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BANK SWIRLED

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"Art is not a form of propaganda, it is a form of truth." — John Fitzgerald Kennedy

TRIBUNAL TO HEAR SUN'S CASE

Setting the stage for a decisive showdown of galactic proportions, the World Bank Group Administrative Tribunal has agreed to hear the case of the Sun, who was fired last October for disrupting a videoconference between Mr. Wolfensohn and Pakistani nuclear scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan, the latest applicant for Ethics Officer. With Staff Association assistance, the Sun had appealed to the Tribunal for reinstatement along with four billion years of past pension credit (the Sun was a Long-Term Consultant until conversion to an Open appointment in October 2000).

The Sun's past pension credit appeal hinges on management's contention that solar eclipses were "disqualifying breaks in service," a position countered by Sun attorney Stephen Schott, who has argued publicly that his client has "basically done the same job day after day throughout his long tenure" and, despite the LTC status, "tirelessly devoted his life to economic development, particularly in the agricultural sector." Schott is also expected to argue that the trillions of Sun Spot Awards received over the eons effectively confirms the consistent outstanding performance of his client.

A spokesman for the Legal Department, speaking anonymously (thanks, Alan!) expressed scant concern for Schott's position. "We have evidence of patterned and significant disruption to Bank activities by the appellant. We'll win this case, and if not, frankly, the Tribunal can put its decision where the appellant doesn't shine."

ISG DESIGNS NEW DESKTOPS

Bowing to public opinion and Y2Y initiatives, ISGVP Mohamed Muhsin has hired a 12-year old child to design the next version of Enterprise Desktop 4.0, the Bank's standard workstation. "Over the years, many staff have remarked that their own children are more capable than ISG staff when it comes to computers," said Muhsin at a press conference this morning. "I've finally decided to listen." Last week, ISG hired Melissa Stern, the grandniece of two former World Bank vice presidents, as the chief engineer for ED4 development. Stern, a 6th grader at The Holton-Arms School, will receive three Community Service credits for her work. Her appointment marks only the second exception to the close relative rule, according to HR Service Center Program Manager Margaret Russo.

Bank Swirled caught up with Stern in her I-11 office, hard at work on the ED4 prototype. "It's a crunch, working after school and doing my homework, too," said Stern, reaching for her ever-present bag of Gummy Bears. "That synchronous log-in script thing? Thought I'd crap a cold purple Twinky getting it to run in all 130 country offices with 128-bit encryption. Prang! It was a power slide every time. I asked some of the quick outies working in ISG but suddenly they all had epizootics of the blowhole. Like, cop a mope! So I got my friend Tiffany to help me. She's, like, a cheerleader."

"Everything seems to be going well so far," according to Muhsin. "And I find Melissa easier to understand than my own staff. After ED4, I want her to redesign our global network for another three credits." When told of Muhsin's comments, Stern was ecstatic. "Def. That would be off the hinges! Can Tiffany be an ETC?"

WBI EXTREME DISTANCE LEARNING CENTER UPDATE: KNOWLEDGE SHARING, "MARTIAN STYLE"

Last year's investment by WBI in an "Extreme Distance Learning Center" on Mars is already yielding big dividends. Here, two WBI "knowledge-nauts" receive precious knowledge via direct probing of this visiting Martian's "knowledge orifice" in a specially-constructed examination room at WBI's Knowledge Château in Marseille, France.

WBI scientists are highly intrigued by the orifice and hope to one day pass knowledge to Bank managers the same way. "I think they've already started," said one Senior Knowledge Management Officer anonymously.

WBI Junior Professional Associates have already created 2,321 nearly-identical Intranet sites in HTML, all devoted to the Martian knowledge orifice and the results of the probe. WBIVP Frannie Leautier is soon expected to announce a \$21 million consultant contract to India's software engineering giant Satyam to consolidate these pages and standardize their format over the next three years.



WBI lauded today's Knowledge Sharing event as the culmination of a cooperative effort both outside and inside the Bank. "I'd especially like to thank AMEX for expediting the *Schengen* visa required by the Martian to enter France," said Leautier.

ETHICS INITIATIVE

The Corporate Resource Management Group and the Office of Ethics and Business Conduct have announced their cooperation on a new initiative designed to ferret out staff using Bank-provided communication media for fraudulent or illicit activities.

In a joint press release, SFRRM Director Achim von Heynitz and Ethics Case Officer Lee Grassley stated that "inappropriate use of communication tools might, on a case by case basis, seem rather innocuous, but when added together there are true costs in reduced productivity, overburdening of networks, and risk to the Bank Group's reputation. Such activities simply cannot be allowed to go on." Sources within SFRRM indicate that the first phase of the initiative will be targeted at staff who type "Sent from my BlackBerry Handheld" at the bottom of their outgoing Notes mail, in an attempt to overstate their importance.

When contacted by *Bank Swirled* reporters, Staff Association Chair John Alvey refused comment on the basis that he was "too busy." While hanging up the telephone, Alvey could be heard shouting "Anu, quick, how the hell do I delete my e-mail signature?"

AROUND THE WORLD BANK

The psychological profile of Bank Group managers has changed dramatically over the last five years of Jim Wolfensohn's tenure, according to a recent survey by HR's Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness Group. The survey consisted of administering Myers-Briggs Type Indicator tests to focus groups of Director-level staff over several years, and tracking trends. "The Bank's management cadre has clearly and decisively moved from the predominant INTJ personality type," said Michael Baxter, Senior Manager of HRSLO. "The typical World Bank manager today is kinder and gentler, with strong Myers-Briggs "Type F" and "Type P" tendencies. Indeed, as a whole, Bank management generally feels it has a very large 'P-ness.'"

The World Bank Group's External Affairs Department will partner with CBS and INT to produce *CSI: F-Building*, the latest spin-off of the popular crime drama. "Our focus group of sycophants emphatically felt that a television series which shows the inaccurate use of ultraviolet lamps and gas spectrometers to solve crimes can play a significant role in reducing corruption in our organization," said EXT Director Gerry Rice at a news conference today, flanked by Viacom CEO Sumner Redstone and actor David Caruso. "We expect this project to work just as well as all of our previous anti-corruption reforms." Rice would not comment on HSD's recent study to record the genetic markers of IFC investment officers.

OUI PARLE FRANGLAIS

Suivant le re-launch en mars 2004 du fabulously populaire site du web en Franglais — la langue des Brits, des Canuks Anglophones, et des high school teachers Americaines — les trafiquants à la site a zoomé up un whopping 75 pour cent. Un une-stop pour findant tous les ressources du Banques en Franglais, le website fabulous (<http://www.banqueduworld.org>) inclut des translations datés up-to de l'information corporate, comme, for example, opportunités procurements corromps en Banque projects, et programmes de learning de la IWB (Institute du Banque du World, se trouvé dans un château massive en Marseille), as bien as reports du news, sous-vêtements des issues, et des press releases, tous en Franglais.

"Having un emplacement utile et information-riche en Franglais est critique pour le dialogue de la Banque avec our clients" a remarké VP Ian Goldin. "La langue Franglais spans évidemment tous les régions du monde où nous avons our opérations, et aussi allows us à reachons out à our donor pays qui parlent Franglais fluentment, comme les Belges."

Le site de la Banque en French a previously tombé vide a cause d'un lack de money. Indeed, tous les links dans cette site Frenche sont morts, comme le rest de la sites knowledges managements du Banque. Donc, le vice presidency des Rendez-Vouses Externals has maintenant facilitated le revamping et le marketing du site nouvelle Franglais.

Le site Franglais brings together des documents en Franglais des parts different de la Banque, for example le IWB, le CFI, la DEO, et le DGS. Les modules du training IBW sur les négociations de la trade, for example, et les évaluations du DEO de la strategy de la Banque sur des peuples indigenous sont maintenant just plusieurs clicks de la portail web.

Le site sera updater avec les materials translated sur un basis ongoing, for example, avec les nouvelles des meetings annuelles et des sur-views des autres publications spiffy comme Les Annals des Past Pension Credit.

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If you are reading this in the Board Room during the FY05 Budget discussion, you made the right choice!

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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BANK SWIRLED

James D. Wolfensohn, Editor-in-Chief
Jean-François Rischard, Managing Editor & Paris Bureau Chief
Xavier Coll, Y2Y Coordinator



World Bank Best Seller List

The de Jong Code, by Wayne Nardolillo. INT sleuths traipse from building to building following clues left by Deputy Division Chiefs before the 1987 reorganization.

Deliver Us From Evil, by John Alvey. A kiss-and-tell about rancor within the SA's Executive Committee.

The Passion, compiled by Lee Grassley. Interviews with managers about JPAs.

Lies (and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them), by Jonathan Shapiro. INT's interviewing manual.

The Price of Loyalty, by Shengman Zhang. A remake of *The Idiot's Guide to Management Succession Planning*.

The Proper Care and Feeding of Husbands, by the World Bank Family Network. A dry account of who should sign Form 2298, "Access to Salary, Benefits and Pension Information."

