VOLUME 18/NUMBER 1

APRIL 1, 2002

Bank Swirled

Buoyed by the success of their initial deployment, GSD armed security guards extend their perimeter to the park in front of the 1818 H Street entrance

Write us:
bankswirled@aol.com

http://members.aol.com/bswirled/private/bs.htm

WBI OFFERS NEW PROGRAM FOR MANAGERS

Learning to Learn: Nurturing a Learning Culture

Meet Pepe. He's not a career employee. In fact, he's not even human. But he'll have a thing or two to teach Bank managers about learning before the day is through – if he's conscious and his pupils are responsive. It's all part of WBI's new, mandatory "Learning to Learn" program for Bank Group managers beginning April 1.

"We want managers to understand that they need to pay attention to learning, and that learning is important. So we're going to teach them just how important learning can be. And that's what this new course is about," says WBI Vice President Frannie Leautier.

"We designed the course using state-of-the-art e-learning techniques," says Leautier. "And we piloted it on lower primates, the closest thing we could find to Bank Group leadership. Now we're ready to try it on real Bank managers."

Pepe (seated) feels the importance of learning at regular intervals throughout the day and night

The new e-learning tools use both positive and negative re-enforcement. WBI expects that Bank managers will quickly conclude that learning does matter. "Or at least, they will sense that learning can provide welcome solace from the searing pain. That's what creating a learning culture is all about," says Leautier.

Signals That "Learning Matters"

E-learning is fast, effective and forceful. "When managers receive the signal," says Leautier, "they will respond by discussing the importance of learning, whether they're in a meeting, on the Metro, or in the shower. And if they don't, a negative re-enforcement signal will provide additional stimulus instantaneously. We've taken 'just-in-time training' to the next level."

The innovative program still has some challenges ahead. Scheduling all managers for the mandatory preparation session is expected to strain HSD's outpatient facilities, and so far Aetna has denied Pepe's pilot-related medical claims on the grounds that the treatment was experimental. There are also some issues concerning location. "Right now, our learning signal range is limited to within 1,000 meters of the Main Complex," says Leautier. "But once we establish a strategic partnership with MCI WorldCom, we can signal managers to promote learning anywhere in the world at any time. And at special discount rates."

That is something we feel that Pepe would be very pleased to learn.

Editor's Note: WBI would like to assure staff that Pepe was not permanently harmed during the development of this course, and that the chair in which he is pictured is actually a prototype economy-class airline seat on loan from United to evaluate possible changes in the GSD Travel Policy. When the WBI pilot ended, Pepe attended the Harvard EDP, then accepted a Mutually Agreed Separation package from the Bank. He now works as a short-term consultant for IFC's new Tropical Nuts Unit (email pepe7@ifc.org), and is ineligible for any past pension credit – but he'd have it no other way!

BANK SWIRLED

"You can't handle the truth!" — Jack Nicholson, *A Few Good Men*
Vol. 18, No. 1 April 1, 2002

Annual Meetings Impact

While last year's Annual Meetings cancellation hurt many D.C.-area businesses, none was affected as badly as the escort services, according to a local economic survey released today. The impact has even driven some companies to the edge of bankruptcy.

D.C. entrepreneur Mary Trix was among the hardest hit in the area. Her escort service, Beautiful Ladies, usually registers 95 percent of its annual income during the Meetings. Trix now finds herself – and her escorts – high and dry. Particularly ironic for Trix is that she had invested her savings to develop and market a series of new services. Visiting dignitaries could have sampled three innovative options: a basic Economic Stimulus Package, a Private Sector Development offering for first-time visitors, and Annual Beatings (also called the World Spank) for the naughtiest ministers.

Lest Bank Group staff be forgotten, new selections were readied for them as well. "Professional female escorts aren't used just for spouse points travel anymore," said Trix. She had developed a Project Preparation series emphasizing quality at entry and sustainability. Also planned as an alternative was an HR Reform Package which included post-paid services rendered without consultation. "These products would have doubled my revenues!" Trix said angrily. "All of my girls wanted to do for the Bank what management did to NRS!"

4 x 4

As part of its review of 1998 reforms, the Human Resources Vice Presidency today concluded that the 4-year lifetime limit on term appointments will be enforced after four years. A 4-year term can consist of two 2-year terms or one 3-year term and one 1-year term. Other combinations would be evaluated by HR on a "case-by-case basis, to ensure managers have flexibility," said HRSVP Kathy Sierra at a morning press conference. Ultimately, Sierra continued, "at the end of the 4-year term, the 4-year term is over. At that time, no more terms can be added to the 4-year term because they would exceed the 4-year term limit of four years." Affected staff have several options, including converting to a lifetime term, converting to a short-term, or terminating. In the cases of conversion, staff may exceed the 4-year term limit; however, in the case of termination, the 4-year term limit is strictly enforced. "This is a much stronger 4-year term enforcement policy than the 4-year term enforcement policies of 1998, 1994 and 1990," beamed a triumphant Sierra. "Any manager needing rule interpretation should raise his right hand, then fold his thumb into his palm."

Even our name is an oxymoron.

IFC Staff Reduction

Recent cost-cutting measures at the International Finance Corporation, the private sector arm of the World Bank Group, took a serious turn this week with rumors of the first layoffs in IFC history. When contacted by *Bank Swirled*, IFC Human Resources VP Dorothy Berry refused comment, but highly-placed IFC sources confirm that two IFC staff have been relieved of their duties, effective April 1, 2002.

Sources identified the two axed IFC staffers as Joe Skeptic and Sustainability Sam. Skeptic and Sam, both American citizens, were hired at the end of calendar year 2001 as Information Officers in IFC's Corporate Relations office. Their work program consisted entirely of the "Issue in Brief - Sustainability for Skeptics" column in the daily *Newsflash*, which is distributed to IFC staff each afternoon via e-mail. Both were targeted due to the lack of importance of their work relative to IFC's mission, their short tenure with the Corporation, and poor work habits, which reportedly included "uninvited advances toward female colleagues, inappropriate language, drinking alcoholic beverages at their workstations, and generally annoying everyone with whom they came in contact," according to anonymous sources.

"Joe was a miserable, angry drunk with a disinterest in personal hygiene. Sam seemed okay at first, but we quickly realized that he was an apple-polishing know-it-all with a nasty streak," said one CEXCR staffer. "And the column was an interesting idea, but it quickly fell into a repetitive rut and they put no effort into it. After a week, they were just going through the motions."

Staff Association Chair Morallina George commented, "If these unfortunate rumors prove true, we won't pursue the matter, as both staff are white American males with no NRS experience. Plus they work at IFC, so no one over here really cares." When reached for comment, Skeptic and Sam refused to confirm the report, but did say off the record that they look forward to returning to their former form of employment (minor league ice hockey team mascots).

WSJ: Woicke Reassigned

The April 1 edition of the *Wall Street Journal* reports that IFC Executive VP Peter Woicke will soon relinquish his Headquarters duties to assume the newly created position of Bank Group Resident Representative to Elba. The *Journal* reports the decision was approved last week at a double-super-secret meeting of the Board.

"After Enron, it's much harder to move people to a no-show 'special consultant to the President' contract," a highly-placed source told *Bank Swirled*, "so at least this way we can say he's actually working, though he'll basically be hunting mushrooms, berries, flowers and chestnuts."

Woicke, also a Managing Director of the World Bank Group, declined *Bank Swirled*'s requests for an interview. World Bank President Jim Wolfensohn referred questions on the Board meeting to Internal Communications Director Gerry Rice, who responded, "We decided not to cover that event."

Bank Deploys Advisors

The ground war in Afghanistan heated up yesterday when the development community revealed plans to airdrop a platoon of crack World Bank development philosophers into the country to prove the inefficiency of tariffs.

Elements from the feared Bill Easterly Brigade will parachute into the combat zone to spread doubt, despondency and existential angst among the enemy. Hardened by numerous intellectual battles during their long occupation of the second-floor Atrium Café, their first action will be to establish a number of coffee bars at strategic points near the front lines. There, they will drink cappuccino and talk animatedly about the absurd nature of the social sciences. They will be accompanied by several heartbreakingly beautiful JPAs, who will further spread dismay by sticking their tongues in the economists' ears while looking remote and unattainable to everyone else, particularly those with hard skills.

Their leader, moniker "NAFTA," spoke yesterday of his confidence in the success of their mission. A Sorbonne graduate, an intense and unshaven formerly young man in a black pullover, he gesticulated wildly and said, "They are caught in a logical fallacy of the most ridiculous. Trade protectionism is corrosive and I can prove it. Take your tongue out of my ear, Maria, I am now talking." Follow-up plans to deliver impassioned theses on free trade, with special reference to the work of Prem Garg and the films of Phyllis Pomerantz, are expected in the next three months.

Bank Disaster Plan

World Bank Group President James Wolfensohn today confirmed press reports that a "parallel corporate leadership" had been established "in response to the troubled times we live in." Speaking from "a secure undisclosed location," Wolfensohn acknowledged that the Board and most staff were oblivious to the new policy in which about 100 staff live in an underground bunker for extended "missions" in case the Bank's Headquarters was unable to function. The bunker, thought to be in West Virginia in easy reach of Dulles and Harrison Hot Springs, was off-limits to reporters. However, in the announcement's aftermath, many senior staff confirmed their Headquarters presence, and publicly explained why they were not on the exclusive list. General Counsel Ko-Yung Tung, preparing for his 15th bungee jump mission to Mauritania, said that he was mostly concerned about whether the bungee cord was long enough. "HR put some spares in my bag, but they disappeared at security." RMCVP Motoo Kusakabe, interviewed during a Bank-sponsored *fugu* sampling in Tokyo while he looked for a new apartment, said, "we go to great lengths to protect CTFs and it was nice of Kathy and Jeffrey to send me here. I don't like West Virginia anyway."

