
Lana Lovasic

Email: llovasic@gmail.com

Skype ID : lanalovasic

Tel: +1 416 804 4804 (Canada)

Nationalities : Canadian, Croatian



EDUCATION

September 2008 – present

IOMBA program, MBA, Université de Genève, Geneva, Switzerland

- Academic portion completed, diploma expected after evaluation of internship thesis in March 2010.
- IOMBA is a specialized, intensive program that applies traditional MBA skills and courses to the social, environmental and public sectors.
- Overall GPA: 5.3 (on a 6.0 scale), earned highest possible designation of “**Tres Bien**” (“Very Good”).

December 2007

GMAT Test, Toronto, Canada

- Total score **680** (86%)

September 1998 – June 2003

Honours Bachelor of Science, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

- Completed a Major in Psychology and a Major in Zoology with a cumulative GPA of 2.7 (on a 4.0 scale)
- **Awards: John Carriere Summer Studentship, 2002:** A studentship grant given annually by the Alzheimer Society of Ontario, awarded for my behavioural research at the university.

WORK & INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

The Townships Project & Tembeka Social Investment, South Africa

Microfinance Intern

July 2009 – present

- A consulting internship with a rural South African microfinance institution in crisis, the goal of which was to analyze its accounts, operations and overall strategy.
- As a result of my work, the organization is connected to the internet and account management is more efficient. Adoption of my suggestions for organizational improvements have raised efficiency by 50%.
- Now developing management incentive policies to increase repayment rates, as well as following up on newly identified sources of funding and potential board members.

Zimbabwe Advocacy Office, Geneva, Switzerland

Strategy Consultant

Apr. 2009 – July 2009

- Helped develop a clear and focused strategy, mission, and vision in order to attract more funding.
- Key skills honed were the use of strategy analysis frameworks, development of tools for measurement and evaluation, analysis and strategy development, and presentation skills and business planning.
- Adoption of our strategy by the Board resulted in additional funding and avoidance of shut-down.

Richardson Partners Financial, Mississauga and Toronto, Canada

Branch Assistant

Nov. 2007 – Aug. 2008

- Supported investment advisors through a wide range of tasks based around daily operations, such as event planning, office administration and co-ordination, client services, and some marketing tasks.
- Originating as a temporary regional post, my position was promoted to the head office on a permanent basis, due to my performance.

JET Programme, Nagasaki-ken, Japan

Prefectural Education Center ALT

Aug. 2006 – Aug. 2007

The JET programme is a highly competitive program that brings international university graduates to Japan to facilitate cross-cultural exchange and language instruction through the Japanese public school system.

- In the promoted position of Education Center ALT, I was responsible for helping run the Nagasaki prefecture program, helping oversee some 150+ foreign ALTs.
- Organized conferences and seminars for teachers, provided opinions on public education policy regarding English instruction, and acted as mediator between Japanese and foreign teachers.

- Coordinated local events, such as charity drives and social nights, and administered an online forum to transition foreign language teachers into the Japanese working culture.

Aug. 2005 – Aug. 2006

Assistant Language Teacher (ALT)

- Taught English in a business high school in rural Japan in my first year on the program.
- Promoted internationalization through organization of International Days and founding a French/English club in the school.
- Helped students train for speech competition, one of whom took second place nationally.

Moneris Solutions, Toronto, Canada

Chargeback Officer/Relations Officer

Nov. 2003 – Aug. 2005

- Handled and mediated MasterCard dispute cases according to MasterCard International standards.
- Applied both analytical and problem solving skills to difficult situations involving multiple stakeholders.
- Originated as a data entry officer, but was quickly promoted to Relations Officer, a role necessitating customer interaction and handling of significant sums of money.

Center for Research in Neurodegenerative Disease, Toronto, Canada

Research Assistant

Nov. 2001 – May 2003

- Helped design and test innovative methods of measuring Alzheimer's treatment efficacy, through application of biological and psychological principles to memory testing in animals.
- Main duties included generating research proposals and collecting and analyzing behavioural data, culminating in the publication of scientific articles and conference presentations of the findings.

ACHIEVEMENTS & ACTIVITIES

Co-President of Net Impact chapter at University of Geneva (Sep. 08 – July 09):

Net Impact is an international organization that promotes use of business principles for social impact.

- As elected co-president, I helped organize local charity fundraisers, introduced recycling to our campus, organized speaker series on relevant topics and helped arrange a large international festival.
- On top of full-time MBA coursework, I managed 10-20 volunteers as part of this role.

Geneva Forum on Social Change (www.gfsc2009.com), Education Panel Coordinator (Dec. 08 – May 09):

- I helped with the overall organization of this inaugural event, featuring Desmond Tutu as a keynote speaker, in addition to my main role as coordinator for the 'Education in Conflict Zones' panel.

Martial Arts (1992 – present):

- 2nd Dan (Black Belts) in Iaido (sword) and in Jodo (staff); 1st Dan Shotokan Karate; 3 years as instructor.
- 3 years on Varsity fencing team: 8th place in individual and 4th place in team competition.
- In Japan, I graded for both my 1st and 2nd Dan in only 2 years – a feat requiring my presence at the dojo every weekday at 6 am for the first year.

Publications:

- **L. Lovasic**, H. Bauschke, C. Janus. *Working memory impairment in a transgenic amyloid precursor protein TgCRND8 mouse model of Alzheimer's disease.* Genes, Brain and Behavior. Vol 4, 2005
- C. Janus, H. Welzl, A. Hanna, **L. Lovasic**, N. Lane, P. St. George-Hyslop, D. Westaway. *Impaired conditioned taste aversion learning in APP transgenic mice.* Neurobiology of Aging, Vol 25, 2003

Other volunteer activity:

- African Medical Research Foundation: assisted at fundraising gala, seminars (Apr. – June 2008).
- Helped a war veteran with grape picking and wine making in Samobor, Croatia (Aug. – Nov. 2007)
- Cultural & language exchange with a group of retired ladies in Shimabara, Japan (Sep 2005 – Jul 2006).

SKILLS

- **Languages:** English (Fluent); Croatian (Fluent); French (Competent); Japanese (Basic)
- Excellent computer skills: Windows (all versions), Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint), Mac
- Well developed analytical and critical thinking abilities
- Experienced leader and manager in multicultural and international settings
- Excellent communication and presentations skills
- Highly motivated, focused and organized