean language skills get more polished. The best part was being able to meet (or just see!) high officials and prominent guests from Korea and around the world.

I am thankful to SolBridge for giving me the opportunity to assist Dr. Endicott. He was an incredible supervisor, mentor, and boss. All the things I learned from him will certainly help me become much more successful in my future career and personal life. Thank you, Dr. Endicott!

Key lessons from Dr. Endicott:  
Enjoy What You Do. Stay Positive.  
Challenge Yourself. Dream Big.  
Never Give Up.



# Orientation Week

Dana Mustafina, BBA2  
SolBridge International School of Business



Orientation week is hard! Orientation week is very demanding for both peer group leaders and the freshmen! However, it is an excellent way to adapt to the new environment here in SolBridge. Students might complain how tough it is, but, in the end, they notice how comfortable they become with the people around during their first week in Daejeon. That is indeed the purpose of doing all of this. As a peer group leader, I could see how united and supportive my team members were becoming activity by activity, day by day, and it all made me just happy and accomplished. I saw the freshmen in my team squeezing their brains to generate ideas for the video project. They acted like a real team, as friends who support one another. At the end of the orientation week, my team members surprised me with a gift and thankful messages. The timing was perfect, for I really needed to hear their appreciation and love after a full week of hard work.

At the beginning, the idea of being a peer group leader really terrified me. I couldn't control how things would turn out to be, what kind of freshmen would be assigned to my team, or what type of leader I needed



to be. Before I was a peer group leader, I thought that a team's productivity depended on the people you had on your team; however, during the team-building orientation program and working as a peer group leader, I realized that the role of a leader is fundamental in uniting and empowering the members to think and create individually and collectively. My advice for future peer group leaders is not to divide students by any category, such as country or skills, but rather to look at your group members as one big category: TEAM. Also, even though it's important to spend time as a team, it's also important to make the time to interact with each of your team members in private. Ask questions that might be addressed only to him or her. Show interest one-on-one, learn their languages, and support them when they make mistakes. Don't be a coach. Be a friend. People like to be appreciated, so thank them for every effort and help they provide.

And the big rule to this game is never to underestimate your team members. Don't tell them how to do things. Just tell them what to do and let them come up with their own ways. You will be surprised by their ingenuity!



Dana Mustafina (center in black) with her team members during the SolBridge Fashion Collection Fall 2015 activity in the orientation program.

## 2+2 Program

**Didi Li, BBA3**  
**SolBridge International School of Business**



Didi Li in her fall wear.

When I attended a summer camp organized by Woosong University last year, I had the chance to visit SolBridge as part of the program. The first impression I got from the business school was that it was full of creativity and vitality. And just because of this, I decided to take part in the 2+2 program between my university in China and SolBridge.

When I first came here, life was not easy. I really had to learn how to do things by myself. You need to check your inbox and pay attention to every e-mail because missing an important message will bring you a lot of trouble. The class format is completely different from my former university. You must be able to listen carefully and absorb every word the professor says, otherwise, you lose track and cannot add all the important points together. There are too many challenging assignments that require a lot of your time to finish.

However, I quickly adapted to this kind of life. Although studying in SolBridge is difficult, I feel

really fulfilled. Many things need to be solved on your own, it's true, but I'm being more independent. To keep up with the class, I consciously preview all the chapters before attending the lectures. Because every professor has a different teaching method, I gradually learned how to adapt to the differences. In our team projects, I learn new things from others, make friends, and try to have as much fun as possible in between.

Compared when I first came to SolBridge, I can say I grew up a lot. I'm not afraid anymore to speak in English in public and answer questions in class because I know that only by constantly trying things out, I can obtain the opportunity to make any progress. I am much braver to face any challenges. SolBridge always challenges us in many positive ways and, in this process, I became accustomed to accepting new things and not to complain like a baby.

I'm really honored to participate in the 2+2 program, and will work harder in the future to prove that my choice was correct.



# Unity in Diversity

Yeshica Indra, BBA  
2016 Alumna, SolBridge International School of Business  
Sol-Ambassador Fall 2015

Culture, for me, is essentially any aspect that shapes one's life. It includes elements such as values, languages, traditions, beliefs, art, cuisine and many more. SolBridge – with all of its diverse cultures overlapping one another – is one of the richest cultural melting pots. Hence, it is no surprise that SolBridge 2016 Culture Day was the largest and most anticipated event of the Fall 2016 semester.