Contacted while leaving the Bank toting a case of bottled water, Internal Communications Director Gerry Rice said the precipitating event was the Staff Association's invitation to AFL-CIO President John Sweeney to address the past pension credit issue. "We then knew," Rice confessed, "that we had a problem. We couldn't determine if or when the SA would close the Bank, and since HSD's thought-manipulation tool – the metal detectors installed at all building entrances – didn't work, we explored alternatives." Rice also confided that "the greatest danger to the Bank is the risk that unauthorized ideas find their way into the buildings." To that end, the former NRS among the Staff Association's Delegate Assembly were moved to an abandoned ICBM silo in South Dakota.

Meanwhile, Diversity Director Julie Oyegun demanded to know the gender and nationality of those assigned to the bunker, and whether it is handicap-accessible, fur-free and vegan.

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Bank Swirled was created under strict supervision of overpriced consultants from PriceWaterhouseCoopers. No actual World Bank Group managers were injured during document production.

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www.worldbank.org/yournet, 1818 Society, Bank Swirled Archives

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BANK SWIRLED
James D. Wolfensohn, Editor-in-Chief
Mats Karlsson, Managing Editor

TO BETTER SERVE OUR CLIENTS,
WE DID MORE THAN
CHANGE OUR LOGO.

WE ALSO ADDED A
MANASSAS-BASED
DERMATOLOGIST
TO OUR
OPEN CHOICE PPO NETWORK
ON JULY 13, 2001.

TURNING PROMISE
INTO PRACTICE

Best Seller List

THE SUMMONS, by Maarten de Jong. A TTL called home by the Sector Board discovers more than $3 million in cash in her sector manager's bank account, and no final reports from any of her CTF consultants.

THE COTTAGE. A sector manager, above Rule of 50, describes how to spend $3 million renovating a house in Tuscany, and experiences excitement and happiness after he rents out the basement to ex-staff fleeing INT.

JOURNEY THROUGH HEARTSONGS, by Mieko Nishimizu. Back to office reports from a dynamic RVP.

HUNTING SEASON, by Kate McCollom. A CAO investigates why fourteen task team leaders are still courting trust fund donors with expensive lunches in Rome and Tokyo.

THE MILLIONAIRES, by Fred Wright. Things go awry when two brothers who work at an exclusive bank try to pull off a foolproof crime and get caught by someone snooping in SAP.

SKIPPING CHRISTMAS. A Country Manager and his driver discover that their decision to forgo Christmas comes with consequences, when all the task team leaders decide to go shopping at H&M for presents after their meeting with the consulting firm.

WARNING SIGNS. A clinical psychologist in ESSD uncovers a link between one of his managers and the harvest of four Yangtze dolphins to feed the EAP management team lunch during their retreat in Beijing.

THREE WEEKS IN PARIS, by Sonia Smith. Four women, once good friends and now aspiring Sector Directors, reunite years after they failed the ACS typing test, and parted as enemies.

BIAS. A television journalist who worked at CBS for many years reports on how Internal Communications distorts the news.

SACRED CONTRACTS, by William Silverman. If it isn't in your appointment letter, the answer is "no."

THE UNIVERSE IN A NUTSHELL. Guide to the FY03 WPA process, including how to hide CTFs.

Roof Re-Opens

Access to the F-building rooftop was reinstated today by IFC officials, citing reduced security concerns and the addition of several features designed to make the area safer.

The new features include retaining the contractor who built the yellow disco lights in the F-garage to install a rooftop multimedia display board, linked to the U.S. Office of Homeland Security and GSD's Security Operations Center. The board will continually display:

- the current U.S. national security status;
- the YTD cups of coffee sold in the F-cafeteria;
- the U.S. dollar exchange rate against the Argentine peso;
- the YTD amount saved at IFC per Geoff Willing;
- the number of RSVPs for the donor round table at the Belgrade Hyatt;
- the number of IFC Information Analysts selected for level GF positions in the IBRD, and
- the Leopardstown, Sha Tin, Ascot, Nad Al Sheba, Churchill Downs, Gosforth Park and Gulfstream Park tote boards.

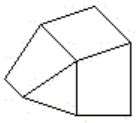
In addition, an evacuation route, lit by torches, will be clearly marked, eliminating the need to rappel to the sidewalk below if and when the alarm sounds.

While these innovations will enhance personal security, please stand away from the railing when motorcades pass. The Mylar window protection is only a last resort, and the safest way to avoid trigger-happy U.S. Secret Service snipers is to not present yourself to them as a viable target. F-building staff are also reminded that the bubbles eventually will disappear on their own, and that staff should not apply stick-on fish decals to the windows even if they feel the bubbles lack a purpose in life.

Need to Hide Your Flat-Screen Monitor?

Change this:

to this:



Try the *easy-to-install* **CRT conversion kit** from the IHK! Fits over all Dell products. No one will ever know! Available in Cardboard. Only $39.95 plus shipping and handling. Exempt from ISG approval requirement! A must for all staff below Vice President!

International House of Knowledge
www.ihk.com

Daughter's Day Schedule: April 25, 2002

Further to Mr. Wolfensohn's earlier announcement that the Bank Group would leverage this year's April 25 "Take Our Daughters To Work Day" event by inviting boys as well as girls, organizers have decided to provide separate programs for each gender, with appropriate agendas. The girls' program will be subdivided into two cohorts, enabling each daughter to participate with a group that best suits her own individual needs. Join us on April 25!

	Daughters		Sons
	Main Cohort	**Future Trophy Wives Cohort**	
8 a.m.	**ARRIVAL**: Attendees are given instructions for clerical assignments to be completed during "down time" before the end of the day (at the latest).		
8:55 am	Coffee from MC-C2 vending machines. (Bring your own change.)		
9 a.m.	**PRESENTATION**: *The Latest in Filing Technology – The Miracle of Color Labeling*.	**ARRIVAL**: Cappuccino (skim milk), sensible fat-free pastries and fresh fruit in the MC Atrium Cafe.	
10:30 a.m.	**FIELD TRIP**: *Multi-Tasking in the New Millennium*. Using your personal cell phone to schedule the boss's dental appointment while waiting in line to renew his car registration. Location: D.C. Department of Motor Vehicles, 301 C Street, N.W.	**FIELD TRIP**: *Not All Cashmere Is Knit The Same*. Location: Saks Jandel, Chevy Chase, Md.	**ARRIVAL**: Catered breakfast in the MC-12 Atrium, featuring lobster Newburg, chipolata and fiddlehead frittata with buffalo mozzarella gnocchi, and fresh-squeezed orange juice with Maine blueberry shooters.
11:55 a.m.	**LUNCH**: MC-C2 vending machines. (Bring your own change.)		
12 noon	**PRESENTATION**: *Get the Lead Out! Learning How to Accept Negative Feedback*. Speaker: Bob Knight, Head Basketball Coach, Texas Tech University.	**LUNCH**: Selection of chilled mineral waters (flat or still) served in cut crystal. Location: MC Dining Room, Salon A.	**LUNCH**: Private reception, entertainment by U2. Photo op with Bono. Location: Mr. Wolfensohn's private dining room.
2 p.m.	**LEGAL SEMINAR**: *The Latest in Shredding Technology: The Dangers of Color Labeling*. Document handling in the post-Enron environment.	FREE TIME: Take an hour off and relax, it's been a long day and you deserve it.	**FIELD TRIP**: *Gender Sensitivity: The G-Wagon Is for Men, The M-Class Is for Soccer Moms*. An introduction to Mercedes' 2003 line. Location: Euro Motor Cars, Bethesda, Md.
3 p.m.	**WORK EXPERIENCE**: Attendees are informed off-handedly that prior instructions for clerical assignments have changed and new instructions will be issued. Deadline moved up to 3:30 p.m. (at the latest).	**LEGAL SEMINAR**: *His, Mine and Ours*. A guide to building an air-tight pre-nup.	
3:30 p.m.	**WORK EXPERIENCE**: Attendees remain suspended in state of panic awaiting new instructions for clerical assignments.	EXERCISE: Tae-Bo class with instructor Billy Blanks. H-Fitness Center, Studio A.	**LEGAL SEMINAR**: *Hers, Mine and Ours*. Building a trap door "weasel clause" into your pre-nup.
5 p.m.	**WORK EXPERIENCE**: Revised instructions for clerical assignments finally received.	FREE TIME: Cool down, shower, massage, prepare for dinner.	FREE TIME: Relax, read the paper, surf the net.
5:30 p.m.	**WORK EXPERIENCE**: Turn in revised, completed clerical assignment.		
6 p.m.	**WORK EXPERIENCE**: Hail taxis for other Daughter's Day participants.	Taxis to Georgetown.	Taxis to Georgetown.
7 p.m.	**WORK EXPERIENCE**: Return to office to find clerical assignments returned unread, with original instructions reinstated.	**CLOSING DINNER AND RECEPTION** with Sons. Dancing, with live performances by Linkin Park and Alicia Keys. Location: Michel Richard Citronelle, Georgetown.	**CLOSING DINNER AND RECEPTION** with Future Trophy Wives cohort. Dancing, with live performances by Linkin Park and Alicia Keys. Location: Michel Richard Citronelle, Georgetown.
7:45 p.m.	**DINNER**: MC-C2 vending machines. (Bring your own change.)		
9:45 p.m.	**WORK EXPERIENCE**: Turn in re-revised clerical assignments.		

