Study Trip to Shenzhen and Hong Kong

Picture taken at the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks

The Innovation & Design-Centric Programme (iDCP) led a 2-week study trip to Shenzhen and Hong Kong in May, 2017. The theme for the trip is “Innovation and Design”.

Shenzhen is known as the Silicon Valley of hardware and Hong Kong is a leading business hub in Asia. The study trip therefore provided a good opportunity for NUS students to be immersed in a vibrant maker culture and to increase their global awareness. The trip consists of visits to makerspaces, start-ups, technology parks, incubators, and cultural sites. Students were given the chance to develop their network with the organisations visited and engage in discussions with entrepreneurs to understand their journey. The study trip was supported by STEER.

Organisations visited – In Shenzhen: Chaihuo Maker Space, HAX Hardware Accelerator, Litchee Lab, Qianhai E-Hub, Shenzhen Open Innovation Lab, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen Virtual University Park, Shenzhen Museum. In Hong Kong: Cyberport, Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks, MakerHive.

Further information on the study trip can be directed to Dr Edwin Koh (edwin.koh@nus.edu.sg).
“Through the engaging and educational visits to the various Makerspaces, students can gain a deeper insight into the challenges and processes needed to innovate. The interaction between students and employees at the start-ups are also extremely interesting as we can learn from their experience and attitude towards failing.”

- Samantha Chee

“This is definitely a great programme that serves as a platform to see, learn, and experience new things with a bunch of new people who you can form close friendships with.”

- Rathina Sabapathi Anushri

“I have gained a better understanding of Shenzhen’s start-up environment and its strong hardware ecosystem and supply chain. I have also networked with start-up accelerators, incubators, hardware manufacturers and suppliers. These contacts will be useful for my future projects.”

- Wu Tingfeng

“My personal favourite destination of the whole trip is HuaQiangBei where most of us made more than 3 trips. For many of the guys, the place is a shopping paradise as it is filled with the latest gadgets and all kinds of electronics at ridiculously low prices.”

- Sia Kah Wee
“I feel that the interaction with the organisations visited have provided me with deep insight into the workings of Chinese companies and their industry practices.”

- Tan Xing Liang

“This program is very useful and relevant for all NUS students, given the extensive exposure to makers and start up culture in Hong Kong and Shenzhen, two of the most vibrant centres for innovations.”

- Du Bowen

“This experience helps me understand the support that can be acquired to start a business over there.”

- Teo Kian Chong

“I have emerged with a greater understanding of the beginnings and workings of a tech start-up. I am now aware of the different environments and support available for start-ups to work on their ideas in the initial phase of business.”

- Sherine Huang