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My IAP experience was a mixture of the good and the not-so-good. Upon arrival at the Boston-Logan International Airport, the team was treated to the “warm” Boston weather. Being my first time in the USA, it was a chilling experience indeed. The accommodation (Residence-Inn) was indeed a beautiful home throughout the entire stay, with staff always on-hand to aid students as and when needed.



One major highlight of the entire IAP experience was meeting the other SCALE students from the other centres. The friendships and interactions that ensued for the entire period will never be forgotten. I was really impressed with the warmth of the GCLOG Graduates as well as the LCL students (I am however biased as I interacted with two other Ghanaians from LCL). The IAP experience also did provide the MSCM students an opportunity to bond with the PSCM cohort which I very much enjoyed.

The first day provided me to meet the entire faculty and staff at MIT-CTL (who I've met so many times online via edx) as well as meeting my various teammates for the rest of the period. I particularly enjoyed the ice-breaking session where everyone loosened up and got to know each other a bit (very well played).

The various speaker sessions during the first week were very enjoyable. Knowledge and experiences provided were useful in understanding the current practical challenges executives are facing in their Supply Chains and solutions being proffered. The most revealing was the number of questions students asked about sustainability and how the various companies applied diverse efforts to implement sustainable solutions.

Another major highlight of the IAP experience was the leadership workshops organized by Dr. Bruce Arntzen. Following up on various change management articles, Dr. Bruce wonderfully

organized these sessions to drive home the point that not everyone is an engineer and why the **VELD** framework works.

I also have to mention the wonderful lectures on LLamasoft SC Guru and the various trips organized as part of the IAP. The Walgreens trip was truly revealing as this stressed in us the confluence between disability and technology. The various tours were eye-opening and pivotal moments during the entire IAP session.

I however, did not enjoy the Python class, as I felt the lecturer (very intelligent Dr. Caballero) did not inspire the students enough to study the language. Before IAP MISI students had been taken through a data analytics with R session where the lecturer was able to inspire students to learn the programming language. I was really looking forward to learning an additional programming language (python) however, this was sadly a low point of the IAP session. The class must be scheduled and taught in a more intimate atmosphere and provide more material prior to the 6 sessions of the IAP.



The highlight for my IAP experience was the research fest. This was an extremely well-organized event with no hitches. The food, warmth and professionals present made for an interesting session. The breadth of Supply Chain subjects being studied were indeed mind-blowing with students applying several SC tools to solve real world challenges. My research partner, Matt Ibrahim and I did win the best research poster for our cohort which added the glitz to a night of networking.

In conclusion, I would like to thank everyone who dedicated time to make the IAP experience possible. I would also suggest that prior to IAP, student be asked to perform some pre-course work (like was done for SC Guru) for other software classes (Python!) if it will be thought again.