

Full name: Benjamin Kam Weng Wei

Program: PSCM

IAP Write up

I was one of the fortunate students from the part time program that had been selected to attend IAP 2019. I was really looking forward to it as the program was held at MIT, one of the top universities in the world and it was my first trip to the United State. The only thing that I am not really excited about was the cold weather although there is some silver lining in it. I get to experience snow for the first time in my life. Yay!

The 3 weeks IAP program was really condense and intense. On the first day itself, we were broken into groups and given our first task on APCIS competition. We were tasked to come out with a business case to develop an impactful and innovative solution to a critical supply chain problem. Sitting down with my APCIS team members, we started discussing on the topic that we will like to tackle from the go. Within the 3 weeks, we have a number of meetings to complete the task. We did have some minor disagreement during some of our meeting but able to come out with a consensus at the end. We managed to get into the APCIS final but sadly, unable to get any of the top 3 prizes.

The supply chain simulation game – the fresh connection was really challenging. In this game, we had to improve the ROI of the company in the game. Each team member was assigned a function such as purchasing, sales, supply chain and operation. We struggle to improve our score in the first 3 rounds but manage to get a weight ROI of 11.72% at the end of the game. The dynamics of the game was very complex. Each decision made by other function in the game affect the outcome for other function. If we did not align our decision with each other function, the result of the simulation will not be very pleasant. I will recommend MISI faculty to use this simulation game in the course work as it was really insightful for supply chain study.

The programming and software classes were great as well. I had always wanted to learn some programming language but can't seem to find the time to do it. I really appreciate the Python classes and I did have fun in coding. Through the Llamasoft classes, I was able to understand more about simulation and modelling. Unfortunately, the program was designed in a way that required us to choose between software classes and specialty topics lecture such as blockchain and retail market. I wish I could have attended both sessions.

Although the programme was dense, we still managed to find some free time to explore the culture and city of Boston. I had visited 3 museums in Boston; Isabella Stewart Gardner museum, Museum of Fine Art and Museum of Science. The museums

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trip was fascinating and the best part was the entrance was free due to the card provided by MIT.

The exposure gained through all the activities conducted during IAP session in MIT was indeed an experience of a lifetime. There are not many chances to attend classes conducted by professor from one of the top universities in the world and talk by world business leader. Besides, IAP session also designed in a way that allowed us to work as a team with students from other SCALE institute to complete challenging project. It was truly a real-life simulation practise on how global supply chain team function. Throughout the journey in PSCM and IAP, I had widened my knowledge and become more confident in managing ever increasing complexity in supply chain.

3 positive takeaways: -

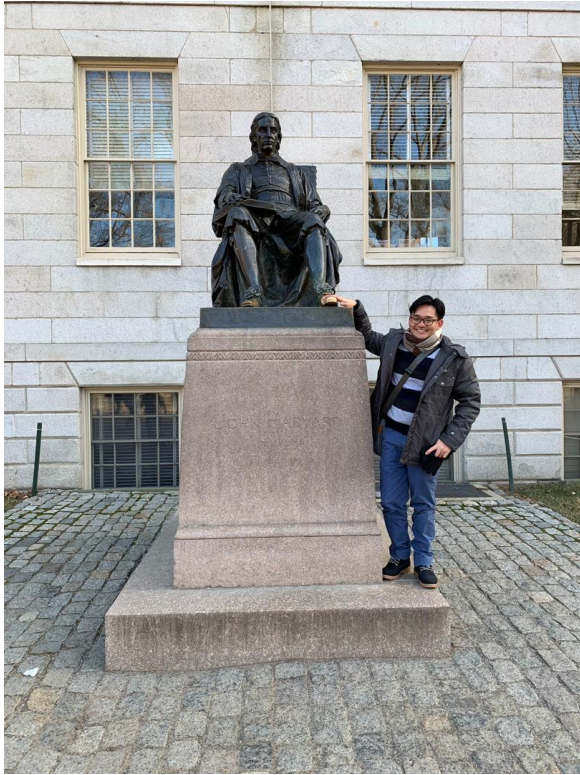
1. Good analytical skill is not sufficient in supply chain management. One also need to have skills to influence others to make change happen.
2. Along with rapid technology change, one has to keep learning to be competence and competitive
3. Working with different people from different culture can be very challenging if our objectives are not aligned.

Improvements recommendation: -

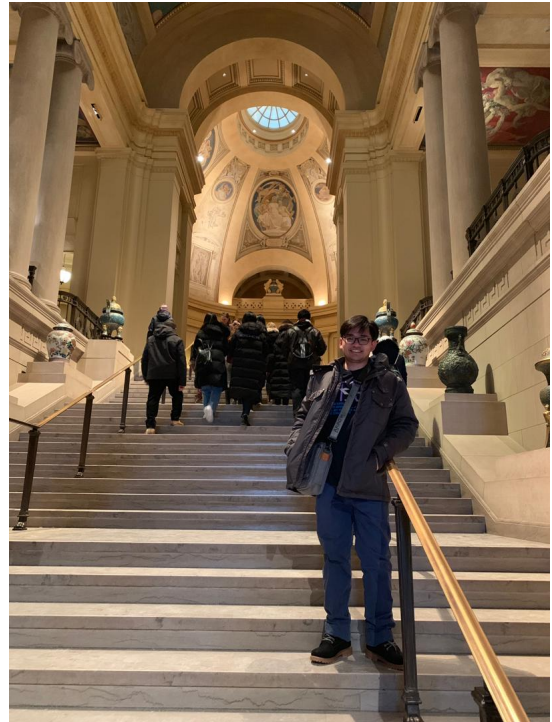
1. Classes that required laptop such as Python to be held at classroom with table and power plug instead of lecture hall.
2. Nil
3. Nil

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At Harvard



At Museum of Fine Arts



With MIT Seal



After IAP Closing, with Llamasoft Cert