

REPORT AL RIENTRO DELL'ESPERIENZA DI SCAMBIO - A.A. -

<i>_Cognome</i>	<i>Wang</i>
<i>_Nome</i>	<i>Ying</i>
<i>_Matricola</i>	<i>10416790</i>
<i>_Anno di corso</i>	<i>2.LM</i>
<i>_Corsi di studi</i>	<i>PRODUCT SERVICE SYSTEM DESIGN</i>
<i>_Sezione</i>	<i>Design</i>
<i>_e-mail</i>	<i>ying1.wang@polimi.mail.it</i>
<i>_Sede di scambio</i>	<i>KAIST</i>
<i>_Stato</i>	<i>Korea</i>
<i>_ID ERASMUS (per sedi in EU)</i>	
<i>_Semestre svolto all'estero</i>	<i>2°</i>

Testo

It was a pretty nice experience that doing the exchange program in KAIST (Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology), South Korea. KAIST is one of the most famous universities in the technology and science field in Asia, which with good research environment and international study atmosphere.

The campus is located in Daejeon, a dynamic and beautiful city in the center of Korea. The university is really big and with advanced facilities. All the teaching buildings, cafeteria, libraries, shops and dormitories are near each other, what make the daily life convenient. Most of the exchange students was arranged to live in several buildings, so we could contact and meet with each other easily.

The university staffs and Korean students were helpful and offered many activities and personal guidance for exchange students. There were hundreds of fresh exchanges students from all over the world. In order to let us quickly adapt to the new life, KAIST offered a special program called "Buddy Program", which means two Korean buddies make a group with five or six international students. Korean buddies organized the activities during whole the semester, which include campus tour, city tour, strawberry party, and trip to other cities, etc. On the other hand, if we had any daily problems or confusing, we could easily contact them for asking a help. After a series of activities in the orientation week, I was quickly into the new environment and made friends from all over the world.

As the top research institute in South Korea, KAIST has its distinctive education system which is very different from other universities. All the full-time master and PHD students work with professors in labs to complete the research task as well as real projects. Moreover, the projects normally multi-disciplinary, for example, most of the projects in the design department were cooperated with other engineering-based departments, which gave them a big chance to make things real with self-developed technologies. Thanks to this, I got a lot of opportunities to meet the students with the different backgrounds, and learnt a lot from my unknown fields.

In this semester, under the help of coordinate professors, I chose three courses in KAIST: Product Design System, and User Centered Design Methodology from Industrial Design Department; and

Individual and Group Study for Ms. from Innovation and Technology Management Department. All these three courses are impressive. For Product Design System, I did group work under the project topic of healthcare. The aim of this course was let students practice products- centered service system design, which is fully related to my major in Polimi. What surprised me was the strictness of our research. For example, as secondary research, KAIST students particularly thought highly of the resource quality. We kept all the reference and did logical analyze which was very scientifically. For the course of User Centered Design Methodology, I did four projects to practice design methods with real people and did reflection of our trail. These works offered me better understanding on the existing design methods (Focus Group, Context Inquiry, and Cultural Probe). And especially for the last assignment, we created a new design research method called FI Method which was a nice approach that I had never tried before. And for the last course of Individual and Group Study for Ms., I researched on my self-create study topic based on the lab's study direction, and co-worked with some PHD students. Finally I decided my research topic as "Facilitating Amateurs' Participation in Open Collaborative Innovation: A Review Based on Current Literature and Cases Study". During the research, I did many literature reviews, ten typical cases studies, and gave my own analyzing and perspectives on it. Thanks to all the professors and teammates, I learnt new research techniques and thinking processes in these four months.

All in all, it was a really impressive experience in KAIST and it offered me deep understanding on the difference of eastern and western design culture.

Autorizzo al trattamento dei miei dati personali ai sensi del Decreto Legislativo n. 196/03 da parte del Politecnico di Milano.

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