

## **OUTGOING STUDENT FEEDBACK FORM 2008-2009**

**Programme: IMABS**

**University Attended: University of Washington**

### **INDUCTION/ORIENTATION PROGRAMME**

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

The induction day was the first day I experienced at the university and was quite useful, mainly for the purpose of learning the locations of the important buildings, where lectures would be held, where to eat etc etc. We also had some guest speakers informing us of their experiences at the university, and were introduced to all the support staff which was helpful. It was strictly an international day induction and as the tables were randomly assigned, some people were unfortunate to get put at a table with students who didn't speak very good English but my table was fine.

### **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

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

In the first semester, choice of courses were more limited. The second semester had a much wider range of choice. The style of teaching was very hands on, always inviting questions or feedback from the class, as well as participation with one another and the airing of different points of view. Assessment methods were very diverse, the typical course would have 30% for attendance and participation, 20% mid-term, 20% group work and 30% final exam. This can be difficult getting used to in the first semester but once I did I felt it was quite a simple system to partake in.

### **MBS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE**

Level of support, additional information that could have been useful

Level of support was great, myself and the other MBS student needed to get in contact once with a minor issue regarding insurance and this was sorted out almost immediately. I don't feel any additional information would have been useful as it is difficult to assume what problems you may encounter until you get there.

### **MBS SECOND YEAR MEETINGS**

Any additional information that could have been useful

I enjoyed the 2nd year meetings and again felt not much could be added as it was part of the experience discovering things for yourself.

### **HOST INTERNATIONAL OFFICE**

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

The host office were extremely accommodating, particularly with regard to helping enrol for classes as it can be difficult to understand at first.

### **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 the University of Manchester Insurance Policy

All our health costs were waived by University of Manchester, except if you have to get any part of your MMR vaccine as I did, this was relatively cheap and must be done before you can list in your classes.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

I would recommend getting accommodation sorted out as a priority and one of the first things you do when you find out you are going to Washington. Their system can be quite slow and if you don't chase them up on it, you may be left without a place. I thought I had it sorted until I realised soon before I went that this wasn't confirmed and had to find my own through Craigslist. Similarly, I knew of other students, including American students who were confused by their confirmation process and were left without a place to stay when they arrived.

**MBS Note: Outgoing students in 09-10 have been allocated University of Washington housing. We have been told housing is not guaranteed, it is allocated on a first come first served basis.**

## **DESTINATION INFORMATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE**

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

The Husky student card has an option to purchase a U-Pass for around \$50 per semester which is definitely worthwhile as it allows you free bus travel all around the city. Research bus routes to and from the airport well as taxis can be very expensive for the journey to the university area. Social life tends to be quiet in comparison with Manchester with the exception of Friday and Saturday, when there is always something going on both in the local bars and around campus. Integration with local students is made easier with group work in classes which made it easier to make friends.

## **DESCRIBE IN ONE SENTENCE YOUR YEAR ABROAD**

An unforgettable experience.