

Annual Report: London Finance Group

2006/2007



Background

London Finance Group (LFG) was founded in 2006 by Christopher N. Westerlund with the help of Dan A. Bergman, Per O. Hjortsberg and Nariman Pishdar.

LFG was primarily founded to meet a growing interest for international finance career among the students in Gothenburg. Another important aspect was the need for a student network between the different schools, and educational institutions in Gothenburg. Finally, there existed a need for an organisation where highly skilled and motivated students could meet and develop an extended alumni network with a variety of competency and educational backgrounds.

The founding ideas of LFG incorporates a belief in the individual's development by involving foreign culture through art activities such as theatres, musicals and galleries as well as inviting guest speakers from a variety of industries. The London Finance Group also helps our members to develop a more holistic view of business and life. This enables our members to achieve good manners and use the right etiquette in an international business world, giving them a solid ground for their career.

Development

It has been an exciting and very interesting year. We worked hard and put the bar high and succeeded to achieve more than we thought possible. We have gone from starting the organization to having 70 members. We believe that this will rise even higher during the continuation of this and next year. Many people have learned about us and been impressed over what we have achieved during the year.

We have set up the organization from scratch and formulated regulations that govern the organization that was ratified at the 7th of November 2006. Alexander Westerlund developed the LFG logo that can be seen in all our material.

We also developed the award winning colour combination of GOLD, BLACK and WHITE to symbolise success, strength and power.

The structure of LFG contains four different levels: board, workgroup, external support and advisory board.

The board is the leading, directing and responsible of the actions of the organization. The workgroup is the natural step into the board, enabling members to get involved without feeling that they have committed themselves to too much work. These two parts of LFG have meetings and function as one group. External support being unlicensed accountant and other support functions needed. Advisory board is old board members or external people that can be contacted in the need of advice.

Board, Workgroup, External support and Advisory board

The board and workgroup has met at least every second week. Becoming a tight team and accomplishing a lot during the year has resulted in a very efficient organization. We have given every one in the organization their own mandate to accomplish their tasks, and as long as they keep doing this, their responsibility level has increased.

LFG international

During the spring, we have developed a package for sister organizations including a starting kit with logos, templates, contract, advice, homepage templates and much more. The first sister organization is currently being set up in Israel. We are planning to set up another one in London and Houston, Texas.

Sponsors and Partners

We have worked hard to develop long term relations with a variety of sponsors. We have also built up a big base of contacts and phone numbers for coming generations of LFG.

Main sponsors

Medikus: cash and accessories

Stena Bulk: Cash and polo shirts with their's and our logo on.

Sponsors

Atlas Design: Clothes and accessories

Centre For Finance: Cash

Handelsbanken Capital Markets: Train tickets approximately worth 10.000

Libro Group: Bags

Särö stil: Clothes and 15 % discount on clothes

Swebank: Reduced fee for using their services

Partners

Skatteverket(tax authorities): Holding lectures on tax

Chalmers Careers Service: Helping us arrange CV and interview preparations

Samuels Skrädderi & Högtidskläder (tailor): 15 % discount and holding lectures about how to dress

Handels Studentkår: We are allowed to put up poster on the schools notice boards, utilize the classrooms and hold introductory events for new students

Chalmersbörsgрупп: Cooperation involving promotion of each other

Chalmers: We are allowed to utilize the classrooms and put up poster on the schools notice boards

Centre for finance: Cooperation involving promotion, utilizing classrooms/meeting rooms.

Homepage

We have built a homepage. The current homepage is built on Drupal and has been developed by Sören Petersen. The homepage has opened many doors for us during the year. We have developed an interactive homepage that can be changed without knowledge in HTML as a simple word text file. We have set permission levels and developed different forums and also a service for members to receive their own LFG email address. There is also a so called WIKI that enables us to share files and documents providing the means for a smooth and efficient organization.

We currently own www.londonfinancegroup.se and www.londonfinancegroup.org and have our web hosting at Petersen enterprise providing us with extremely good rates and support.

We are currently developing a system that will make it easier publish photos and we are also developing a CV database.

Stockholm trip

LFG went on a trip to Stockholm on March 26, 2007. We visited Handelsbanken Capital Markets and Cevian Capital. This was the first time ever that Cevian Capital accepted a visit by students. We met with recruiters and had a whole day in Sweden's capital. We visited Handelsbanken Capital Markets trading floor and representatives from the different departments held presentations for us. At Cevian we met with the CFO and a partner. One participating member received an internship after the trip.

London trip

One of the highlights during year of activity of LFG is the trip to London. The 2007 Spring trip was a great success! We were there 2007-04-11 to 2007-04-15. We met with very nice recruiters, employees, Londoners and numerous persons from the business community during our days and evenings in London. London is definitely the place to be! We visited Bank of America, Barclays Capital, ABN AMRO and Stena Bulk. We also visited some of London's most prestigious night clubs such as Kensington Roof Gardens and Pangaea. We saw the musical Les Miserable, was educated on cigars at Harrods and got a lecture in exclusive perfumes, this also at Harrods. We stayed right next to Piccadilly Circus, in the heart of London. We also visited Tate Modern getting in touch with modern art. Some of the shopping and sightseeing included English pubs and enjoying English food. The group developed strong bonds for life. Before leaving London, each participant received anonymous personal evaluations on strong and weak sides of their personalities in order to develop even more. LFG also received critique, as a group, from the banks who all said that they would host a similar event with LFG again.

Tax night

The 27th February 2007 LFG held a "Tax Evening" with representatives from the Swedish Tax Authority. We learned legal framework about tax and also were able to ask questions to the representative.

CV, cover letter and interview preparations

We have developed a CV template in cooperation with investment banks both in London and New York. This CV template has also been looked at and approved by Chalmers Careers Service. We also had one on one interview training with Chalmers Careers Service.

Dunross & Co AB

We visited Dunross & Co AB. Tuesday April 17th 17.30 and had a lecture on how private placement works and how they conduct investment strategies. We have also started negotiations about a future partnership.

Movie nights

We have held movie nights with films such as Wall Street.

Visions

During the year we also developed visions for LFG

- To be the ambitious and goal oriented students first obvious choice of student organization
- To create a platform where students can connect, develop and create valuable contacts between themselves and companies for their coming career
- To help students cross cultural barriers, language barriers and feel confident and prepared for today's more internationalised business world

Future and Successions

We have worked on a long term basis on all projects and have already started the plans for the fall trip to London that will be conducted 2007-09-18 to 2007-09-22 and this time we will see the musical Phantom of the opera. We have also worked continuously with the succession during the year in order to help the organization grow and develop new talents internally.

We wish the future board all luck with leading the organization towards the future.

The Board of 2006/2007

President, Christopher N. Westerlund

Vice President, Per O. Hjortsberg

Treasurer, Dan A. Bergman