(translated from pictograms)

"Pepe learn well. Pepe eat well."

Pepe
WBI

Who We Are, What We Do

Snapshots of Bank Group Staff

Talented. Passionate. Dedicated. Three words World Bank staff use to describe themselves as no one else would. We are more than 10,000 individuals from around the world who have come together for a single reason: to end poverty for ourselves and our families. Forever.

Our jobs may be different. Our grades may be different. Our hiring status may be different. Our chances for promotion may be different. Our pension plans are definitely different. But we are all united in one belief: it's better than working at the U.N.

Bank Swirled *continues its series of mini-portraits of Bank staff: who we are, what we do at the Bank, and why we do it for up to two hours a day*.

Pepe
WBI

From the Rain Forest to the World Bank: Pepe Learns to Adapt

April 1, 2002
Meet Pepe – one of a new breed of Bank staff leading the way towards our new culture of constant change and lifelong learning.

A native of western Brazil, Pepe faced his first major learning challenge when a Bank-financed transportation project significantly altered his natural habitat. A "hands on" approach to his relocation landed Pepe in Washington and the opportunity to participate in WBI's new "Learn to Learn" initiative.

The "Learn to Learn" project team immediately noticed Pepe's enthusiasm for tropical fruit. Now, after six months in the project's electrifying environment, Pepe's love for fruit has been transformed into an even greater passion – a love for learning.

We caught up with Pepe at his experimental "mini-office" in WBI. Pepe communicates using his modified ED3 pictographic keyboard, identical to those used by Managing Directors. We asked Pepe how he feels about his new home in the U.S. "Pepe accept change," he taps. "What choice I? Choice I none."

When the conversation turns to his homeland of Brazil, Pepe's tapping becomes more pensive. "Why World Bank build stone path through big trees? Pepe wonder if economists have head up tail body place."

Suddenly Pepe's expression changes, as if shocked by his own thoughts and words. He begins tapping at his keyboard at a near frantic pace. "Pepe learn! Must cut big trees! Must lift trade barriers so trees go bye-bye! Must reform financial sector and implement structural adjustment program! Gender! Gender!"

Suddenly, a golden yellow tropical fruit pellet trickles down into Pepe's mini-office. "Pain bad. Learning good," he taps slowly. "Pepe learn well. Pepe eat well."

With his deep passion for work, learning, and golden yellow tropical fruit pellets, should we be shocked to learn that there just might be a little bit of Pepe in all of us?

A woman washes clothes on the Mekong Delta

A man fishes off the coast of Madagascar

A little girl plays on the beach in East Timor

Different people.
Different cultures.

Yet they all have one thing in common.
At any second, they could be torn to pieces by a shark.

Millions of people in developing countries live within the menacing shadow of a shark attack. Sharks don't care if you are young or old, male or female, indigenous or, well, not. They strike indiscriminately. And without warning.

U.S. President George W. Bush has called sharks "dangerous, rogue fish-like paradigms that threaten freedom more than Three Mile Island combined." He has asked the U.S. Congress to approve his plan for a $500 billion National Anti-Shark Defense System, pledging to share the technology with "all backwater nations and foes alike, including our enemies."

The World Bank Group and Sharks

World Bank President James Wolfensohn has also recognized the danger sharks pose to global economic development. "Over half the world's population lives within the reach of sharks," said Wolfensohn. "And those least able to help themselves are tragically the most vulnerable."

In April 2002, the World Bank Group will launch a global initiative to reduce the impact of *Neoselachii* predation on emerging economies. Our goal is simple. We must ensure that all World Bank Group projects – from roads to breweries, from tobacco to social protection, from post-conflict to large dams – are completely shark-free by 2015.

It won't be easy. After all, sharks have a 200-million year head start, and they don't sleep. But the time and the tide are right for the World Bank to wade into these troubled waters and lend a hand – or at least a few fingers.

The World Bank Group
Taking a Bite Out of Poverty
www.worldbank.org/jaws

The Absurder by Boris Summor

The music at Newfoundland's premier nightspot, Kraker Jax, was mainly accordion solos, but we were so desperate after three nights with the locals that, with a little Newfy Screech (which will never put LVMH out of business, as I was telling Christian Dior and Ed Bronfman when we last lunched at Arpège with Jean-François), even old Lawrence Welk albums sounded good. Diners Club meant nothing when the planes were diverted, unless you count Tim Hortons where eventually we ate our way through the entire menu (as it were), thereby guaranteeing a happy winter for Jake and his wife down in Clearwater with the rest of the snowbirds. I complained to Florence how pitiful the SAP per diem for Gander turned out to be, even more miserly than Tokyo, but I had some sympathy when she told me how horribly Andrea had suffered for denying the claim for the BMW X5 rental "to get home for the MDs meeting" that some of our colleagues had tried. The hospitality of the good burghers, modest as it was, was exemplary, though the cot in the school gym was not as good for my back as a United First suite or my Aeron chair, and I've suffered since. It was in Gander, though, that I regained an appreciation for IFC investment officers, noisy and ill-mannered as they are, sober or drunk. As quickly as you could say "Argentina," they had put together a deal to co-finance a franchise of "club-it-yourself" Baby seal Tartare cafés. The Norwegian CTF rushed to contribute since, for all of Gro and Carl's huffing and puffing about the environment, this meant more whales for Oslo's rusting fleet to harvest in the iceberg fields off Newfoundland. At least they're not pretending it's for scientific research. We finally arrived back at Dulles via London. No double miles; must call Debbie.

After the *attentats*, we have fully re-evaluated our lives. I have rearranged my library and my DVDs. The children have given up protesting the IFIs, and gone back to protesting the makers of their Sorbonne t-shirts and FCUK jeans. Muffy and I have stopped buying house gifts at the Millennium Café, most of them being *verboten* under even the most generous definition of 'sweatshop.' I've been exercising regularly at the Fitness Center in case a sky marshal should prevail on me to offer assistance. (They are fit-looking men, and not all as buff as some of those JPAs, though competition for aisle seats is tough now with them there reading tawdry 600-page novels instead of classics in the original Greek, or even Sector Strategy Papers, which would, given their growing heft, make a deadly weapon.) My classes are paying off, and I'm pleased that I now can say "Put down that nail clipper!" in eleven languages. As I was telling Luis at Signatures, I do not relax up front until I've tossed back a Dom Perignon 1989, and I would never even think of wearing gym shoes when traveling. I prefer Gucci with cashmere socks, which are much easier for the G-5 to mend.

Although missions are far more pleasant now that IFC travels coach and stays at the modest hotels they finance, it has been quite a stressful year with all the various anthrax and flu and STD scares, and the toasted mail. (I had to apologize to Kofi, Mark, Tony, Vladimir and John Paul because their Christmas cards arrived only in March, baked to a delicate russet. We can no longer have Haleh send the unpasteurized Bleu d'Auvergne to the Bank, clearly labeled as "official" so it gets hand-carried chop-chop to my office, because by the time the U.S. Postal Service and Berna's goons are finished, we might as well just buy a Brie wheel at the Trader Joe's near Tysons, like all the other empty nesters in Logan Circle. But I digress.) We always endeavor to meet our full MIP deductible early in the year so we know how much optional work Aetna will pick up towards the summer. Deborah was very helpful about how to attribute the medical necessity of Botox to Cote d'Or sun damage (and not the real culprit: sitting in too many meetings and frowning, though there are far more expressionless faces in the conference rooms these days, and it's good to now know why). It is very convenient, though, to have our little medical 7-Eleven next to American Express and the Credit Union's Foreign Exchange office where we go to ensure the tenants' cheques for the Tuscany villa clear promptly. I do like HSD's new "frequent hypochondriac" service, a rare example of effective back-line reform. Since Bernard was up in MC13 at the Management Committee, personally checking residual Prozac levels and administering flu shots – and not in the upper arm, budget cut paybacks can be hell – it was too kind of Peter's armed guards to clear the line before I braved the depths of C2 for some prophylaxis. Peter and I go way back to when we were both testing how much vodka it took to get the varsity basketball cheerleaders to give us a private rehearsal.

We recently had a lovely, if somewhat windswept, dinner on Sven's new yacht, the *H/M Commutation*, though it's surprising that so much buys so little oceanic real estate these days, we agreed as we staggered down the gangplank to the Porsche. Because Muffy caught me and led me back to the rest of the assembled guests, who I must say were A-list, I did not catch the name of the pretty young lady in Legal, who is doing well for someone who's so recently joined. The Delphi octopus with Kalamata olives, served with vintage January retsina, was simply scrumptious and Muffy just had to ask the hostess for the recipe. Myrna had jetted in from BA, defending our mistakes (and the Fund's, but we're not supposed to breathe *a word*, for fear of risking Anne's wrath, not pretty as I recall from when she was dominating trade on our side of 19th Street). Myrna was luckily turning in for the night wearing a Christiane Amanpour flak vest and matching night goggles when the raging Porteño mobs outside her luxury flat cut the power, and she barely escaped with her life, a copy of the 1999 OPEs for the mission's ACS, and the office Christofle. Maarten couldn't make it, as usual, because he was skiing in Europe, as usual, and so the evildoers ran rampant. And we're not talking about Achim and his CRM thugs who refused to give INT its $2 million midyear supplement for more constables to check on hiring close relatives. Shengman was so annoyed that he handed them over to Jeffrey. But then again, not everyone can report to Shengman. Must ask Margarita.