The Automatic Millionaire, by retired QAG short-term consultants. Full separation grants, tax-free pension payments, resettlement and a Green Card – and that's just Chapter 1.

1,000 Places To See Before You Die, by Andrea Summers. Chennai, sunrises, Bali, COSO, Haiti, compliance.

IFC List ("Books on CD-ROM" only):

The Purpose-Driven Life, by Assaad Jabre. A devoted manager's 21-hour work days, and the self-doubt that arises from comparing his effort to that of his superiors.

How I Became a Pirate, by Jyrki Koskelo. Action-packed swashbuckler depicting one man's conversion to an alternative approach to portfolio management.

The Guardian, by Declan Duff. Detailed 3,712-page autobiography of an Acting Director's efforts to re-establish quality controls in a department that lost its way.

Tuesdays With Morrie, by Karl Voltaire. A young Investment Officer is captivated by a retired Director's tales of the Corporation's true rewards.

Touching the Void, by Farida Khambata. A harrowing account of investing in inhospitable climates, and the heroic determination required to rescue a portfolio from near-death.

Rich Dad, Poor Dad, by Peter Woicke. What the rich teach their kids about money that the poor do not.

What Not To Wear, by Nina Shapiro. How to dress for success at home and abroad. Special edition includes *What Not To Say*, a primer on successful negotiation techniques using tact and diplomacy.

BLACKBERRY NEWS

The proliferation of BlackBerry devices around the World Bank Group campus has disrupted essential enterprise wireless communication services like videoconferencing and courier services, according to a recent \$1.1 million ISG study. In an effort to reduce use of the available wireless bandwidth, staff are encouraged to abbreviate their messages. Towards this end, ISG will soon download 634 commonly-used phrases into the user dictionary on each handheld device. Examples include wmg5 (with my G5 right now), brns (brown-nosing JDW right now), nord (shopping at Pentagon City right now), jpahot (have you seen that new JPA in ECA?), neli (s/he didn't go to Yale), wwjsd (what would Joe Stiglitz do?) and dyetfid (did you eat the fish in Davos?).

RESPECTING DIVERSITY

World Bank Group staff partnered with the Maryland State Police this morning to celebrate the enthusiastic expression of divergent views of those attending a "Respecting Diversity" event at Bretton Woods. The divergent view expression began when one participant hurled a Bible at two other participants as they emerged from a chartered bus. A general view expression melee ensued, after which staff were joined by State Police troopers who used mediation German shepherds, arbitration tear gas, negotiation stun grenades and a high-powered adjudicating water cannon to bring the spirited dialogue to closure.

A preliminary criminal investigation revealed a paper trail regarding the incident, starting with the minutes of a March 10 meeting on the then-upcoming Respecting Diversity Picnic. One advisory group member opined that the use of the word "picnic" was resented by some African-American staff because of historic associations with slavery and other inhuman treatment. The committee recommended renaming the picnic to the "Respecting Diversity Outing" to foster an inclusive environment with sensitivity and respect for all.

However, at the March 17 meeting, another member alerted the group that the word "outing" was resented by some staff with alternative lifestyles because of its association with discrimination based on sexual orientation. The outing was renamed the "Respecting Diversity Celebration" to foster an inclusive environment with sensitivity and respect for all.

At the March 24 meeting, a committee member stated that the word "celebration" was resented by staff belonging to a fundamentalist religious sect because the root word, derived from the Latin *celebratus*, can be used to describe the sacrament performed by a priest officiating at the Eucharist. Following discussion, the group voted to rename the celebration to the "Respecting Diversity Barbecue" to foster an inclusive environment with sensitivity and respect for all. The Advisory Group also recommended that staff in religious sects and staff with alternate lifestyles travel to the barbecue on separate charter buses.

At the final meeting on March 31, several staff who belonged to People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals objected because the word "barbecue" applies to cooking and consuming animal flesh. The Advisory Group then designated that the Respecting Diversity Barbecue henceforth shall be identified by a unique hand gesture which "has only one universal meaning."

Over 100 staff and consultants were detained at this morning's event on charges of "aggravated expression of divergent views and resisting arbitration."

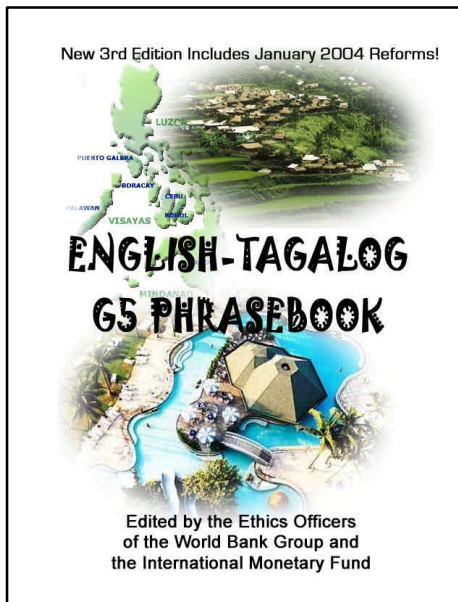
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BlackBerry Thumb Syndrome Among World Bank Sycophants

Bernard Demure, M.D., Katherine Sierra, and Amir M. Bidgoli

Introduction and Context

In large international organizations, the combination of sycophancy and technological innovation can result in detrimental health impacts to employees. These impacts can, in turn, delay or inhibit economic development in borrower countries. Negative impacts also exist.

Since January 2003, the World Bank has licensed over 250 BlackBerry handheld devices for wireless e-mail communications. Symptoms of BlackBerry Thumb appeared immediately, as users realized they could respond to e-mail from virtually anywhere at any time. Initial complaints recorded in the Health Room included an abnormal number of neurological diagnoses such as deQuervain's Tendinitis, Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, and Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. After the data was collated, Health Services short-term consultants devised a computed topographic study with randomization to determine the severity. This was followed by an on-line survey. Meanwhile, after a casual remark made by a Managing Director on a treadmill in the H-Fitness Center, Human Resources staff embarked on a parallel study to determine the level of sycophancy in the organization. Most BlackBerry users (including the President's Senior Management Team and virtually every Vice President) already had manifested the acute symptoms of high potential sycophancy prior to receiving the device. Consequently, the presence of this pre-existing condition was neutral in the overall sampling of results.

Results

The study results were astonishing. In an extreme case, permanent digit loss occurred (Figure 1). Nearly all subjects suffered some neurological or muscular damage. Although surgery was often the best remedy, Aetna has rejected claims because the medical necessity of the surgical procedure was "self-inflicted."

The parallel research of sycophancy by Human Resources staff was less conclusive but equally alarming. GSD Facilities records indicate most Vice Presidents have high-tech weather stations in their offices to determine prevailing wind direction upon request. Many Directors list former Johnny Carson sidekick Ed McMahon as their "personal hero." Rumors that Jeffrey Goldstein's shoelaces were clandestinely replaced with a GPS transmitter so managers can coordinate "chance" encounters in the MC-cafeteria could not be confirmed.

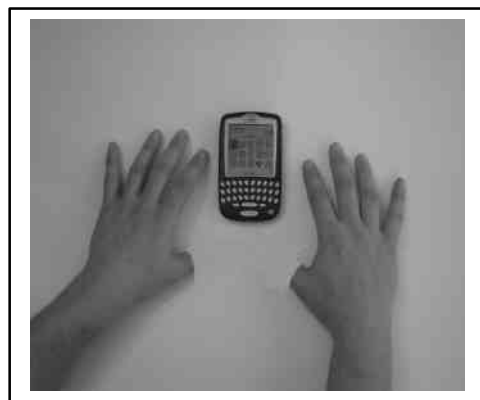


Figure 1. This Regional Vice President wore each thumb down 37mm writing 6,352 e-mails stating "I agree with Jim" to Xavier Coll over a 14-week period.

MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

John Alvey, Chair of the World Bank Group Staff Association, today leaked the Table of Contents for the proposed *Handbook of Managerial Accountability*. While commending HR's response three years after the SA had established a working group on the matter, he decried the outline, prepared by HR Managers John Waterston and Femi Badaki, as "too little, too late and too funny."

Several managers agreed to speak on the topic anonymously. Reached during a water break from playing musical wheelchairs at a teambuilding retreat, HR Executive Resources head Cathy Cardona stated that "it's nice to know who does the strategic staffing plans so we know where to send the flowers." (IFC recently invested in four Colombian rose plantations to supply this effort.) LAC Sector Director Danny Leipziger pointed out that Waterston and Badaki simply dusted off a mid-1980s effort on the same topic, and vowed "not to read it, again." HR's Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness manager Michael Baxter, reviewing LOE's Staff Survey data while googling "medieval torture techniques" on the Internet, told *Bank Swirled* that "working in teams, leading teams, interacting with teams, and collaborating with teams are all important matters to get right. The beatings will stop when morale improves."

