## EXCHANGE PARTICIPANT QUESTIONNAIRE

### STUDENT INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty:</th>
<th>Communications and Business</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major/Minor:</td>
<td>Communications and Marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host university:</td>
<td>Universiteit von Amsterdam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host Country:</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates of your exchange: (month/year)</td>
<td>February/2015 to June/2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TRAVEL

Approximately how much did air transportation cost? $1000

Approximately how much did any required ground transportation cost? $15

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? 53 Euros

If yes, what documentation was needed? Health, Financial, Passport

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? At the Immigration Office in Amsterdam

How long did it take to procure your visa/permit? A few weeks

Were any other documents required (residence permit, etc)?  

[ ] No  [ ] Yes

If yes, please comment: Residence Permit was needed

---

### 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: I missed the orientation day, but there is a train from the airport to Amsterdam and was very easy to take

What is the closest airport to the host university? Schipol

---

### 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? 50 Euros

If yes, do you recommend that future students participate?  

[ ] No  [ ] Yes

Please comment: I met the most amazing people in the orientation that became close friends, the leaders were amazing and showed us around the city and prepared us for the semester. It was well worth it!
**LANGUAGE PROGRAMS**

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

If yes, how long is it?  4 weeks

Is there an additional cost for language training?  □ No  ☐ Yes: How much? ~100 Euros

Please comment: There were programs available through the school and the international office at an extra cost.

**ACCOMMODATION & LIVING**

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

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

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

If yes, please describe: Prinsengracht, it is right on the canal and very central!

What is the average monthly cost of accommodation?  $500

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

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

How far is your dormitory from the main campus?  15 minute bike ride

Please comment on internet and phone access in your dormitory:

The internet was very slow and you were only provided a LAN cable, so purchasing a semi-decent wireless router was necessary, especially if sharing a room.

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

If yes, how did you arrange this?  Online with the housing company with the help of the school

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

Please comment on off-campus housing:

It is fairly difficult especially if you do not know the area, and may end up being more expensive, but there are certainly options to do off-campus housing.

Approximately how much money per month is needed for living, including accommodation and meals?  $700 and up

Any other comments on accommodation:

I just had a microwave and a small hot plate to cook on, so I had to adjust what I cooked accordingly, but there are lots of markets and places to get food.
FINANCIAL DETAILS
Have you opened a bank account in your host country? □ No □ Yes

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

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

Cash is widely accepted so having money exchanged into EUROs is useful. Opening a bank account does have some benefits and is more beneficial if you are staying longer.

What is/are the preferred method(s) of payment at most establishments? □ Cash □ Debit □ Credit card

Please comment:
Cash is widely accepted and used at markets and grocery stores. It is useful to have cash on you but you have to be careful of ATM and bank fees. At large chains international credit cards were accepted, but the other form of payment was local debit or chip cards. For the most part cash was fine, but at the school they only accepted chip card, for example at the campus cafeteria.

ACADEMIC DETAILS
Was it possible for you to get all of the courses that you wanted? □ No □ Yes

Please describe the course registration procedure:
Stressful. I was able to get all the classes I wanted. I first had trouble getting my online access, then was put on a waiting list. In the end I was successfully enrolled in the classes that I wanted however.

What discipline(s)/program(s) are you taking at your host university? Social Sciences and Humanities

What is the language of instruction in your courses? English

If not English, are English-taught courses available? English and Dutch were available

Describe the manner and quality of instruction at your host university.
It was similar to SFU with lectures, tutorials and labs, however the tutorials were more immersive and the students much more vocal. The quality of instruction was excellent, engaging and well informed.

What do you feel is/will be the main academic benefit of your participation in this exchange program?
Having a different learning environment that has exposed me to slightly different methods of learning as well as allowed me to learn to adapt being in a different country and interacting with students from all over the world. For example working in groups with Dutch and other international students.

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.