I am *so* relieved that Lao Zhang was not summoned back to Beijing to run the preparations for the 2008 Summer Games, not only is he just fabulous making the LILs run on time, but chasing all the undocumented Falun Gong supporters out of the *hutongs* would be a challenge, even harder than cracking down on the myriad G-4 QAG STCs née retirees who bill 190 days per fiscal year, or dictating the reply to the flap over the WBVS "Religions of the World" series. Not to mention the ISDSs, which finally have found the unique balance between useless information and unworkable technology. I hear Mohamed weeps with joy at the mere thought, and ISG declared them "the best example of best practice since the SAP Travel Module." There's even a shrine to them on I-12. It's so nice to see Knowledge Sharing® finally pay off, especially on my flat-screen monitor.

Answer Line

This column propagates Bank policy as if it was advice from Ann Landers and provides a forum for disgruntled staff members to share their paranoia. Include your UPI number so we can record your insolence in your career file and notify your manager of your attitude. File all Answer Line columns under Catch-22 of your Staff Manual, and commit to memory. You will be tested later.

Question: I retired with an MAS in 1998 (my Director is an old friend). I am now a short-term consultant (still on a G4 visa) with the identical work program. I keep hitting my 190-day limit. Why does the Bank impose this restriction?
Answer: The 190-day policy is modeled after the MIP annual maximum on dental expenses. We don't know why you don't understand it. *Deborah Wright and Margaret Russo, Managers, HR Service Center*.

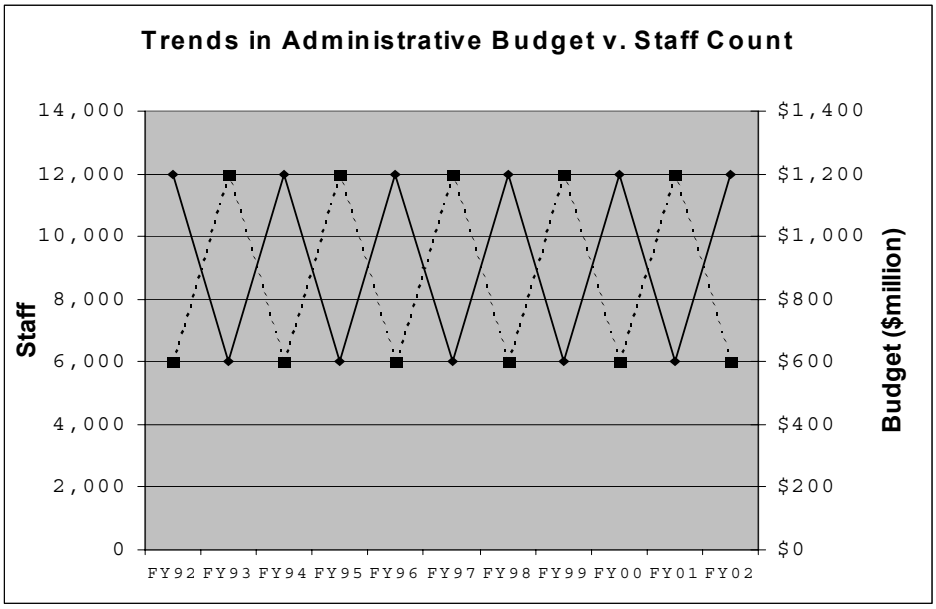
Question: My IFC colleagues and I are concerned that the new emphasis on cost-cutting will harm our core work programs. What, if anything, can be done to reduce costs without damaging our ability to deliver essential services?
Answer: If we stick together, we'll endure these tough times until the Senior Manager of CCBIC retires. *Christian Grossman, Director, CCBDR.*

Question: I know that the Bank faces another huge underrun this year. As a manager, what can I do to help?
Answer: Your commitment to corporate goals is commendable. Here are some targets which if reached could eliminate the underrun: 125,321 flat-screen displays; 176,991 PDAs; 28,074 trips on the *Dandy*; 579 retreats in Rio; 1,142 events at Wye; 85 prepayments on your VPU's FY03 bill under the MSLA; 736 new videoconference rooms; 20,133 $5,000 P-card purchases; 35,100 afternoons in the Mayflower Hotel's Presidential Suite; 3,361,101 copies of *The Elusive Quest For Growth*; or 182,802 Aeron chairs. You must expense your purchases and take delivery by June 30, 2002, 4 p.m. *Achim von Heynitz, Director, CRM.*

Question: I am a coordinator for the United Way Campaign this year. I was using the on-line pledge system to make a contribution by payroll deduction, but I can't find IFC in the list of registered charities. Any ideas?
Answer: This year, we are only accepting cash. You can bring it directly to my office in F11K-102. No Argentina pesos. *Peter Woicke, Executive Vice President, IFC.*

Staff Counts

In an effort to nail down actual staff counts in the World Bank Group, the Staff Association is quietly investigating what is suspected as management's "dirty little secret" – the Bank Group employs thousands of "unofficial" staff, none of whom receive deserved benefits. A senior SA source confided to *Bank Swirled* that the global Bank numbers are hopelessly inconsistent. Dashboard shows 8,276 regular staff, GSD has 12,539 offices, HR has 17,231 on the payroll, Notes has 19,231 accounts, there are 16,438 parking spaces at HQ, and there 26,941 ED3 workstations. "Maybe a few thousand people live in West Virginia at the Business Continuity Center, we just can't tell," stated the confidential source. "The only thing that is clear is that when the budgets go up, the staff counts go down."



Today on B-SPAN

6:15 a.m. *I, Shengman* (Episode 2243). Joanne Salop admits that the counting of kilometers of roads built has been less accurate than promised, because some roads were incorrectly tagged as "expenses promoting maternal and child health among disadvantaged and excluded minorities," the same as condoms. The MD summons Minouche to explain.

9 a.m. Highlights of the Winter International Development Olympiad from Kabul including the Brazen Post-Conflict Assumptions slalom and the Gap-Fill luge. In the cultural program, judges review recent PRSPs and other fiction.

10 a.m. *Touched by a Manager*. JPAs share promotion ideas.

11 a.m. *I, Shengman* (Episode 2244). Surveying the monthly OVP meeting, the MD realizes that he's never met 14 of his direct-reports. Further investigation reveals that four of them are dead and one, a woman, is actually a man. Julie Oyegun is summoned to advise if this improves the diversity numbers, and is given two hours to report back.

12 noon. *24*. Officer Bhimji learns to use his new pistol on a surprising target. But does Aetna covers gunshot wounds?

1 p.m. *The Weakest Link*. Network VPs debate who has done the least to rid the world of poverty. Robert Picciotto hosts and interjects freely. This won't be streamed to Intranet so Internal Communications can plant 45 people in the MC Atrium and claim it was 2,000. Call 1-800-ITSPREM to vote.

1:30 p.m. *CSI*. INT, OPCFM, OPCPR, LOA, ACT, OED, TQC and IAD fight over who takes the lead on the latest misuse of Trust Funds. See how Jeffrey settles the controversy.

4 p.m. *Kathy!* The HRS Vice President interviews the winner and first runner-up of the 2002 Miss ACS contest.

6 p.m. *Six Feet Under*. Dave de Ferranti compares the IMF program for Argentina to "putting lipstick on a dead pig."

6:30 p.m. *Entertainment Tonight*. Remaining members of the 5Ms, Mamphela, Minouche, Mieko and Myrna, and manager Matt Minahan, explain why Motoo went to Mali.

7:30 p.m. *Survivor (Paris)*. The VPs fight over an apartment with the best view of the Eiffel Tower.

8 p.m. *Morallina in the Middle*. The SA Chair negotiates between the left and the far left on the SAEC during an argument about whether to speak to the *WSJ* or the *FT*.

9 p.m. *Law and Order: Criminal Intent*. Paul Cadario and Achim von Heynitz host hidden camera filming of non-aligned, non-standard and unstreamlined CTF allocations.

10 p.m *X-Files*. Mohamed Muhsin tries futilely to convince the Board that the Business Continuity Center will protect the Bank from the aliens. IFC goes over to the Dark Site.

10:30 p.m. *Friends*. A hilarious account of promotion to GI.

11:30 p.m. *I, Shengman* (Episode 2245). Joanne Salop shows the MD her new counting tool, an abacus. Convinced, the MD summons Mohamed Muhsin to a 1 a.m. meeting to order him to replace SAP with abaci by 9 a.m., but the CIO resists, claiming more bandwidth is required than GDLN will give up, and that CRM will not agree to use capital funding. Frannie Leautier and Anil Sood are summoned to a 2 a.m. meeting to explain.