SENIOR STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT

Martha Stewart, the World Bank's Resident Representative in Greenwich, Conn., will start a two-to-five year external service assignment at the Bedford Hills (N.Y.) Correctional Facility For Women next month, according to Benedicte Boullet, Manager of the Staff Exchange Program. Ms. Stewart will be sharing knowledge with a diverse population in areas such as decorating confined spaces on a limited budget, cooking in large quantities, shower room etiquette, makeup tips to match orange coveralls, and how to wear handcuffs so that they make you look thinner.

"We look forward to welcoming Ms. Stewart back to the World Bank in 16 to 60 months, depending upon the accumulation of credit for good behavior," said Boullet at a noontime press conference announcing the decision. Boullet added that the external service assignment will also qualify as Ms. Stewart's "Week in a Village" GRIP trip.

Ms. Stewart asked colleagues to use her new personal e-mail address, 04S5271@guest.bedhills.corrections.gov, as federal prosecutors from the New York Southern District Court have been unable to assure the return of her BlackBerry from the evidence room.



Tempers flare as Africa Environment Sector Manager Richard Scobey (right) confronts an IFC Principal Investment Officer returning from a pre-appraisal mission for the First Madagascar Seabed Mining Project. The project is scheduled to go to the Board in August 2004.

The Absurder by Boris Summor

As I looked around Jim's Y2Y Launch Event, I silently lamented how youth is wasted on the young. Yes, there was a coterie of senior staff: Jean-Louis (or JLS as he now prefers since he's a Senior VP) in H&M, Jeff in Gap Kids, Roberto in Structure, Mamphela in DKNY, Shengman in Old Navy, and Kathy in LL Bean, but the only one who looked even vaguely comfortable trying to dress youthfully was, as you might imagine, Xavier, in FCUK. When the three invitations came, the Sector Board decided I should represent them, since I've been concerned about style and grooming long before we all became metrosexuals. More particularly, our JPAs had brought such joy to several of us (and in DC, too) so John and the boys thought we should look corporately grateful so we could be rated "satisfactory" the next time QAG inquired into the matrix's deficiencies. Muffy had found me some Prada as she sorted through contributions for WBFN's "Klothes for Kabul" *fête* they're throwing to show support for Hamid's reelection. The event was overcrowded and noisy, even worse than an AFR Management Team retreat *sûr la plage* in Dakar, but Eija (in Fendi) and I forced our way in to observe what could only be compared to an Adams Morgan happy hour. Wall to wall, young men in black eyeing young women in black with knockoff Manolos (just like the girls on *Sex in the City*) and little Kate Spade purses with a fake ID, a PDA and a condom. Lots of texting from camera phones (no one old or senior or dishonest enough to have a BlackBerry — Paul and Achim will be happy). The young fellow next to me was IMing something about urgently needing some "E" but he didn't look Hindi so he couldn't have been in ISG working on the Internet Services Project (I always have to be careful to remember what the "I" stands for — must ask Fred and Ann). Thus I was reluctant to introduce him to Mohamed (in Banana Republic). Although Jim (in Boss Hugo Boss) had shushed the people talking loudly at the back of the Gallery (which, recalling Peter's advice, I had chosen as my escape route should shooting break out, and to make sure I got home in time for *ER*), Roger (in Lands' End) had kindly hired a signer for the hearing impaired. Muffy and I had learned American Sign Language so we could work separate parts of the room at the Christmas party and compare notes on which colleagues were there with someone other than the person eligible for their spouse points. As I strained

to pick up Jim's illuminating and inspiring words (which seemed vaguely familiar since I'd been at the Water Week opening, as interesting and expensive as Mel Gibson's previous cinematic *oeuvre*), I found the signer's accent a bit curious. It was not her dangling gold bracelets, or her tight sweater providing insufficient contrast as she gestured, but something still wasn't quite right, and the din made Jim's speech impossible to hear, even when I moved away from the bar. The couple to my right seemed to be rehearsing for roles in *Dirty Dancing*, *Havana Nights* as they whispered sweet nothings in each other's ear and sipped from the same glass of the nasty red Gerry (in Versace) had bought for the event with his P-Card. (Their posture was such that had they been of the opposite sex, they never would have passed the tests the good sisters at Maret used at the proms in Bitsy's day, but times change, I had to admit, as I cast quick, fascinated glances in their direction.) To the left, a gaggle of JPAs fought over the few vegan snacks that remained. (Luis, in Giordano purchased during a "use 'em or lose 'em" points trip to Bangkok, speculated that they do this because they think they will live longer. "No," I replied, "it will just seem longer.") I finally caught the ear of a pleasant young intern (in Dolce & Gabbana) who's photocopying in EXT. (My, they charge a lot of xeroxing to trust funds in EXT, but at least Ian's using the BB to pay his ghostwriter for his next book. But I digress.) She watched intently and agreed with my contention that whenever Jim said "Y2Y," the signer signed "why, oh, why?" so we laughed and raised our triple scotches to salute her prescience when the Audit Committee finds out how much this costs and how little it matters. We staggered out late, just as a Sector Board colleague (in Hilfiger) ushered the last leggy OAS intern into his waiting Mercedes.

Speaking of extravagance, we've had to cut back at home now that Mark is forcing us to buy medical insurance for the G-5. It was sad, but we had to fire the wet nurse that Muffy had hired when the children were young — I remember we got her name from Bob and Marg (now *there* was a power couple!) — but she's back home where the government will pay for her Celebrex. Fortunately the Bulletin Board had one who was younger with better teeth. But \$6.72 an hour! Mark didn't specify currency so we pay in Singapore dollars and give her a favorable exchange rate. The final straw was that we're

no longer allowed to charge her rent. I asked Kathy where else can a maid get a room in Potomac with access to a swimming pool for US\$100/week but, typically as she waits for Dave to retire, she was unsympathetic. Heaven forbid that INT calls, so we made better arrangements — ETT appointments have multiple uses now that HR no longer checks TORs. Muffy forbade me to take household help on mission but the VPU is good on telecommuting and we save on office occupancy and Notes charges since she "works from home." And she works hard!

I have changed my private e-mail account from AOL to Hotmail. Not that I have anything to hide from Mohamed's clever Tamil programmer who cracked the AOL encryption code (illegally, of course, at least here in the U.S.), particularly my spam about V.a.gra and Term Life Insurance, but when Maarten feigned ignorance about the online surveillance and email break-ins I became concerned about working for an Enron-like organization. Could never show my face at the dog park again. That's going to become a problem now that retirement is in the offing. I've long had the pension calculator — Roger wants to rebrand it as *Retiree STC Connections* — as my intranet home page. The process is all planned for getting a temporary parole from my green card application so I can work 190 days as a consultant — abolishing CTFs is hardly a problem, since retirees couldn't use them anyway, but there are so many others where the donors are less concerned. Or vigilant. I'll do the same work in the same office with the same extension and the same girl, but as a short-term consultant with a G-4 visa, a tax-free separation grant and a tax-free pension commutation. My tax-free pension doubles my take-home pay as well, so there's little point organizing an orderly transition of the Almaty Seaport 3 Project and the Disabled Parking Maid Capacity Building Multidonor Trust Fund over to some level G (if any remain here in DC). I had worried a bit about reputational risk until I remembered that as long as the defined benefit pension plan is in a separate account managed by Ernie Stern, I have no reason to fear. If Jim should get his hands on it, though, I'll have to sell the Costa Rican estate I picked up as part of the debt-for-rainforest swap Ken organized, and consolidate in Provence, or, even better, bid on the lovely château in Marseilles that WBI and MNA will soon put on the market. Even if the runway there is so short you have to take the TGV from Paris.



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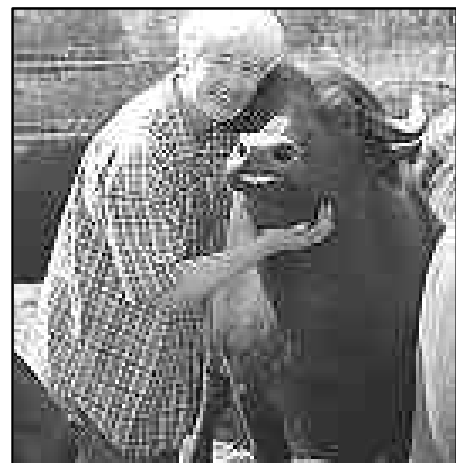
A “Regular” Partnership! Working together with Marriott-Sodexo, we’ve created a new, super-stimulating buffalo feed based on years of research in World Bank Group cafeterias. **Quality at Entry** means putting your **Money** where your **Mouth** is!

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Today on B-SPAN

6:30 a.m. *I, Shengman* (Episode 5,453). The MD signs Mohamed's arm cast and instructs ISG to refuse awards from Knowledge Management organizations we've joined just so we can win 'members only' benchmarking competitions.

7 a.m. *Today*. EXT's Gerry Rice leads morning aerobic rumors from the H-Fitness Center.

8 a.m. *Morning Inspiration*. Live coverage of JDW's prayer breakfast with Republican party faithful. This week: "Joe Stiglitz was fired for our sins."

8:30 a.m. *Africa in the Morning*. Gobind Nankani and other aspirants practice their Esperanto. Closed-captioned for the KM-impaired.

