EXCHANGE PARTICIPANT QUESTIONNAIRE

STUDENT INFORMATION

Faculty: Beedie School of Business
Major/Minor: Business
Host university: Monash University
Host Country: Australia
Dates of your exchange: (month/year) February 2016 to (month/year) June 2016

TRAVEL

Approximately how much did air transportation cost? $1600
Approximately how much did any required ground transportation cost? Free airport pick-up service
Do you have a recommended routing or airline? ☐ No ☐ Yes
If yes, please describe: ________________________________________________________________

VISAS

What is your citizenship? (voluntary; may impact following information) Canadian
Did you need a student visa/permit? ☐ No ☐ Yes: What was the cost? $550
If yes, what documentation was needed? Online Application
Did you need a visitor visa/permit? ☐ No ☐ Yes: What was the cost? ______________
If yes, what documentation was needed? __________________________________________________
Where was your immigration documentation processed? Minutes
How long did it take to procure your visa/permit? ______________
Were any other documents required (residence permit, etc)? ☐ No ☐ Yes
If yes, please comment: ________________________________________________________________

AIRPORT RECEPTION

Were you met at the airport by representatives of the host university? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Is there easy transportation between the airport and university? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Please comment: You can register for a free airport pickup when you first arrive

What is the closest airport to the host university? Melbourne Tullamarine

ORIENTATION

Is there an organized orientation session upon arrival at the host university? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Was there a cost for the orientation session? ☐ No ☐ Yes, how much? ______________
If yes, do you recommend that future students participate? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Please comment: It was compulsory to participate, there was a lot of helpful information presented including how to register for courses.
**LANGUAGE PROGRAMS**

Is there a language program available either before or during the term?  □ No  □ Yes

If yes, how long is it? __________________________________________________________________________

Is there an additional cost for language training?  □ No  □ Yes: How much? ____________________________________________________________________

Please comment: Australia is an english speaking country so no language programs were required.

---

**ACCOMMODATION & LIVING**

Is on-campus or university dormitory accommodation available?  □ No  □ Yes

If yes, are you living in a university dormitory?  □ No  □ Yes

If you can make a recommendation for a specific dormitory?  □ No  □ Yes

I stayed in the new Urban Community at Campbell Hall - New (2016) studio dorms

If yes, please describe: __________________________________________________________________________

What is the average monthly cost of accommodation? $1200

Is there a meal plan?  □ No  □ Yes: How much is it? __________________________________________________________________

If no, do you have access to adequate cooking facilities?  □ No  □ Yes

Steps away

How far is your dormitory from the main campus? ____________________________________________________

Please comment on internet and phone access in your dormitory:

Free wifi internet as well as a hard-wired ethernet port which I never used since wifi was sufficient.

There is a phone in the room, however I never used this either as I had a mobile prepaid phone plan.

I think it cost money for outgoing calls but free for interhall/campus calls.

Did you have to make a deposit for your accommodation prior to arrival?  □ No  □ Yes

There is email instructions to pay online

Is off-campus housing easily available?  □ No  □ Yes

Please comment on off-campus housing:

I believe off-campus housing is easily available given I knew a few exchange students who were living off campus, though I can't be 100% certain as I never looked into this option.

Approximately how much money per month is needed for living, including accommodation and meals? $1700

Any other comments on accommodation:

Because I was staying oncampus in the studio dorms, I had to purchase everything I wanted to use (kitchen supplies and utensils, to toilet paper, bath and bed linen, cleaning products, desk lamp, laundry detergent etc) - my dorm only came with a desk chair, mattress, shower curtain and trash bin. The initial settling in, which took a month or two, costed a fair bit, however, once I had all the essentials (including snack, "emergency food"), groceries were about $200 a month for me (note, I don't eat a lot).

The $1700 a month calculation came from $1200 rent, $200 groceries, and $300 for going out/take-outfood/miscellaneous expenses.
FINANCIAL DETAILS

Have you opened a bank account in your host country?  [ ] No  [ ] Yes  

What are the challenges/benefits to opening a local bank account?

Only challenge I faced was trying to get a correct address for my account since the dorms have a physical address and a mail address. Otherwise, there was no hassle in opening a bank account.

I banked with Commonwealth.

How would you recommend students bring money (Canadian/American cash, travelers’ cheques, local currency?)

Personally, I brought $1000 AUD cash with me and an Amazon.ca Visa card. I mainly used my visa card for all transactions as this card did not charge a 2.5% foreign transaction fee and the currency exchange rates were the bank rates which were acceptable. (continued comments in the next box)

What is/are the preferred method(s) of payment at most establishments?

[ ] Cash  [ ] Debit  [ ] Credit card

Please comment: ... I didn’t have to wire any more AUD to my bank account. Though I didn’t just survive off $1000 AUD cash for the whole semester. When making group orders/payments for things (such as take-out food…), I normally paid with my Visa and had my friends pay me back in AUD.

ACADEMIC DETAILS

Was it possible for you to get all of the courses that you wanted?  [ ] No  [ ] Yes

Please describe the course registration procedure:

On orientation day 1 you receive a piece of paper with the courses you have been approved for derived from the courses selected in the host university application. On the piece of paper you select which courses you want to take. On orientation day 2 you go with the other exchange students and a rep to your faculty for them to input and approve the courses you selected. At a specified date, you go into your course registration system to prioritize which times you want to have your lectures/tutorials. The system will create a timetable for you based on your priority selection. This process will be...

What discipline(s)/program(s) are you taking at your host university?  Faculty of Information Technology

What is the language of instruction in your courses?  English

If not English, are English-taught courses available?

Describe the manner and quality of instruction at your host university.

Lectures were similar to those at SFU, you sit and listen to the slides being presented. Some classes were more interactive and included in class discussions, polls, etc. Almost all lectures are posted online (audio from the lecture and slides). Tutorials were also similar to those at SFU. Tutorials were more activity based which focused on applying concepts from the lectures to help understand them.

What do you feel is/will be the main academic benefit of your participation in this exchange program?

The main academic benefit from my participation in this exchange program was learning to better time manage and seeing and learning the difference in work ethics with my peers.

Submission Instructions:

1. Please complete and return this form by E-mail to studyabroad@sfu.ca as a PDF.
2. Subject line of email: Questionnaire - [Host Country, Host University]
3. Please include your full name and student number in the body of your E-mail.