

SOLVAY BRUSSELS SCHOOL - ULB
INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD (IAB)

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ULB

Solvay Brussels School
Economics & Management

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT



Valerie Urbain

I fully subscribe to Mandela's quote: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world". And I am totally convinced that Education does have a ripple effect. It is animated by this belief that I accepted to chair the International Advisory Board of Solvay Brussels School- Economics and Management. It is a privilege for me to give back my time, energy and experience to the school that contributed so much to make me the person and leader I am today.

Working in such environment with such a diverse community makes me hopeful for the future. Each of us will need to contribute toward conserving resources and preserving the environment without jeopardizing well-being, equity, inclusion, and sustainability. We are all here to unleash the potential of the next generation of leaders to help solve society's most pressing challenges, this is true and mutual academic and intellectual enrichment for everything now, and most importantly, for everything that will come next.

SCHOOL'S KEY NUMBERS



250+ OUTGOING
STUDENTS PER YEAR

200+ INCOMING
STUDENTS PER YEAR



30,000+ ALUMNI IN
100 COUNTRIES



5 DOUBLE DEGREES



LOCATED AT THE
HEART OF EUROPE



140+ INTERNATIONAL
PARTNERS IN

40+ COUNTRIES



FOUNDING MEMBER OF
**EUROPEAN
MANAGEMENT
UNIVERSITY (EMU)**



UTB

Solvay Brussels School
of Economics & Management

OUR MEMBERS



Sébastien Deletaille

Member since Nov 2018

Co-founder and CEO of Rosa - a patient app.

The School needs to connect with its Alumni and with the most important societal questions & trends: climate transition, digitalization, healthcare. As a tech entrepreneur, I wish to support the School in growing entrepreneurs and change-makers that find answers to what the world needs.

Solvay is an undeniable leader across Europe. Yet, many other universities want to take our place. In 3 years, I want to see Solvay in the first tier of FT rankings, as a result of the School's ability to innovate and reinvent its way of teaching in a digital world.

Solvay is a mindset. Alumni aim for excellence in organizations, by bridging business and engineering. Solvay is also a community with a very strong sense of belonging. Together, we aim to improve the lives around us.

Born in a family of entrepreneurs, I was urged not to join the family art business. As a result, I've picked up the passion of collecting art as a hobby.

OUR MEMBERS



Thomas Dermine

Member since early 2019

State Secretary for Economic Recovery and Strategic Investments, in charge of Scientific Policy.

I joined the IAB Board because of willingness to give back to the School (and the University) that have shaped my perspective on the world.

The School is at a crossroads. While it still enjoys a very strong reputation in Europe, it faces increasing competition in fast digitizing learning environment.

The School is based on truly distinctive values (commitment to excellence, multidisciplinary, diversity, research/practice combination, science / management combination), it has to build on these core attributes to keep and further grow its relevance in a fast changing environment.

SOLVAY means commitment to excellence, doing serious things without being too serious.

Next to my personal life, I like running, hanging out with old university mates and much more !

OUR MEMBERS



Vincenzo Espositio - Vinzi Member since 2021

I have been Dean and President of ESSEC Business School since January 2018. I was a professor of Statistics at the University of Naples Federico II in Italy until 2007, when I joined ESSEC's Faculty, and was elected Dean of Faculty in December 2011, a position I held until December 2017.

Joining the International Advisory Board of SBSEM is a move in favor of mutual understanding between actors of the business & management education sector, as well as an important opportunity to support the development of an excellent institution.

What strikes me in SBSEM's sustainability agenda is how it encompasses all the activities of the school, either research, pedagogy and outreach, to have a global impact on business and society. Regarding the objective of becoming a leader in the sustainable transition, the most difficult - and exciting - challenge refers to what leading means: the capacity to be a driving force for all the numerous stakeholders of the School (students, professors, staff, the rest of the university, corporate partners, public authorities, etc.) so that they are all empowered to become actors of positive change in favor of sustainable economies and societies.

OUR MEMBERS



François Goffinet

Member since 2020

I am the CEO of a company which is active in claims management. The company, based near Rotterdam, employs 2,500 people and is active in 4 main countries: the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Spain – with an IT & Ops center in Tunisia.

I have joined the IAB Board because I would like to support the Dean and his team in making Solvay a stronger school, which is ready and relevant for the fast-changing world that we are living in.

I would like the School to draw its own future from its strong roots. We need to (re-)develop some distinctive angles, which makes Solvay the place where brilliant students from Belgium, Europe and the world want to be educated. For me, Solvay resonates with excellence.

Students learn very fast and have this great can-do attitude that is distinctive.

I spend much time abroad but I really am a Brusseleir. I love hanging around in the Flagey neighbourhood in Ixelles, spending time with my wife, my two children and my friends or discovering new paths in the Soignes forest.

