

From: Centre for International and Professional Experience
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CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Greetings from CIPE,

As we head into some time off, let me wish all of you a well-deserved break. Whether you're staying on campus or heading off somewhere, do take some time for yourself to relax and recharge.

For some of you, the break may provide a little time for reflection about plans after the end of the semester. If you are thinking about your summer plans or deciding between multiple options, how should you make that decision? The first thing to point out is you don't need to get caught up in the pressure of what *The Octant* recently called the summer frenzy. It is perfectly all right to decide that what you need is downtime with family and friends, to read books, to spend time outdoors, to think.

Summer though can be a time where you add to your repertoire of skills and knowledge. Does the opportunity you are considering let you learn something new, or get better at something you already know how to do? Does it introduce you to people from whom you can learn or be mentored? And even, does it help you decide you aren't interested in something you thought you were – that can be just as valuable.

This issue of skills is one that has come up in several contexts this week. Students thinking ahead to jobs have wondered whether they are at a disadvantage compared with peers at other institutions whose degrees are more obviously vocational. And we have had conversations about skills in some meetings with majors. Our message is this: throughout your undergraduate years, it is a good idea to build your skills, networks and list of accolades. Whatever you decide to do later, this is a useful strategy.

Skill building may happen in the classroom; for example you might take a class on GIS mapping, or learn to do info-graphics for a final course project or select a course like Accounting at NUS. Some skills you can and should acquire on your own, such as learning

Excel via an online course through Lynda.com. Summer activities provide many ways to build skills but don't think of that as a one-off opportunity; find ways to deepen your skills over time. You may take a foreign language in the summer, continue studying it as a class or via Mango, and spend a study abroad semester in the country where the language is spoken. Your extra-curricular and club activities provide the chance to build skills like project management or event planning. And don't forget that there are many people in the Yale-NUS community like staff members or faculty and their partners associated with the residential colleges who have professional expertise and can help you develop a skill you feel you need; if you want to, say, learn to write a press release, you can ask the Public Affairs office or community members who have worked as journalists for help.

So one way to think about potential summer opportunities is to ask: what skills do I want to learn or improve and will this opportunity allow me to do that? Because we are interested in skill development, we have just introduced a new internship that focuses on that. It is a team consulting project in Thailand that focuses on sustainability and cultural heritage at a royal summer palace on the coast. It emphasizes working in teams, applied historical and environmental research and client report writing. If you're interested, search in Symplicity for 'Cultural heritage as sustainable development.'

Why do we say that accolades are important? Of course it is a good resume builder to have external awards listed but more importantly, participating in competitions is a wonderful way to hone your skills, build your networks, deepen your understanding of a problem and very often, to have a concrete impact on the world. There are a number of competitions that are coming up and we encourage you to apply. Below you'll find links to the Young CSR Leaders award and to a competition where you can submit a 45 second video on how companies can create more LGBT-inclusive workplaces. Singapore's Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) has also issued a [call](#) for ideas on pop-up projects to enliven public spaces. This is your chance to be very creative around an issue about which you're passionate.

Have a great break. If you happen to be on campus do consider attending the lunch with Dr. Yolanda Moses, a distinguished professor of Anthropology who will lead a discussion on diversity and inclusion in the workplace in Singapore. For those of you who will be away, we look forward to seeing you after break.

Cheers,
Trisha Craig
Dean of CIPE

FOR ALL STUDENTS:

Rapid Resume Reviews

CIPE Career Services will be in the Elm Dining Hall during lunchtime every Wednesday this semester to provide feedback on student resumes. Bring a hard copy of your resume to strengthen it before submitting for future applications! No advanced registration is needed. If you missed the Writing Killer Resumes & Cover Letters workshop, you can attend Rapid Resume Reviews as an alternative. If you are studying abroad this semester, please submit your resume to the Career Services team for review through Symplicity.

