

OUTGOING STUDENT FEEDBACK FORM – 2007/2008

Programme: IMABS

University Attended: Richard Ivey @ University of Western Ontario

INDUCTION/ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

Ivey is split up into two years; HBA1 who are third year students and HBA2 who are final year. Exchange students have class with the final years as they are the only year to take elective classes. The original induction in September is with the HBA1's which isn't that useful except for being able to stop and talk to people in the corridors. It involved BBQ's, trips to the beach and general enrolment and getting used to Ivey which can seem like a maze at first. As most exchange students arrive in the second semester there is a second orientation which was a lot better organised. We had a dinner, a trip to Niagara falls, a bowling night and a buffet. Every exchange student gets assigned to a buddy who is always available if any questions need to be asked.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Contribution is huge at Ivey; every course has at least 20% of the overall grade as contribution. There is a lot of reading but it is all very interesting! **BE PREPARED TO TALK IN CLASS BY READING THE CASES; IF YOU DON'T PARTICIPATE YOU WILL GET PICKED ON!!!** Whilst you learn no new theory at Ivey everything that you have learnt in Manchester is related to real work scenarios making it a lot more relevant and a very efficient learning system. There are many group projects, individual assignments and 4-hour exams! The teachers are always available if you need help, that was one thing I found strange as they encourage you to go and see them in your office, they know every single student and regardless of where you bump into them whether it be in the supermarket or the bar (a lot of the profs go to pre-drinks or to the bar as interaction!) they will stop to chat.

MBS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

The dinner meeting in October was a great way of checking everything was going well in the institution. They were also available anytime if needed.

MBS SECOND YEAR MEETINGS

Additional information about this university which didn't find out till late was you have to find your own accommodation; although this is easy to find on the university website we were under the impression we would be in halls. The case books are **EXPENSIVE!!** And you have to buy them or they won't give out final grades (you have to sign a sheet to prove you bought it).

HOST INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

These guys are awesome! Up until Ella retired in December at the end of the first semester she was always available if we had any questions. We got to know Amanda in the undergrad office in the first semester and she did a brilliant job of taking over from Ella. She is always available on the email or to see in person.

ACCOMMODATION

You have to find your own accommodation as mentioned above. There is a woman called Marion you can contact from the accommodation page on

www.uwo.ca and for a small charge she puts you in a house which gives you peace of mind as she talks to the landlord, sees the house etc. I would highly recommend doing this if you are going on exchange alone. I was one of two exchange students and we decided to live together finding a house on our own which although nice was a little further from campus than we wanted. I would recommend if you decide to look for yourself that you find a house on the 2 or 6 bus route on the Richmond side of campus.

DESTINATION INFORMATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE

When you arrive you have fees which include UHIP, a year long taxi and bus pass and your student card. This bus pass allows you on any bus in London. The taxi pass gives you student rates. From London there is an airport, greyhound station and VIA rail station which gets you to Toronto in 2 hours. I wouldn't advise flying from Toronto to London; use RobertQ or Abouttownairbus.ca which takes you directly from Toronto Pearson to Downtown London and is MUCH cheaper.

The social life here is incredible. Ivey students get special treatment in London; Thursday night in the Frog is a huge Ivey night, as is Saturday in Taphouse, Monday in Jacks, Friday in the Ceeps, the list never ends. Due to tax alcohol in the bars is expensive.

Spring Break is a huge event too, usually the last week in Feb at Ivey. I went to Cancun in Mexico with about 30 Ivey students, an unforgettable experience! Also travelled to Montreal for Thanksgiving for an IMABS reunion, Boston and am now going to Naples, Florida with a Canadian friend.

The Canadians are all really friendly and Ivey is such a family that you get to know everybody. Also being English and having 'that accent' really helps!! You don't get to know many students outside of Ivey though as there is a huge seclusion between Western and Ivey!

DESCRIBE IN ONE SENTENCE YOUR YEAR ABROAD

"Work hard, play hard"-the unofficial Ivey motto!