

First Hand Report 2016

Welcome Week (Welcome by Prof. Buhl - Weißwurstfrühstück) 29.09.2016

Pretest 04.10.2016 - 05.10.2016



At the end of September, on a nice Thursday morning, we had our first official get-together. We started with a traditional Bavarian breakfast (Weißwurstfrühstück) and had the opportunity to get to know our fellow students from various academic backgrounds. Furthermore, we received information about upcoming events. After a brief introduction, we immediately started with three workshops which were followed by two more workshops on the next day. After a busy weekend of studying, we took Pre-Tests in five courses (Investments & Finance, Informatics, Operations

Research, Stochastic Processes, Data Engineering), which were passed by all students. The rest of the week was reserved for Prof. Buhl lecturing about principals of entrepreneurial thinking and for the introduction of business partners as well as FIM professors. The welcome week allowed us to get to know the FIM spirit and adapt to the new environment.

Homecoming Event of 12th class 18.10.2016



Once the Welcome Week was over, our Individual Study Courses started. In addition, we finally had the chance to meet up with the class of 2015 during the "Homecoming Event". The colleagues of 2015 had just finished their Individual Research Phase or

had come back from their respective internships. Consequently, the Homecoming event was filled with exciting first hand reports about the various summer experiences of the class of 2015. Most of them conducted their research in teams of two. Topics reached from finance to wisdom of the crowd. Some of

the students also did an internship at one of FIM's business partners. The conversations gave us a good impression about how our summer in FIM might look like. The best part of the Homecoming event was the "Party Tram" – a tram the class of 2015 booked in order to show us the city, celebrate our admission to FIM and get to know each other better.

Individual Study Course 10.12.2016 - 14.12.2016

The 31 FIM students come from different academic backgrounds. To increase the understanding of each other, FIM provides the opportunity to attend five out of seven Individual Study Courses such as: Data Engineering, Finance-, Operations- and Information Management, Operations Research, Informatics, Stochastic Processes, Investments & Finance and Value-Based Process Management. Thus, for eight weeks, each of us focused on new academic topics which resulted in taking our first official tests by the mid of December.

Bridging the Gap 25.11.2016



On the 25th of November, experts on networks from all over the industry met at the Bridging the Gap conference to debate about the power of networks. The 11th class had organized the conference which took place at the headquarter of BayernLB in Munich. The 13th class of FIM was also participating in the conference and supported their colleagues by handing out name tags and distributing goodie bags.



During the event, experts from Hilti, BayernLB, Assenagon, SAP, Deutsche Bank, Dr. Oetker, KPMG and various start-ups gave an insight into the role of networks for their respective companies. This included for example Dr. Martin Hüfner from Assenagon describing his views as an economist on networks. Dr. Matthias Büger from Deutsche Bank outlined the whole spectrum of networks and differentiated specific ones.



During the breaks, we had the opportunity to get to know the speakers and to further discuss their ideas. Moreover, we enjoyed interesting talks with other participants. The whole conference ended with an amazing conference dinner.

Winter School 19.12.2016 - 22.12.2016

After challenging weeks of studying, we were looking forward to our first soft skills seminar within the FIM graduate program. The first day started with discussions and presentations about the financial crisis of 2007. This included developing our very own academic, economic, political and ethical point of view about the crisis and its drivers. We spent the second day outdoors where we had to fulfill challenging tasks as a team. For the last challenge of the day, we had to apply all our learnings and a lot of effort to solve a tough



challenge within the time limit. This experience increased our collaboration and again taught us how to look after another.

The last two days of the soft skill seminar, we spent with Martin Fladerer from the chair of psychology at the LMU. He guided us through topics including group dynamics, decision making and communication. During these two days, we experienced good discussions and learned how to properly communicate and effectively work with other team members in diverse groups.

With the seminar program lasting from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. we enjoyed self-organizing our evenings. We went to the cinema to watch a movie, worked out, went out for drinks and consequently got to know each other even better outside the academic setting.

On Friday morning, we all left the academic premises in order to go home for Christmas. We will keep these four intense and exhausting, but also very informative and unforgettable days in very good memory.



Core Courses Phase 1 09.01.2017 - 09.03.2017

After Christmas and New Year's Day, the next phase of our FIM master's program started: The Core Courses. This phase of the master's program allowed us to improve and deepen the knowledge and topics from the Individual Study Courses. In total, a FIM students can subscribe for nine out of eleven Core Courses. Thereby, the Core Courses are split in a way that each student does four to five courses first and after taking the exam for those courses, the remaining four to five courses start.

This was a very intense phase of studying since the courses started very early and lasted the whole day. However, all of us managed to finish the first part of the Core Courses successfully.

Spring School 27.03.2017 - 01.04.2017

This year's Spring School took place at the TUM Science and Study Center Raitenhaslach. The spring school came along with soft skill seminars in self-reflection, team-reflection and leadership and rhetoric training as well as an accommodation in a former monastery near Burghausen.

The first day started with an introduction of Prof. Dr. Claudia Peus (TUM) and her very interesting course on '360-Degree-Leadership'. Together with her, we discussed the distinction between the upward and downward and self- and lateral leadership. In addition, she presented various leadership styles to us.

The second day was all about rhetoric. Dr. Wolfgang Zeitler taught us about different aspects of speaking, body language, argumentation and persuasiveness.

Afterwards, we were happy to meet up with Martin Fladerer from LMU again, who we already knew from our Winter School. This time he moderated an intense self- and team reflection process. At the end of this process, we grew as a team and as an individual person.

At the end of the week, we spent two days with Dr. Bettina Hailer, who specialized in conflict solution and solution orientated negotiating.

Summarizing, we had an interesting and educational week. We consider ourselves lucky to have spent our Spring School week at this impressive location.



