

FASS SEP Application Briefing

Date: 19 September 2011

Venue: LT 11, FASS

Time: 6.30 to 8.00 pm



NUS
National University
of Singapore



FASS Helpline

Email: studyabroadfass@nus.edu.sg

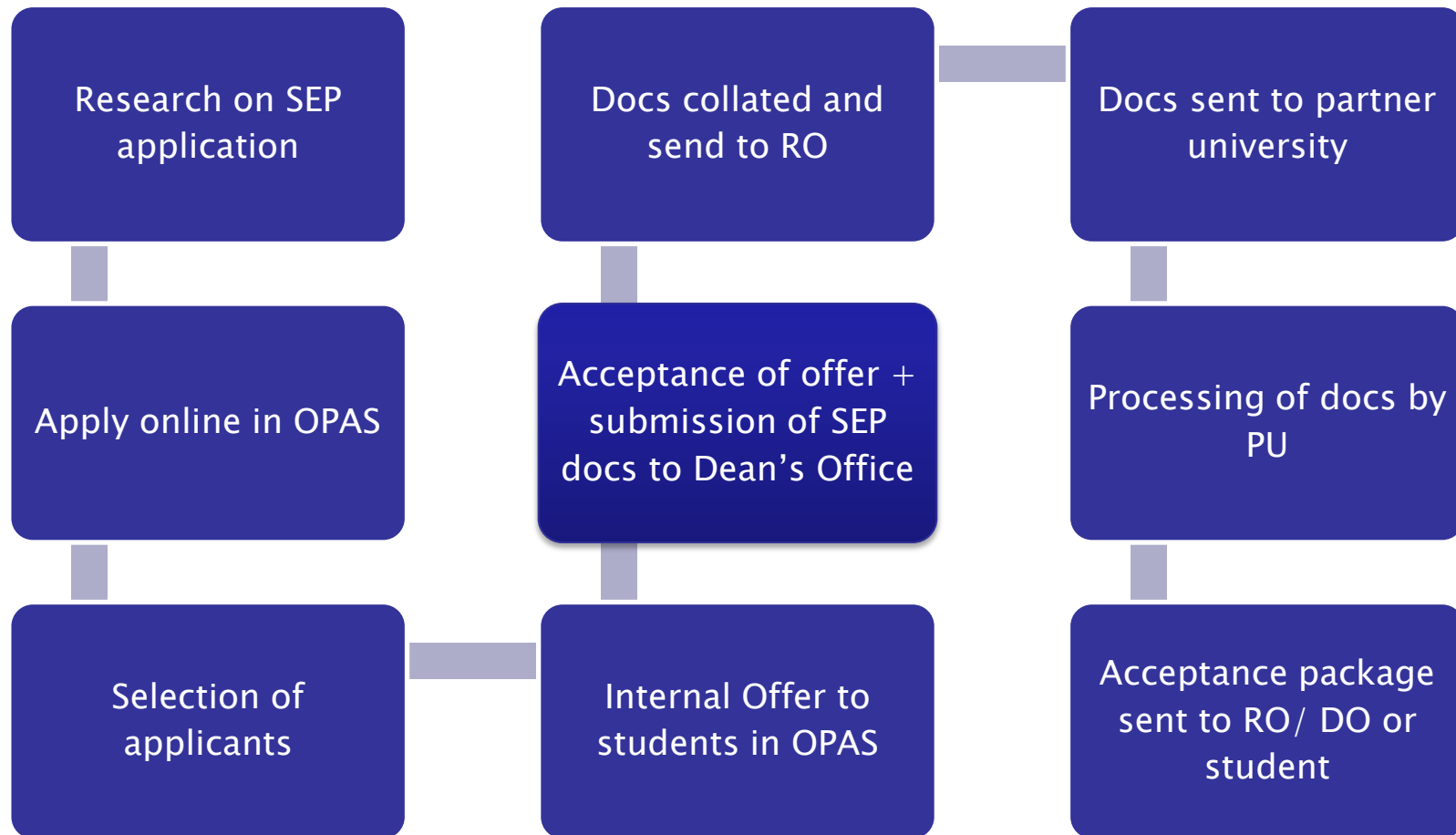
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Academic Advice
Dr Lim Boon Tiong, Assistant Dean

SEP Application Workflow



Special Programme- available to 09 cohort onwards

Joint Minors with University of Toronto

Only available to FASS students of 09 cohort onwards starting from AY2009/10

- Minor in Urban and Regional Change in North America
- Minor in 'The Renaissance'

2 modules in NUS and 4 in Toronto to complete the minor

http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/geog/pdf_doc/uot_joint_minor.pdf