OUR MEMBERS



Edouard Janssen

Member since 2015

I have been a Member of the IAB since 2015, as a representative of the Solvay Family. Since February 2020, also Vice-Chairman of the IAB.

I'm currently VP, active in Strategy and M&A, in the Solvay Group. I started my career at Morgan Stanley in London.

From 1995 to 2000, I enjoyed tremendously my years as a student (and student representative) at SBS-EM.

In 2009, I got my MBA from Insead, and am currently on the advisory board of their Hoffmann Institute.

Hence, I joined the IAB to encourage our dear SBS-EM to shine more. The world is changing fast, and after a few years in the USA, I brutally understand why they call us "old Europe".

I love different sports (tennis, cycling, ski, yoga) and also enjoy meditation and books.

OUR MEMBERS



Victoria Jooris

Member since 2020

A polyglot British-born, Belgian-raised biomimicry enthusiast. Avid skier, golfer and sailer. Loves all things technological and Good Will Hunting.

My expectations for the IAB this year are two-fold: firstly to take advantage of the era of digitalisation thanks to COVID to look at implementing innovative practices and secondly to put in place medium and long-term targets that foster a virtuous circle for the internationalisation of Solvay and hopefully raise its ranking.

To me, Solvay brings to mind creativity, an entrepreneurial drive and grit.

OUR MEMBERS



Isabelle Langlois - Loris
Member since 2014

I am a partner with Egon Zehnder, the world's leadership advisory firm. We aim at transforming people, organizations, and the world through better leadership.

Before joining Egon Zehnder more than 20 years ago, I was a consultant with McKinsey.

I am also the Chair of the Solvay Schools Alumni Association and organizing as such the Congress of the Solvay Schools on "Business and Policy for a Carbon-neutral World". The Solvay Schools Alumni Association counts about 30 000 alumni.

Through the IAB, I hope to support the development of the Solvay School, based on my experience on the talent market and my knowledge of the business needs. I would love the School to be - and to be perceived as - a top business school to prepare the successful business leaders of the future: agile, flexible, curious, adaptable ... but also rigorous, analytical, forward-looking, purposeful, with strong human and ethical values, leaders who will aim at sustainable business practices.

I am immensely thankful to the Solvay School for the wonderful professional life it has enabled me to have but also for the great life-long friends I made "sur les bancs de l'école" and for the fantastic network of alumni I am a member of.

OUR MEMBERS



Peter Praet

Member since 2020

In my professional life as an economist I had the chance to be able to combine academic and teaching activities with responsibilities in the private financial sector and in the public sector (IMF, ministry of finance, central bank and financial supervision authority). After completion of my eight year mandate as an Executive Board member of the ECB and its chief economist, I joined ECARES, Solvay Brussels School. I am distinguished Fellow CEPR (Center for European Policy Research).

Curiosity and problem-solving traits are key factors in human progress. In my view, the School has always been striving to stimulate both, with an open mind. I joined the IAB to defend these values that have made the success of the School. In a fast moving environment the School has to set the bar high, continuously challenging itself. In this respect, it must intensify its efforts to attract talents and to supply high quality education with a greater accent on Society resiliency and sustainability.

OUR MEMBERS



Sarah Scaillet

Member since 2016

I am the General Administrator (CEO) of the Federal Pensions Service in Belgium.

I joined the IAB board to bring an approach to the public sector both in terms of the specific needs of this sector, particularly at the level of executive management and also in the context of governance of a university and faculty because the specificities are quite similar to those in the public sector.

In my opinion, it is important that the school continues its efforts in recognizing its potential and its EQUIS accreditation, that it position itself as a school of excellence to face the societal challenges of tomorrow, particularly in terms of management and governance both at the level of classical university education and in executive education and this in the heart of the European Capital. Solvay means the desire to strive for excellence by keeping an open and (self) critical mind.

Part of my dressing is made by myself, passion from my grandmother and I am a tattoo fan.

OUR MEMBERS



Barbara Sporn
Member since 2021

Barbara Sporn is professor of higher education management and heads the Institute for Higher Education Management at WU Vienna University of Economics and Business. Professor Sporn served as Vice-Rector for Research, International Affairs and External Relations of WU Vienna University of Economics and Business from 2002 to 2015.

Dr. Sporn is Director for EFMD Programme Accreditation, Quality Services of EFMD. She serves on the different advisory boards in Europe and Asia. Her publication record includes books and numerous journal articles on leadership and organization in higher education, university adaptation and change, and the social impact of universities.

Solvay has a unique character to which I will be happy to contribute. The firm grounding in engineering and economics together with the strategic direction towards sustainable make it a unique case for a business school in Europe and beyond.

My expertise in the area of university management, programme design and comparative studies could be useful for moving Solvay forward and elevate the profile to new heights.

It will be a great pleasure and honour to work with members of the IAB and the Dean and his team on this important endeavour. I do look forward to being part of the journey.

