

Trip to India and Dubai on behalf of MSOE  
February 16, 2006 to March 3, 2006

My first stop was in Delhi, India, where I met with representatives of Wisdom Mart (an SAT/TOEFL test preparation service that also provides admissions counseling), USEFI (a joint U.S.-Indian government venture associated with the Fulbright Foundation) and AS Educational Consultants (a small (2-person) educational consultation service). WisdomMart (<http://www.wisdommart.com/index2.htm>) is a very professional, growing organization with 6 offices in the Delhi area. I made 2 presentations to 10 + 2, (high school) students, their parents and Wisdom Mart faculty. USEFI (<http://www.fulbright-india.org/>) has 4 offices in India. I visited USEFI's Delhi location and spoke with administrators there. AS Educational Consultants is operated by Mr. P. K. Pradhan. I met with Mr. Pradhan and gathered information on a possible business relationship between MSOE and AS Educational Consultants.

My next stop was in Manipal, India. In Manipal, I met with Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG) and the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) corporate officers (Dr. Ranjan Pai, CEO of MEMG International and Dr. H. Vinod Bhat, MAHE (<http://www.manipal.edu/index.htm>) Registrar) and International Center for Applied Sciences (ICAS) officials (Prof. U. D. Kamath and Dr. G. M. J. Bhat). ICAS is part of MAHE which in turn is part of MAMG. Dr. Pai expressed a strong interest in enhancing and expanding the relationship between his institutions and MSOE. I discussed MSOE curricular changes with the ICAS officials. I also made a presentation to an assembly of their students and distributed gifts and movie posters from MSOE's book store and student life office.

My final stop was in Dubai, UAE. The institution I visited there is officially known as MAHE Manipal – Dubai Campus (but I abbreviate it here as MAHE-Dubai (<http://www.mahedubai.com/>)). It is operated by MAHE but funded by ETA – Ascon (<http://www.eta-ascon.com/etaascon/index.asp>). It currently operates at the Dubai Knowledge Village (essentially a free trade zone for universities), but may be moving. They started a number of new programs this fall and have grown from about 300 students last year to 1200 this year. They are in the process of gaining recognition by Dubai's Ministry of Education and as a result the duration of their programs is changing from 3 years to 4.

In Dubai, I identified possible 2+2 transfer opportunities between MAHE-Dubai's current Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) program and MSOE's Bachelor of Science in Management (BSM) program and between MAHE-Dubai's Media & Communications program and MSOE's Technical Communications program. I made a presentation (and distributed more gifts and posters) to about 140 first year BBA students. Fifty-four of these students requested additional information regarding possible transfer to MSOE. Upon my return to Milwaukee, I began working with MOSE program directors Dr. Steve Bialek and Dr. David Howell to develop these transfer programs. Students from these programs would arrive at MSOE in the fall of 2007.

I also identified additional, longer-range opportunities in India and Dubai. The change in MAHE-Dubai's BBA program from a 3 to a 4 year basis provides an opportunity to possibly incorporate their program into MSOE's Bachelor of Science in International Business (BSIB) program. This incorporation would provide BSIB students with an alternative to Lübeck University of Applied Sciences in Germany for their third year of study. I have initiated contact with Professor Larry Schmedeman, the director of MSOE's BSIB program and MAHE-Dubai faculty and administrators regarding the possible development of such a program. In addition to MAHE-Dubai, ETA-Ascon also has an arrangement with the Birla Institute of Technology and Science in Pilani, India (BITS Pilani). Under this arrangement BITS Pilani (<http://discovery.bits-pilani.ac.in/>) operates a branch campus in Dubai. I am investigating the possible development of a cooperative relationship with BITS at their main campus in India and/or their branch campus in Dubai.