



## Faces of MIM CNAM & Sharing Experience

April 12, 2016

### INTERNATIONAL DAY 2015-2016

Dear all,

We're very excited to announce the launch of a new feature for our MIM Newsletter. We're calling it ***Celebrations and sharing moments***. We think it's keeping with the newsletter's model of featuring activities outside of school work, and portraying the strength in our diversity. Again I will like to encourage all to be a part of this very interesting initiative, the Newsletter is an open place of express and sharing and definitely challenging for

development in my point of view. Writing is an intimate form of communication, it is what remains when all else that is communicated is lost. So please take is upon yourself to write something and then share it.

*“And by the way, everything in life is writable about, if you have the outgoing guts to do it, and the imagination to improvise. The worst enemy to creativity is self-doubt.”*

-Sylvia Plath

# What is new in this issue

The 14<sup>th</sup> issues of the MIM newsletter has been redesigned and reimagined. The editorial team after session on brainstorm decided to revamp the style of the Newsletter in entirety, learning from one another what a newsletter is, and what it can be, in our technology savvy world.

Our special thanks goes to Wang Zhe for sharing her cool winter holiday and to Tra Nguyen for allowing our crew interview her for this issue, the article on her is one of my favourite in

this issue it was interesting to read the fun side of Tra.

Enjoy the read!!!!



## NEWSLETTER CREW

Edith  
Shelley  
Tien Thanh  
Kim Anh



**Travel Duration:** 10days

**The challenge:** Experiencing fascinating life style of 3 countries

**The attraction:** Iceland 5 days, Norway 2 days, Sweden 2 days

# Hello world

by Wang Zhe

**Why the challenge:** *I love travelling very much, I will go for a trip if I have a vacation, Northern Europe have always been my dream place to travel to, and also going to cold places in winter is a real challenge for me!*

**Companions/ fellow adventures:** *Good friends*

**Cost :** 10000rmb

**Reason behind the adventure:** There is an old Chinese saying:

读万卷书,行万里路. Which

means read ten thousand books, travel ten thousand miles. In my opinion travelling is one of the most fantastic things in one's life time. Firstly, by traveling we can enjoy the beautiful scenery in different places we see with our own eyes, places which we might have probably read of in books, and visit, some famous cities and scenic spots.

Secondly, we meet people with different interests and see strange and different things when we travel. We can get ideas of the conditions and customs of other people, taste different foods and local flavours if we like. In this way we can understand how differently other people live.

Thirdly, travelling will not only help us to gain knowledge of geography, history and other knowledge which will arouse our deep love for our own motherland, but also will help us keep healthy and make us less narrow-minded.

Travelling actually benefits us both mentally and physically, with all these advantages of travelling. It is no wonder that travelling has now become more popular than ever. So my friends and I took an adventurous trip during the winter vacation to Iceland, Norway and Sweden!

## Iceland

Iceland is my dream place because it is a very out of the ordinary kind of place, like another star! when we arrived in Iceland, I found that it's really a wonderful world of ice and snow.

We started our adventure on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2016, the outdoor temperature then was very low, it

was recorded at (-8°C), and snow

on the bus window directly frozen to become beautiful flowers.





## HEADING 4



Picture of street in Norway



The Aurora; the northern light



We went to lots of spots like *"The Golden Circle"*, *"Gull Falls"*, *"The Great Geysir"*, *"Thingvellir"*, *"Vatnajökull Glacier"*. The most surprising thing was that I saw the northern lights. Usually you feel closer to the light that lays north of Iceland and there is more clear sky than in the south west Iceland. This is the best way of maximizing your chances of seeing the northern lights. The key to success in the search for the northern lights is to take an accommodation in the countryside of north Iceland where the northern lights can be seen out of your hotel window, usually after 10 o'clock at night in winter.

