



SINGAPORE
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
Since 1986

ALUMNI

NEWSLETTER

Number 08

An Alumni letter from Do Hoang Giang

Hello, my name is Giang and I am an alumni of SIS. I graduated in 2014, finished university and am now working as an IELTS teacher. I studied Marketing Management at British University Vietnam, aka BUV. I'm sure that many of you have heard of this university before, as it is quite a decent choice if you want to have a British degree without having to leave the comfort or familiarity of Vietnam. However, this wasn't my first choice. Before attending BUV, I applied to several universities in Australia and Singapore as well, but due to a scholarship that I had here, I decided to stay.



University life may arguably be one of the best and also absolute worst times you can have, but that's what makes it memorable. During the first year, when you are just getting used to things and the workload is not too big of a deal, you will find yourself indulging in the most typical, yet distinct and most importantly, NECESSARY activities of university life, such as joining clubs, meeting other students, getting to know your professors, partying (for sure), participating in social events and not studying as hard as you planned you would.

In the second-half of university, some of you will find that it is getting increasingly harder to focus on your studies, and this is where one of your many challenges will present itself. Finding the balance between leisure and studying is probably the biggest hurdle that any university student could face. Since university is the first step to adulthood, many of you may face challenges with your family, your relationships or simply university drama. Procrastination will also be another culprit responsible for your work ethics, as it is so easy to get carried away. Some of you might not even start writing or read the requirements of the assignment that was given to you a month ago and you will often find that panic will be your best friend during these deadline-ridden times.



Gamuda Gardens 2 Road, Gamuda
Gardens, Km 4.4 Phap Van, Hoang
Mai District, Hanoi City
Email: office@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn
Tel: (84-24) 66661818
Fax: (84-24) 62620639

On the other hand, there is some upside to being in university, although the effects may (or may not) be more recognizable after graduation. Slowly but surely, you will notice that your values and beliefs will be more defined and well thought-out, you will become more mature and more sociable in many more occasions compared to the past and you will be more aware of what you need to do to develop yourself.

In my own experience, the benefits above have all been true for me, but even then, they are not what I value the most from university. The friends I've made, the lecturers and university staff that have supported me throughout my 3 years of university, a very special someone that I met in my second year have since spent 3 years with, the relationships I've built with employers and business people over the course of internships. These are the people who truly added value to my university experience.

At the moment, I'm still finding myself as lost as I was when I first graduated high school. However, I am still trying to stay true to what I've learnt during my 3 years of university. I'm about to undergo CELTA, which is an initial teacher training qualification for teaching English as a second or foreign language provided by Cambridge and doing whatever I can to make myself more employable, professional and skillful than before, even if it's not related to my major.

For my final words, I would just like to say to all students: please treasure your time at university, for both the good and the bad, because it will most likely be the end of your life as a student. Treat everyone you meet with respect, hold on to your values and beliefs and do not stop growing as an individual. University is the first step to adult life, so start it off right!

Do Hoang Giang