On Friday, November 13, 2015, students got to try different types of foods and watch traditional cultural performances from over 16 different countries. Although raving about each nation's food would take up a whole article in itself, I would like to share my own experience and the painstaking preparation all the countries did for the day. On Culture Day, I took part in 2 countries' food festivals and 3 different culture performances: Indonesia, Spain and India.

## Kaleidoscopic Learning

It is not a triple citizenship that made me participate in different performances. Neither do I have the hidden talent of a Spanish bullfighter nor a stash of Bollywood movies collection. I am definitely not familiar with all the traditional dances of the 700 different ethnic groups of Indonesia. If anything, I just wanted to try things out, because not trying at all was, for me, coming short to the diversity at SolBridge.

Proficiency in a traditional dance is not as easy as biologically inheriting a citizenship. Perhaps that is the splendor. With numerous Facetime and Skype sessions with our Sevillana dance master, we had to overcome time differences and cover up our incapacities by including our own modern twists here and there. We also had to research and call some of the mothers in India to learn how to wear Indian saris properly.



Sith, our friend from India, recruited Toni from Spain, Stan from the Netherlands, Apjit from Thailand, Catherine from China, and me from Indonesia. We were super excited to dance in the style of Sharukh Khan and use holy powder colors. Jens from Norway, and Harry from India joined us later on to make our performance that much more intercultural.



Our magnificent Indian performance with colored powder.

### Taste to Understand

The enthusiasm with which all SolBridge students prepared the food stemmed from their willingness to show off their unique culture and share it with the rest. The effort we put into learning how to cook different dishes, and the time we spent cooking the samples were all worth it. Preparing food for over 300 people is not an easy feat. It is even more complicated when trying to make it taste as authentic as possible in a foreign country with limited imported products. I thank the Norwegians who managed to get precious heart-shaped waffles and brown cheese.



Cooking the food in the student cafeteria.

Although most of the popular tasting was done outside, I must give credit to all the fun we had inside the kitchen. With beans stewing from Malaysians, oven baking from Uzbeks, pancake flipping from a Dutch student, crepe folding from the French, noodle stir-frying from some Japanese, the student cafeteria was filled with exquisite smells since early in the morning. Everyone was on his or her feet the whole day, working tremendously hard in order to meet the 3 PM deadline. Helping one another was just innate and one more opportunity to make friends. A student volunteered to be the DJ and, thanks to him, there was music, dance breaks, and some karaoke, just like a Disney, family movie scene.

### **Blood May be Thicker than Water...**

...But if we had learned anything from this day, is that culture is not strictly inherited. It is learned socially and shared. Culture allows us to be individual and unique. In Indonesia where I come from, our national motto is ‘Unity in Diversity’ translated from the original Old Javanese phrase “Bhinneka Tunggal Ika.” Therefore, even if we have distinct ethnicities, we all share the same values. From Russia’s colorful costumes, Morocco’s mouthwatering cuisine, Uzbek’s energetic dance, Korean’s pretty hanboks, Japanese cute cosplay, SolBridge Culture Day is the very embodiment of that unity – sharing similarities and celebrating differences.

For more pictures on SolBridge Culture Day, please don’t hesitate to visit

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/6dr4zcrnbik9rr8/AABqBJ0ZvrUdDb8Q-x3xlo8a?dl=0>



# Unique and Exclusive?

(Jeet) Prasenjit Saha, MBA2  
SolBridge International School of Business



Jeet with his team members.

Every business school from every possible hemisphere tries to be unique, exclusive, and stand out from its competition. It is imperative to achieve that required name and fame to keep on shining as the brightest star in the galaxy of “Business Schools.” Until one achieves a unique position in the market, it is very tough to attract the brightest brains from the industry around.

So, the question comes: Are we really unique and exclusive?

SolBridge International School of Business is one of the few business schools in South Korea that offers all courses in English. Setting up a school of this sort in a country used to teach and learn in hanggeul is really something unique. I am sure many had this idea, but how many did actualize it?

SolBridge has become the youngest institution in the world to receive the AACSB accreditation, not that bad by any stretch of imagination.

The school has enrolled students from more than 35 countries, and the numbers keep growing each semester. Cultural diversity is the soul of this business school. Every 10<sup>th</sup> student here speaks a third language.

