港慈善机构利丰公司捐赠144万元给新大

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新加坡管理大学宣布获香港慈善机构利丰(1906)慈善基金有限公司捐赠100万美元(约144万新元)，新大将在利丰奖学金名下，资助学生参与学校的国际交流计划。利丰慈善基金的这笔捐款，也将获得我国政府-对一的资助。

在利丰奖学金计划下，新大将每年颁发多达20份奖学金给有意参加该校国际交流计划的本科生。每份奖学金总额5000元，这份奖学金将分两次拨款，分别在第一学年和第二学年颁发。奖学金得主将被命名为“冯氏学者”。除了供在籍新大本科生申请，该奖学金也将资助成功申请到这奖学金的中国大陆大学生，到新大进行交流。

利丰慈善基金董事会主席冯国经博士说，他们意识到现在社会要求大学生有国际视野，并接触多元文化和环境，相信捐赠给新大的基金，将提供新大学生更多机会到外国大学体验不同文化和社会，同时从新的国际视野中受益。

根据报道，新大的利丰奖学金计划已吸引67名学生申请。该基金的奖学金名单已经出炉。新大将主要按学生的学业成绩、领导能力、性格、课程辅助活动表现和学生服务来筛选奖学金得主。

已出炉的7名新大奖学金得主，明年将到美国、英国、法国、德国和瑞士的大学留学。奖学金得主将在外国大学留学一年，期间除学费外，还包括生活费、机票和其它相关费用。奖学金得主将在外国大学留学期间参加各种社会活动，了解外国大学的教育、文化和社会情况。

利丰慈善基金的这笔捐款，将资助新大30多名学生到外国大学留学。新大每年将颁发多达20份奖学金给有意参加该校国际交流计划的本科生。奖学金得主将被命名为“冯氏学者”。

新加坡管理大学计划在每学年对有约33%的学生有机会出国学习或交流。有关渠道包括海外实习、商业考察团、外国大学交流计划、夏令营和学生活动计划。新大的长远目标是让全部学生有机会到外国大学留学。

新大校财政长冯国经博士说：“国际交流对于年轻人来说非常重要，他们可以了解到外国的文化、教育和社会情况，拓宽视野。我们感谢利丰慈善基金有限公司的这笔捐赠，进一步实现我们给更多学生到外国扩大视野的目标。”
The Singapore Management University (SMU) announced that it has received a US$1 million (about S$1.44 million) donation from the Li & Fung (1906) Foundation Limited. SMU will name a scholarship after the Li & Fung Foundation which will help fund undergraduates for their overseas exchange programmes. The contribution will also attract a 1:1 matching by the Singapore government.

Under the Li & Fung Scholarship programme, SMU will award 20 scholarships each year to undergraduates taking part in the university's overseas exchange programme. Each scholarship is valued at S$5,000. The recipients will be known as Fung Scholars. Besides being open to full-time SMU students, the scholarship is also open to mainland Chinese students to come to SMU for exchange.

The Li & Fung (1906) Foundation Limited is a charity established by the Li & Fung Group to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Hong Kong business group. This is the first time that the foundation is making contributions to a Singapore tertiary institution. Last year, the foundation announced that it has contributed HK$100 million to set up another Li & Fung Scholarship. This provides a total of 100 scholarships every year to undergraduates in Hong Kong and mainland China to help them go for overseas studies. It helps to raise their education levels and widen their cultural exposure.

Dr Victor Fung, Chairman of the Board of the Li & Fung (1906) Foundation Limited said that they recognized the world today expects graduates to have international outlook and exposure to diverse cultures and environments. They believed that the scholarship programme will provide greater opportunities for SMU undergraduates to study in a foreign university, experience a different culture and way of life, and benefit from a whole new network of international contacts.

There are 67 applicants for the scholarship and recipients for the first half of the academic year have already been identified. SMU will select recipients based on criteria such as strong academic results, leadership skills, good character, active involvement in co-curricular activities and community service.

The seven SMU scholarship recipients will head to the United States, Turkey, Argentina, Spain, France, Germany and Switzerland next year for exchange. There are three mainland Chinese students from Xiamen University who will come to SMU for exchange next year.

Ms Fong Lu Yi (21 years old), one of the Fung Scholars, will be going to the University of St Gallen in Switzerland early next year for exchange. She estimated that the expenses required would come up to about S$13,000. This had caused her to hesitate initially about going overseas. Now, the scholarship would save her the need to borrow from her relatives. She planned to know more overseas contacts in Switzerland and experience independence in a foreign country. It is also an opportunity for her to understand the education system overseas and hope to have a wider perspective when she returns so that she can share her experiences with her friends.

Today, there are about 33% of SMU undergraduates who have a chance to go abroad for exchange or internships. The various overseas channels include overseas internships, overseas exchange, business study missions, summer studies, overseas community service, work & travel scheme and overseas research projects.

SMU’s longer term goal is to have all students going overseas for some form of exposure. In the near future, the aim is to reach 50%.

SMU President Professor Howard Hunter said: “International exchange provides substantial opportunity to immerse oneself in a new learning environment and widen one’s perspective. We also welcome foreign students coming to SMU for exchange as they contribute greatly to a more enriching and culturally diverse student community. We thank the Li & Fung (1906) Foundation Limited for their grant which brings us closer to our objective of having more undergraduates going abroad.”