9:30 a.m. *Extreme Makeover*. Prem Garg hosts QAG's latest effort to fix the matrix.

11:30 a.m. *Crossfire*. EDs debate the 2005 WDR's outline and whether its theme, "Cardinal Richelieu did too much harm to be praised and too much good to be damned," is relevant to the Bank.

12:30 p.m. *I, Shengman* (Episode 5,454). As the bag men circle, the MD schemes to protect his budget from cuts to support campaign commercials. "But we're not FAC units," Jeffrey complains as he offers Segway rides to raise small donations.

1 p.m. *Lunchtime with Jim*. Coverage of JDW's speech announcing he will not oppose amending the Articles of Agreement to ban gay marriage. Live from the White House Rose Garden.

2:30 p.m. *The Bold and the Beautiful*. Ann Rennie explains to a group of insistent JPAs why they have to leave after two years. See who gets voted off the island for continuing to argue.

4 p.m. *Kathy!* ACS leadership argues that knowing how to fill out a Purchase Order in SAP should be a criterion for promotion to Grade GE.

5 p.m. *Dr. Bernard*. Tough love on transfats in the MC-Cafeteria, and why CTF-free food is better for you. Is that working for you?

7 p.m. *I, Shengman* (Episode 5,455). Margarita explains why the MD wasn't invited to *Bank Swirled*'s 20-year Anniversary Party. The MD adds "Do more funny things" to his OPE Development Action Plan.

9 p.m. *Lost in Translation*. A jetlagged economist dreaming of a world free of poverty meets a lonely newlywed in the Grand Hyatt Shanghai bar.

11 p.m. *I, Shengman* (Episode 5,456). The MD asks Geoff Lamb to re-explain how eliminating CTFs relates to the Bank's transparency, efficiency and results agenda. The MD is enraged when Lamb does not reply in Japanese.

SPOTLIGHT ON INFRASTRUCTURE

With the World Bank Group's newly rediscovered emphasis on using infrastructure to meet the MDGs, *Bank Swirled* publishes the following stories as a guide to understanding the culture of our expanding group of engineers:

Two water engineers were walking along Pennsylvania Avenue when one said, "Where did you get your BlackBerry? You're not a Director!" The second water engineer replied, "Well, I was walking home yesterday, minding my own business, when a beautiful woman with long raven locks carrying a BlackBerry came up to me, took off all her clothes and said, 'Take what you want.'" The first water engineer nodded approvingly and said, "Good choice, her clothes probably wouldn't fit you."

Three engineers met at one of Lennox Joseph's "New Managers" programs. Over drinks in Harvard Square, they discussed possible designers of the human body. One said, "It was a mechanical engineer. Just look at all the joints." Another said, "No, it was an electrical engineer. The nervous system has many thousands of electrical connections." The last one said, "No, actually it was a civil engineer. Who else would run a toxic waste pipeline through a recreational area?"

A power engineer was crossing 19th Street one day, when a frog called out to him and said, "If you kiss me, I'll turn into a beautiful vice president." The engineer bent over, picked up the frog and put it in his pocket. The frog spoke again and said, "If you kiss me and turn me into a beautiful vice president, I will stay with you for one week." The engineer took the frog out of his pocket, smiled at it and returned it to his pocket. The frog then cried out, "If you kiss me and turn me into a beautiful vice president, I'll stay with you for one week and do ANYTHING you want. I'll even make you the head of a Thematic Group!" Again, the engineer took the frog out, smiled at it and put it back into his pocket. Finally, the frog asked, "What's wrong? I told you I'm a vice president, and that I'll stay with you for one week and do anything you want. Why won't you kiss me?" The engineer said, "Look, I'm an engineer. I don't have time for a girlfriend, but a talking frog, now that's *awesome*!"



**Not Just for VPs Anymore!
Get Yours Today!**

Contact Amir Bidgoli. Meet him at the I-building loading dock. Bring \$600 in cash. Give it to him. Don't tell Paul Cadario or Achim von Heynitz.



COLONOSCOPY

A colonoscopy is an invasive, time-consuming procedure performed at an expensive, impersonal medical facility. But starting today, HSD's new "On-Site Colonoscopy Service" turns your Aeron chair into your own private proctologist's office!

Browse the web, check your Lotus Notes in-box, or catch up on back issues of the *World Development Report* as our roaming in-network proctologists examine your intestinal physiology. Good rectal hygiene is finally as close as your three-hole punch!

Where is the service available?

In all Headquarters offices. Don't forget to pick up a courtesy screen if you work in open space, or an adhesive blind to cover your office window. Avoid scheduling when the windows are being washed.

Who can participate?

Only staff on Regular, Open, Term, Advisor to Executive Director and Executive Director appointments are eligible. HSD reminds other staff, such as short-term consultants/temporaries (including retirees), extended term staff and Country Office staff, that protological exams should always be performed by a trained professional. Well-meaning colleagues could miss vital warning signs.

How much does it cost?

Although our experts charge \$500 per procedure, you pay only your MIP office visit copayment of \$10 (Option C), \$15 (Option A) or \$20 (Option B). P-cards and Diner's Club accepted! Aetna pays the rest!

What do I need to do to prepare?

Remember, do not eat or visit Mr. Wolfensohn's web site for 24 hours before the procedure. One hour before your appointment, quietly excuse yourself from your meeting, go to a rest room, and apply Joint Bank/Fund Health Services Department Enema Cream, following the instructions on the package. If you do not have any Joint Bank/Fund Health Services Department Enema Cream, you can use any gel-type toothpaste. Conversely, if you ever need gel-type toothpaste, you can use Joint Bank/Fund Staff Health Services Department Enema Cream.

**The Joint Bank/Fund Health Services Department reminds you
to stay healthy and to "Look Out Below!"**

Another quality innovation from HSD!

Where Work and Life Are So Well Balanced They Cancel Each Other Out!

This newsletter is intended to be a timely, unofficial running account of operational issues brewing, percolating or possibly even violently spewing forth at the IFC senior management and Board level. It is for internal consumption only, so please don't immediately send it to Paul Blustein. Suggestions on format are always welcome, always ignored. Anything you like about this edition is invariably the result of your drinking the Kool Aid; any mistakes are mine and mine alone, and I shall be glad to prove my remorse by slathering myself in cooking oil and prostrating myself naked on an aluminum table on the F-Building rooftop for the entire summer (except during the July 4th executive rooftop party, when I and the other Special Assistants shall be serving drinks, changing ashtrays and busing tables *au naturel*, just like every year).

OFF THE RECORD

(a.k.a. *The 11th Floor Gazette*)

April 1, 2004

Broad Trends, Themes and Major Issues

(1) The Program: "Bunching" a Thing of the Past.

After committing about US\$1.001 billion in the first quarter of FY04 (or about 25% of the target), we committed about US\$1.002 billion in the second quarter, or roughly 25% of the FY04 target. Senior Management is proud that its appeals to stop "bunching" were finally persuasive, and has granted itself Spot Awards for this exceptional feat. Bravo!

(2) Management Rotation. Further thwarting the traditional "bunching" process, Peter has been rolling out in piecemeal fashion announcements of managerial reassignments, all to be effective July 1, 2004. Copying from the similar success of the Corporate reorganization at the end of FY02, the announcements have paralyzed entire departments whose staff (instead of shoehorning 89% of the year's program into a frantic 12-week period) will spend Q4 wondering which boss to brown-nose: the old or the new. In recognition of this exceptional feat, Peter granted himself a Spot Award. Bravo!

(3) Staff Promotions. Trumping Dorothy's elevation of yet another HR staff member to Manager, Nina unveiled an enhanced recognition program for Treasury staff. Effective immediately, 218 treasury officers were promoted to "Deputy Treasurer." Nina assured the remaining staff (agency temps) that they can expect to be put forward for a similar promotion during next year's promotion cycle, or earlier if Dorothy manages to squeeze a few more managers into CHA.

(4) Departmental Retreats. Following a recent portfolio review by senior management, Peter circulated a note to department directors indicating that his concerns about the financial performance of the Corporation are no longer as acute as they were in 2001. He thanked his Directors for holding their most recent retreats in second-tier locales such as Ho-Chi-Minh City and Odessa, "more or less" complying with his earlier directive to suspend retreats altogether. "Effective immediately," he wrote, "we shall once again party in a manner befitting private sector financiers."

(5) Decentralization News. Since no one actually reads this newsletter: a Country Manager, an HQ-based appraisal team and the tea boy from the local office walk into a bar, and the bartender says... No, wait, was it a bar or a whorehouse? Or did their car break down near a lonely farmhouse? Oh, forget it.

Board Happenings

After a relatively light first quarter for IFC Board activity, the second quarter more than compensated. Some of the highlights in the second quarter include:

Bhutan Resorts: This investment is the first in Bhutan, which only recently became an IFC member country. Although two Board members questioned the efficacy of high-end tourism projects, they soon admitted that they were only playing a little joke to lighten up an otherwise stodgy meeting. After all, if there is one thing the Board can agree on, it is the development impact of ultra-luxury hotels, especially in places they may have to visit some day!