Date: Every Wednesday until 22 Feb 2017
Time: 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
Venue: Elm Dining Hall

Singapore Asset Management Conference

Registration for the inaugural [Singapore Asset Management Conference 2017](#), organised by Yale-NUS Student Investment Group (YNSIG) in collaboration with J. P. Morgan Asset Management, is now open. Last year, YNSIG organized the inaugural Singapore Asset Management Conference with J.P. Morgan as the main sponsor, and attracted almost 300 participants from around the world. This is a great opportunity for you to connect with prestigious firms if you are aspiring toward careers in asset management, private banking and other segments of the financial industry.

The conference is open to both graduate and undergraduate students and will consist of:

***Panel Discussions:** Speakers from top firms will engage in debates during panel discussions. Last year we hosted panelists from a myriad of top financial institutions like J. P. Morgan, GIC and Goldman Sachs and we are inviting more speakers from such top firms this year

***Networking Lunch:** This is a golden opportunity for you to mingle with your potential colleagues

***Break-out Workshops:** These workshops will be conducted by J.P. Morgan Asset Management analysts

***Private Dinner:** The top-performing candidates at the breakout workshops will receive invitations to a private dinner with J. P. Morgan's senior management. Last year, the dinner was attended by the CEO and Global Human Resources Head of J.P. Morgan Chase, who had both traveled to Singapore from Manhattan to grace the conference.

For more information, visit the [SAMC2017 Facebook page](#). **Register [here](#).**

Date: Wednesday, 22 February 2017
Time: 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM
Venue: Yale-NUS College

Lunch with U.S. Embassy and Dr. Yolanda Moses

It's Recess Week at Yale-NUS, but our campus continues to encourage conversations about diversity and community. Join the U.S. Embassy and CIPE in welcoming to campus Dr. Yolanda T. Moses, Professor of Anthropology and most recently as Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Excellence at the University of California, Riverside.

Dr. Moses' research focuses on the origins and sustainability of social inequality systems and practices in complex societies through the use of comparative ethnographic and survey methods. She has explored gender and class disparities in the Caribbean, East Africa and in the United States. More recently, her research has focused on issues of diversity and change in universities and colleges in the United States, India, Europe and South Africa.

In addition to hearing from Dr. Moses, we will be welcoming representatives from governments, industry, and non-profits to engage in a wide-ranging discussion on diversity and inclusion in Singapore. Come mingle with prospective employers, internship partners, and volunteer organizations to hear more about what diversity means in their contexts.

A lunch buffet will be catered. Please RSVP on [Simplicity](#).

Date: Thursday, 23 February 2017
Time: 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Venue: Elm Rector's Commons

Leadership Certificate Symposium

Join us for an evening of insight and fellowship as the leadership certificate participants from Class of 2017

share their experiences and takeaways. This event is compulsory for students intending to complete the Leadership Certificate. **Please RSVP for this event via Symplicity [here](#).**

Date: Wednesday, 01 March 2017

Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Venue: Tan Chin Tuan Lecture Theatre

Panel Discussion: Breaking through the Singapore Arts scene

Join us for an evening with [Ambassador Chan Heng Chee](#) (Chairman of National Arts Council) and [Ms Chong Siak Ching](#) (CEO of National Gallery of Singapore) as they share more on their personal stories and career journeys. Both Ambassador Chan and Ms Chong are currently serving as members of the Yale-NUS College Governing Board and bring along with them a myriad of work experiences across the Arts & Culture, Government and Non-profit sectors. **Please come in smart casual attire and RSVP on [Symplicity](#).**

Date: Thursday, 02 March 2017

Time: 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Venue: Saga Rector's Commons

Young CSR Leaders Award (YCSRLA) Competition

The CDL-GCNS Young CSR Leaders Award is a case-competition that promotes thought leadership amongst our future business leaders to embrace Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) principles into a company's business strategy and practices. The rare opportunity to work on the sustainability strategy of large organizations such as Hilton Worldwide, Marina Bay Sands, and the National Environment Agency attracted a record high participation of 101 teams in 2016, with our very own [Yale-NUS students earning first prize](#). Students can form a team of 3-6 and **register by 24 February 2017**. Learn more [here](#).