Out	In
CTFs	BB
Economy to business	Business to first
Innovation	Integrity
Disclosure	Websites
QAG	TQC
Arthur Andersen	IAD
Home Leave	Sick Leave
Donors	Partners
Private sector	Partners
NGOs	Partners
Spouses	Partners
Opus Dei	GLOBE
M&E	Measurement
The Homestead	F-Building
Business Continuity Center	FIRM-H
GDLN	Discovery Channel
Scrounging	Spending
IBRD to IFC Reassignment	IFC to IBRD Reassignment
Staff Association	AFL-CIO
Bank's World Today	WSJ On-line
David Ellerman	Bill Easterly
SA Delegate Assembly	Loya Jirga
Preston Auditorium	Prescott Auditorium
Palm Pilots	BlackBerry's
Webmasters	Information Assistants
HTML	Vignette
Project Preparation	PAD Annex 6
Yen	Euros
AISs	IBTFs
Fighting with CRM	Fighting with Legal
Economists	Fiduciary Staff

HSD
JOINT BANK/FUND
Health Services Department

BUG BYTE
Traveler's Health Information

BIO-TERRORISM

The dedicated staff of the Joint Bank/Fund Health Services Department are fully prepared to survive any bio-terrorist event. How about you? The following Q&A should put you at ease.

Does the Bank have a plan in the event of a bio-terrorist attack?

The Joint Bank/Fund Health Services Department has a comprehensive reaction plan to bio-terrorism:

> Staff who joined the Bank Group on or before April 14, 1998 are in the "Original" Exposure Plan. These staff will be given state-of-the-art hazmat suits, and will be escorted immediately to a place of safety. Once there, they will be fully checked for exposure, decontaminated, and monitored. A spouse (domestic partner) to whom a staff member was married (partnered) on the date of the attack also receives similar service.

> Staff who joined the Bank Group on or after April 15, 1998 are in the new "Flexible" Exposure Plan. In event of bio-terrorist attack, Flex Plan staff should continue to work in their offices. Eventually, if scientists or military personnel so instruct, they should evacuate.

What do I do if I am infected?

Grab your Joint Bank/Fund Health Services Department Bio-Terrorism Kit. The kit contains a bottle of Joint Bank/Fund Health Services Department Bio-Terrorism Cream®. Rub it on your skin where you were exposed. If you do not have a bio-terrorism kit at hand, use hand lotion. Conversely, if you ever need hand lotion, you can use your bottle of Joint Bank/Fund Health Services Department Bio-Terrorism Cream®. After you have treated yourself, contact us via e-mail, phone or fax. No walk-in visits, please.

I've been having a secret affair with my manager for almost two months. Yesterday morning a perfumed letter arrived in his mail box. My curiosity got the better of me and I opened it. Inside was a Valentine's Day card from his wife along with a lot of white powder. Today I've got a really bad flu. Should I tell him?

It's never easy to tell that "special manager" that your body may be host to millions of deadly spores, but tell him you must! (See Staff Rule 3.01, Section 4.) If he really cares for you, he'll take Cipro and keep sleeping with you on the side. If he calls it off, then pick your heart up off the floor and blackmail him for a promotion and a transfer.

I work in a Country Office. If I am exposed to bio-terrorism, what should I do?

Stay there.

The Joint Bank/Fund Health Services Department reminds you to be careful.

Your Automatic DIRECTORY PROFILE

These helpful web profiles are created automatically for all staff
by HR, GSD, ISG and INT. *"We work together to add value."*

Hello. I'm **Heindrickson, R.W.**

I joined the Bank in 1984 as an NRS and 1990 as staff. I have been in Grade GG for the past 9.2 years. I have applied for 4 new position(s) in the past 12 months. I was included on 0 short list(s). I have 0 Tribunal case(s) pending. I received my green card in 1991. I did not inform Benefits. My average monthly Diners Club balance unrelated to World Bank business is US$530.11. My most common expense is PhoneLove900.com, Las Vegas, NV.

Office Information Summary

I arrive at the Main Complex at 9:59 a.m., G Street entrance and leave from the IMF at 4:22 p.m., cafeteria exit. I take 1.54 hour(s) for lunch, outside the Bank. I spend 28.2% of my time in my office, 19.0% of my time drinking coffee, and 11.4% of my time in the MC8-211 men's bathroom, stall 2.

Source: ID scans, security cameras and voice mail.
Contact: P. Gallant x84426

Personal Information

I visit the Health Clinic 3.2 times per year and I am composed of 17.5% body fat (last Bank physical). Last year, I made 3 unwanted sexual advance(s) to colleagues and 0 unwanted sexual advances to clients. I am currently taking the prescribed medication(s): Prozac Lipitor. I forget my SAP/Notes/Domino password an average of 5.1 times per year and my overall Competency Rating is Low.

Competency Ratings are relative to staff of comparable grade, gender and nationality.
Contact: J. Oyegun x82865

Network Information

I receive 51 e-mails per day on average. My favorite correspondent is: kim@phonelove900.com. I send the most emails to: editor@financialtimes.uk, kim@phonelove900.com. The words or phrases I use most often in my emails are: management, idiots, gerbils, revenge. My most frequently called (billable) long-distance phone number is: 900-FONELUV. My most frequently-visited web sites are: Financial Times, Persian Ladies of Wrestling, Pension Calculator, Job World.

My overall "Sphere of Influence" rating is Low (based on email and telephone logs).

Training

The last course/seminar I attended was: Coping with a Difficult and Incompetent Manager.

Interactive Features

Email my Manager!

Watch me Live on Office-Cam!

Add to my OPE (anonymously)

Start a discussion about me

Syntactical and grammatical analysis of user's documents and emails					
Sample: 2,137 scanned emails; 87 scanned documents.					
Spelling Errors	361	Punctuation Errors	169	Clausal Errors	1824
Verb Complement Errors	1442	Inflectional Errors	949	Misused Words / Idioms	217
Misplaced / Dangling Modifiers	263	Adverbials as Nominals	771	Jargon / Clichés	9566

If you believe any information about you is incorrect, please contact the HR, GSD and ISG Help Desks.

You are visitor:
1949

Around the World Bank

IFC VP for Human Resources Dorothy Berry appeared on a fourth floor F-building balcony today to offer advice to IFC staff who were 'caught' in the recent debacle over IFC investments in Argentina. Backed by Arthur Andersen auditors, she sang *Don't Cry For Me, IFC* and other torch songs from Broadway musicals. IFC Executive Vice President Peter Woicke, who was conferring in Aspen with former Enron CEO Ken Lay and his lawyers, was unavailable for comment, but e-mailed *Bank Swirled* that "any similarity of IFC's situation to Enron is purely coincidental. And, I had no stock to dump." The e-mail will be reprinted in tomorrow's *Financial Times* ("The Daily Journal of The World Bank Group").

CIO Mohamed Muhsin and INT Director Maarten de Jong today announced a new partnership with the *Wall Street Journal*. The WSJ will receive daily back-up tapes of all World Bank Group e-mail, and in return, INT will act against "any Quisling whose e-mail formed the basis for a story." Unconfirmed reports indicate that the investigation by INT for such infractions as keeping your MC parking space even though you sold your car, using Kathy Sierra's ID photo picture for an article in the Staff Association newsletter, or living on the same block as a *Washington Post* reporter, will depend on several factors, including whether the story appears above or below the fold on the front page, whether Peter Woicke's name is spelled correctly, and whether Mamphela Ramphele's salary is correctly quoted.

World Bank President Jim Wolfensohn has been added to this year's line-up of claymation figures competing in the popular MTV show, *Celebrity Death Match*. The episode, to be aired next month, includes a team rumble pairing U2 lead singer Bono with Wolfensohn against claymation representations of U.S. President George W. Bush and Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill. "This is a unique opportunity for the Bank to communicate to a younger audience that is underexposed to our Millennium Development Goals," explained EXT's Caroline Anstey, who took credit for the idea.

IFC Manager Geoff Willing emerged today bloodied from his cost-cutting efforts to announce that IFC would create its own Business Continuity Center, as soon as a 600 sq. ft. *pied-á-terre* was rented near IFC headquarters for the EVP and his closest colleagues.

OED Director Gregory Ingram and DGO Robert Picciotto today announced the formation of the World Bank "Axis of Eval" to put an end to managers using "it's a good thing" to justify everything from budget increases to trust fund usage to close relatives appointments to flying on non-preferred airlines. Paul Bermingham and Armando Araujo promptly countered with the formation of the "Axis of More Eval" because everyone knows there are more fiduciary staff than ACS, and OPCS is more important than everyone.

HRS today announced an investigation into the selling of indulgences, or, more colloquially, "Get Out of the Inspection Panel Free" cards. Reported abuses include tinkering with QAG flags so that a project is only at risk if all the disbursements find their way to account 975967-538 at the Credit Union, the money is used for extravagant going-away presents at A-list farewell parties, and there are no audited financial statements in ARCS. This simplification of fiduciary duties is fully warranted because the three financial analysts who know how to use SAP don't wish to. Further, not keeping records avoids the need to shred them later.

Intellisynch, a software package designed for sophisticated synchronization between Lotus Notes and PDA devices like Palm Pilots, was again rejected by ISG engineers today, who favor the bug-ridden and cumbersome HotSync package. The decision came after tests showed Intellisynch worked perfectly, and was therefore non-compliant with ISG's Information Strategy.

WBIVP Frannie Leautier expressed concern today that WBI's new organization chart had omitted fourteen boxes and associated connectors "because the Learning Board had removed funding for the advanced course in PowerPoint." The matter came to light this morning when United Airlines filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. A spokesperson for United, Debbie Horrell, said that because trip requests for the 236 GDLN staff in the affected units had ended up in Bono's SAP in-box (who lacked an approver profile), the airline suspended service to 14 European capitals since business-class cabins were empty. Staff who wish to view the full WBI organization chart may access www.virginiadot.gov and search for an aerial map of the "Mixing Bowl" interchange in Springfield.

