

OUTGOING STUDENT FEEDBACK FORM 2008-2009

Programme **International Management**

University Attended **University of Economics, Prague**

INDUCTION/ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

We had various meetings in the first week which involved discussions on housing, the 'Buddy System' (the international society) and other matters that we may need to know prior to classes. These meetings were quite helpful although the issue of housing was not resolved until the end of the first semester. During this week the buddy system organised walking trips through the main tourist areas in Prague in order to acquaint students with the most important areas of Prague. At the end of the week the Buddy System organised an 'Icebreaking Weekend' which allowed students the opportunity to meet other exchange students. It consisted of two days of activities and allowed for socialising. I found this weekend very helpful in meeting friends.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

The teaching method is quite similar to MBS although there is greater emphasis on team work and presentations. It was quite difficult to do so at the beginning as there was a noticeable language barrier but as the year progresses this no longer becomes a problem as you adapt to your environment; a key element to the exchange year I believe. Teaching support differs throughout the university but in general you can get help. Courses are quite interesting and cover a broad range of subjects. The university has a number of intensive courses which require the student to attend, usually 9-5pm for 3-5 days either in one week or over a few weeks, and during these courses you will sit exams, present and also hear from external bodies such as HRM in PWC etc. I found these courses very effective.

MBS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

I felt that the support provided by MBS International Office was excellent and if I needed any help it was offered immediately.

MBS SECOND YEAR MEETINGS

Any additional information that could have been useful

As we were the first students to be sent to Prague we did not get a lot of information about Prague and the university. This was as expected and any information we were given was correct. We did have the opportunity to speak to a past exchange student of Vienna so we were able to speak to them and get a feel of what to expect. These meetings did prepare us for what to expect.

HOST INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

The international office at the University of Economics, Prague was excellent. Karoline, the lady you will speak to a lot, was so helpful and did everything she could to make our stay as easy and enjoyable as possible. And from the beginning she knew us by name which made it more personal.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is VERY BASIC however I do stress that in order to get the full exchange experience these are the best options. There are other options for accommodation but I did not look into these. The flats you will be placed in consist mostly of 2 or 3 bedrooms and within each bedroom two people share. The flat has one toilet and one shower room. The kitchen is extremely small with one or two hotplates and a fridge. This was the main issue with the accommodation for me. However, as many people want to socialise during meals, you find yourself eating out a lot and as the cost of meals is very inexpensive it is affordable.

DESTINATION INFORMATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE

Transport, travel, social life, integration with local students, student activity groups
The transportation system within Prague is excellent, a student pays approximately £30 per semester for a ticket which can be used on trams, buses and metros. You constantly use trams which makes it easy to get to all places. Travel to/from Prague is quite cheap especially via buses and trains. Student Agency offers very cheap deals on bus journeys. The integration with local students can be quite difficult as they have some problems with English and it is extremely hard to learn the Czech language. The Buddy System is amazing in organising events for exchange students. During the year they have trips to other countries, throughout Czech Republic, sporting activities, boat parties and, my personal favourite, Skydiving.

DESCRIBE IN ONE SENTENCE YOUR YEAR ABROAD

A year where I learnt a lot, partied a lot, met friends from around the world and most importantly, a year that I will never forget and will never be able to beat.