

The Harvard Business School Club of Philadelphia Hosts Area Nonprofit Executives for Second Annual Conference

PHILADELPHIA, PA, October 25, 2005 – The Social Enterprise Initiative of the Harvard Business School Club of Philadelphia (HBSCP) hosted its second annual conference on October 11 on the campus of The Vanguard Group in Malvern, PA. Over 40 CEOs and Executive Directors from major regional and local nonprofit organizations attended the conference, titled: “Financial Strategies: Ensuring Long-Term Sustainability.” The goal of the conference was to provide nonprofit leaders with strategic concepts and leading edge thinking in the financial management area.

The conference moderator and discussion leader was Professor Herman B. “Dutch” Leonard, Professor of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School and the George F. Baker, Jr., Professor of Public Sector Management at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. Dr. Leonard led best practice discussions on tying a financial strategy to long term organizational viability.

John J. Brennan, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of The Vanguard Group, gave the keynote speech, discussing how philanthropic organizations that hope to succeed in today’s hyper-competitive environment must operate with a results orientation and maintain a culture of accountability in order to satisfy the expectations of donors.

A panel of prominent nonprofit executives including Darell Hammond, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of KaBOOM; Tom Lussenhop, Project Executive for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center; and Michael J. Caslin, III, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer for the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship, discussed how to develop mission-driven strategies that deliver a sustainable business model. The conference was chaired by Asuka Nakahara, Associate Director and Lecturer in Real Estate at The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

In addition to HBSCP and alumni funding, partnership support of the conference came from leading regional corporations and foundations including: United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania, The William Penn Foundation, Comcast Corporation, The Philadelphia Foundation, TL Ventures, Citizens Bank, SEI Investments, Tiffany & Company, Liberty Property Trust, Mellon Bank, and a locally-based investment firm that wishes to remain anonymous.

The Harvard Business School Club of Philadelphia Social Enterprise Initiative is chaired by Denean Williams, Product Manager at SEI Investments. The HBSCP is one of the oldest alumni organizations in the country, and represents more than 1,100 HBS alumni in the greater Philadelphia region.

The Harvard Business School Club of Philadelphia Social Enterprise Initiative began in 1993. Over seven years, the Club has sponsored seven MBA students in summer intern positions in five Philadelphia nonprofit organizations. In 2001, the HBSCP began sponsoring and sending nonprofit CEOs to the Harvard Business School’s one-week nonprofit management course. The success of this program led to this annual conference, held locally and focused on nonprofit leadership development.