St. Peter’s Business Society Event: An Evening with Peter Foy (10/03/14)

“Bingley Primary School taught me how to read and write, Bradford Grammar School taught me how to learn, and St. Peter’s College taught me how to think” – Peter Foy

For the final Business Society event of term, Peter Foy delivered a fantastically wide-ranging and open talk for the students of St. Peter’s. Having spent 25 years at McKinsey & Co. UK, where he became Managing Director, it came as no surprise that Peter was able to give a presentation that kept all who were present captivated, and offered truly unique insights into the consultancy business.

Peter gave an informal account of his education, including some anecdotes that demonstrated the character of St. Peter’s students has changed little since his time at the college! After discussing his role as brand manager at Colgate, Peter spoke about his move into management consultancy, and passion for McKinsey & Co.’s distinctive values and way of doing business. Students commented about how rare it was to receive such a personal and frank account of what a career at McKinsey entails, and what distinguishes McKinsey among the management consultancies.

The event concluded with “Foy’s Golden Career Rules”, where Peter passed on invaluable advice from his extensive experience in the business world. This provided much ‘food for thought’ for one attendee who commented, “Peter’s advice that there is no such thing as a career mistake before the age of thirty particularly resonated with me. I had previously been tempted to follow a safe career path straight from graduation, but now feel more comfortable experimenting with other avenues which are of particular interest to me.”

Overall, the event contributed greatly to this term’s Business Society calendar, complementing career advice, which students had received from more recent St. Peter’s alumni earlier in the term.

Event report done by Edward Lund
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