AFRVP Callisto Madavo announced today a reorganization of AFR country departments. In an effort to be selective and improve efficiency, AFR1 will be "Countries with CDFs," AFR2 will be "Countries with Open Elections," AFR3 will be "Countries with Rigged Elections" and AFR4 will be "Zimbabwe."

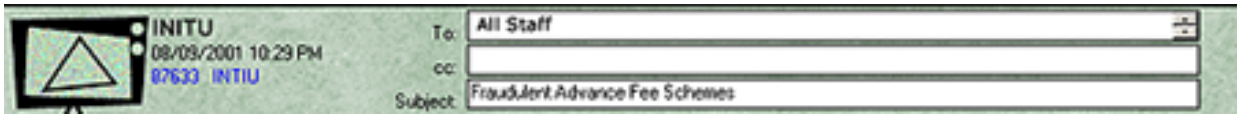
The SEC today asked the World Bank for information related to the accounting treatment of its off-the-books entities such as GDLN, the Development Gateway, the Innovation Marketplace, the Institutional Development Fund, and IFC. SEC Chief Harvey Pitt said that while he could see hiding the subsidies to the GDLN and Gateway in ISG's Master Service Level Agreement, he had to draw the line at casino and brewery investments in Argentina. Speaking on behalf of Mohamed Muhsin, who was hosting the Gateway's website after its private ISP went out of business, Rakesh Asthana said, "Sure the GDLN and Gateway costs are there. Go find them." ITSB Chair Paul Cadario has invited ISG accounting staff to meet with Pitt in TQC's soundproof, padded conference room.

HR Manager John Lavelle today issued instructions that "Warlord" is not an acceptable title on business cards that staff charge to their unit's budget. GSD also has instructions to not print cards with titles like Office Goddess, Principal Lust Object, Chief Storyteller or Partner in Good, on the grounds that existing titles like Operations Officer, Advisor, or JPA are far more descriptive to civil society, our clients and partners. South Asia and Central Asia country directors protested, saying that "Warlord is an accepted term where we lend, and everyone knows perfectly well what a warlord does." Speaking from the CRM Briefing Cave in MC-C5-590, CRM Senior Manager Yusupha Crookes overruled Lavelle, saying that "in an era of abundance, people should call themselves whatever they want." Crookes also urged managers to "purchase as many business cards as possible before June 30, 2002."

Today, I got a CTF, hired a consultant, and paid my children's school fees.

RMC

A New Standard of Care
For Other People's Money



To All Staff,

Bank Group staff continue to receive a large number of advance fee fraud letters. If you receive this type of letter from Australia, we ask that you forward it to our unit (see the example letter attached). Under no circumstances should you reply. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Investigations Unit (INTIU)

FROM: MR. JAMES WOLFENSOHN - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

ATTN : FELLOW GLOBALIZATION VISIONARY
SUBJECT: INVESTMENT PROPOSAL

Dear Sir,

I am MISTER JAMES D. WOLFENSOHN. I located you courtesy of the International Directory of BMW Owners and deemed it fit to contact You with this urgent business proposal.

I was the President of the IBRD (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) in the United States of America (USA) before I was removed by a political coup carried out by the disgruntled Republican Party. When these Republicans struck I was forced to flee to Australia and leave behind a treasure containing the total sum of US $23.000.000 (Twenty-three Million US Dollars Only) which was part of the cash under my control within the Presidential Fund of The IBRD.

With the help of a budget officer whose job has since been off-shored to India, I was able to hide this large sum of money in an SAP internal order for safe-keeping where it remains undetected to this day.

Right now the political situation within the USA has worsened and I am unable to return. I am seeking a partner like You with Vision who shall serve as the Guardian of my fund and with whom I can plan the best way to move this money for investment purposes which is my motive for contacting you.

You are requested thusly to assist in the following manner:

1) That you shall provide a good bank account where my funds could be transferred without detection;
2) That You shall assist in providing first class air tickets to meet me and My Legal Representatives in a European country such as Switzerland to discuss details of money transfer.

For these services a suitable percentage (%) of these funds will be credited to you. You will also be appointed as a vice president of WBI or other Organisation suitable.

Having stated the above clearly, I expect to receive your cooperation soonest as I do not intend to have this initiative delayed by anyone, especially one of my vice presidents.

Please reply to me via email and treat this proposal as highly confidential. I await your urgent assistance on this Matter.

Thank you and God Bless.

Yours Truly, JAMES D. WOLFENSOHN
email: jdw@au.yahoo.com

Robot Succumbs

INT investigators continue to run into dead ends as they attempt to discover how Robby the Mail Robot contracted and died of an anthrax-like illness last week. "At this stage of the game," said INT Director Maarten de Jong, "we have absolutely no idea where Robby was exposed to the deadly bacteria."

Robby died on Wednesday, five days after he was admitted to his closest warranty repair center in Rockville, Md. He had been suffering from sluggish movement, overheating, and other symptoms.

The investigation has focused on his frequent visits to a battery maintenance office adjacent to the MC-Cafeteria. However, more than 100 samples of food taken from the cafeteria have turned up nothing but the usual e-coli, salmonella and giardia.

An epidemiologist who maintains a database of deadly bacteria for Marriott-Sodexho said it was fairly easy to swab bacterial cultures from Robby. "He's got removable paper filters, like a car. The manufacturer recommends you change them once a year, and more often in an bacteria-rich environment, like the Bank."

A memorial service for Robby will be held in the MC Atrium today. Mr. Wolfensohn and Bono will perform a duet cello medley of Robby's favorites, including *Return to Sender* and *I Walk the Line*.

Fly the Friendly Skies

Confronted with daily temper tantrums by Bank staff in many of the world's major airports, United Airlines announced today that all business class mission travel would henceforth be automatically upgraded to first class. "When you're headed to the poorest regions of the world, you should definitely go in style," said a United spokesperson. United also announced a plan to separate the back sections of its planes into "Standard Economy" and "Economy Plus" (which offers one inch of additional leg room). According to United, this will enhance the travel experience for Bank staff, who will now travel with three classes below them instead of two. However, some travelers may note that United has simply codified its long tradition of strategically seating its lowest paying customers in subclasses like Next to Obese Man Economy, Near the Toilets Economy, and Behind a Crying Baby Economy.

Speaking on the condition of anonymity, former Staff Association Chairman Jamil Sopher applauded United's new policy during a recent visit to the First Class Lounge at Dulles Airport. "Even when I'm not flying, I like to stop by for the free munchies," he exclaimed.

Sopher's successor, Morallina George, is now concentrating on ground issues. After nearly two years of preparation, George will soon unveil an aggressive campaign to raise per diems, noting that two-thirds of Bank travelers exist on less than $50 a day.

ANDERSEN

You just might need us to audit those CTFs.

Now Playing at the World Bank Gigaplex

A Beautiful Mind. Story of the psychotic collaboration on the new Sectors and Themes tags, only to find that sectors and themes are a figment of their team leader's imagination. English subtitles. Mass ACS uprising and bloody sacking of the 10th floor form the thrilling end to an otherwise tedious and derivative screenplay. Parental Warning: normalization.

We Were Soldiers. Retirees reminisce about how mining, port and highway appraisals have prepared them for lifelong employment and tax-free pensions as short-term G-4 consultants to QAG.

Lord of the Rings. From the director of *Babette's Feast*, Luis Descaire and the SA's Environmental Working Group test Sodexho's new no-transgenic fats cooking oil and its impact on deep-fried onion rings and calamari. Lipitor available (staff in Option C should bring cash).

In the Bedroom. Career development documentary. Parental and HRSVP guidance advised. Thought to be fictional, but based on true stories, despite denials.

Return to Neverland. John Alvey's one-man show about NRS pensions and first class home leave entitlements.

Big Fat Liar. Accountability review at the IMF for the last Article 4 on Argentina finds that the reports for Indonesia, Korea and Thailand were identical, word-for-word. Parental Warning: arrogance, finger-pointing and long waits for subsidized, sales tax-free lunches.

Big Fat Liar 2. Vice presidents deny underruns and demand even more budget for FY03, saying that all underruns and overruns are SAP's fault.

Monsoon Wedding. New Learning Board offering on the real story behind the alliance between ISG and Satyam Computer Services. You will be tested, but not certified.

Pigment Impaired Hawk Down. Culturally sensitive documentary short about ESSD's efforts to save wildlife near the IFC building (four minutes).

The Son's Room. The Stern family plots to secure a JPA position for a close relative while the Staff Association plans countermeasures.

Wye Park. Upstairs/downstairs drama about *The Challenge of Leadership* and whether tipping from Bank staff increases as a function of how messy the rooms are, or as a function of whether the room occupancy was single or double.

Iris. Horror story about how the security staff who compare your face to your ID cards are actually biometric scanning robots, and what happens when they run amok.

Resident Evil. What goes on behind the scanner-secured doors on MC-8 for Ethics and Integrity will curl your hair.

40 Days and 40 Nights. As the fiscal year draws to an end, managers hit Best Buy and Scan for flat screen displays and Aeron chairs.

Ice Age. How long will Bill Easterly's leave of absence last?

