



The Embassy of Denmark hosts LinkS Scandinavia

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This Monday the Danish Embassy in Washington D.C. hosted LinkS@Wharton for a day filled with insightful speakers that were meant to inspire the participants before they embarked on their week-long program in the United States.



LinkS (Leadership in the Knowledge Society) is a Scandinavian network that offers programs for top executives and directors across sectors and aims to provide the participants with strong alliances through the group network as well as world class knowledge delivered by the Wharton School of Government at University of Pennsylvania.

This week a new group of executives began the [Links@Wharton](#) program and their first day was arranged in cooperation with the Embassy's Defense Section. LinkS wishes to "inspire, challenge and redefine the top executives' strategic agenda" and so the speakers invited did just that.

The program began with a welcome from Ambassador Lars Lose who gave a comprehensive overview of the current challenges and opportunities facing the Danish Foreign Service in the US, as well as perspectives from a new ambassador on how current methods might be enriched.

Retired Vice Admiral John Cotton from the US Navy gave a presentation on "the World Outlook - the Bigger Picture" in which he questioned how we think about the security threats of today and pushed the executives to take part in a discussion on how we look at the world.

Dane and Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics Jacob Funk Kierkegaard gave the next presentation in which he provided the participants with a thorough understanding of the US economy and current political outlook.

Finally, Ellen Lord the CEO of Textron Systems - a diversified conglomerate with interests in aircraft, industrial and automotive products, fastening systems and finance - gave a high level view of the state of the US defense industry, and engaged in a discussion with the executives on some of the strategies that companies are using to address current challenges.

After lunch the group went for a visit at the conservative Washington-based think tank 'Heritage Foundation', where they met with Vice President James Jay Carafano, Ph.D., as well as Dr. Steven Bucci who gave a presentation on the current security environment seen from a US perspective.

After their busy day in Washington the group went on to Philadelphia, where they will be spending four days at the Wharton School of Government.

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