

OUTGOING STUDENT FEEDBACK FORM 09-10

Programme: International Management with American Business Studies

University Attended: University of Minnesota, Carlson School of Management

INDUCTION/ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

What did this involve, how long did it last, was it useful?

Induction was spread over the first week and was a great help, the most useful being the first day where they helped us to get our bank account opened. Student cards and bus passes were also issued.

The workshops and lectures were very useful. It was a brilliant opportunity to meet all the other internationals that were attending Carlson School of Management and your first opportunity to integrate into your 'new' life.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Style of teaching, courses, ease of access to courses, methods of assessment, teaching support

Overall I preferred the Minnesota style of learning. The classes at Carlson are substantially smaller than the ones at Manchester, they usually contained around 30 people. The class assignments were broken up into multiple assessments such as one page of coursework, weekly quizzes and exams. This therefore gave me plenty of opportunity to gain marks to contribute to my final grade throughout the year.

The style of teaching is very relaxed and taught in a simple and easy way, with all teachers being very approachable and friendly. Teachers know you personally and the teaching support can not be faulted.

MBS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Level of support, additional information that could have been useful

The MBS International office were very helpful before the exchange and provided me with all the help I needed.

MBS SECOND YEAR MEETINGS

Any additional information that you feel could have been provided

I thought the second year meetings were very useful and felt well prepared for my year abroad.

HOST INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Level of support, additional information that could be useful for future students

The host international office was also very helpful. They made us feel very welcome and well looked after throughout the year.

INSURANCE, HEALTH COVER

Please include any information relating to the purchase of compulsory health insurance i.e. costs etc. or whether this was waived by having the University of Manchester Insurance Policy

The University of Minnesota have a compulsory international health insurance that you must purchase. The cost of the insurance was \$905 per semester.

ACCOMMODATION

As much information as possible on what accommodation is recommended or not recommended.

I was very happy with my accommodation, I was placed in the University Village Apartments. University Village consists of modern apartments in a good location about a 5 minute walk from Stadium Village. I was given an apartment with 3 other girls, two of them being Carlson international students too.

I feel that University Village is one of the best options for accommodation, as knowing other international students who were placed in the dormitories, I found that they were placed among younger students of the university (Freshmen), therefore with the drinking age being 21 their social priorities were different. In addition University Village accommodated a lot of other internationals which in the first semester was very useful as this was our social scene.

DESTINATION INFORMATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE

Transport, travel, social life, integration with local students, student activity groups

Minneapolis is a quiet city compared to Manchester but it is the college life that brought the most entertainment, such as the bars on campus (Dinkytown) and getting involved in watching the college sports such as the Gophers (U of M football team) in their brand new stadium.

In the first semester we integrated mostly with the other international students at Carlson, I found this happened due to the organised social events at the beginning of the semester and with us all sharing the same experience of all being in American college for the first time.

After returning after Christmas we went onto integrate and socialise with more Americans and met a group that we became very close friends with during the second semester. Overall it was very easy to integrate with the Americans as they all carried the trait of being "Minnesota Nice" and were intrigued with where you were from and very interested to get to know you.

Also over the course of the year I took advantage of being able to travel to other cities across America and also volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House on campus.

DESCRIBE IN ONE SENTENCE YOUR YEAR ABROAD

Totally beyond all expectations, best year of my life.