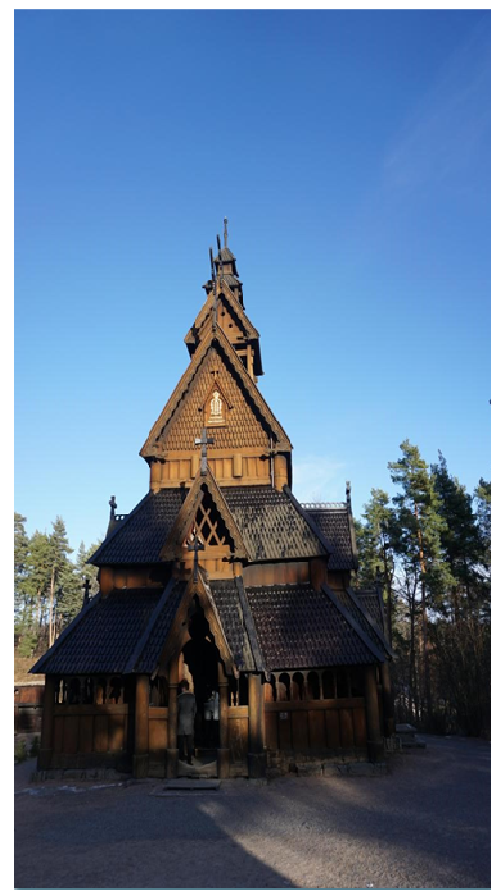
In fact, the real aurora was not so strong like the picture, it was like a magical green fog! There is a Chinese song called the forest of Norway, it makes me wonder what is the real Norway like. Fortunately, this holiday I went to Norway and I was not disappointed.

We stayed at Oslo for 2 days to feel the local life style. Oslo rail transportation is as convenient as Paris, so we just bought a transportation cards and travelled by ourselves. We went to the most famous spots like Vineland Museum where the *Sinnetaggen* is located, Oslo City Hall, Viking Ship Museum, The Folk Museum, where we visited the old building of Norway, Oslo Opera House, *Akershus* Fortress. The most impressive thing for me was the Norwegian people were very friendly, and very willing to help. We looked forward to our trip to Sweden and hoped it would surprise us like Norway. We were lucky, the place was so wonderful, good weather, some sunny days,

which gave us the best feelings, because we didn't have enough time to explore the cities, so we decided to visit only the capital city, Stockholm.

Stockholm Stadhuset, Gamla Stan, Vasa Museum, Kungliga Slottet, Stockholm Cathedral, Skansen Air-open Museum, Nobel Museum, Nordiska museet, all of them were our choices for visiting.

One of my favorite spots was the Nobel Museum where I found Chinese Nobel Prize winners Tu Youyou and Mo Yan, they are the pride of the Chinese people. I bought a "Nobel medal" made out of chocolate to motivate myself. Something worth mentioning is the Stockholm subway stations, each station has its own theme painting. I got my first experience of staying in a ferry for a night. In short, this is a hauntingly beautiful City.



## FACES OF MIM CNAM & SHARING EXPERIENCE

*“Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift, that's why we call it the present. The trip was over but there will be so many other trips in the future, I am on my way”.*



## INTERNATIONAL DAY 2015-2016

BY **NGUYEN Tien Thanh**





International day celebration is an annual event organised by the CNAM MIM aimed at linking students to promote the spirit of solidarity, help each other in learning and living. The messages that is promoted through this celebration is that CNAM is not a school based only on academic learning, it also entails interactive learning forum which create an opportunity for people to learn from each other.



Along with the rich heritage of more than 200 years of CNAM existence, celebrating culture through International Day gives everyone including international students, the administrative support staff of the MIM, and visiting guests from all over the world an exciting experience from hearing the stories and history of the CNAM and meeting the students from all around the world. Like I said earlier, the celebration is a really fun opportunity for people to share diverse culture especially for CNAM's students in each academic year.

Prior to the event, my feelings of excitement did not change much, although this was the second time participating in CNAM MIM International Day. I felt inspired, excited and looked forward to new things that were going to happen during the celebration, because every year, the program consists of exciting events. I looked forward to enjoying the dishes, packed with a lot of special flavors of countries from all over the World.

I cooked a Vietnamese dish which is called *"Fried rice with meat"*. Surprisingly, people seemed to like it and finished it really quickly. I enjoyed mouth watering dishes such as *"Lion head"* made by Flack; *"Kimchi Kimchi"* made by Sukie both from China; and *"Sweet cake"* of Raneem, from Saudi Arabian.



As a Vietnamese who has been living in France for over 1 year and now in my second year in CNAM Master2 Project Management, I have been participated in the International Day twice. I am particularly excited about my studies in CNAM and all the extracurricular activities. It is an exceptional feeling to be a part of this team and learning environment with many international friends.

