



WorldWide

4th Edition - December 2011

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Tree Planting to Offset our Travelling Carbon Footprints

This trimester Vic OE headed out on a tree planting day trip to Maara Roa Valley, in Northern Wellington. A group of green-minded exchange and international students wanted to help offset their travelling carbon footprints. Students aimed to plant enough trees to offset the return flights to their home or host country. For a return flight to New York, you would need to plant approximately 45 trees. Students were guided by volunteers of the Maara Roa Valley Trust who taught the group how to plant trees and about the native New Zealand flora and fauna.



Above: Nina Hardy from RISD, USA plants her first tree.

Exchange Exhibition tours Victoria campuses

Vic OE's inaugural exchange exhibition kicked off in September with four weeks touring Victoria's Kelburn, Pipitea and Te Aro campuses. The exhibition included wonderful photos from students overseas adventures; exchange students profiles and also info pods about Vic OE, partner universities and funding opportunities available. The event was attended by hundreds of students and will be held annually in Trimester two. Check out page 4 for photos from the exhibition.



Above: Treeplanting. Below: Kelburn Exhibition



Contact Information

Vic OE Office
Level 2, Easterfield Building, Kelburn Campus
Drop-in Hours: Mon&Tues 9-12, Wed-Fri 10-12
Info Sessions: Wed 12.55-1.05pm
Application deadlines for exchanges:
Tri 2, 2012 - Jan 16th (UC Nov 28th, 2011)
Tri 1, 2013 - July 16th (UC May 28th, 2012)
www.victoria.ac.nz/exchange
Email us: VicOE@vuw.ac.nz
Find us on Facebook: [Vic OE](#) 
Contact Fiona Mann or Clare Penno



Kiwi Batch takes 3rd place

Victoria University of Wellington, was selected as one of 20 university teams to compete in the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2011 – the only entry, ever, from the southern hemisphere. In a contest that went down to the wire the Victoria University team has been

awarded third place at the US Department of Energy Solar Decathlon, just a few points behind the winner. The Solar Decathlon competition takes place every two years in Washington DC, showcasing a working display of energy innovation in action. The Solar Decathlon has grown into one of the most highly anticipated design competitions ever held. Vic OE student Sen Dong was part of the team and is heading on exchange to Technical University of Munich (TUM), Germany in 2012. Find out more at: <http://firstlighthouse.ac.nz/home/>



Johanna Clayton-France

Host University: ESCE, Paris, France
Studying: BCA, Accounting
Trimester 2, 2011 & Trimester 1, 2012

Seen any great sites? A lot- once you're in Europe it's so easy to get around so I've wandered through Belgium, England and the Netherlands. However I think it's the small things that really colour your experience like the street musicians in Paris and all the bikes in the Netherlands! In the break I'm very excited to be going to Italy- home of pasta, fresco and gelato.

What are the classes like? a lot smaller, we share our campus & do a lot more group work.

Accommodation? A small a typical student studio flat in Paris. Once it's decorated it feels a lot more homey. I'd definitely recommend taking some photos, or other decorations, with you on exchange.

Good food? The French are well known for their bread and pastry which translates to great breakfast food. Every week I'm trying out something new.

'I went on exchange because I love travelling and I didn't want to wait until all my study was over.'

Free time? I'm working my way through the art museums of Paris. I'm all Louvre-d out for now but I'll be visiting Musée D'Orsay, Centre Georges Pompidou & some less famous ones too. Just a warning: The Mona Lisa is very small.

What do they think of NZ? Saying I'm a kiwi on this side of the world gets me some great reactions. I've had the world cup mentioned a handful of times, pretty much everyone say they "want to go there someday" & a couple people have acted out bits of 'Le Seigneur des Anneaux/ The Lord of The Rings' to me.

Host University: University of Hawai'i
Studying: BCA, International Business
Trimester 2, 2011

Hayden's Top 5 experiences so far:

1. Skydiving. Nothing can beat jumping out of a plane at 14,000 feet and free falling for almost 60 seconds. After this I went stand up paddle boarding, we went past the boat being used in the tv show 'The River' and found an old rope swing that we jumped off.
2. All the incredible people I have meet from all over the world. I joined the International Student Association & will be doing so many great activities with them.
3. The beauty of O'hau and Hawai'i. I am going on a hike every weekend until I leave.
4. Eating Japanese Ramen at Shirokiya in Ala Moana Shopping Center (biggest open air mall in the world). A competition

was held in Japan and the best ramen and gyoza makers were flown to Shirokiya to cook. Best ramen I have ever had.

