EXCHANGE PARTICIPANT QUESTIONNAIRE

STUDENT INFORMATION

Faculty: Fowler College of Business
Major/Minor: Business
Host university: San Diego State University
Host Country: USA
Dates of your exchange: (month/year) 08/18 to (month/year) 12/18

TRAVEL

Approximately how much did air transportation cost: $500

Approximately how much did any required ground transportation cost: $500

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? No cost

If yes, what documentation was needed? J1 Visa

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? Not sure

How long did it take to procure your visa/permit? 4 weeks

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: Trolley

What is the closest airport to the host university? San Diego International Airport

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:
**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: Not sure as it is primarily English speaking

**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: You can request certain housing, but waitlist was very long and most don’t get in

What is the average monthly cost of accommodation? $1100 USD

Is there a meal plan?  □ No   □ Yes: How much is it? $100-500/month

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

How far is your dormitory from the main campus? Across street

Please comment on internet and phone access in your dormitory:

I lived at Suites on Paseo, a private dormitory style housing across from the campus. Internet was included and phone access was open (it was not university dorm)

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

If yes, how did you arrange this?

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

Please comment on off-campus housing:

Off-campus housing is difficult to find close to campus but there are different options which are within 5-10 minute drive

Approximately how much money per month is needed for living, including accommodation and meals? $2000

Any other comments on accommodation:

Accomodations are very costly. Do NOT recommend Suites on Paseo as it is very pricy for the size and contains many inconveniences in the contract
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?
Opening chequing account is easy but opening a credit account is very difficult and takes a long time. So I opened a chequings account with CalCoast Credit Union and got a visa debit card.

How would you recommend students bring money (Canadian/American cash, travelers’ cheques, local currency?)
Bring a significant amount of US currency and wire transfer funds from Canadian bank to US account once you open it.

What is/are the preferred method(s) of payment at most establishments? ☐ Cash ☐ Debit ☐ Credit card
Please comment: Establishments primarily take all forms of payment.

ACADEMIC DETAILS
Was it possible for you to get all of the courses that you wanted? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Please describe the course registration procedure:
I had specific business courses I needed to take and got into them as needed. The registration is similar to SFU in that you can create a planner and when it is your time to enroll you can place yourself in the courses directly, or on the waitlist if there is one.

What discipline(s)/program(s) are you taking at your host university? Business Administration
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.
The teaching ability was overall less in my opinion than to that of SFU. The teachers were not as involved with students work and were more unclear about how grading was being done. Many students did not know how they were positioned based on unclear grading criteria. However, teaching was up-to-date and was a welcoming environment with lots of diversity and team-based work.

What do you feel is/will be the main academic benefit of your participation in this exchange program?
I had the opportunity to work with a wide range of people through my three different group projects, and one actually included working for and presenting to a real-life company.

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.