Besides the food there were other fun features during the celebration. Firstly, we played a game “guess who”. Basically the game’s about displaying childhood photos of someone on a projector and we all tried to guess who the person’s. The pictures were cute and funny. Everyone was really happy and curious to find out who the owner of the photos was. The game created a pleasant atmosphere so that everyone felt comfortable as we shared with others a little bit of our childhood story. The game’s purpose was to build trust.

There was a photo contest capturing various scenes from all around Paris and the most nominated picture got an award. This feature was a new addition to the celebration of international day, aimed at encouraging the creativity spirit of students and staff of CNAM MIM to share their time and experience of Paris, the most beautiful city in Europe. This time the winner was Veronica Tran.

The highlight of the celebration which really depicted the true nature of what international day was all about, aside from the food was when one of our invited guest, (a friend of Raneem AlSahhaf Mater 2 student in International Business and corporate development). He, a student in United Kingdom also from Saudi Arabia, presented a poem in honour of CNAM MIM to celebrate togetherness through the International day

A poem by **Omar Abdulrahman Alattas, Saudi Arabia.**

*Christmas is just around the corner. I assume many of you are going back home to celebrate with your families. Biological families. I am sure that you do love your families, they're your family after all. But here, I've noticed that you guys enjoy a very special sense of harmony, you guys enjoy each other. And that, warms my heart. Seeing such a group of non-related individuals from drastically different backgrounds who genuinely love each other and peacefully co-exist warms my heart and restores my faith in humanity. When I see you guys, I see that there's hope for this world. And I'd also like to thank you guys for welcoming Mohammed and I as one of you and giving us the chance to taste wonderful food from wonderful countries.*

*Your grateful guest,*

Then we danced together to random music from all of the countries that were represented. It was exciting to see people dancing in their own style. It was really amazing! Personally, I do not think there was a best dancer, but the "craziest" dancers were my two friends Ahmed OBAID and Edith MUGBEH. I liked their style and I really like them!

A lot of traditional costumes were worn; they were all very beautifully expressing the traditions of the country as well as the beauty of the people. But for me, my favorite was the Vietnam traditional dress "Ao dai". Because "Ao dai" brings out the softness of Vietnamese woman it's quite lovely and “très mignonne”. I'd like to recommend you to go to Vietnam and experience some of the world amazing things and you surely will love them at the first sight.



Veronica Tran - Master2 International Business and Corporate Development

A few bottles champagne and wine made the party bubbly and the fun was extended. Unfortunately, every party certainly had to finish at some time, but in this case not before the exchange of gifts. I got a very memorable gift that would always remind me of a great day of fun I had.

That's all I can share with you and hope you will have the opportunity to be part of CNAM MIM, and experience this and more for yourself. CNAM is always creating an opportunity for all to understand more about the school, as well as help all with the opportunity to explore. I'm really lucky to be a student of CNAM.

## Thi-Thu-Tra Nguyen

Manager MIM CNAM

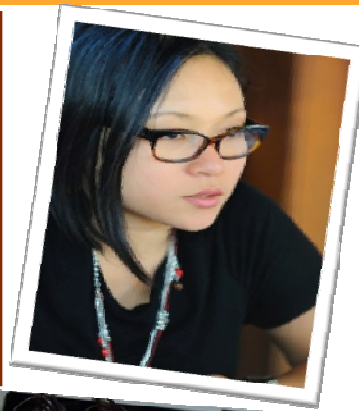


Photo 1: On the job teaching and taking it serious (picture was taken by photographer of CNAM while Tra was teaching multicultural management to engineering students of CNAM)

Photo 2: Tra and her daughters

Photo 3: One of Tra's food creation



*"Confidence is not the only important thing in life, the most important thing is you dare to try, to risk, to be adventurous, to push yourself to be confident"*



# Who is “Tra”?



Representing CNAM  
at an Education Fair

## Tra's Childhood and growing up

*Tra grew up in Vietnam. Studying was thought as a main (or only) task for children in her generation. Tra followed the compulsory study required for her. At the same time, she said she was lucky to have a good educational environment, which made her studies easier and more pleasant. Tra studied hard and she was in the experimental class which meant the talented group of students.*

