

LILLY XU, A CHEMISTRY MASTER STUDENT FROM CHINA

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Lilly Xu, a Chemistry student from the Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China, decided she wanted to do “something with Science and Business”. After a search on the world wide web she found the Science Based Business programme and decided to apply for the MSc Specialisation SBB. Read more about her experiences with the programme, internship and culture shock in the Netherlands.

A CHANGE OF PERSPECTIVES

“I do not know how many people have reshaped their values or formed their life goals by listening to the simple words of others, but this has certainly occurred to me. After listening to Professor Sheng Manhong from Department of Management, Zhejiang University (ZJU) in 2005, I have totally changed my own perspectives toward science and its application. Dr. Sheng employed such a humble and humorous way to describe the close relationship between fundamental research and sustainable industry development, it was when I knew what I want to achieve in my life.”

THE BIG STEP OVERSEAS

“After receiving my bachelor degree of chemistry, I was accepted by the master program namely chemistry and science-based business in Leiden University. Like any oversea students, not all of my study life in Leiden received satisfactory beginning however, especially when I was facing an entirely new studying field and had to lead life independently in the country that I was not familiar with. It was difficult for me to cope with distinguished affairs, so that I was getting confused about my attitude towards the direction even though I studied diligently and conscientiously.”

ATTENDING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER COURSE

“It was not until I attended the lecture of Technology Transfer in 2008, taught by Dr. Harmen Jousma, which was one part of SBB fundamental course. I was deeply enlightened and encouraged by his lifelike account with almost excruciating particularity on this subject. My attendance at that course with Harmen has again reformed my attitude. In addition to fundamental knowledge of technology transfer, marketing, financing, project plan etc, I learned something more important, that is, teamwork.”

TRAINEESHIP AT LURIS...

Afterward, I was encouraged by Harmen to work in Leiden University Research & Innovation Services (LURIS) as a licensing trainee. LURIS is the technology transfer office of Leiden, of which function is to assist in the protection and exploitation of intellectual property generated by its scientists. Under supervision by Laura MacDonald, Emilie Levivier and Art Bos, My daily work in LURIS is gaining skills in

basic activity of evaluating, promoting and marketing novel technology, which is the exact goal I would like to achieve before I came to Holland. I feel, therefore excited and energetic working there. During my stay in LURIS, I was involved in a start-up projects came across by two scientists from biology institution, which was rewarded as the venture challenge price of Netherlands Genomics Initiatives 2009.”

...AND TV PRESENTER AT CRTV

“Aside from advancing my knowledge of business development, I would also like to develop my personality for further studying and own interest. Since 2007, I voluntarily joined Chinese Radio & Television (CRTV) in Amsterdam, and have been working as a radio and TV presenter, currently hold the position of radio deputy-chief editor. My interest is not limited in radio and TV. In 2008 I was recommended to work for China Times, Den Haag, and in 2009 I joined International Film Festival Rotterdam press desk, during when I was responsible to facilitate more than hundred interviews for Asian independent filmmakers. From the live broadcasting, reporting events, and facing worldwide people in film festival, I have developed keen personal interest in communication, especially in the cultural connecting between China and Holland.”

IN CONCLUSION

“Life is a box of chocolates; you never know what you’re gonna get. Every time when people asked me about my opinion of studying and living in the Netherlands, I never say no, for I still appreciate the chance coming here, the attendance of science-based business and gaining a colorful experience abroad.”

By Lilly Xu, participant in the SBB Master Specialisation, including the courses SBB Fundamentals Fall 2007 and SBB Internship. Read also her SBB Internship experiences.