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## Exchange @ NUS, Singapore



By Manoj Tuteja

Life is full of surprises. When I joined NCCU IMBA, I never thought of taking exchange at other Business Schools. Be honest, I did not know much about the exchange program. Thanks to one of the IMBA group during 2008, who did the case analysis on benefits of exchange programs during one of our business module called Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A). Then subsequently learnt more from IMBA Exchange program team @ NCCU as well (Cherry & Li Chi). It's a big opportunity for any student to go & learn academic knowledge, experience,

Cultures, feel different perspective & point of view of fellow students across other countries, last not the least experience diversity at partners school. To sum up all, it's a beautiful experience. This journal, the very first one from my side is about my view & initial experience of few days spent at NUS (National University of Singapore), Business School at NUS & Singapore in general. It's a great feeling to represent NCCU University along with having an experience at NUS University, which is among top 100 Universities in World!

Singapore is an island country off the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula.

A city-state, Singapore is the world's fourth leading financial centre and a cosmopolitan world city, playing a key role in international trade and finance.

Singapore has a diverse population of close to 5 million people made up of Chinese, Malays, Indians, Caucasians, and Asians (of various descent) it has the sixth-highest percentage of foreigners in the world (42%), who make up 50% of the service sector. A.T. Kearney names Singapore as the most globalised country in the world in its Globalization Index.

Fall semester starts in early August here. Singapore has a tropical rainforest climate with no distinctive seasons. Temperatures range from 22 to 34 °C while November and December make up the wetter monsoon season. Singapore is a popular travel destination, contributing to the importance of its tourism industry. Main tourist attractions are Sentosa Island, Night Safari & recently opened Universal Studio & Casinos. Singapore has a highly developed market-based economy along with Hong Kong, South Korea and Taiwan, Singapore is one of the Four Asian Tigers. Rated as the most business-friendly economy in the world Singapore sees hundreds of thousands of foreign expatriates working in multi-national corporations.

There are five public universities in Singapore - National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore Management University, Singapore University of Technology and Design and the Singapore Institute of Technology.

The domestic transport infrastructure is well connected by island-wide road transport system, which includes a network of expressways, connected by Bus & MRT system.

My initial few days were pretty good at NUS, a well organized set up in terms of Student Development Office Team, powerfully backed by IT system. Most of the communications with students happens via emails & IVLE system (similar like Resource Center in NCCU). I was quite amazed by the similar kind of system here. Also it gives an idea about how competitive as well as collaborative education system has become. Everything was arranged nicely, starting from exchange orientation meetings followed by brief introduction about facilities & resources in the business center. By experiencing the similar types of things, my mind started to draw similarities between NUS & NCCU Universities!



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