Social Enterprises in Australia: An overview and recent developments

Speaker: Dr. Michael Liffman, Director, Asia-Pacific Centre for Social Investment and Philanthropy, Swinburne University of Technology, Australia

Date/Time: Wednesday, 22nd February 2012, 3.00pm – 4.00pm

Venue: BZ1/3-7 (Mochtar Riady Building), NUS Business School (Map to MRB)

Social enterprises have been present in Australia for quite some time. Our speaker has been an important personal player in some of these developments and heads a research and education center that has sought to both learn about and positively impact this sector of Australian society. He will share from the breadth of his experience as a participant leader, foundation official, evaluator, and instructor.

Part of NUS Social Business Week, sponsored by the Asia Centre for Social Entrepreneurship & Philanthropy, NUS Business School and the NUS Entrepreneurship Centre.

Michael Liffman was appointed in March 2001 as founding Director of the Asia-Pacific Centre for Social Investment and Philanthropy at Swinburne University of Technology in Australia. He also serves as Program Coordinator of the Master’s programme in Social Investment and Philanthropy. Michael has a background in social policy, research and community work. After working with the Brotherhood of St Laurence and the Ecumenical Migration Centre, he became CEO of the Myer Foundation and the Sidney Myer Fund.

Dr. Liffman serves on the coordinating committee of the Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmakers’ Support (WINGS) based in Brazil - the first Australian to be so honored. He is also a Board member of both the SouthPort Community Residential Home and the Alpine School. He has served on the boards of the Australian Council of Social Services, the Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs, the Department of Human Services Ethics Committee, the Community Advisory Committee of the Special Broadcasting Service, and the Immigration Review Tribunal. Liffman is a former President of the Australian Association of Philanthropy, and a member of the International Network on Strategic Philanthropy.


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