5. Swimming with a turtle at Hanauma Bay Nature Park while we were snorkelling. Saw many cool fish as well.

'One thing I would highly recommend when going on an exchange is to go for two semesters, one is nowhere near enough!'

Picked up any local lingo? A little Mandarin, Korean & Japanese from my friends.

Your accommodation? Student accommodation on campus. It can get horribly hot in the room, but there is a gecko who lives in a hole in the wall who sometimes visits me.

How did you fund your exchange? Savings, student allowance & the Vic OE grant.



Hayden Gyles Bedford-Hawaii

local language opens you up to a more rewarding experience in your host country.

'At Christmas time in Germany the centre square of most cities transforms into a Weihnachtsmarkt, where you can drink gluhwein, eat lebkuchen, & buy Christmas decorations, its like a winter wonderland!'

Travelled anywhere? Hamburg is a central European location, other major destinations such as Berlin, Amsterdam & Copenhagen are just a short train ride away. My dorm is a short subway ride or half hour walk from the university, and the public transport system here means that everything is so accessible. For anyone going on exchange to Europe in winter, I recommend to bring warm clothes- wool tights, hats, gloves, scarfs, everything!!



Genevieve Taylor-Germany

Host Uni: Bucerius Law School, Hamburg
Studying: Law
Trimester 2, 2011

Learnt any cool words? My favourite sayings so far are "genau" (exactly), "natürlich" (of course) and "naschen" (sweet nibbles).

What's the campus like? It is situated next to the botanical gardens, which makes it a great place for watching the seasons go by.

Spare time? I go rowing on the large inner city lake (the alster) with a university team, or try out some of the local food (Wurst, schnitzel, franzbrotchen and pickled herring are some local specialties).

What are the classes like? The German language courses that the university offers to international students have really helped with day-to-day life & travelling within Germany. Being able to speak some of the



Cheng En - Singapore

Home University: Singapore Management University
Studying: BCA/BSC
Trimester 2, 2011

Favourite place to eat? Eggs Montreal at Ernesto, gelato from Kaffee Eis and the roti from the TePapa Sunday market!

Spare time in your new home? We don't have much spare time and if we do, we head to the common lounge and facilities room to play table tennis and pool.

Favourite class? The Antarctica class is the most exciting and enriching one educating us about the environment in Antarctica. The range of lecturers allowed me to learn from the different perspectives and the pictures shared are so beautiful and I gained a lot of knowledge about Antarctica.

Picked up any kiwi slang? "cool", "cheers" and asking people "how are you?".

'I love Mt Victoria because of the great 360 degree view of Wellington and its surroundings. Also, the Beehive is very educational and as a foreigner, it is very interesting to understand how the parliament works.'

Went on exchange for.... a totally new experience; for me to learn to be more independent and learn to live on my own. Most importantly, I have got to travel around!

Highlight? the Rugby World Cup & the All Blacks!! We went to a game at the stadium and the atmosphere was awesome

Biggest difference from your home? Singapore has only 1 season throughout the year & arriving at Wellington during winter is the most difficult part to adapt but I love the cold!! (and the hail and snow we had!)

Advice for future exchange students? Be prepared for shops to close really early

Home University: University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada
Studying: Anthropology, Intl' Relations
Trimester 2 2011

Favourite place to eat? I love Fidels on Cuba street. The Tortellini pasta which is to die for. I love Abraakebabra, the Kebabs are awesome and Midnight Espresso, which have awesome milkshakes!

Spare time in NZ? When I am not studying, hanging out with my hostel mates around town. Travelling on weekends, as well as going to watch rugby games at local pubs.

Favourite class? Modern Anthropological Thought. It is extremely interesting, has a great professor and awesome content. I also really enjoyed Pacific History as we don't really have the chance to study Oceania at my home university.

Picked up any kiwi sayings? "Sweet as"

is the one I use most, as well as "how ya going?" and "cheers." The word "tramping" instead of "hiking" was a new word for me to get used to.

Wish you had brought from home.... I wish I would have brought more deodorant, I know it is a funny thing to say but the deodorant that is sold here is just not the same as the stuff back home.

Seen any great sites? I did a road trip with friends all over the North Island. There is so much to see, that I wish I would have had more time on the trip. I loved Taupo, where we went skydiving; Coromandel Peninsula was my all time favourite though. I also loved Cape Reinga, where we camped & hiked to the light house. Red Rocks Reserve was also an amazing day trip to see the fur seals. I am heading to the South Island after exams where I will be spending the rest of my time in NZ tramping and camping.