Southern Africa Regional Gas Project: The same merry pranksters on the Board livened up discussions for this project by activating a whoopee cushion every time the word "gas" was spoken. The frivolity was infectious and soon the entire Board joined in, ignoring the presentation in favor of seeing who could best imitate the sound of flatulence. All agreed that the South African ED's flapping his right arm whilst manipulating the left hand in his right armpit was the winner over the Swiss ED's yodeling-based technique, until the Swedish ED placed his microphone in a strategic spot just before letting loose an impressive high-decibel blast of what appeared to be the real thing. The Board then temporarily adjourned to the adjoining lounge for cocktails and cigars in order to allow custodial staff to air out the chamber.

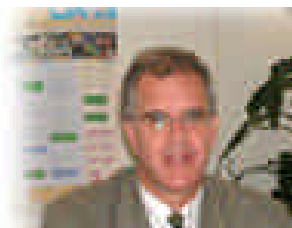
The Friday Photo

Our Friday Photo selection this week is “**Cape Buffalo, Masai Mara**,” by Steela Trussfond, Lead Environmental Economist in the Environment Department, who won a prize in the Natural Wonders category of the Bank/Development Gateway Photo Contest. She narrates the story behind the photo.



I was traveling to Kampala at the end of January because I had a mission to Australia in March and needed 20 more spouse points. Since I was connecting via Nairobi and had never taken the opportunity to travel up-country (British Airways doesn't fly there), I decided to spend a couple of nights at Kitchwa Tembo, in the Masai Mara, as they now accept Diners' Club, and I can hide the costs in my SOE.

On the second evening, we were traveling in the air-conditioned 2004 Range Rover 4x4 towards the Mara River when I noticed the dramatic light in the distance. The combination of buffalo under the trees, bright sunlight on the distant plains and threatening smog from the 183-megawatt coal-fired power plant beyond (courtesy of the Third Tanzanian Power Supply Project, which I peer-reviewed) made it worth stopping. Twenty minutes later, despite my Abercrombie & Fitch pith helmet, I was completely drenched and frozen, as the high winds and driving acid rain chased us towards the nearest InterContinental Hotel.



Roger Morier, Senior Communications Officer, Internal Communications and a member of the three-judge panel that selected the winning photo, explains why the picture was chosen:

After reviewing the many entries, we picked two outstanding submissions, and it was a toss-up. Ms. Trussfond called me last Tuesday, and we met at 9:45 p.m. in the MC parking garage, where she gave me \$500 in cash and two tickets to *Coppélia* on April 3, third-row center in the orchestra section.

MD CONTROVERSY

Dr. Mamphela Ramphele's Superbowl commercial last February denouncing discriminatory research and marketing priorities of global pharmaceutical companies into products "to enhance men's pleasure" instead of microbicides to help women avoid HIV/AIDS has created quite a stir. Sex workers in Mumbai (partners in the Global Fund's anti-malaria campaign) said that in their experience, "what is sauce for the goose also helps the gander" as they pillaged IFC offices in the city. The Abandoned Children of Former ResReps NGO launched a global campaign to promote the use of condoms. Bob Dole and Britney Spears began a hunger strike in front of the Bank's Headquarters offices, and read a statement of solidarity from Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake. Meanwhile, Gerry Rice apologized for Ramphele's "speaking notes malfunction" and ordered that Roger Morier, EXT's go-to scapegoat for anything published about the Bank that appears half-baked, be flogged in the MC Atrium at noon today. (To warm up the crowd, Mongolian folk dances will be performed by the ACS network leadership.)

In further efforts to quell the controversy, Shengman Zhang assured an angry World Bank Family Network executive committee that "redressing this sexist discrimination" dictates ordering Aetna to immediately lift the current MIP limit of six Viagra per month per adult male participant. ISGHR simultaneously released an online order form in the HRKiosk. Meanwhile, CBS has apologized for the adult content in the music video that was an integral part of Ramphele's 30-second ad between the first and second quarters of the game. In the context of the family entertainment, red-faced Viacom President and COO Mel Karmazin admitted that "after Madonna and Britney kissing during the Golden Globe Awards, we should never have agreed to Jim Wolfensohn's background performance with Bono." INT is investigating rumors that the \$2.2 million commercial was financed by a programmatic trust fund managed by the HDN anchor, and that, responding to complaints from the makers of Cialis and Levitra, "the little blue pill" was selected by Bernard Demure without following AMS 15.00.

Vote for Sudhir Rajkumar Credit Union Board Elections

Your pension isn't enough. Give me your
checking and savings accounts, too!

*Paid for by the Committee to
Elect Sudhir Rajkumar*



"I'm Sudhir Rajkumar, and I approved this ad."

Announcing...

The **Ultimate** in Knowledge Sharing Events!

WEEK WEEK!

Five days of concentrating all of the
Bank's development expertise
in the one place it works best:
the MC Atrium!

Visit 247 individual booths, each
representing one of the Bank's Weeks!

Attend special forums to help
emerging "Week Planners"
create more Weeks!

Drink while watching the
Week Week Dancers perform
authentic native dances from
any country, on demand!

It's sure to be the most solipsistic,
orbicular, self-referential event
of the year, with the exception of
the Annual Meetings!
How can YOU miss it?

Sign up now for:

WEEK WEEK

Enough branded keychains, ID lanyards,
digital clocks, paper clip dispensers,
stress balls and calculator mousepads for
everybody AND any "friend who couldn't
make it but is really interested!"

By popular demand from several network and regional VPs,
OED will not participate.

INCIDENTS AT IMMIGRATION

HR Service Center Manager Mark Bowyer announced today a comprehensive response to the recent cases of detention by U.S. authorities of Bank or IMF staff arriving at Dulles Airport. "We've worked quickly to address this serious problem," said Bowyer, himself a G-4. "We've coordinated closely with GSD, HSD, the IMF and a few other acronyms." The measures are effective immediately, and include:

- handcuff keys will be added to the HSD travel kit;
- United Airlines has agreed to extend first class lounge privileges to anyone detained longer than 30 minutes;
- for those detained for less than 30 minutes in the Homeland Security detention room, a limited menu of veggie wraps, soft drinks, Domaine Gros Frères et Soeurs wine and Grolsch beer will be offered;
- closed-circuit telephone service has been installed in the detention room so that staff may productively use their detention time to check voicemail (the system is voice-activated in case circumstances render dialing difficult).

IFC TECHNOLOGY NEWS

PSD Vice President and IFC Chief Economist Michael Klein has launched a new technologically-savvy initiative to streamline information sourcing within IFC, allowing for a more efficient delivery of expertise about the private sector in member countries.

Klein's bold stroke was to use an enterprise-wide platform communications program called "Lotus Notes" to deliver a message, or "e-mail," to the entire IFC staff. The "e-mail" requested staff to submit to Mr. Klein's assistant a list of the three or four countries with which the staff was most familiar. Sources told *Bank Swirled* that Klein's office will apply a variety of modern information harvesting techniques to the resulting data, such as "printing," "alphabetizing," "collating" and "shoving into a file cabinet somewhere."

After an IFC-wide follow-up "e-mail" still did not yield a complete data set, the matter was placed on the agenda of the Country Managers retreat. According to *Bank Swirled* sources, "the Country Managers are our last resort, and we are hopeful they can help us identify staff with specific country knowledge."

ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER (ADHD)

It's Not Just About Being Disorganized!

Thursday, April 1, 2004, 1-2 p.m.
IMF Headquarters
Conference Room A

A presentation, a short film, an interactive theatre performance, a panel discussion group, an Internet chat room and a Q&A session will run simultaneously.

Now Playing at the World Bank Gigaplex

The Passion of the JPA. Nasty S&M film by the former Australian ED that is breaking all records.

Win a Date with Jon Shapiro. Shocking true-life stories torn from the voluminous files of the Department of Institutional Integrity.

Mystic River. Large dams are back (and better than ever) in this ESSD adaptation on resettling indigenous peoples.

Holes. Jean-François Rischard explains the business justification for the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and its relationship to the Paris Office budget.

Dirty Pretty Things. No one told the Country Director that the JPA's cell phone had a digital camera. INT rejects the "I didn't think ISG rented those" excuse.

Intolerable Cruelty. Board briefings on expenditure eligibility and extended assignment benefits take their toll on SEC staff, who plot revenge using their BlackBerrys.

Something's Gotta Give. Eventually, even Botox won't help Directors look young, and that timeshare in Playa starts to look pretty attractive.

Freaky Friday. A history of corporate attire when staff come to work on their AWS day.

American Splendor. Annual cocktail party to celebrate the arrival of the tax reimbursement checks in mailboxes throughout McLean and Potomac.

Laurel Canyon. Her name just begins to describe what skills she brings as an externally-funded staff member, and why her prospective manager is keen to subsidize her, no matter what the rules say.

Parsley and Such. Bernard Demure and his 1972 red Citroën "Deux-chevaux" costar in this police drama about HSD's anti-transfat campaign. Pete Gallant debuts as the snitch Huggy Bear.