OUR MEMBERS



Metka Tekavčič
Member since 2018

Prof. Metka Tekavčič was named Dean of the School of Economics and Business, University of Ljubljana (SEB LU) in 2013. From 2001 to 2007 professor Tekavčič was Vice-Dean at the SEB LU. From 1999 to 2001 she was also the Head of the Academic Unit of Management and Organization.

Her research interest lies in the fields of cost and performance management, as well as non-profit and especially education management. Prof. Tekavčič has attended many international conferences, where she has presented papers from her research areas. She has published several research articles in Slovene, other European, and US peer-reviewed journals. She is a member of editorial boards in several prominent journals from her research field.

Prof. Tekavčič is president of the SEB LU's Senate and the Head of the Institute for Management and Organization. In 2014 she was awarded the Artemida award for Women's Excellence in Management. From 1992 till 2013 she was a member of the City Council of Ljubljana, Slovenia. She has long been and remains a member of the supervisory boards of many important Slovenian companies and other institutions.

In 2016, Dean Tekavčič was appointed as a member of the EQUIS Accreditation Board, run by European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD), the leading international network for management development. In 2019 she was also appointed to the Board of EFMD.

Since 2017, prof. Tekavčič has also served as a member of the AACSB International - The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) Initial Accreditation Committee and a member the and European Advisory Council (EAC).

She has recently been elected Chairman of the Steering Committee of the ACE (Alliance of Chinese and European Business Schools).

OUR MEMBERS



Dominique Turpin
Member since 2021

Dominique Turpin is currently the Dentsu Chaired Professor of Marketing and the Dean of External Relations. He has served as IMD President and Nestlé Professor from July 2010 until the end of 2016. He was also previously the director of the IMD MBA (Master of Business Administration) and PED (Program for Executive Development). Professor Turpin has directed customized programs for companies such as Groupe SEB, Panasonic and Japan Tobacco International. He has extensive teaching, consulting and research experience in the areas of marketing and international strategy both in Europe and in Asia, particularly in the area of brand management, customer orientation and communications strategy.

He has worked as a consultant and management educator with a large number of international companies including: Coca Cola, CPW, Danone, DSM, Jardine Matheson, Nestlé, Novo Nordisk, Philips and Uponor. He also served as a board member for ITOCHU Europe, a leading Japanese trading company and the Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne. Dominique Turpin has widespread executive seminar and consulting experience for clients in Europe, Asia and Latin America. His current research focuses on brand management, and he has been widely published in more than 100 books, articles and case studies including the Financial Times, European Business Forum and MIT Sloan Management Review. He has also been listed among the Case Center's top-40 best-selling case authors for 2018/19 and 2015/16. He has been a regular contributor to the Nihon Sangyo Shimbun (The Japan Industrial Journal), one of the leading business dailies in Japan. Professor Turpin is also the Continental European editor for the Long Range Planning Journal, the international journal of strategic management and an editorial advisor for the Singapore Management Review.

Prior to joining IMD, he spent several years in Tokyo as a representative of a French firm in Japan. He served as Visiting Professor at the Keio Graduate School of Business Administration, Japan. Since 1994, Professor Turpin serves as the IMD representative on the Academic Council of the China-Europe International Business School in Shanghai (People's Republic of China).

Dominique Turpin received his master's degree from ESSCA in France. He earned a doctorate in economics from Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan.

OUR MEMBERS



Valérie Urbain

Member since 2014

I joined the IAB as members since 2014, and was appointed as Chair in 2019.

As Chief Executive Officer of Euroclear Bank, I am responsible for Euroclear Bank's Operations, Commercial, Client Service, Banking and Network Management divisions worldwide.

I felt it was time for me to give back to the school and the new generations my time and competences.

I would like to see the school being properly recognized internationally for its quality contrary to what is currently happening in the rankings. I would also like that the school adapts its offering to prepare at best the new generations to play an active role in the new sustainable economy.

Commitment for excellence, critical mind based on analytics, hard work while keeping fun

Travelling and spending time with my family and friends is what gives me most of my energy in the little spare time that I have.

OUR MEMBERS



Céline Vaessen
Member since 2020

I have been teaching at the Solvay Brussels School for nearly 20 years. Right after having graduated, I started teaching as a research assistant and have continued since then. My love for teaching gave me the strength to combine this with first, an investment banker job and then with a CEO job at the Relaunch subsidiary of the Belgian Federal Holding and Investment Company (SFPI/FPIM).

The Solvay School has brought me a lot and personally, it resonates like a family to me that can challenge your thoughts with an open and independent analytical eye and can also help in difficult times.

To that end, the Solvay School has to keep on enhancing cooperation between research, study programs and executive education offers in an increasingly competitive environment but mostly to continuously question itself and identify opportunities for improvement.

Born in a family of teachers, I am happy to continue teaching at the School and enjoy practicing yoga or strolling in the forest to discover the seasons with my children and friends.



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