



Who is AFS Alumni DK?

The Danish AFS Alumni organization was founded in 2002 and has at present 130 members. The chairperson of AFS Interkultur (the national AFS organization in Denmark) is an ex officio member of the board, though AFS Alumni works independently of the national organization. The focus of AFS Alumni is to provide experience, knowledge and network for alumni members and AFS Interkultur, the national AFS organization.

Since 2002, AFS Alumni DK has granted two annual scholarships to Danish AFS exchange students. In return, the students send 'travel reports' during their stay abroad, which are published on the alumni website as an opportunity for alumni members to see whom they support by their membership. Alumni also offers an annual grant to a volunteer, who has been outstanding in his/her work for AFS Interkultur in one of the local chapters.

Activities

AFS Alumni DK has had a broad spectrum of activities over the years. Outings to concerts, theatres, museums etc., 'brown bag' meetings with returnees as speakers covering a variety of topics of current interest - activities that always include time and space for socializing.

Some members have established a historic archive for AFS Denmark covering the period 1957-2012. Likewise a Returnee database has been developed with data of Danish returnees from 1950-1991. The database has proved useful when gathering information for the *AFS International Alumni Ambassadors list*, requests for contacts to 'lost' returnees for reunions etc. In connection with the 50th anniversary of AFS in Denmark and the 10th anniversary of AFS Alumni, alumni edited two publications that focused on developments and results in both organizations.

Collaboration with the AFS Interkultur Denmark.

AFS Alumni works independently of the national AFS organization, but supports and cooperates with the national organization whenever possible. In recent years increasingly so. AFS Alumni DK members have offered their expertise in legal as well as political issues to the national organization and

AFS Alumni Board members have participated in general assemblies and in information seminars for recent returnees offering the long perspective on an exchange. We offer a dual membership to AFS Interkultur members at a very low fee. Our annual budget is €7.000.

Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures

AFS returnees have the potential to become a national, if not a global resource for promoting agendas of cross cultural understanding and human rights. Many returnees have reached a position in life and society from where they wish and can promote such ideas. A strong national as well as global AFS returnee or alumni network/association is therefore an asset to the AFS organization as a whole.

Some returnees do not engage in AFS volunteer work, but still wish to keep in contact with the organization and the values it represents. Below we outline possible strategies for returnees at different stages in their lives.

What is in it for me? (Becoming a member of an AFS Alumni association)

Age group:

- **17-25** You may use the AFS experience and Alumni network as a stepping stone for a future career.
- **26-40** You may use older Alumni members as mentors in your search for a job.
- **41-45** You may become parents or hosts of exchange students
- **46+** You may use your AFS experience in your professional network as well as being an active alumnus.

A strategic objective for the entire AFS community could be to invite returnees to become an AFS *alumnus* member, the day they return. A parallel to what is being offered by universities and colleges worldwide. AFS alumni networks are an opportunity we can not afford to ignore.

The Board of AFS Alumni Denmark



Klaus Faartoft, AFS'er – present in Paris
Chairman

Formand@AFSalumni.dk



Peder Sustman, Larsen USA 1965-66

Kasserer@AFSalumni.dk



Kirsten M. Anttila, USA 1955-56 - present in Paris

kirsten.m.anttila@get2net.dk



Birte Holm Sørensen, USA 1963-64 - present in Paris

birsor@dadlnet.dk



Birgitta 'My' Anttila, Latvia 1992-93 - present in Paris

agentmy@yahoo.com



Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures

Celebrate the AFS Centennial in Paris, France
November 3 to 12, 2014



AFS Alumni DK

Returnee Day
November 7th 2014

Workshop
Creating Vital AFS Returnee Organizations

 AFS Alumni dk
www.AFSalumni.dk