

Money Management

Fifth Third Bank officials "talk shop" with visitors from Tanzania & Hungary

Some officials at Fifth Third Bank spent some time talking shop with two visitors from Hungary and one guest from Tanzania, March 22 at the bank's headquarters, 606 Madison Ave.

The visit is one of the many stops Attila Ambrush of Szeged, Hungary and his Hungarian interpreter Suzsanna Turanyi, a graduate student from the University of Toledo, will take during Mr. Ambrush's six week stay in the United States.

The Hungarian's trip to the United States is being sponsored by the Toledo Sister Cities International (TSCI). Tom Brenner, a political science graduate student at UT and an intern working with TSCI, coordinated the visit to Fifth Third. "We will also be visiting with regional economic developers, the Chambers of Commerce and various other banks," he said.

Mr. Ambrus works for an agricultural bank in southern Hungary as a commercial loan officer. He is also working for the Progress Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the development of small businesses in Hungary. "Mr. Ambrus is here to learn how small businesses get started and to learn how to help small businesses," Mr. Brenner said.

While in Toledo, Mr. Ambrush will also be conducting market research for a Hungarian investor interested in opening a restaurant in the Toledo area.

Joining in on the visit to Fifth Third was Nicholaus Materu of Arusha Tanzania. Mr. Materu is managing director of Kilimanjaro Metal Shapers Ltd., a company



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Suzsanna Turanyi (front left), and Nicholaus Materu. Attila Ambrush (back left), Larry Sykes and Greg Earley.

which manufactures stainless steel, cooking pots, sinks, stoves and aluminum ware by drawpressing and spinning.

As managing director, Mr. Materu's responsibilities include financial control, product costing, personal management, product development, market research, tool and die design and plant maintenance.

Mr. Materu's trip to the United States was sponsored by the Agency for International Development through Entrepreneurs International, a program intended to provide opportunities for trade and training between developing world businesses and American companies. The visit was hosted by Toledo Sister Cities International.

In coming to Toledo, Mr. Materu hoped to seek some training in machinery manufacture and metal working of stainless steel and aluminum products and obtain information on financial control and cost accounting for a medium-sized plant. Mr. Materu said he also hoped to get some marketing techniques and export/import information on aluminum products to take home to Tanzania with him.

In addition to visiting Fifth third, he met with a number of people in the community including Toledo City Councilman Peter Ujvagi and Councilwoman Judy Jones. Mr. Materu visited many businesses, including Midwest Stamping, the Frantz School of Business and the Edison Industrial System Center. Mr. Materu departed from Toledo on March 24.