National Infocomm Scholarship holder Danny Seow enjoys the flexible nature of his job at Accenture

by daniel chew

NATIONAL Infocomm scholar Danny Seow, 26, has lead the fast-paced world of IT consulting, leaving space enough to live both locally and abroad.

After graduating from Ngee Ann Polytechnic with a diploma in Business Studies, he landed his scholarship at global management consulting firm Accenture, where he entered the highest ranking or central cadre for his Bachelor in Information Systems Management degree programme.

He followed up with an undergraduate degree in electronic science at one of America's top universities, Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), also on the scholarship.

Having left his comfort zone when he arrived at CMU, Mr Seow adapted quickly by making new friends and adapting to the American way of life. In this new environment, he needed to have the capacity to absorb new ideas and concepts. His experience working on the '10 Freeway Project in California' gave him a glimpse of what the 'yo-yo' student life is like on his own, something he previously could not envisage.

Mr Seow worked on projects with students from various nations including Korea and Senegal.

"The fantastic thing about the scholarship is that it has given me international exposure and moulded my perspective. The top-notch overseas hands have moulded my professional degree of influence," he says.

The National Infocomm Scholarship is a joint scholarship offered by the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) in collaboration with a partnering organisation to attract top talent into the country's IT industry. Candidates can choose among 26 prestigious organisations across multiple industries, ranging from top consulting firms like Accenture to both local and global finance institutions.

Now three months into his current position as an analyst at Accenture, Mr Seow is rapidly learning the ropes, leveraging the experience of his colleagues and supervisors.

"Team members work together to the best of their abilities to meet project goals and when we celebrate our success, the sense of our collective achievement is tremendous and we are recognised for our effort and achievements," he adds.

"Knowing that I play a part in helping our clients achieve high performance as well as being a business enabler gives me a great sense of achievement and is a key motivator," he says.

His advice to prospective scholars is that while any scholarship will ease the financial burden of further education, they should be aware of the accompanying obligations. "Potential scholars must be aware of their role in shaping their own future career direction, comfortable with the employer's direction, committed to the companies' direction, comfortable with the employee benefits, and most importantly, committed that they can meet prior commitments to attend," he says.