

# **CITY UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM (OUTBOUND)**

**SEMESTER B, 2013/2014**

# MY PROFILE

- **Name: CHEN SHIMIN**
- **Host institution: National University of Singapore**
- **Department: Department of Biology and Chemistry**
- **Program: Applied Chemistry**

# **BEFORE DEPARTURE**

**My feeling was very complicated, I was so excited and anticipated to go there, but I also felt nervous as it was a new environment for me.**

**My buddy who's a student from NUS, had contacted me frequently few weeks before departure. Her kind concern stopped my worrying. The program that I applied had sent me a buddy which would keep in touch with me throughout the whole semester.**

# **PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST**

**“Preparing for your journey in the most thorough way possible will not diminish your experiences abroad. It will enhance them.” — Bailey Richert. There are few things you should do before your departure:**

- 1. Apply for Student Visa (student pass), you will get the information provided by NUS in email.**
- 2. Make sure your passport is still valid during your period that your are on exchange**
- 3. Book a flight at least 3 weeks before you reach the destination**

# **PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST**

- 4. Arrange health and travel insurance plan**
- 5. Buy some daily necessities such as shampoo and towels**
- 6. Bring an umbrella as it rains a lot in Singapore**
- 7. Prepare the required documents (eg. IPA letter, Student Undertaking) according to the email sent by NUS**
- 8. Some background information about Hong Kong and the country that you are going to stay.**

# JUST ARRIVED

My buddy picked me and my classmates up at the Changi airport. We went to NUS by MRT instead of taxi. I brought a EZ-link card, which was used for the payments of public transportation.



# JUST ARRIVED

During the journey by MRT, the buildings that I saw in Singapore were not as tall as the high-rised buildings in Hong Kong. We then took the shuttle bus in school to the hall for registration after having dinner.

My buddy brought us to a shopping mall to buy some necessities. It was almost 8 o'clock.

**NUS shuttle bus**



# **ORIENTATION**

**I was surprised that the lecture theatre was fully occupied by exchange students from all over the world. The orientation included brief introduction of Singapore, some important dates and things we had to keep in mind for module registration and also some incoming activities for exchange students to participate.**



# RAFFLES HALL



- **located at the centre of NUS**
- **a bus stop nearby with all the routes can be reached.**
- **very convenient to go everywhere simply by taking corresponding inter-campus shuttle bus.**

# **RAFFLES HALL---MY ROOM**

**I lived in the single room without air-conditioner. Surprisingly, I did not feel too hot even if the temperature was above 30 degree Celsius.**



# **MY FIRST CLASS**

**I was enrolled to five modules originally.**

**The instructor gave some general information and outline of the course in the first lecture. We could have an idea of the content and the evaluation of the course.**

# PEOPLE I MET



My Buddy and friends  
from CVCF of NUS





# PEOPLE I MET



# Out-of Classroom

There were many activities for exchange students to participate in. You could learn foreign languages by joining International Language Exchange organized by NUS i.CARE. My hall also provided quite a lot of activities such as inter-hall games, angel and mortal.....

Outside NUS, I joined a program which is called Octopus Exchange Students Singapore. I was not only meet international students from NUS and NTU, but also had a taste of plenty of delicious and authentic South East Asia cuisines.





# OUT-OF CLASSROOM---TRAVELLING



Marina Bay Sands Hotel



Merlion

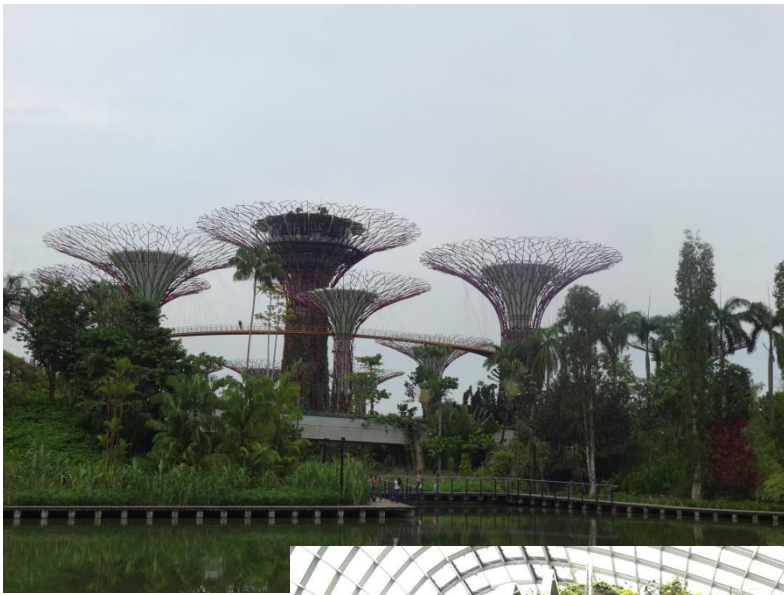


National Museum of  
Singapore



Botanic Garden





Gardens by the Bay



# MALAYSIA--LANGKAWI





# MALAYSIA---PENANG





# MALAYSIA--PENANG



# MALAYSIA--KUALA LUMPUR





# INDONESIA---BINTAN ISLAND





# INDONESIA--BALI



# **MONEY**

**I have received sponsorships of HKD16000 from Student Exchange Funding plus HKD10000 from CSE. I really appreciate it as the student exchange sponsorship supported me a lot for my daily life.**



# **GOODBYE**

**After finishing all the exams, it was time to say goodbye. After being together for a semester , it was difficult for me to bear to part from each other. But I believe our relationship will not end because of distance. I would miss every part of my exchange experience as I have learnt a lot of things more than I expected. Homesickness was one of the most challenging parts especially in the first month after I left my family, however, I was able to immerse into the new environment as time goes by.**

# SHARING

**I was completely enjoying over the past four month as an exchange student in NUS. It provided an advantage for me to travel around South East Asia by taking short and inexpensive flights. Besides, I am now become independent after steeping out of the comfort zone. I also found how small I am, so I really want to make myself more knowledgeable and prepared for the future.**

# OVERALL RATING

4/5