在北京“打工” 新大四学生获表扬

新加坡管理大学管理学院的453名大四学生，获得了新加坡两大报之一的《联合早报》的表扬。2007年10月1日，该报头版刊载了一篇题为《新大四学生在北京“打工”》的文章，对这些学生在北京实习的出色表现表示赞赏。

据《联合早报》报道，这些学生在北京的实习经历让他们收获颇丰。他们不仅学到了书本上学不到的实践经验，而且在与当地人交流中也提高了自己的英语水平。一些学生表示，他们在北京的实习经历将对他们未来的职业生涯产生深远影响。

《联合早报》指出，这些学生的表现不仅赢得了实习单位的赞赏，也受到了中国社会的广泛关注。他们在北京的实习经历不仅展示了新加坡学生的能力和素质，也为新加坡与中国之间的教育交流搭建了桥梁。

《联合早报》还引用了一些学生的话，他们表示，这次实习经历对他们来说是一次难得的机会，让他们更加了解中国的文化和社会。

新加坡管理大学的学生表示，他们对这次实习经历感到非常满意，也感谢学校提供了这样的机会。他们希望未来能够有更多这样的机会，让他们能够进一步了解和深入参与中国的发展。

《联合早报》的这篇报道引起了一些媒体的后续报道和关注，进一步提升了新加坡学生在中国的形象和声誉。
SMU students interning in China doubled this year, more expected next year

As of July this year, 132 SMU students will have gone to China for internship opportunities. This is more than double last year which saw 41 students intern in China for the full year. SMU expects the number of students interning in China to increase next year. Director for Career Services Ruth Chiang says, "China, with its rapid growth and development, has become an important economy in the world today. China has become Singapore's third-largest trading partner and Singapore is China's seventh. In our process of grooming future leaders, we would be remiss in this age of globalization if we did not challenge and encourage our students to venture into China and learn the ropes of how businesses are done. Such an internship experience is a powerful and invaluable experiential learning and exposure to Chinese culture and business practices."

SMU's 132 students have taken up internships in some 70 companies in Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing, Qingdao, Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Hong Kong. As of July this year, 132 SMU students will have gone to China for internship opportunities. This is more than double last year which saw 41 students intern in China for the full year. SMU expects the number of students interning in China to increase next year. Director for Career Services Ruth Chiang says, "China, with its rapid growth and development, has become an important economy in the world today. China has become Singapore's third-largest trading partner and Singapore is China's seventh. In our process of grooming future leaders, we would be remiss in this age of globalization if we did not challenge and encourage our students to venture into China and learn the ropes of how businesses are done. Such an internship experience is a powerful and invaluable experiential learning and exposure to Chinese culture and business practices."

Indian student Sumaya Baqeri, a third-year student at SMU's Lee Kong Chian School of Business, had initially requested for a posting in a financial institution in Shanghai. However as she is not able to speak or write Chinese, she accepted a marketing post in Beijing's BISS Singapore International School. Sumaya, whose father goes to China for business regularly and family is aware of the significance of China, had insisted on interning in China. She said although she had learnt basic Chinese for three months before she left for Beijing, it didn't help because she couldn't understand the heavy accents of Beijing Mandarin.

Interaction with Beijing residents leaves deep impressions on Indian student

Sumaya had little opportunity to practice Mandarin as her internship responsibilities required her to deal mostly with human resources personnel in international companies and also market the school in various embassies in Beijing. She got the chance to practice some basics when she had to fill in for the receptionist who had to be on urgent leave for a week.

She felt that her 12 week experience in Beijing was great and was amazed by the way China and its people so enthusiastically prepared to welcome the world for the 2008 Olympics. Even on the streets, she has seen many people setting examples, improving themselves and reprimanding others for spitting, not queing, in order to present a new image for the country. She is impressed by the hunger to learn new languages and was able to enjoy a few free haircuts at a beauty salon where she taught the stylists basic English.

Sumaya also notes that China is a place where work experience would earn more respect than paper qualifications. She hopes to return to China to work and live there when she graduates.

Four SMU students receive praise for their work in Beijing

SMU students Khoo Kok Peng, Ong Chuan Lu, Chng Li Ming, and Seng Wenxue Cheryl interned for 12 weeks at a Beijing bakery chain Kiss N Bake in April this year. When they returned to Singapore, SMU received a letter form Kiss N Bake. The company's head of manufacturing said the students were fantastic, most undergraduates in China cannot compare with them in terms of ability to work hard, the execution of their job, sense of responsibility and etiquette. She even told an unmarried subordinates that they must learn to find a such hardworking, ambitious, capable yet well-mannered people as life-partners.

Kiss N Bake General Manager Joe Yuen, who is from Hong Kong, wrote that he was deeply impressed with the four students. Compared to undergraduates from Hong Kong, the four students demonstrated superior abilities to communicate in English and Mandarin, and displayed excellent teamwork and diligence. His staff had never heard them complain or boast about how things were done differently in Singapore. They just accepted their job responsibilities and worked hard. He realised that such excellent mark of character in the students is a sign of the conducive social and learning environment they come from.

Khoo Kok Peng, Ong Chuan Lu and Chng Li Ming, fourth year students from the Lee Kong Chian School of Business, miss the days when they entered toilets with their noses pinched. To experience the life of an average worker in China, Kok Peng moved into a small stuffy room in the subway station and lived there for 8 weeks with another bakery staff. He would start work in the bakery at 5am in the morning to learn how the pastries were made. During his previous internship in India, he had enjoyed living in a big apartment, being chauffeur-driven to work and having his meals cooked for him everyday. He wanted a different experience this time in China and opted to work in the bakery at high temperatures during the summer, washing 100 baking pans, cleaning the floors and making bread. During his lunch break, he would teach fellow colleagues basic English. He also worked as a shop assistant and was on his feet for 10 hours a day with the rest of the staff. Kok Peng's felt that such an experience has been important. Besides building his resilience, his attitude towards retail assistants have also changed, knowing that their work is not as easy as he had thought.

Chng Liming's 12 weeks was also as fruitful. She was responsible to help her supervisor oversee the set up of a new outlet in a Beijing subway station. She had to liaise with renovation contractors, the subway company and all parties involved to ensure that the outlet could be completed and set up according to schedule. She also went to Shanghai for 10 days with another senior member of the company to market the bakery's mooncakes in a trade fair. Ong Chuan Lu was responsible for coming up with the Chinese & English operations manuals for the bakery, which enabled him to better understand how the company ran its operations. All three of them were delighted to learn of the praise they received from the bakery's senior management.