

## **President's Report 2006**

Presented by Ryan Both at the 2006 AGM - Wednesday November 22nd 2006

2006 was a year of consolidation for the Commerce Alumni, as we finalised the implementation of the structural reforms introduced in 2005, and focused on the core activities that deliver most value to our members.

The organisation was focused on building lasting interpersonal bonds between a smaller number of members, generating a committed core for the future alumni network. It is intended that this strategy will provide a solid foundation for future committees to pursue the key organisational objectives, which are:

- To make joining the Commerce Alumni the norm for Commerce grads, rather than the exception
- To generate a critical mass of active and committed members

At the Commerce Alumni strategy session in late 2005, the committee set a baseline of activity and a clear direction for what the organisation needed to achieve during 2006. I am pleased to report that we significantly exceeded this baseline and achieved several of our 'nice-to-have' initiatives during the year.

### **2006 Baseline**

- Gaining sponsorship income or financial support
- Undertaking 3 dinners during the year
- Hosting a session at Marketing Week
- Holding Quarterly formal meetings
- Gaining representation on the Alumni Board

### **2006 Achievements**

- Financial support of \$1500 was secured from the School of Commerce
- Networking Dinners – six held during the year
  1. March – Rob Chapman (MD of Bank SA)
  2. May – Anthony Francis (MD of Deloitte TCG)
  3. July – Judy Potter (CEO of SA Great)
  4. August – Peter Siebels (Chairman of KPMG)
  5. October – Niki Vincent (CEO of SA Leadership Institute)
  6. November – Michael Brock (MD of Brock Real Estate)
- AMI Marketing Week Session – Taking a Fast Boat to China -Norman Sheun
- End of Year event – Wednesday November 22
- Membership rose to over 900, up from several hundred at the start of my 2005 term
- Alex Brown nominated for the Alumni Board next year

### **The Road Ahead**

The Commerce Alumni is a fantastic organisation with much to accomplish in the years ahead, but I feel confident that the committee and I leave behind a financially stable and well-structured organisation with an excellent base program of events from which the new generation of leaders can leverage.