Imagine a Bank Overflowing With Knowledge...
The dream lives on, thanks to you!

Greetings, Indigenous Person! Thanks for sharing your knowledge with your partners from the World Bank. Since our campaign began two years ago, we've collected literally thousands of ideas from caring, indigenous people like you all over the developing world.

As Bank staff begin to leverage your knowledge, you'll finally be able to reap the benefits of what you know. It will be a lot of hard work for us, but many of us think you're worth it.

Still, the job's not over. We still depend on contributions from generous, free-range knowledge hosts like yourself to keep our efforts alive.

So, when someone from the World Bank Group visits your village collecting indigenous knowledge, give generously. And quickly, so we don't miss our flight back to Paris.

Helping Us Help You Means Helping Yourself.®

General Services Department

To ensure Bank staff continue to enjoy the highest quality food and condiments, the table salt served in World Bank cafeterias will no longer contain whitening agents, oxidants, caking agents, curing agents, drying agents, firming agents, surface active agents, surface finishing agents, pH control agents, emulsifiers, humectants, sequestrants, stabilizers, texturizers, USDA Grade A enriched unbromated flour, or live cockroaches.

Thank you.

FT.com FINANCIAL TIMES

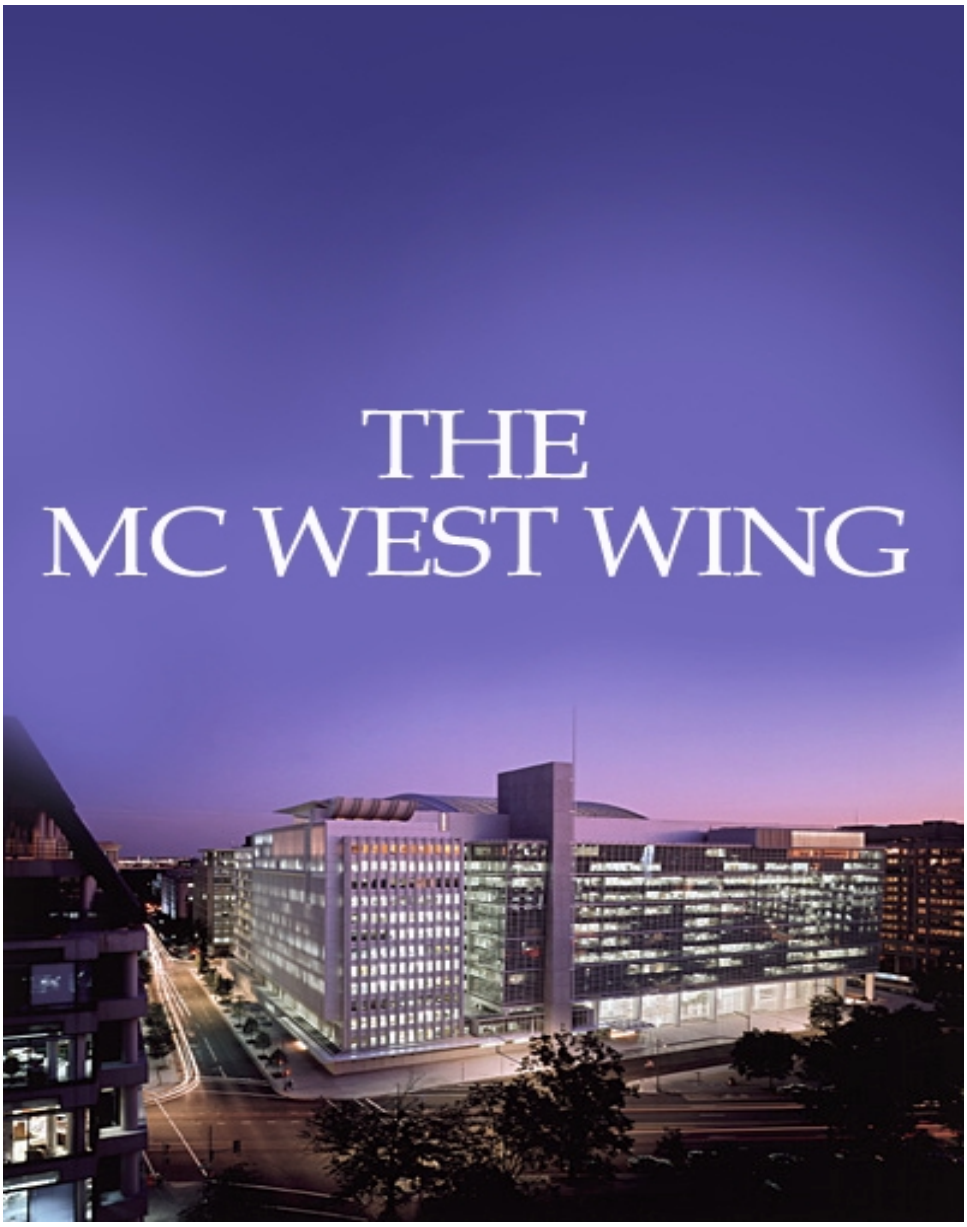
Private sector experience via the Staff Exchange Program without leaving your office!

Attention Hiring Managers!

Did you ever wonder how to calculate the likely success of your most recent recruit? How long will she stay? How hard will he work? Who will she harass? How much will he steal? At last the answer is available in this real-time ED3-compatible candidate assessment system, brought to you by your friends in HR's Recruitment Unit. Be the first in your network to try our new Recruitment Success® software!

Here's how it works. Each candidate starts with a score of 10. Points are added or taken away as indicated. It's fast! It's cheap! It's reliable! Try it on <u>your</u> next vacancy!

For every visible piercing other than ears	-1 unless it's an HD position
For every hidden piercing	+5 if you can persuade the candidate to show it to you; +7 if you predicted the location; +10 if you decide to get one yourself; +15 if the candidate can do it during the interview
Mentions stock options in the interview	Bank: -5; IFC: +1 (don't mention there aren't any)
Candidate falls asleep	+1 for positive contribution to work-life balance
Former Arthur Andersen or Enron employee	+1 for creativity and problem-solving ability; +2 if Maarten de Jong was a reference (IFC only)
Turns up late and smells of alcohol	+1 for afternoon interview; -1 for morning interview
Lists Ombudsman as reference	-2 unless candidate uses gender-neutral and politically-correct "Ombudsperson"
Calls you to ask status during 16-month average shortlisting period	-5 for behavior suggesting high maintenance employment
Resume in PowerPoint	-4 for megalomania; -6 if it's on an iMac
Resume on DVD	+1 for each inclusion of leather, a hood or a whip
Sends you cash or imported chocolates	+6 for initiative and client orientation
Candidate says "as I was telling Jim..."	+2 (better safe than sorry)
For every year under age 30 if male	-1 (if you wanted a JPA, you would have called Lavelle)
For every year under age 30 if female	+1 if you are male
For each book published since 1970	+1 for network anchor positions only
For each accusation of plagiarism in books published	+1 for KM positions only
Term Staff approaching "4-year rule"	+1 if they plead on their knees; -1 if they think Shahid Husain will waive the rule again
Muscles and a cute butt	-1 (will spend too much time in the Fitness Center)
All replies start with "In the private sector..."	-3 (it will get old after about three weeks)
Candidate says, "the Bank must be a great place to work…"	+2 for gamesmanship; +5 if you think they mean it (but refer to HSD for counseling appointment)
Candidate says, "I'd do this job even with a pay cut..."	-2 for lying
Candidate finagles Bank-paid business class ticket from economy class interview travel entitlement	+10 for highly relevant skills



Winner of
17 Development Marketplace Grants
and
1 Emmy Award for Best Deniable Implausibility

Rated ★★★★ by Zagat's

The MC West Wing

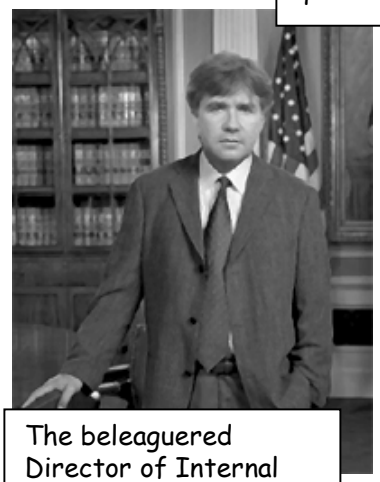
"Do You Know the Way to Monterrey?"

A Production of the World Bank Group, Caroline Anstey, B-SPAN, and MDBs Around the World.

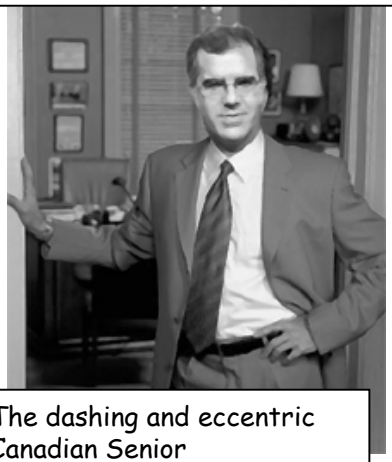
Additional Funding from the Board, an Outrageous Underrun, and VPs Who Don't Believe that the Headroom Restriction Has Been Lifted.

Loyal Chief-of-Staff to the President and recovering ex-Director from Operations….

As a service to our many fans, here's a quick bio of the main characters….