Summer LABs

Summer LABs are opening for applications in the coming week – look out for them! These LABs take place during the summer vacation and are open to students from all classes and disciplines. Information on the offered LABs can be found at <http://cipe.yale-nus.edu.sg/co-curricular-programs/labs/> when applications are open. The **deadline for submitting applications is on Sunday, 05 March at 11:59PM**. Questions unanswered by the website can be directed to Nikolai Kapustin (nikolai.kapustin@yale-nus.edu.sg) or Adelle Lim (adelle.lim@yale-nus.edu.sg).

Credit Transfer for Non-CIPE Summer Programs

If you are going to participate or have participated in a self-sourced, non-CIPE study abroad program during summer and wish to transfer the credit back to Yale-NUS, please click [here](#) for details and to download the petition form. **Petitions which are submitted by Monday 27 February** will be included in the petition review committee's meeting in March whereas submissions after that will be reviewed in the next petition review committee's meeting in October.

Keep checking Symplicity to learn about Summer Internships!

Have you checked out the number of opportunities in [Symplicity](#)? From communications agencies in Singapore to start-up accelerators in Myanmar to heritage and environmental consulting at a Thai royal palace, new opportunities are posted every week (so check back frequently!) Students who are interested in CIPE-coordinated internships will need to have their resumes reviewed at Rapid Resume Reviews (or have attended a Writing Killer Resumes & Cover Letters workshop), and completed at least one mock interview on Symplicity. More information about internships are available [here](#).

GoHelp (Global Health and Leadership) Projects

Are you passionate about community service? Do you have an interest in promoting public health and wellness in Singapore and neighbouring countries? The Global Health and Leadership (GoHelp) Initiative at NUS Medical School is looking for Yale NUS students to collaborate with their medical school students to run community improvement projects, such as mass health screening programmes for local residents as well as those in rural areas in neighbouring countries. You don't need to be a pre-med student to participate in these projects, which typically run during the semester or during the winter and summer breaks. Please contact **Norman Lin** at commserv@medsoc.org.sg by **Wednesday, 01 March** if you are interested in participating in this opportunity.

How can companies create LGBT-inclusive workplaces?

Do you have great ideas on making the workplace more inclusive? Would you like to share your views in a 45 second video? The Economist Events team is launching the #WorkwithPride competition which is part of their [Pride and Prejudice](#) initiative. **Enter the competition by Wednesday, 08 March.** More details about the competition is [here](#).

Affordable Art Fair – Fair Assistant Programme (on site during Fair days from 05-09 April 2017)

The Affordable Art Fair Singapore Fair Assistant Programme is an opportunity for people from different walks of life to share their skills and talent, and in the process, experience and learn more about contemporary art. Fair Assistants are an important part of the Affordable Art Fair Singapore. They contribute to the effective execution of the Fair, as well as in promoting awareness of art in everyone's lives, in alignment with our ethos of making contemporary art accessible to everyone. Fair Assistants will be involved in the backstage of organising an art fair of its kind in Asia, get to learn a new skill or talent and meet people who share a common interest in art while having fun pursuing an interest and an important project. If you are interested in this opportunity, please refer to the attached information pack and apply [here](#).

Research skills workshops at NUS

NUS Libraries is organizing the Researcher Unbound workshop series this semester, where you can learn how to enhance your literature search and reference management, hear expert tips on writing, publishing and intellectual property matters, and ways to promote your research and measure your research impact. For more information, visit the [Researcher Unbound page](#) and register for the NUS Libraries mailing list [HERE](#) to receive news of upcoming workshops.

FOR CLASS OF 2017:

Fellowships "February Homework" for Class of 2017 and 2018 applicants

For students in the Class of 2017 and 2018 considering a postgraduate fellowship application, we have established a series of assignments to propel you forward to a strong application in the late summer or early fall of 2017. January was an opportunity to complete the pre-advising questionnaire and set-up an initial advising session with Charlotte from CIPE. In February, we encourage students to begin writing their strengths into a narrative through the Odyssey Solo assignment. Students can find this assignment, along with other fellowships resources, at the bottom of the Fellowships Page [here](#). Upon completion of this February assignment, CIPE encourage students to set-up a follow-up advising appointment with Charlotte by emailing her at charlotte.evans@yale-nus.edu.sg.

