

Leaders for Global Operations

The MIT [Leaders for Global Operations \(LGO\)](#) program, now in its 29th year, is a partnership of the MIT Sloan School of Management, the MIT School of Engineering, and major companies that support the program's commitment to excellence in manufacturing and operations. LGO offers an MBA from the Sloan School of Management and an SM from the School of Engineering.

Governance and Leadership

LGO is run by a governing board of senior officers from the program's partner companies, program co-directors, and MIT deans and is co-chaired by Jeff Wilke (LGO '93) of Amazon.com and Denise Johnson (LGO '97) of Caterpillar. The operating committee, chaired by industry co-director Vah Erdekian, handles ongoing program management. The program's executive director is Thomas Roemer.

Academic Program

The LGO curriculum offers a mix of management, engineering, and leadership courses. Students can earn their SM from one of seven engineering programs: Aeronautics and Astronautics, Biological Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering, or Operations Research Center. Within some of these engineering departments, students can focus on topics related to manufacturing and operations in tracks such as biomechanics, energy and environmental sustainability, information and decision systems, engineering systems, manufacturing, supply chains, ocean engineering systems, and transportation.

Academic Activities

Global Operations Action Learning

LGO's Global Operations Action Learning (GOAL) teams are a new action learning offering. GOAL teams are structured as spring semester classes with action learning projects, and the aim is to bring the LGO operations toolkit to host companies outside New England. In the past year, six teams of LGO students conducted GOAL team projects at sites throughout the United States as well as in Luxembourg.

Lion Teams and Chinese Leaders for Global Operations

LGO students worked with students from China Leaders for Global Operations (CLGO), LGO's sister program at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, on a successful Lion Team project in the Shanghai area. During the past year, students from CLGO also visited MIT for a week of tours, classes, meetings, and social events.

Plant Tours

Local plant tours for first-year students took place in summer 2017 at Amgen in West Greenwich, RI; Amazon Robotics in North Reading, MA; Raytheon IDS in Andover, MA; UTC Pratt & Whitney in Middletown, CT; Dell/EMC in Franklin, MA; National Grid in Sutton and Northborough, MA; and Quest Diagnostics in Marlborough, MA.

Students on the annual two-week domestic plant trek in January 2017 visited UTC Pratt & Whitney in Columbus, GA; Boston Scientific in Maple Grove, MI; Flex in San Jose, CA; Pacific Gas & Electric in Antioch and San Ramon, CA; Nike in Beaverton, OR; Amazon in Kent, WA; Boeing in Renton and Everett, WA; Shape/AIP in Kent, WA; and Amgen in Thousand Oaks, CA.

The weeklong international plant trek in March 2017 included stops in Shanghai, where students toured Lego, Li and Fung, General Motors, SanDisk, and ABB, and Singapore, where they visited Flex and Amgen.

Global Operations Leadership Seminars

LGO students attend weekly on-campus seminars with faculty and industry experts to explore local, national, and international manufacturing, leadership, and business issues. There were 27 speakers in fall 2016 and spring 2017 including Eric Sipe (director of overseas programs at Nissan), Pamela Mar and Gustavo Velez Jr. (director of sustainability, Fung Academy, and executive vice president, Whalen), Cecilia Zenteno and Bethany Daily (operations research manager and senior administrative director of perioperative services, respectively, at Massachusetts General Hospital), John Stratton (president of operations at Verizon), Vik Sahney (vice president of sustainability at REI), Jayant Sabnis (professor of aeronautics and astronautics at MIT), Donald Rosenfield (senior lecturer at MIT and former LGO executive director), Lindsay Anderson (vice president of quality at Boeing), Robert L. Van Antwerp Jr. (lieutenant general and former chief of engineers, United States Army), Andrew McCaffee (principal research scientist at MIT), Aine Hanley (vice president for process development at Amgen), and Steve Cook (executive managing director at LFM Capital).

Admissions

Forty-nine new students in the LGO class of 2019 matriculated and began an intensive summer session in June. The class has an average of five years of work experience. The entering class, broken down by engineering discipline, is as follows:

- Aeronautics and Astronautics: 5
- Biological Engineering: 1
- Chemical Engineering: 1
- Civil and Environmental Engineering: 12
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science: 3
- Mechanical Engineering: 25
- Materials Science and Engineering: 1
- Operations Research Center: 1

LGO received 323 applications. Eighteen percent of applicants were admitted, and 83.1% of admitted candidates accepted a place in the program.

Graduates

The LGO class of 2017 had 45 graduates in June. Each student completed a six-month internship at a partner company, leading to a master's thesis. Six members of the class did international internships in locations including Hong Kong; Shanghai; Frankfurt and Regensburg, Germany; Vasteras, Sweden; and La Coruña, Spain.

To date, 82% of the class of 2017 graduates have accepted a position in a manufacturing and operations company; 73% of these positions are at LGO partner companies.

Alumni

LGO held its annual alumni conference in Chicago in May with a roster of prestigious speakers from industry and the public sector.

The LGO Alumni Association elected a new board and was approved as an affinity group within the overall MIT Alumni Association. The board is led by Milo Werner (LGO '07), and Steven Cook (LGO '98) is the official alumni voice on the LGO operating committee.

With matching funds from MIT Sloan, several alumni made major gifts to endow scholarships for LGO students. The overall amount raised from these major gifts and matching funds was \$4.65 million.

In total, annual giving by alumni to support LGO was \$167,265 over the past year.

Partner Companies

Flex (formerly Flextronics) joined LGO in the past year, bringing our roster to 27 partner companies as of July 2017. These companies, from a wide variety of industries including pharmaceuticals and medical devices, energy, telecommunications, and retail, complement our core of manufacturing firms.

Awards

Awards presented to LGO community members included the following:

- Jeremy Rautenbach (LGO '17) won the LGO Best Thesis Award.
- Kevin Schell (LGO '18) won LGO's Harrison Smith Award.

Thomas Roemer
Executive Director

Duane Boning
Engineering Co-Director
Clarence J. LeBel Professor in Electrical Engineering
Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Retsef Levi
Management Co-Director
J. Spencer Standish (1945) Professor of Management

Vah Erdekian
Industry Co-Director