

IAP Write-Up (Girish Vishnubhotla)

The day we reached Boston, the temperature was fifteen degrees below zero; the weather was quite unwelcome. The bright side that day was the accommodation at Marriot was comfortable and the staff were helpful. Next day at E32-123 auditorium the SCALE connect 2018 kickoff was held and Dr. Bruce and Dr. Chris directed the kickoff activities. The Ice breaker challenge was the first activity that started interactions among students. The details of Micro Masters and blended programs were explained by Dr. Chis and it was informative. Post Dr. Abel's interaction with SCALE students, the APICS case competition kickoff was done by the president Boston chapter. That day evening, we had a welcome social event where we enjoyed drinks and food.



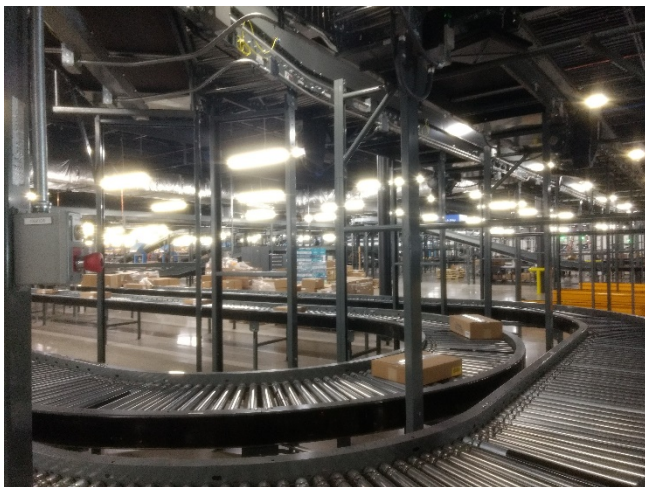
As part of IAP speaker series and over the three weeks at MIT, we interacted with Mr. Ralf from BASF, Ms. Mary from Dominos, Dr. Joe from MIT Age Lab, Prof. Dr. Yossi, Ms. Christine from C&S, Mr. Bill from Uber, Mr. Holger from Adidas, and Ms Tamara from UPS. The book release and interaction with Dr. Venkat and Dr. David was very informative on urban mobility.



The Fresh Connection Challenge teams were announced and over multiple rounds we made different supply chain strategies according to the dynamic nature of the game. In the end we were successful in achieving a six percent cumulative Return on Investment. The Leadership workshop was conducted by Dr. Bruce over the three weeks and the content of the workshop was practical and impactful. In fact, the case studies and activities that were part of the leadership workshop were completely new and authentic. Dr. Joachim from Luxemburg conducted the three-session service part logistics seminar; the

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match stick activity and burn time forecasting was very interesting and engaging. After a brief rehearsal for research expo, it was time for a long weekend. With all the new friends I made at IAP 2018, I was on an outing for Boston site-seeing and visited downtown frequently. The green supply chain specialty seminar by Dr. Ghosh was full of relevant real-life examples and helped understand the importance of sustainability in supply chains.



Visit to Walgreens distribution center in Windsor was a unique experience. The level of automation, the DC capacity, and differently abled workers sets a unique importance for this facility in supply chain practice. Our industry tour to Boston Scientific distribution center in Quincy was again a unique experience in understanding distribution center operations. Finally, the poster presentation day. It was quite eventful and a lot many supply chain practitioners visited our screen and understood our thesis.

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Apart from all the fun we had in Cambridge, in the end, I made hundred and fifty plus new contacts and my supply chain professional network has grown ten-fold in this three weeks. I rate this IAP experience high and a must to continue practice for future batches.