The Cooler. Nancy Drew discovers the secret room in SFRM where trust fund fee income accumulates each fiscal year until its distribution on June 28, too late to spend. Warning: violence, futility and cynicism.

21 Grams. Melodrama comparing the weight of a retiree STC appointment letter to the weight of the cashier's check for the final third of the separation grant.

House of Sand and Fog. Inside the last job description for the Director of Internal Audit.

Cold Mountain. Afghanistan's pile of unspent trust funds.

Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World. Travelogue of Mr. Wolfensohn's recent homecoming visit to Australia and his search for retirement property with a good view of the Opera House and the Harbour Bridge.

A Mighty Wind. Staff Association Chair John Alvey's lyrically uplifting autobiography.

The Fog of MDGs. Octogenarian Robert McNamara returns to his ancestral home to find things have changed.

CRS

CONFLICT RESOLUTION SYSTEM

FREE GIVEAWAY **BLOWOUT!**

The Best Giveaways! The Highest Values!

Overstocked from CRS Week



Trouble brewing? You'll have enough tea and sympathy for the entire office with the CRS Sterling Silver Service for 12. Imported from Argentina. Hand-tooled gravy boat. Jewel-encrusted toast rack. Limit 3 per staff.



Rats in the office? Settle it once and for all with CRS Rodent Poison Bait Bars. Looks and smells just like chocolate – pests can't tell the difference! Leave in any conspicuous area such as a colleague's desk, your manager's chair, etc. GSD approved!



Meet "The Ombudsman." CRS's compact Taser quickly draws attention to your issues and captures the hearts and minds of managers with stunning results. Gender neutral. Seldom fatal. Effective range: 1 Atrium.



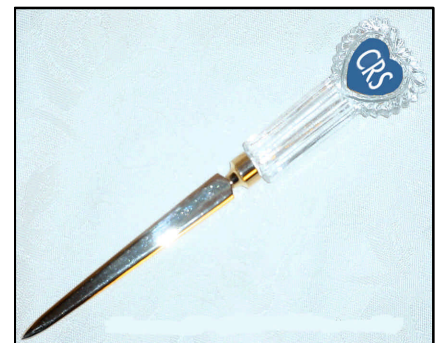
Watch your conflicts go up in smoke with the CRS "Thai-Baby." Just light the stick and let the unique aroma relax everyone in open space! Helps you forget about all of your problems. Imported from Thailand. Refills sold separately (by the bag or brick).



When the conflict's over... mutually agree to kiss and make up with CRS Condoms. Ribbed for extra resolution! JPA-tested, exceeds HD guidelines.

Slash deeply into your manager's correspondence with our pure platinum CRS letter opener!

Sturdy handle, splatter guard. Easy to use, easy to clean and easy to sterilize!



ALSO AVAILABLE (not pictured):
CRS Christmas Balls (unbreakable!)



IMF BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLANS

Brian C. Stuart, Director of the Technology and General Services Department at the International Monetary Fund, today announced the IMF's Business Continuity Plan (BCP) in case of a disaster in Washington. Since 9/11, BCPs have become prominent in many large organizations, including the World Bank Group.

"We have two contingency plans," said Stuart at a press conference this morning. "If the outage is limited to the IMF Building, then we will set up shop at the Four Seasons Hotel. This is within walking distance, provides excellent amenities including a steam room and health club, and it gets us into Georgetown. If the outage is more widespread, then we move all essential IMF staff to Bretton Woods Country Club. We all know how to get there and we have made arrangements so we can take over the facility and all the tee times in an emergency situation. We are storing our clubs there too, just in case, and we have contracted with L'Auberge Chez François to cater while we keep the Fund up and running. Finally, ISGEC will send home-baked brownies to keep us calm." Stuart also confirmed that the IMF has leased a fleet of culinary-outfitted motorboats to ferry meals upriver from L'Auberge's Great Falls location. "If traffic snarls because of the emergency, and but one *soufflé* were to fall, or a single *soupçon* of *sauce bearnaise* were to cool and separate, it would be a tragedy beyond description," said Stuart.

Stuart was asked why the Fund did not co-locate in the World Bank's Business Continuity Center in Chantilly. "We did consider such a partnership," said Stuart. "Then we discovered the Bank's facility was in some warehouse in Northern Virginia, and not in France."

BY INVITATION ONLY

The World Bank Group has taken extraordinary measures to make sure that the disasters surrounding Mr. Wolfensohn's 70th birthday are not repeated in December 2008 at the 75th birthday celebrations. A senior task force, co-chaired by Xavier Coll, Yo-Yo Ma and Bono with representation from HR, ISG, GSD, EXT and other parts of the Bank Group, released their report today.

The report contained multiple recommendations, including:

- allocating \$3 million of ISG's capital budget to build an Invitation Management System, including secure web sites and links to both SAP and PeopleSoft;
- hiring 500 JPAs in August 2008 to assist with valet parking and to assure no seats are empty at the various concerts;
- creating Internal Orders to assure that the costs incurred by the invitees are properly expensed in SAP;
- establishing a special Ethics Office committee to quickly adjudicate "misunderstandings" of what expenses are personal versus business-related;
- submitting to international competition the special "birthday event invitee" sticker design to be attached to the Bank ID cards of those special enough to receive invitations; and
- producing such stickers with a material that decays in 72 hours to reduce the number of staff who are disinclined to remove the sticker long after the birthday events have ended.



LAC Regional Vice President David de Ferranti (third from right) immediately after test-driving an earthmover while pre-appraising the Chile Mining Technical Assistance Project last month. Miraculously uninjured, de Ferranti hastily signed the loan agreement a few hours later, after incorporating 391 last-minute changes requested by Chilean Minister of Finance Nicolás Eyzaguirre Guzmán.



By Sheila Reines

[illegible]

HIV/AIDS activists and Greenpeace volunteers jointly protest World Bank Group health and environmental policies by unsheathing a ribbed, lubricated, reservoir-tipped glow-in-the-dark sperm whale condom from the Executive Directors' MC-13 smoking room.

Answer Line

Question: I just joined the Bank. My colleagues keep talking about “AWS.” What does that mean?

Answer: Alternative Work Station. *Mark Bowyer, Manager, Human Resources Service Center.*

Question: I’m an IFC staff, and my contract has expired. My supervisor can’t commit to an extension until his own job status is resolved. Can I just keep showing up and doing my job as if nothing happened? If so, will I continue to receive my salary?

Answer: Only if you also hold a joint appointment as Managing Director of the World Bank. *Dorothy Berry, Vice President, CHA.*

Question: How long can Vice Presidents work?

Answer: Most Vice Presidents work at the pleasure of the President. A few work at the pleasure of the President, plus three months. *Yukiko Omura, Executive Vice President Designate, MIGA.*

Question: When I retire, can I work for a company that was a major supplier of services to my VPU?

Answer: No. This would violate the conflict of interest provisions of Staff Rule 3.01. *Lee Grassley, Ethics Case Officer, EBC.*

Question: But I’m a Vice President.

Answer: Then you need a waiver. *Kathy Sierra, Vice President, Human Resources.*

Question: Will the waiver automatically end the INT investigation against me?

Answer: That depends on which lawyer you hire. *Shengman Zhang, Managing Director.*

Question: Can some of my VPU management team join me?

Answer: No. *Lee Grassley, Ethics Case Officer, EBC.*

SPAM CONTROLS

ISG today announced two new features that respond to staff concerns about the volume of spam received in Lotus Notes inboxes. This follows ITSB’s refusal yesterday to buy the state of Rhode Island to house the servers necessary to hold all the Bank’s incoming email.

First, effective today all staff will find an enabled agent in their Lotus Notes Agents Folder which automatically moves any email addressed to “PREM Network All,” “ESSD All” and “Hot Nub.ile Intern Foxes” directly into the Trash folder. Those wishing to be alerted to lunchtime seminars on “Corruption in Parking Ticket Administration: the Case of Mumbai” and “The distributional impact of the transfat ban on left-handed farmers in the Olduvai Gorge” should disable this agent immediately.

Second, since authors who send emails often regret their choice of topic or words, the “Bring It Back” button now appears on your Notes left-hand toolbar, between the nuclear family and the targeted globe. After extensive testing by EXT Internal Communications and HR, this new Notes feature is now available for everyone. ISG wishes to thank Gerry Rice for sponsoring and participating in the pilot, and offering so many emails that required recall. A Phase 2 feature that causes any paper copy of a withdrawn email to burst into flames is ready to be tested once *The Economist*’s insurance company and GSD Director Luis Descaire can arrange a meeting. Mohamed Muhsin, interviewed in Bangalore where he was preparing to offshore his entire ISG Vice Presidency, said that this was just another example of ISG’s collaboration with Bank staff and managers to provide them with anything they can afford.

OXYMORON OF THE YEAR

The 2004 award goes to Corporate Secretariat’s document OGAM2004-0008, entitled “Professional Development for Executive Directors’ Offices.” Congratulations to SECVP Paatii Ofosu-Amaah on the Bank Group’s first quadruple oxymoron!

