Mark Schmitt

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I have been an active member of the Harvard Club of Russia since the club was registered in 2005. Having been affiliated with the club for so long, I would like to take a very

active role in running for the position of the treasurer.

For the last 11 years, after graduating from the Kennedy School, I have been working in the financial sphere – as a New York consultant and later throughout CEE for

Raiffeisenbank. The last 7 years with Raiffeisenbank Russia have been particularly rewarding. I have built Raiffeisen’s Premium Banking business segment from scratch to

market leader.

In 2012 Raiffeisen Premium Banking became the first official banking partner and general sponsor for the Harvard Club. Moreover, we have put together a special invitation

to enjoy Premium Banking free of charge for every Harvard Club member.

While the prime role of the treasurer will be to ensure sound financial conduct, I would interpret my role well beyond that. Not only will I aim at continuing the financial

support from Raiffeisenbank, but to strengthen the financial standing of the club and further very actively attract additional sponsoring partners – in the financial services

industry as well as through personal connections.

Beyond the basic function I would like to actively support my board members in setting up attractive events. The club has been very active in organizing outstanding speaker

events and social gatherings. I would also suggest to add one or two high quality cultural events to the activities of the club. I have very close links to the Austrian cultural

attachй of the Austrian embassy, who is organizing a pool of events from brining the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra to Moscow to organizing a trip to Murmansk where

there will be an event on a Soviet ice-breaker. With additional sponsoring we will subsidize our club members “going cultural” in 2013.

If the idea is generally supported, I would extend it further and suggest to have a “partner city” in 2013 which could be e.g. the Vienna Harvard Club. We could organize our

annual boat tour on the Danube river in 2013, and combine it with a trip to the Austrian wine growing areas south of Vienna and close with a visit to the world-famous

Vienna opera.

I would be honored to serve the club, my fellow board members, and add some new ideas and activities.