The Global Education & Leadership Foundation Fellowship: Deadline 01 Mar

2017

This experiential leadership development program is a two year fellowship for young leaders hoping to work in business, politics, public service, media, social service, global security, or spirituality. Fellows are based in New Delhi for a two-year program. During their time at tGELF, fellows will work on a variety of projects. Past examples include implementation of a Global Citizen movement in India, revolutionizing digital methods in education, and joining an investment board in Andhra Pradesh. Students who are keen to find unconventional solutions to global issues are encouraged to apply. The job description for the LDP program can be found [here](#), and the application form can be found [here](#). Student applicants who wish to receive feedback on a draft before the **01 March, 2017 deadline** are encouraged to schedule an advising appointment with Charlotte at charlotte.evans@yale-nus.edu.sg.

Graduate School Applicants

As you hear back from schools, remember that CIPE is there to help you practice your interview skills. Contact Zhana Sandeva at zhana.sandeva@yale-nus.edu.sg if you'd like to arrange a mock interview.

FOR CLASS OF 2018:

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For students in the Class of 2018 and 2017 considering a postgraduate fellowship application, we have established a series of assignments to propel you forward to a strong application in the late summer or early fall of 2017. January was an opportunity to complete the pre-advising questionnaire and set-up an initial advising session with Charlotte from CIPE. In February, we encourage students to begin writing their strengths into a narrative through the Odyssey Solo assignment. Students can find this assignment, along with other fellowships resources, at the bottom of the Fellowships Page [here](#). Upon completion of this February assignment, CIPE encourage students to set-up a follow-up advising appointment with Charlotte by emailing her at charlotte.evans@yale-nus.edu.sg.

FOR CLASS OF 2018 - 2020:

Self-Sourced Internship Funding

While CIPE-coordinated internships span a wide range of fields, we invite and support student-sourced internships which may be better aligned with individual interests. CIPE will provide funding on a highly competitive basis to a limited number of self-sourced internships. **Round 2 applications (for all students) are now open and will be accepted until 1 March 2017.** For more information, please visit our website at www.bit.ly/CIPE-SSIF.

FOR CLASS OF 2019 - 2020:

Shadow a Family Physician

Are you interested in public health and/ or medicine? Want to understand the role and life of a family physician in Singapore? Dr. Ajith Damodaran is a Family Physician, and has a solo practice in Serangoon Central. It is a "real" Family Practice, as he still has a few 4 generation families who are his patients. Dr. Ajith's special interest is prevention of diabetes. He has very kindly offered to let a few of our students shadow him in the clinic. Space is limited (he can only permit 2 students at a time in his clinic), so please convey your interest early so that we can accommodate everyone this semester. Please contact **Nilanjana Pal at CIPE by Wednesday, 01 March** if you are interested in participating in this opportunity.

Summer Research

If you are interested in summer research, several Summer Research Program projects are still accepting applicants. **Apply by Sunday, 05 March on [Symblicity](#).**

If you are keen on life sciences research in particular, take a look at the Temasek Life Sciences Lab internship on Symblicity. **The deadline is Tuesday, 21 February 2017.**

ON-CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES:

Job Opportunities

Student Associate roles are available in astrophysics, computational biology, ecological modelling, psychology and urban studies, as well as with the Environmental Leadership and Training Initiative (ELTI), the Elm Buttery and – for the very first time – CIPE! For more information, visit [the Student Associate Program page](#).

WHAT WE'RE READING:

Thinking about the topic of skills, it's worth taking a look at the just-released [report](#) by Singapore's Committee on the Future Economy that lays out the nation's vision for the deep skills the country will need.

Some other recommendations from your favourite CIPE staff members: Charlotte suggests *The Situation and the Story* by Vivian Gornick – great book about writing for students (worthwhile for those thinking about how their words can impact acceptance into an internship, job, graduate school). Oftentimes the mechanics of a powerful narrative are overlooked. This is something students and young professionals can always work on so worthwhile to think about that as students work through all of the applications.

Fang Wei recommends *The Defining Decade: Why Your Twenties Matter--And How to Make the Most of Them Now* – a refreshingly honest book with real life stories for anyone who has bucket lists and FOMO (does this sound like anyone you know?)

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