



World Trade Center Detroit/Windsor International Business Forum (IBF)

This program began as a simple idea: As a place where people who have international interests can network and exchange ideas and information on a regular basis. The IBF has remained inexpensive and open to all. Meetings feature top-rated speakers that are willing to share their expertise on various subjects.

The IBF was first formed in September, 1980 in Detroit, Michigan. It was created by local businessmen with activities in the international arena to discuss problems they were all facing overseas in the hope of exchanging ideas and benefitting from each other's experiences. This veritable international organization in scope has been the forum for many noted speakers from local and international corporations addressing topical issues of international business.

Over the last decade, the IBF has grown from its few founders to a growing list of more than 700 members from the Great Lakes region with interests in international trade and investments. The current membership consists of representatives from firms involved with international trade, manufacturing, services, banking, transportation, communications and government.

During the last few years, the IBF has been recognized as the best opportunity for internationally involved firms and individuals to meet and participate in dialogues pertaining to global business. It has also been heralded as a forum for younger generations who are interested in international business to meet with practitioners and benefit from the existing knowledge and expertise of the IBF members.

Since 1995, the IBF has been a program of the World Trade Center Detroit/Windsor. The Forum generally meets on the third Wednesday of every month during the year for luncheon programs at The Fairlane Club in Dearborn, with a break in the Summer.

PROGRAM OUTLINE:

The usual format for the IBF is as follows:

11:45-12:10 Registration and Networking
12:10-12:45 Lunch
12:45-12:55 Introductions
12:55-1:15 Presentation
1:15-1:30 Q & A, Concluding Remarks

SUGGESTIONS: What topics, or who would you like to recommend for upcoming programs? Let us know. We welcome your ideas. Contact Vanessa Danou at Tel. (313) 388-2345, Fax (313) 388-9945, or e-mail: ibf@wtcdw.com. Visit our website www.wtcdw.com to view coming Programs. Feel free also to contact our IBF President, Martha I. Gabrielse, Tel. (616) 771-7410.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY: We want to say a very special thank you to our sustaining sponsors, the University of Michigan--Dearborn School of Management. If you would like to become a monthly or sustaining (yearly) sponsor, please contact us. Monthly sponsorship cost is \$350, and your company will be listed on the invitation cards and all announcements (including our IBF website) during the corresponding month. The fee goes primarily towards the printing and mailing costs for the invitation cards, and to keep costs down overall for attending the program.

International Business Forum Advisory Board:

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