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## **IAP Experience**

### **1. Learning from MIT experts and Soft Skills**

I am really like the idea of the IAP started with MIT greatest lecturers like Joseph F. Coughlin from MIT Agelab to provide his study on the demographic disruption on business model evolution and purchasing power group. Dr Joseph's thought is entertaining and provocative. Dr Sanjay Sarma also provide insights of IoT that different from other literature. Dr Sanjay really changes the way I think of IoT as electronic devices. Now I am always related IoT is a design language. It can really relate myself to explore and learn the new language, IoT.

I am always fascinating to learn from personal experience from Key Speakers Series like Kathy Rodrigue, VP Supply Chain from General Mills. A 100+ years company with great passion to deliver healthy foods and how supply chain strategy is enabled the food corporation to catch up with technology for food quality tracking. She is also passionate for Sustainability not just greenhouse emission but also focus on soil health.

I am really enjoyed learning the soft skills provided in Leadership Workshop. Started with VELD technique that teach us on how engineers background students use more visual and emotion to impress the audience. Other techniques like 6 principles of persuasion, understand the stakeholders' position, logrolling to work behind the scene. All those techniques are useful for supply chain professionals as we may not have all the power or budget, but we are giving the high demand task. With those techniques, I feel confident I can approach the stakeholders in different way. Like what Bruce Amtzen mentioned, we may even win everyone's support without even the opposing force noticed it was from Supply Chain team.



### **2. Learning the Python and Industrial Leaders**

I am also enjoyed learning the Python and Gurobi which are the latest user-friendly computer language for Data Analytic and Optimization Solver. Initially, it was tough to follow the steps from Dr Sergio since it is not easy to type the scripts and listening at the same time. However, I believed Dr. Sergio has learnt that teaching 200 students with different background is challenging. He started to share the steps in script that I can download before the class start. I can then able to follow the class.

I am a bit disappointed for the afternoon 1 hr session for Machine Learning and Energy Supply Chain. May be the subject is good and just not something I can absorb and find the applications when I am back to Malaysia.

Schlumberger-Private

I am also delighted to visit the Walgreen Distribution Center, not just to learn the receiving, sorting, ASRS, etc, but also, the culture of “NOT THEM” hiring disability person and how they adapt lean improvement process.

For the final tour to AB-Inbev, the tour is quite normal to see the brewing process. The highlight was the case study of how they plan US growth with innovation products by optimizing the manufacturing plants and US transportation network to achieve the customer demand.

### **3. Teamwork and Research Expo**

Teamwork for Fresh Connection, VELD video and APICS on supply chain issues has given us the experience to work with international team. The late-night discussion to optimize each role in Fresh Connection and worked on the APICS materials put the teamwork ahead of individual agenda. That’s a good experience.

For Fresh Connection, it will be better to have MIT to explain the rules and each KPI. It is not easy for everyone to make assumption and after several rounds we did found out the assumption was wrong. It has wasted quite a lot of time for team discussion that could be clarify if the game can be explained better.

Finally, Research Expo has given me the opportunity to present my project to different audience from MIT and business associates coming to the event.

On the personal note, the experience of learning in MIT is invaluable and it really encourage more to distance learning from MIT Open Learning to help me progress in my career.

### **Improvement**

1. LlamaSoft is providing certificate which is valuable. It should not limit the number of students attending the class.
2. For the corporate tour to Amazon, Locus Robotic, it should not be given based on how fast we submit the request online. It should be based on top 3 choices and randomly selected by MIT committee.
3. I think the tips from Bruce Amtzen during the Research Expo Prep is useful where he shown some good examples of the posters from previous IAP sessions. We should have similar session in Malaysia and it will help us to prepare a better poster before coming to IAP.