The beleaguered Director of Internal Communications…



The dashing and eccentric Canadian Senior Communications Officer…

The French Knowledge Manager and HR spokesperson…

The tireless Communications Associate in the Wolfensohn Bank….

The Belgian who smokes AND writes….

The brilliant and devoted essayist….

… and a webmaster who appears in the credits but has no lines written for him in this episode…

The mysterious Assistant to the Director…

In the previous episode, the President's Events Coordinator leaves the Bank… EXC is in panic prior to Senior Power Engineers Appreciation Day and the Monterrey Conference….

President Wolfensohn summons his Chief-of-Staff to MC-12…

Some ex-official from Nigeria called to ask help transferring funds. I tried to call him back at 1-809-something, but I've been on hold for almost an hour….

And what about those aboriginal dancers for the Power Engineers? Oh… and lose the mimes!

"Yes, Mr. President?"

Meanwhile, in the Press Room, the HR spokesperson fields questions from the Staff Association…

… 4 years, or 3 years in one contract and 1 year in another, OR 2 years and 2 years, OR 2 years and 1 year and 1 year….

"But what about NRS past pension credits?"

Please, go away….

At the same time, the Sr. Communications Officer has to be convinced to meet with a delegation of Country Directors looking for help with their staff communications….

You're going to march right into that conference room and smile, be charming, and helpful! Oh! And don't forget to tell them that there are only 5 things anyone needs to know about Argentina. ONLY 5.

I better wear my Burberry…

Look. Baird's retiring and they've already named his successor…. Can't I just e-mail them a link to our website and do some real news?

Meanwhile, a crisis brews….

… Why yes, Mr. President. Now what's the story with Argentina these days?

Well, Hamid, officially we only know 5 things about Argentina…. But let me tell you the <u>real</u> story….

I wonder why that bloke from *FT* is smiling?

(… an open microphone in the Presidential Dining Room…)

Almost immediately, the Argentine President and the head of the Screen Actors Guild call EXT to protest, the yen collapses in London trading, US interest rates rise by 10 basis points, psychiatrists world-wide march in protest, IFC posts a record profit, anti-Bank protesters repaint their puppets bright pink and add blue knickers, the *Post* reruns articles on G5 abuse, the White House renews its calls for more grants, the EU bans animal testing of pimple cream, and traveling staff demand upgrades to first class….

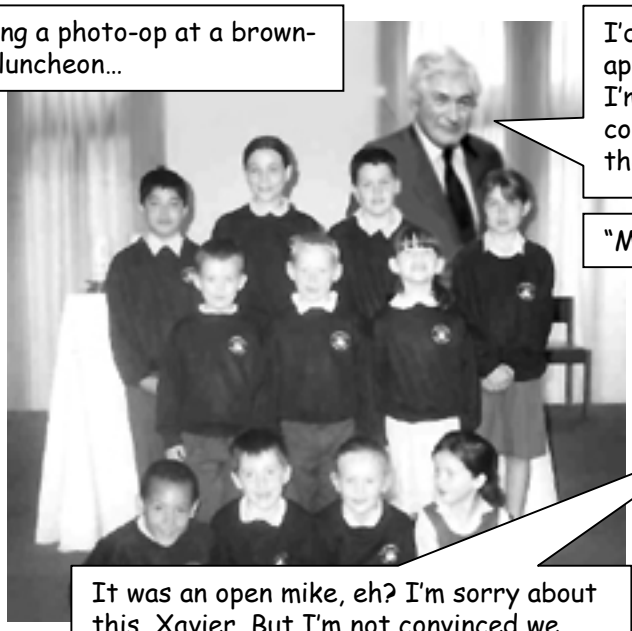
Xavier, did you just hear what happened? Next thing we know, Sodexho will want to renegotiate the contract for food services…. We need to communicate with everyone now….

I already have 3 voice-mail messages from John Sweeney asking about our policy on unionized lingerie models who wear sensible shoes….

You mean use the Instant Message to All Staff Workstations? I'll have to talk to the President, Morallina and Shengman….

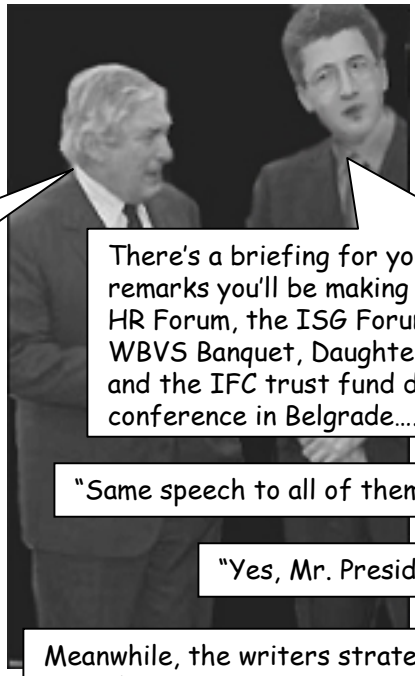
"… but Shengman's on a mission to Porto Segura. I don't know if we can reach him…."

During a photo-op at a brown-bag luncheon…



I'd just like to say how much I appreciate the work of the JPAs and I'm sure we'll be able to address your concerns over pensions and benefits in the coming days….

"Mr. President, we've got a situation…"

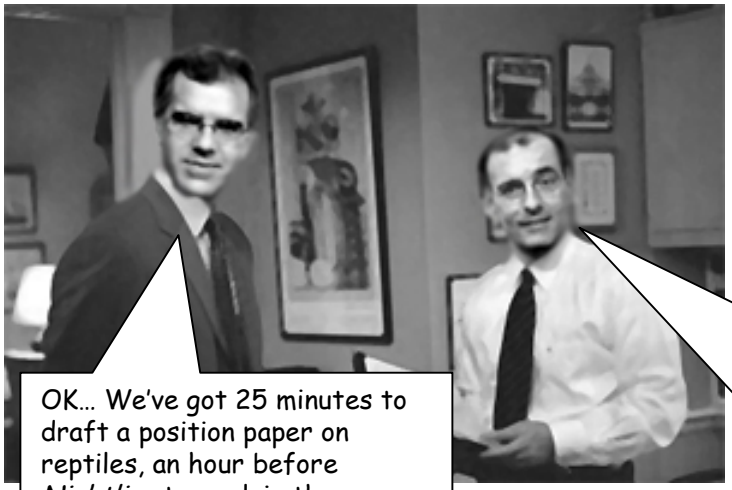


It was an open mike, eh? I'm sorry about this, Xavier. But I'm not convinced we need to push the button or call Shengman yet…. Let's let Gerry handle it…. What's next on my schedule?

There's a briefing for you on the remarks you'll be making to the HR Forum, the ISG Forum, the WBVS Banquet, Daughter's Day and the IFC trust fund donors' conference in Belgrade….

"Same speech to all of them?"

"Yes, Mr. President…"



Meanwhile, the writers strategize over the message….

Well… We also need something for Monterrey and make sure that the sound system is working in the Atrium when the aboriginal dancers perform for the Power Engineers… If we could use mimes, this wouldn't be an issue…. The *Post* keeps calling to find out about the guards' new weaponry, too. What do I tell them? After today, we shouldn't mention "leather" either, should we?

OK… We've got 25 minutes to draft a position paper on reptiles, an hour before *Nightline* to explain the new operational policy on polyester, and another urgent note on coffeemakers for Woicke….

I didn't think the President said anything controversial… except that joke about the Dalai Lama, Larry Summers and an alligator…

"Hmmmmm… Do you think the balloons and flowers are too over the top? I mean for the Power Engineers?"

Gerry advises immediate "damage control…."

I assure you that Dr. Krueger's remarks were her own and don't reflect the real reason why we created a "Crisis Countries" department… Neither does it reflect on any position we may or may not have concerning Aetna,,,

Why do I keep calling him Caio?

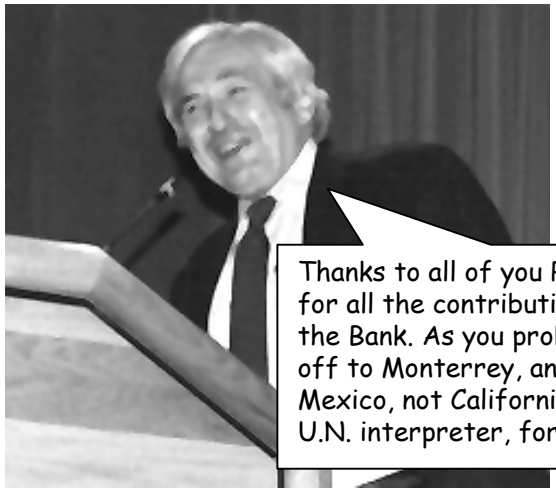
I think it's going well. Your next event is the Power Engineers thing….

OK… the numbers are looking good. Based on the latest instant survey, 20% believe that Bahasa should be an official language of the Bank. 3% thought Opus Dei was the name of Bono's band. And 75% said the sea bass was really good and didn't care if it was endangered…. Michele, could you brief HR and the press?

But what about JDW's remarks this morning…

At no time was any MD involved, no. Next question?

"What will the President say in Monterrey?"



Thanks to all of you Power Engineers for all the contributions you make to the Bank. As you probably know, I'm off to Monterrey, and I mean Mexico, not California -- I'm not a U.N. interpreter, for God's sake…

NEXT WEEK:

"What Spring Meetings?"