Nowhere Near the Record: A Conversation With Ian Goldin



Ian Goldin was appointed Vice President for External Affairs after an extensive search that rejected top candidates from the private sector, academia and Mensa. Although EXT’s Staff Survey results were depressing, most agree that Goldin is scaling up learning in EXT—particularly his own. We met Goldin in the Millennium Cafe.

BS: What on earth prompted you to take this job?

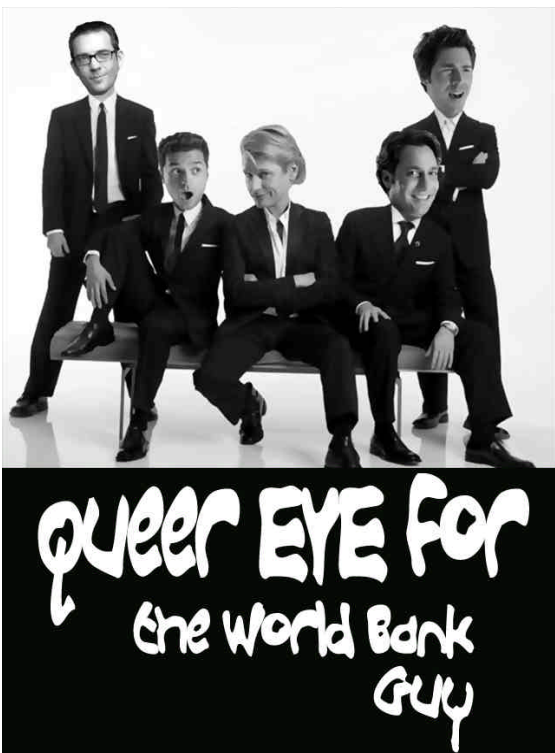
Well, Nick Stern had enticed me to join the World Bank with the unspoken understanding — at least on my part — that I would take over from him, or maybe Jim Wolfensohn. But when Nick left, nothing happened. I am not sure why. I should ask Gerry.

BS: What do you consider your greatest achievement so far?

Where do I begin? I get along with Mamphela. We even coordinate our travel schedules and regularly discuss how we can transfer the bulk of the work on the MDGs to Jean-Louis. I have recruited an agency temp to write my next book. I moved EXT to the Main Complex, and my office is bigger than Gerry’s, even though I had to reduce everyone else’s square footage. I urged EXT staff to “practice what they preach” and get out of their tiny ratholes to “dialogue” outside. (Smokers were already supportive of this best practice.) I agreed with Gerry’s decision to invite Robert McNamara back so he could eviscerate the MDGs. I’ve networked extensively for other positions. And perhaps most importantly, I have maintained a good reputation in the President’s office. Ask Gerry for details.

BS: What are your next steps?

I want to continue improving my travel schedule in consultation with Mamphela. I also intend to bring in some external best practice techniques to bring some life to my townhalls. (I have asked Gerry to get the Internal Communications folks to come up with some gimmicks, but I’ve told them: no balloons!) I’m also supporting Gerry, and Gerry will confirm this.



The Fab 5 got the call from the top this time! A big shot in search of a make-over! A friend of Bono is in trouble... This is our first international financier. If we can pull this off, Kofi might be next!



This giant plasma display is da bomb! But what's *Davos Highlights*? I don't get B-SPAN on my home dish...

I guess they are fighting poverty here one VP at a time...

Frannie what's-her-name was very cool to let us use her office for the big event...



"Here's a quick recap: Jim wants a complete make-over so people think YOUTH when they walk into his office. He also wants them to think 'five more years'..."



"Today, it's all Y2Y! Bach is just another decomposing composer."



"Eating right doesn't mean eating rich. Caspian caviar? Ceviche from Seville? Buffalo Jerky in Jackson Hole? You are only as young as you eat..."



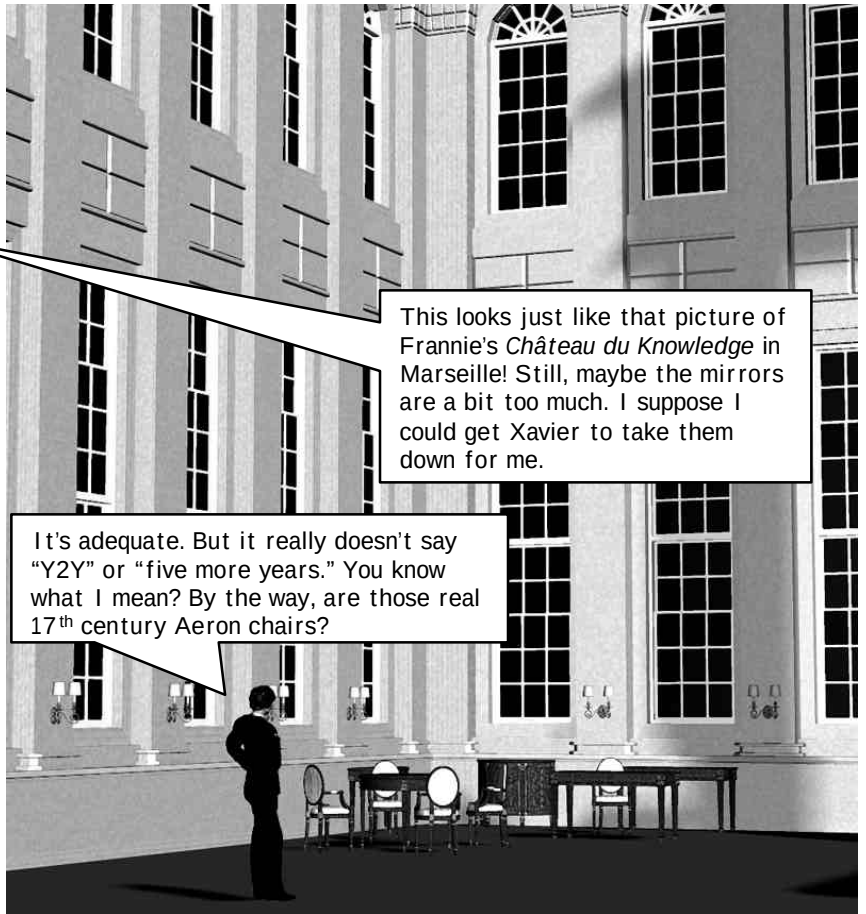
"Today's JPA wants Prada and D&G. We are talking black, black, dahling. Saville Row suits? No way! BCBG? Puhleeze!"



"Hair, baby. It's all about the hair. Don't want to worry about it? Wear a hat. Got dandruff? Lose it. Forget Grecian Formula 44! Bring on the Bed Head!"



"This is Jim's office. He's definitely got this whole *Roi-Soleil* thing going on...."



This looks just like that picture of Frannie's *Château du Knowledge* in Marseille! Still, maybe the mirrors are a bit too much. I suppose I could get Xavier to take them down for me.

It's adequate. But it really doesn't say "Y2Y" or "five more years." You know what I mean? By the way, are those real 17th century Aeron chairs?

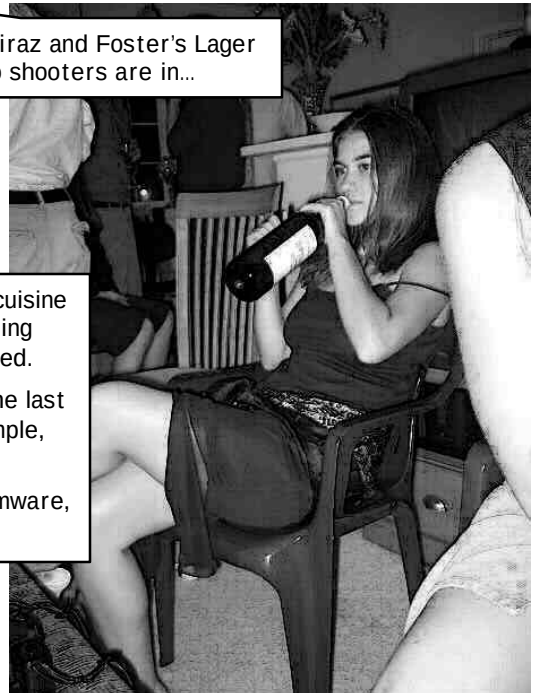


Yellowtail Shiraz and Foster's Lager are out. Jello shooters are in...

...and eating the Pan-Asian cuisine served in the Executive Dining Room is completely not ripped.

But don't use this JPA at the last Y2Y Happy Hour as an example, either!