Marissa Stein - Canada

'Going on exchange to study at Victoria was the best decision I have ever made and I think everyone should have a chance to experience a new culture, see a new country and learn at a different university.'

Why did you decide to go on exchange? After I finish my degree I hope to conduct anthropological research all over the world. I had not had a chance to travel much before university and so I wanted to make sure that travelling was something that I liked & would want to continue to do. Also I really wanted to leave Canada and see the world; I hoped that by studying at another university I could gain a different perspective on some of the topics I am studying back home. I wanted to meet people from all over the world and explore New Zealand at the same time, since I heard it was such a beautiful place.

Highlight of your exchange? Watching the rugby world cup final and witnessing the All Blacks win! It was absolutely amazing, something I will never forget! Besides that I have met some amazing friends, seen a lot of really beautiful places and really enjoyed my experience at Victoria University!

Advice for future exchange students ? Challenge yourself to be outside of your comfort zone, to meet as many people as you can. To say yes to every invitation, to experience as much of your host country as possible.

Anything else? My home university; University of Windsor is an amazing school, I would definitely like to suggest coming to studying at the University of Windsor, the city Windsor has much to offer and Canada has a lot to explore.



Jönköping International Business School (JIBS)

JIBS is located in Jönköping, Sweden and has courses available in English for undergraduate and postgraduate commerce students.

JIBS place a strong emphasis on Entrepreneurship and small-medium sized business studies and offer many opportunities for students to be involved in projects and business start-ups. In line with the international nature of the school, many of their courses are internationally focussed. JIBS is conveniently located in the centre point of Sweden, Jönköping is a student orientated city offering many discounts and events for students. This



also makes it a great base for exploring Sweden and greater Scandinavia. The city is filled with many beautiful old churches, a busy harbour and is easy to walk or bike around. Random fact - Jönköping is also the birthplace of the safety match. The dark winter is not to be feared as exchange students can be assured there are plenty of Swedish traditions, festivals



and mulled wine to bring light to the season! With over 650 international and exchange students from over 70 countries, Jönköping is the most international business school in Sweden and a superb place to get a taste of the rest of the world. Find out more: <http://hj.se/en.html>

Did you know Asia?

- Asia is the largest continent by landmass. The land area of Asia is actually larger than the land area of the moon.
- The highest and the lowest point on the Earth both lie in Asia, the highest point is the Mount Everest and the lowest is the Dead Sea.
- Asia's three dominant financial centers are Tokyo, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Learn some Kiwi!

Tama: *I can't wait until Christmas!*

Liz: *Me too, I can't wait for summer barbies*

Tama: *I can't wait to get lots of pressies!*

I can't wait...: I'm excited or I really want to do something

Barbies: *barbeque; BBQ*

Pressies: *presents; gifts*

Language Link-

'Merry Christmas!'

Learn to say 'Merry Christmas' in 6 languages. Perfect time to practice!

Hawaiian: Mele Kalikimaka

Spanish: Feliz Navidad

Cantonese: Sing dan fai lok

Danish: Glædelig Jul

Maori: Meri Kirihimete

Thai: Sawadee Pee Mai

Congratulations to all the VILP graduates for 2011!



In particular all our VILP and Vic Plus Vic OE graduates including: Anthony Leung, Chantel Hickey, Fiona MacKenzie, Ellen Duval, Erin Stephen, Gabrielle Zareei, Hannah Wilson, Justine Nowitz, Kim Anderson, Lena Hesselgrave, Lisa Seidel, Lucy Coghill, Lucy Mehrtens, Miriama Cribb, Momo Smithers, Richard Lee, Sarah Larsen, Seini O'Connor, Teresa Edge, Thi Linh Hoang, Vuyani Ncube, William Tait.

Congratulations also to our visiting exchange students from our partner universities that completed the tailored VILP; Alessandra Milani (Bocconi University, Italy), Emma Lynch (State University of New York, USA), Keara O'Neill (American University, USA), Gordon O'Neill (University of Leeds, UK), Lotta Schneidemesser (Tubingen University, Germany), Paolo Negrini (University of Ferrara, Italy), Tetske Welling (University of Groningen, The Netherlands).

Want to know more about the Victoria International Leadership Programme (VILP)? <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/vilp/default.aspx>



Top: Thailand, James Koerbin. Middle: Bolivia, Dorothy Leigh. Bottom: New York, Kelly Mackie.

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