



UW MBA Executive Leadership Speaker Series – Even Brande

A strong emphasis throughout the MBA program at the University of Wyoming is placed on providing students with real-world experience. Throughout the year, the program hosts a Friday Leadership Speaker Series comprised of experienced business professionals and executives.

Steve Farkas, Director of the MBA program commented, "I encourage our guest speakers to share as much real-world experience with our students as possible. Speakers will share a variety of topics with students from industry trends, strategic challenges, management styles, career management, and networking."

On Friday, October 18th the MBA students met with Even Brande, President and CEO of Handel Information Technologies, Inc. Brande was born and raised in Oslo, Norway as the youngest of four children. After graduation and completing his required service in the Norwegian Army, Brande came to the United States in 1988 where he enrolled at the University of Wyoming. In 1991 he graduated from the UW College of Business with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and completed his MBA from UW in 1993.

Upon graduation Brande was hired as a Customer Services Executive for Aspen Tree Software, a national leader in computerized employee selection. In 1997 he founded Handel Information Technologies, Inc., a market leader in enterprise software for human services agencies. As the President and CEO of Handel, Even is involved with sales and marketing, finances, and most importantly, overseeing the strategic planning for the company.

MBA candidate Tanner Parmely shared, "I found one of the most interesting issues in Mr. Brande's talk to be how he made such a successful business in a small market niche. It shows that there really are endless possibilities in entrepreneurship."

“As a take-away, I believe all attending MBA students benefited from receiving real-world tips from Mr. Brande on how to handle the business realm. It takes time, work, and most importantly, passion. Something that we have heard time and time again in our Friday speaker series. "Find your passion, and you will never be unhappy going to work."