2006-2419: STUDENT PERSPECTIVES ON INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS IN ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

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Student Perspectives on International Exchange/Collaborations

Student A
Mechanical Engineering Technology
College of Technology
Purdue University

Student B
Manufacturing Engineering
School of Manufacturing Engineering & Design
Dublin Institute of Technology

Introduction

Reasons for Participation
• Gain perspective of other country approaches
• Increase understanding of international dynamics
• Become more competitive
• Potentially identify overseas internship
• Have fun

Realities of International Exchange/Collaborations
• Travel funding is tight
• How do I handle my other classes
• Securing visas & passports
• Where will I stay
• Will this count towards my degree
• How do I communicate & plan in advance
• Maintaining contact with family
• Trepidation of first time overseas…

Similarities and Differences within the institutions and courses
• Content Covered
• Types of activities
• Theory—Application Balance
• Lecture/presentation styles
• Assessment differences

Student Differences & Similarities
• Motivation
• Expectations
• Perceptions
• Preparation

Challenges for Exchanging Students
• Timing
• Funding
• Covering other classes
• Language capabilities
• Securing housing