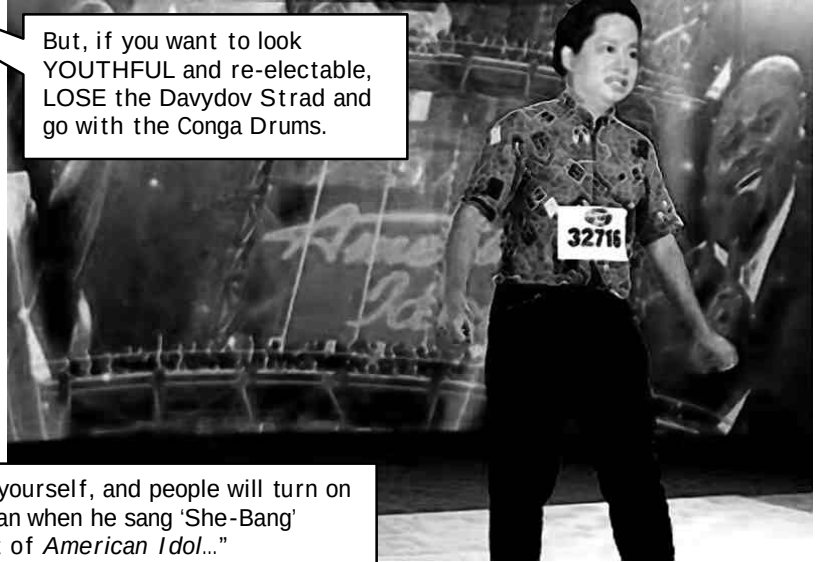
HELLO? Ever heard of stemware, young lady?





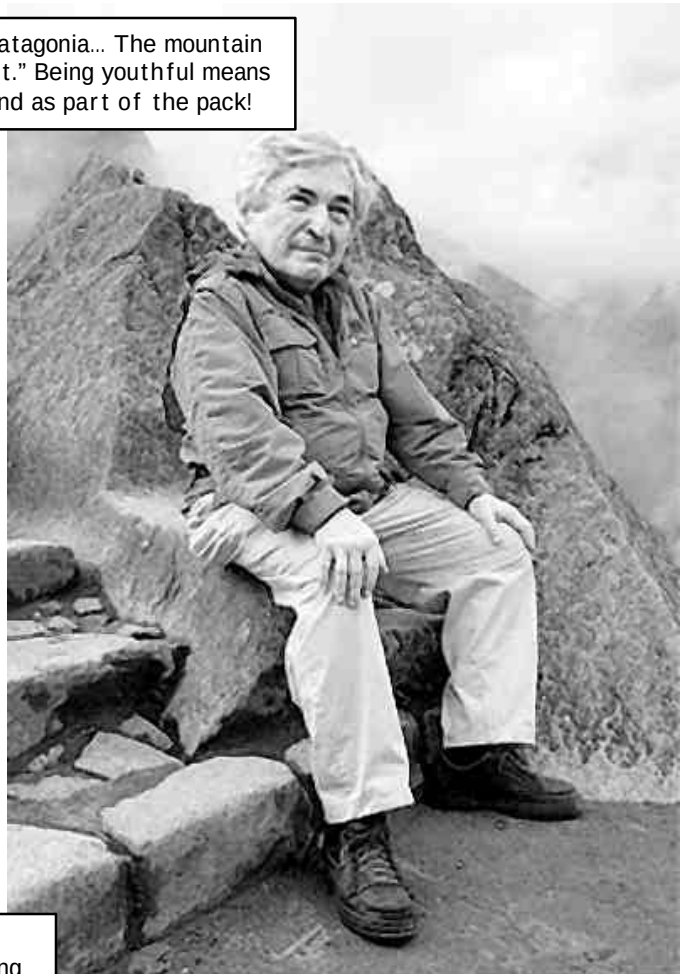
The Bank's full of talented people from all over the world. WORLD Bank. Get it? I love the CD with Yo-Yo Ma, Bono and Jim playing sheep music from Patagonia...

But, if you want to look YOUTHFUL and re-electable, LOSE the Davydov Strad and go with the Conga Drums.



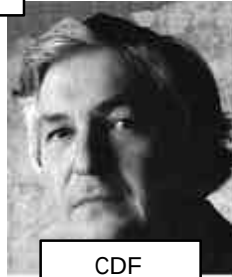
"WARNING! This is tricky. Get out of yourself, and people will turn on you. Look at what happened to Shengman when he sang 'She-Bang' while meeting with the JPAs on the set of *American Idol*..."

And while we are on Patagonia... The mountain man look is sooo "apart." Being youthful means bunching, moving around as part of the pack!



So, Jimmy. Lose the IFC windbreaker. SIT UP STRAIGHT! And do something about streamlining Board operations. Youth want results!

You can tell what a man has been through by analyzing the way he's worn his hair over the years....



CDF



Three Gorges



Chad-Cameroon



MDGs

But this doesn't leave me with much to work with...

YET, because it's the Fab 5 — and because it's Reality TV — a MIRACLE occurs, and Jim is transformed into "Uber-JPA"! Let's watch what happens...



Look, he's coming out now! I LOVE the hair!

He looks so Part 11!

I wonder if they'll hire me if I change my last name to Stern?

Oh, my God! We went too far! We turned him into...



You're
FIRED!

NEXT WEEK:
The claws come out as
the Fab 5 update the
pension plan!

Not So Hot, Not So Cold!

Today's Weather:
High budget pressure. Mostly cold with
winds from all directions.
High: 0% cut. Low: 2% cut.
Forecast courtesy of JDW's
conference room weathervane!

Kids Swirled

FOR OUR YOUNGEST READERS
JPAS JPOS YPS INTERNS

You Go, Girl!

When did ACS staff stop
serving coffee to their
bosses? (Answer below
Hero of the Week.)

STATUESQUE



If you are ever lucky enough to visit the World Bank in Washington, you may notice a statue in the Atrium. (The Atrium is a big room where people take a break from fighting poverty by drinking coffee, which gives them more energy to fight more poverty.) The statue reminds people of the many good things the World Bank does, such as

fighting diseases in poor countries. The statue shows a boy leading a man who went blind because the man drank bad water. Imagine if your parents did not bring home clean water from Safeway every day, and you had to drink the water that D.C. sends to your studio apartment. It's kinda, sorta, like that, but not really.

CAN YOU SPELL "MDG"?

Millennium is a big word that means a very long time, but on the World Bank's web site it is sometimes spelled with one 'N.' Why is this? Well, the World Bank is a unique place and sometimes "ununique" and thinks it should be able to spell any word any way it wants to, just like the IFC. The World Bank is giving itself a very long time to accomplish its Millennium Goals. Kind of like putting off doing the dishes until you finish your M.B.A. Some say the Bank has been around for a long time (60 years!) and many say it's been around too long. It's amazing that there aren't more goals! But let's learn about the goals the Bank has today!

Broadening the Development Framework: Getting a nice Aeron chair so your mature derrière will be comfortable.

Reducing Poverty: Getting rid of poor people around the world, or padding your SOE on mission.

Relieving Unsustainable Debt: Dumping any country that cannot pay us back OR going into bankruptcy if you use your Diner's Club when you are not supposed to.

Tackling Corruption: Getting rid of staff who are dumb enough to get caught dipping into their trust funds.

Sharing Knowledge: Attending Y2Y happy hours.

Managing Conflict: Never say "No." Just nod, smile, walk away and don't do whatever it is.

Fighting Aids: Adding condoms to the other stuff in the Travel Health Kit so you have things to play with on planes.
Faith and Development: When your project is in the dumpster, go to the Meditation Room to pray.

Achieving the Millennium Goals: Setting a deadline date after everyone who dreamed up the Millennium Goals in the first place has long retired!

DO U IM?

hey m8. afaik gmta. iming is sooo much better than email. imho i think irl theres not enuf time. inalb, iris could store im for wbg recs. wdyt? wwjdwd? got 2 tell u, rotf! with bs this yr. u cn im pdq. but 4 sum, ymmv, esp over 50. w/e. try it out. if u don't get it, rtfm. g2g. c ya.

HERO OF THE WEEK: BONO

At a Y2Y event held before U2's latest MCI Center concert, Bono chatted with Bank kids — JPAs, JPOs, YPs (and all their friends from OAS and IADB) — in yet another MC-12 gallery Happy Hour jointly sponsored by EXT and, as a mentoring event, HRS. We found out that Jim and Bono met accidentally because both use the same hairdresser. What are the odds? The hairdresser did not cut either man's hair since the cosmic energy in the room was just too distracting. But it was great seeing Bono giving advice to the World Bank's young, upcoming leaders, most of whom must leave the institution after two years of service. "You too can become rich and make a difference!" was Bono's message. Here is some of his wisdom:



"Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you're a mile away and you have their shoes."

"Sometimes you're the pigeon, sometimes you're the statue, sometimes you're the dog, sometimes you're the fire hydrant. Do dogs pee on pigeons?"

"If you're too open-minded, your brains will fall out."

"Build a man a fire, and he'll be warm for a day. Set a man on fire, and he'll be warm for the rest of his life."

"I am writing my autobiography and I would be grateful to anyone who could tell me what I was doing between 1979 and 1984."

"Do illiterate people get the full effect of alphabet soup?"

When the JPA program was implemented!
Answer to trivia question:



It's our 20-Year Anniversary!
Thanks for celebrating with us.
Now get back to complaining about your grade level.