



WLU——Where My Global Dream Starts

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West Liberty University has given me some unforgettable moments through the year, especially the International Club, it is always my second home, we are from different countries, and we meet through the club and get to know each other. I will divide my “adventure” story into three parts.—academic study, out-of-class activities, residence life.

I. Academic Study

I have been enjoying the classes so much, cause the small-size classes, I get more chances to talk with the professors directly both inside and outside class, which helps a lot to get adjusted to the learning in this totally new area. In the beginning, it was pretty hard for me, even though I have confidence in my English communication skills, when it comes to academic study, there are always new things to learn. The most confusing part is when a familiar word came out, I thought I should know the meaning, but in fact it is being used in a totally different way. One example is: interest. My first reaction is, it is such an easy word! It means your hobby or the things you enjoy doing. But wait, it is not always the same. When it comes to phrases like “interest rate” it means the return you get from the bank”, which is a totally different meaning!

When it comes to my major classes, it is such a great challenge for me. First of all, I have to overcome the language barrier, looking up the “English—Chinese Dictionary” is the thing I have to do before each class, only in this way I can better understand what the professor is talking in class, instead of spending most of the time in class wondering what the term means. This really helps a lot. The second thing I need to overcome is the policy, when it comes to finance, the rules are not always the same in different countries, and I might be wrong if I am thinking in the Chinese way. This is the thing I am still working on, but it’s getting better since the professors understand my situation, gradually, Chinese Economics is brought into part of the class, which makes me so much excited!

I am also very impressed by the value of “students come first”, which is very different from my university in Jinhua, where it is so hard to find professors after class. One of my experiences is, I ran into a professor’s office before class to ask some questions, which are not emergency, when I noticed he was busy grading papers, I quietly left and decided to come over later, but then the professor called my name saying “Are you looking for me? What can I do for you?” I replied “it’s fine, I can come over later.” Then he said “Are you sure? I can take a break from grading the papers, students are more important” I was totally moved after hearing this.

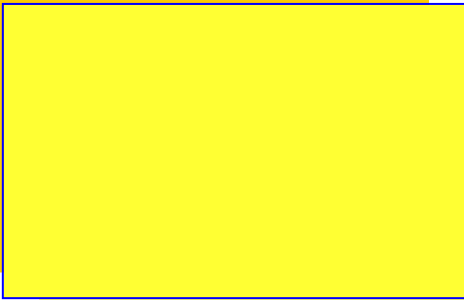
I feel a great joy being here, West Liberty University, and enjoy being a student with the nickname——hilltopper!

II. Out-Of-Class Activities

It has been such a great semester with all kinds of big and small out-of-class events. At least, I get a chance to do several First-Time-Ever “adventures”.

First “adventure” was ice skating, then it comes the Chinese New Year performance, writing for “the Trumpet”, being a “groupie” to Indiana watching the NCAA DII National Championship game, cook food for the International festival, try board printing during MADFEST, etc

Bet photos will speak louder than words.



1. Ice Skating



2. NCAA DII Groupies



3. Music Concert (Organ)



4. Music Concert (Wind Ensemble)



5. Chinese New Year Festival



6. International Club Meeting (Always fun to enjoy some games)



7. International Food Festival



8. Language of Love



9. SGA Debate



10. Frisbee Fun (Quad)



11. Spring Open House

III. Residence Life

As you can imagine, the life for a oncampus topper is not that easy, especially when you don't have a car and the marketplace only serve brunch and dinner, union is closed on weekends, there is no big markets around. The first weekend sucked, but after that I learned the lesson and things gradually become better.

First, plan things at least ahead. This is pretty true, unless you want to go to highland everyday from Monday to Thursday. After the first weekend, during which I suffered from nothing to eat in the morning (breakfast), cause I don't have the habbit of sleep in on weekends. After that, I began to store something for the weekend, which makes it way easier.

Second, try to make some new friends. This is an important lesson, try to talk to the classmates is the easiest way to build up friendship, in the beginning, I felt pretty lonely, especially when I think of my parents and all the funs things I did with my friends before I came here, but in a suddern, these all disappeared. Then, I started to watch basketball games and take part in some club meetings, even chitchat with classmates during the 10-minute break, I found out it was so simple to let others into my life. More over, even the professors started to bring Finance news into class, which happened in China, some of my classmates began to ask me teach them Chinese and cultures. Gradually, classmates becom friends, it is such a wonderful feeling, especially in this totally different country, everything is new to me, it keeps me "busy" everyday digging out new stuff.

After all, I really cherish the time being here, every second can make a difference. Though the campus is not big, nor in a crowded downtown, it is pretty quiet and enjoyable for studying, I have been enjoyi", ng this beautiful campus since I first set step in.

This is going to be a life-changing experience for me, at least, it expanded my view of " What finance is".

Most people will say, the transportation is not convenient for hilltoppers, which is pretty true, but it couldn't upset me, there are always exciting things going on. It is great joy for me to get to watch the National Championship game, especially after I knew it was the first time in WLU's history to play in the National Championship, I feel so much proud of being a Topper and experiencing all this hhistoric moment!

As a saying goes, "Life is not a lack of beauty, but the lack of observation", West Lib always makes you out of guard, especially the unexpected April snow.



Taken near the International House



In front of the College Hall, you can even see the snow there when zoom out