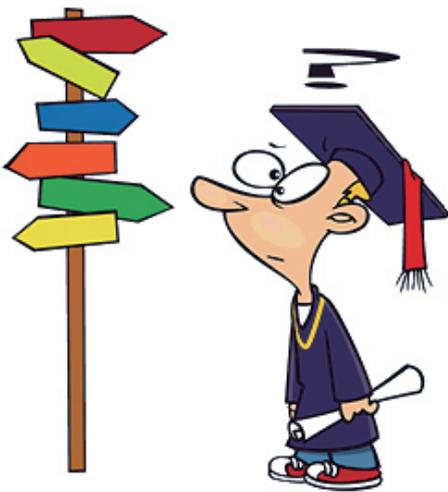
How do we handle such a complex diverse environment? It all starts from day one, when the freshmen arrive for a new beginning. The Peer Group Program is the best induction program that happened to me and to all of the new students here. The activities are designed in such a way that all students instantly grow a feeling of oneness and understanding for one another. This is the best ice-breaking program one can ever imagine. Not only for the freshmen, but old students who work as peer group leaders also benefit immensely from it. It gives them the opportunity to be a leader and develop their leadership and managerial skills. Managing a group of newcomers from so many different countries is surely a unique and exclusive assignment. The one-week orientation makes an indelible mark in the memory of every student.

Our debate society is one of the best not only within South Korea, but also in East and South Asia.

Yes, we are. We are unique and exclusive, and I mean REALLY unique and exclusive. The answer has come without a second thought. Boasting of one's school is natural but there have to be impeccable reasons to support that emotion and, here in SolBridge, we have thousands (plus counting).

# The Perception of an MBA Student – Forks in the Road of Life After Graduation

(Bin) The Khoa Do, MBA2  
SolBridge International School of Business

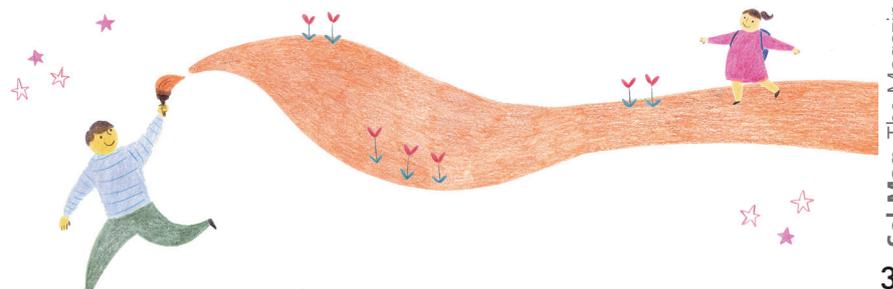


I am proud I completed my bachelor's degree at a very famous university in Vietnam; however, looking back, I regret not taking advantage of all the opportunities that were available to me then. For four full years, I was unaware of my surroundings, of the life I was living.

After graduation, while most of my classmates got jobs and started their adult life without major problems – at least from my point of view – I was confused about my future and totally lost. I could not imagine what my life should look like. I did not have any plans and was not sure how to set them up.

My love for Korean culture, including K-Pop dramas, songs, and anything Hallyu, inspired me to come to Korea for a master's degree. Applying to the MBA program at SolBridge was a really big decision, a milestone in my life, and one more opportunity to discover who I was.

With high determination, my objective for the first semester at SolBridge was to achieve a GPA of 4.5 out of 4.5 and study Korean language as much as possible. Unfortunately, I could not achieve my initial goals. Even though I got a high GPA in the spring 2015, doing an MBA at SolBridge turned out to be much more difficult and demanding than expected.



Back in Vietnam, I used to tutor others and enjoyed teaching a lot. I thought doing a Ph.D. was the best thing, and hoped that my MBA in Korea would be a step to achieve my career goals. However, my opinion changed right after my first semester at SolBridge.



Bin receiving his bachelor's degree in Vietnam.

In my second semester, I realized that an MBA student needs work experience rather than just focusing on studying hard. This standpoint modified my attitude and stimulated me to concentrate on other things. I participated in the Business Decision-Maker's Competition, and in the SolBridge Financial Contest, and was lucky to win the first prize in both. I also began to search for information on internships.

Now, after one year in SolBridge, my thoughts on life and career opportunities after graduation have changed considerably. I think I matured a lot more. I am still open to the idea of doing a Ph.D., but I am much more open to other options as well. Less narrow-minded. Less obsessed to find “the answers.”

It is always difficult to make any predictions, especially about the future. For me, at the age of 24, it is too early to think about getting married and starting a family. I want to spend my last year at SolBridge setting small, attainable goals, step by step, without going too crazy. If we set a goal and then are always thinking of just obtaining that goal, the probability of failure is quite high. But if we try to live with purpose, even a failure can be meaningful and acceptable.