*One teacher who influenced Tra was her English teacher, a Vietnamese with PhD in education development from the UK. Before this teacher, the second language class in her school was Russian. This teacher interviewed Tra, based on her listening and speaking she gained the chance to learn English as an extra class in school and she found new ways of learning. The English class was designed to train students to be more creative and pushed them to use their individual initiative.*



Graduation  
ceremony MIM  
2014-2015

## TO TRY OR NOT TO TRY ?

Tra has an interest in music. She loves to sing and listen to Whitney Houston. But in her childhood days, it was hard to convince her parents for interest classes besides school. When she was 15 years old, she finally financed herself to buy a guitar. After she played for 3 months, she learned that guitar was not her love and she never tried guitar again.

It is interesting that, one year ago, Tra asked me "why do you want to study in France", now I am the one asking her "why did you decide to study in France" (for her MBA). She told me it was as a result of an opportunity that; the training program she was undertaking had an exchange student chance. Tra got the scholarship support to come to France.

## Traveling

Tra loves to travel all over the world. I strongly believe that traveling has changed her in some ways. Tra travels cut across many countries in Asia, Europe, Australia etc. She traveled and learned different cultures and perspectives. These trips let her think that there is always a new world; and to get to the new world, there are many new ways; she did not need to worry about what does tomorrow look like.

Tra said that, *"you have to have your own judgment before you **dare to try**. In your mind, there is always something worth trying; and there is something worthless. You, are the one to choose, decide and experience"*.



One of Tra rare moment  
A good treat to herself



Farewell Party  
of MIM



Tra having a fun time  
with Edith during  
International day  
celebration



## Culture

Tra is a person who is intrigued by the concept multi-culture. She thinks that we cannot simply judge if a culture is good or bad on face value. No matter which culture, there may be a good aspect and a bad one. This attitude is also inculcated in the education of her girls. Tra and her husband guide their children to learn the good aspects in both Vietnamese and French culture; for example, at school, the girls express themselves in their own ways with friends and teachers; at home, the girls have to respect their parents and older generation just like in Vietnam.

## Advice to young people

Tra gave some advice to the young who are not sure about what career they will take in the future. First to dream, she explained that you have to think about what you really want to do in your life for example, you want to deal with people or deal with figures. Secondly challenge yourself by taking up different activities play with it, try it on continually then, you will know what you really want and what you do not want. Finally keep working on it; you just need to work on your choice once you have decided.

## Postscript

Before this interview my perception of Tra is that she is confident, strong and a firm woman. But I got to discover that her experience made her adventure out of the comfort zone. I admire that Tra does not pay attention on how people think of her; but she does care about how people judge her work. After I talked with Tra about her childhood, studying life, family and interests I saw a reflection that Tra is an optimistic, adorable and soft woman. She loves her family, job and life. I like her making jokes. *Loving life makes people stronger and fearless.*

*"What you experienced, your thoughts and what is learnt makes you who you are. There are no two exactly same experiences for two people, which makes you unique. When you are ready, don't hesitate to try, to risk and to be adventurous. Life happens on your way to adventure" ...*

Running is  
another fun  
thing Tra does



*Article by: Yang Guanyan (Shelley)*



Those in attendance form left to right

TRAN Veronica  
DONG Yali  
ZHANG Shuting  
MUGBEH Edith  
ZACHARIA Loukia Louiza  
MUGBEH Edith  
OBAID Ahmed  
LIU Xin  
VALENCIA BAQUERO Christian Felipe  
PASHCHENKO Olga

## OECD VISIT

March 10th 2016

The organization for Economic Cooperation and development (OECD) mission is to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-beings of people around the world.

The organization looks at issues that directly affect everyone's daily life. The key way of diagnosing this issues is collecting and analyzing data. During the course of our academic studies we used the data from OECD for most of our project especially when working on market demography.

MIM organizes the visits annually to OECD as part of experience for student to learn how the organization works. The visit always involves seminars followed by question and answer sessions.

This visit was not any different, we had two seminars: the first was on "*The OECD its work and its mission*" presented by the United State of America mission representative to the OECD, and the second was on "*The overview of the work of the International Energy Agency (IEA)*" presented by Robert Youngblood writer/ Editor at IEA.