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40 years of the St. Gallen Symposium: students with an entrepreneurial spirit wanted

Students from all over the world have a chance of participating in the St. Gallen Wings of Excellence Award

On 6 and 7 May 2010, the 40th St. Gallen Symposium will be taking place on the Campus of the University of St.Gallen (HSG). Students from all over the world will meet 600 decision-makers from trade and industry, academia, society and politics in order to debate the topic of "Entrepreneurs – Agents of Change". 100 of the so-called "Leaders of Tomorrow" will be able to qualify for participation in the St. Gallen Symposium with an essay. The best authors will win the "St. Gallen Wings of Excellence Award", which amounts to EUR 20,000. Another 100 students will be invited to St.Gallen on account of their academic performance and their specialist relationship with the topic.

The topic of "Entrepreneurs – Agents of Change" revolves around the entrepreneurial individual and his/her innovative power. Entrepreneurial action is widely considered to be the approach to overcoming a crisis: where others see decline and doom, people who think along entrepreneurial lines perceive new opportunities and possibilities. The St. Gallen Symposium offers a platform, not only to entrepreneurs in the economic sense of the term but also to people who follow the principle of permanent innovation in a wide variety of areas in life. What is crucial is that today's entrepreneurs and decision-makers are brought into contact with the Leaders of Tomorrow.

Contributing to the "Spirit of St.Gallen"

The 200 Leaders of Tomorrow constitute the pivotal group of participants in the St. Gallen Symposium. To qualify for participation in the St. Gallen Symposium, student applicants must familiarize themselves with the topic in depth and submit their ideas and visions in the form of an essay by 1 February 2010. Every year, some 1,000 students from over 40 nations send in their work, thus turning the EUR 20,000 St. Gallen Wings of Excellence Award into the biggest student competition of its kind. Besides the participants in the competition, the International Students' Committee (ISC) will for the first time select 100 young talents worldwide, who have a proven academic background and possess the aptitude to enrich the discussions of the topic with their specialist knowledge. This second group of participants will be invited to St.Gallen in May 2010 alongside the 100 best participants in the student competition.

Every year, the International Students' Committee (ISC) – a team made up of about 30 highly motivated students of the University of St.Gallen – assume responsibility for the planning, implementation and further development of the St. Gallen Symposium on a voluntary basis.

Further information about the St. Gallen Wings of Excellence Award, the St. Gallen Symposium and next year's topic, "Entrepreneurs – Agents of Change", can be found on the website <http://www.stgallen-symposium.org>.

The enclosed winners' essays of 2009 will provide you with a deeper insight into the St. Gallen Wings of Excellence Award.

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St. Gallen Symposium

The St. Gallen Symposium is an internationally significant dialogue platform for fundamental issues of management, the entrepreneurial environment, and the interfaces between trade and industry, politics and society. Annually for the last 40 years, it has brought together a global target group of entrepreneurs, top managers, politicians, academics, decision-makers of civil society, and students for open, interdisciplinary and generation-spanning discussions in an inspiring environment at the University of St.Gallen. As an entrepreneurial initiative of the International Students' Committee (ISC) St.Gallen, the St. Gallen Symposium aims to trigger impulses for the sustainable success of companies and societies in a globalized world. www.stgallen-symposium.org

University of St.Gallen (HSG)

Internationality, practical relevance and an integrative perspective have been the trademarks of education at the University of St.Gallen in Switzerland ever since it was established more than a century ago. Today, the University of St.Gallen (HSG) educates 6,500 students from 79 nations in the fields of Business Administration, Economics, Law and Social Sciences. The HSG has shown itself to be highly successful, having been consistently ranked among Europe's leading business universities. Its holistic education, which meets the highest academic standards, has earned it the seal of approval of the EQUIS and AACSB accreditations. Academic degrees can be obtained at the Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral Levels. In addition, the University of St.Gallen offers first-class and comprehensive courses in Executive Education. Thanks to an increasing number of programmes taught in English, the HSG has shown itself to be attractive to international students. The focal points of research at the University of St.Gallen are crystallized in its 40 institutes and research centers, which constitute an integral part of the University. The institutes, which are largely autonomous and mostly self-financing, still remain closely connected to university operations. www.unisg.ch