# I Am an Woosong Global Scholarship Member

**(Sevir) Siyuan Meng, BBA**  
**2016 Alumna, SolBridge International School of Business**  
**Woosong Global Scholarship Member**



Sevir taking a stroll.

Hi. I am Sevir or Siyuan Meng from China. I have studied in SolBridge for about three years as a transfer student. I was selected to be an Woosong Global Scholarship Member upon my graduation.

First, I would like to express my deep gratitude to the Woosong Educational Foundation. I feel really honored to be selected as one of its members.

My GPA is 4.11, which is quite satisfying in a 4.5 GPA system. After I moved to South Korea, at first, I could not get used to the Western education system in SolBridge, which put more emphasis on problem-solving and analytical thinking abilities compared to the Chinese education system. I felt so stressed out about all the presentations and research papers at first. But gradually, by making efforts and seeking help from professors and classmates, I improved my GPA every semester. I understand that there are many foreign students who come to SolBridge without a sound training on how to understand academic lectures in English, conduct effective team work, etc. I would like to encourage them not to give up.

If there is one key word here in my years in SolBridge, I would say “opportunities.” SolBridge provided me with a wide platform to engage in various activities. For example, the CEO Mentoring Program supported by the Career Development Center (CDC).



Sevir (right) with Shinya Ohara (left) at the Commencement Party in December 2015.

In my fourth year, I was a mentee of Mr. Jung-Seung Shin, the Former Korean Ambassador to China. We met weekly to discuss political issues. Keen insight always came from him because of his rich experience in public affairs. Another example is the vast research opportunities. I co-authored an academic paper on Chinese students' overseas experience with one of my professors, and this greatly helped me build my research abilities. Furthermore, the various competitions and workshops in SolBridge enabled me to develop a deeper understanding of business in a more practical manner. Last but not least, the weekend excursions were valuable chances to make international friends, develop teamwork, experience Korean history and culture, all necessary to become a future Asian Thought Leader.

After graduating from SolBridge, I plan to do some volunteer work in a poor area of China before doing an MA degree in the USA. Inspired by the SolBridge GACCS, I will continuously strive to make academic progress and get involved in various social activities. I will make efforts to contribute to a stronger SolBridge Alumni Network by actively connecting as many SolBridgers as possible.

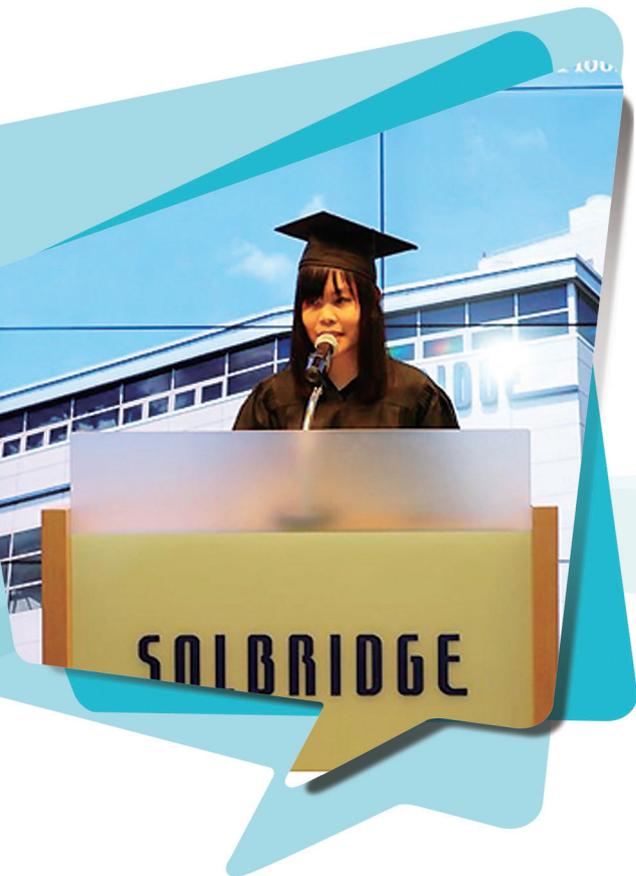


Sevir under the clouds.

# BBA Valedictorian Speech

(Breezy) Le Do Minh Chau

BBA Valedictorian, SolBridge International School of Business



| Breezy delivering her BBA Valedictorian Speech.

Good morning, Chairman Kim, President John E. Endicott, distinguished guests, professors, mentors, staff members, parents, family, fellow graduates and friends, it is such a great honor for me to be up here delivering the commencement speech on behalf of the Fall 2015 graduating class. First of all, I would like to congratulate my fellow graduates on achieving this major milestone! Today is the day for all of you to shine and be proud of yourselves for having made such great and consistent efforts.

On behalf of my fellow graduates, I would like to thank parents, family members, professors, mentors, friends and staff for your care and support along the way. Without any of you, we could not be present here today. Mom, dad, and brother, thank you for supporting every decision of mine, and for being there for me through all the ups and downs. Thank you, professors, for your enthusiasm to teach, assist, and guide us with your technical expertise and life experience. Thank you, friends, for being part of my unforgettable memories at SolBridge. Last but not least, thank you, staff members, for your hard work and dedicated assistance.

Remember back in early 2012, after one year at the university of my dream, I felt lost and directionless as the major had turned out to be a misfit to both my

character and interest. As I decided to do some research about a few alternatives, SolBridge was introduced to me to be a fresh yet potentially high grade university that caters good support for international students. I was excited yet again, worried about the future. After pondering over it for some time, I decided to take the opportunity, being the only way to know if it would ever work out for me. As of today, I feel there could not have been a better decision to make.

My time at SolBridge has been tremendously exciting. I got to interact with amazing people from different backgrounds, to attend interesting classes by outstanding professors, to be bestowed with myriad opportunities that helped me find out who I truly am and develop myself personally and professionally. It could not have been a more wonderful undergraduate experience and I'm sure that you, my fellow graduates, have also gone through such unforgettable experience.

Now that I look back at everything, I ought to believe that the result we have today is the chain of opportunities we were given and the actions we took, as Steve Jobs said in his commencement speech at Stanford "you can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards." For most of us here today, this end is the beginning where each of us will be leaving for our own journey. Once again, you may feel excited yet anxious about the unknown future. Still, what is important, in my humble opinion, is to never let the fear stop us from taking the opportunities. "You may not always end up where you thought you were going, but you will always end up where you were meant to be," as Jessica Taylor put it. Be courageous enough to take the risk and go for whatever you believe in. One day, all of your efforts will start to make sense. Best of luck and wish you all great success in the future.



| Breezy during the commencement ceremony on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor auditorium

# MBA Valedictorian Speech

**Billy Surya Hendryko**  
MBA Valedictorian, SolBridge International School of Business

**Good** morning to all. It is an honor to be able to represent my fellow MBAs here on this stage. For this, I would like to give my praise and thank to Lord Jesus for it is because of His love, grace, and blessing that I am able to stand here today.

I also want to thank my parents for always supporting me in all the things that I do. To Chairman Kim; to Dr. John. Endicott; all the professors who have taught and mentored me these past two years, Prof. Rao, Prof. Hsing, Prof. Das, Prof. Tahir, Prof. Ben, Prof. Awan, Prof. Brock, Prof. Aye, Prof. Prasad, Prof. Alejandra, Prof. Daniel, Prof. Rhee, Prof. Han. Thank you also to Mr. Ony; all of my SolBridge friends, those who are still here and those who have graduated as well as other friends whom I cannot mention one by one.

It has been a long journey but also a short one. It feels like it was just yesterday that I came here to SolBridge as a new student, participating in the welcome convocation back in 2014. And without realizing it, time flew fast, now standing here as one of the prospective graduates.

Never would I have imagined before that I will be able to meet and make lasting friendships with people from all around the world. For that, I really thank SolBridge from the bottom of my heart for the opportunity and also for the education, competitions, excursions and honors that SolBridge offered and bestowed us.

Although this will be the end of my time as a SolBridge MBA student, I will forever cherish and treasure all the memories of my time here...

And finally, for all of my friends who will graduate today, I just want to say “Congratulations! You all earned it and you all deserved it! I wish the best for all of you. No matter what happens, be courageous, never give up, and have faith. Because just like one of my favorite athletes, Michael Jordan, once said, ‘Never say never, because limits, like fears, are often just an illusion.’”

Happy Graduation! Thank you.



Billy with other SolBridgers at one of our excursions.



Billy at the Commencement Ceremony

# Our Vision

Asian Center of Excellence in Global Business Education

Who is an Asian Thought Leader?

Global Perspective



Asian Expertise



Social Responsibility



# Our Mission

Educating the Next Generation of Asian Thought Leaders

An Asian Thought Leader is Someone with GACCS.

Creative Management Foundation

Cross-Cultural Competence



**HAMKE TOGETHER**



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