Special Programme- available to 09 cohort onwards

Joint Minors with University of Toronto

- Must have completed GE2202 and GE2204 before leaving to Toronto
- Open to all majors including Geog major
- Highly competitive
- Must undertake to complete the minor
- This exchange cannot be used for anything else
- 10 places available only
- **Must email to FASS study abroad query to indicate interest**
- This round for exchange in both semester 1 and 2 of AY2012/2013

Special Programme

Yale Visiting International Student Program (Y-VISP) 2012

- ✓ Only full-year exchange in AY2012/13
- ✓ Year 3 at Yale; therefore open to year 2 students only
- ✓ Will live on one of Yale residential colleges
- ✓ Interview process
- ✓ Shortlisted students- no guarantee of selection, final call rests with Yale
- ✓ Once nominated, will not get another chance of an offer for this round 1

Special Programme

Yale Visiting International Student Program (Y-VISP) 2012

- ✓ Once nominated, will not get another chance of an offer for this round 1.
- ✓ Need to have money for airfare
- ✓ Must pay NUS tuition fees and other misc costs
- ✓ Application details will be attached with the notification for SEP application to be opened
- ✓ Lots of documents to submit- incomplete will not be considered
- ✓ Make sure to pick Yale in OPAS

Special Programme

Yale Visiting International Student Program (Y-VISP) 2012

- Good academic performance – CAP of 4.0 and above
- Well-rounded, with a wide range of interests, skills, and/ or talents
- Active engagement beyond the classroom, to take advantage of Yale's vibrant extracurricular community

Special Programme

Yale Visiting International Student Program (Y-VISP) 2012

- Deep commitment to and genuine appreciation for his/ her extracurricular pursuits
- Great desire and ability to stretch the limits of his/ her talents
- Outstanding motivation to be a leader in what he/ she chooses to pursue, for the greater good

Special Programme

Yale Visiting International Student Program (Y-VISP) 2012

Documents Required

- Y-VISP Application
- Y-VISP Personal Statements
- To be completed by the student
- Submitted to the Faculty Y-VISP Coordinator @Dean's Office.
- Y-VISP Faculty Recommendation
- sent directly to the Faculty Y-VISP Coordinator @Dean's Office.

Special Programme

Yale Visiting International Student Program (Y-VISP) 2012

- ✓ Please pick Yale as first choice in OPAS.
- ✓ Submission of documents: same timeline as OPAS application

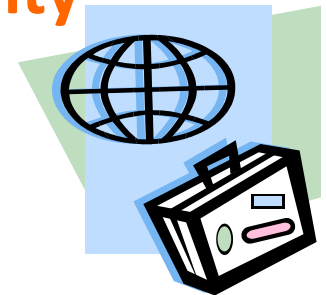
Key Questions to Answer

- **Research on SEP Application**
 - Should you go for SEP?
 - Are you eligible for SEP?
 - Are there any semesters where I cannot go on SEP?
 - Can you afford to go on SEP?
 - Which University is available?
 - Which Universities offer good training for my major?
 - How to increase your chances to go on SEP?
 - What modules should you read on SEP?
 - Who should you talk to plan your modules?
 - How does equivalency of MC/ credit exchange work?

Key Questions to Answer

Should you go for SEP?

- **Considerations**
 - academic
 - financial
 - **Must demonstrate upfront financial ability**
 - sense of adventure





Key Questions to Answer

Do your own research as to where you want to go.

Read as much as you can about SEP.

IRO website

FASS SEP for Undergraduate

FASS SEP FAQ

Key Questions to Answer

Are you eligible for SEP?

- **CAP: min 3.00 ^**
- **Preferably no module with a grade lower than C; No D grade in your major**

^ This is only a minimum as exchange application is highly competitive, therefore it is likely that average CAP to secure an exchange is higher than 3.00.



Key Questions to Answer

Are there any semesters where I cannot go on SEP?

- Poly grad: cannot go in 5th semester if unable and unwilling to do Honours
- A-level grad: cannot go in 6th semester if unable and unwilling to do Honours

Ability to do Honours- a CAP of 3.5 and above

- Non-negotiable based on current CAP at the point of application



Key Questions to Answer

- No Honours year SEP allowed
- Double Degree/ major in Business– please note that Biz will not be mapping to direct NUS module codes. Therefore you cannot read Biz modules toward your 2nd major or 2nd degree.

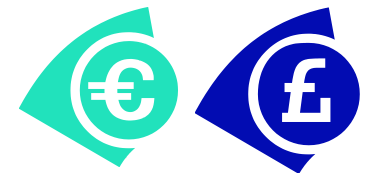


Key Questions to Answer

Can you afford to go on SEP?

Cost of living per semester (6 months basis)

- UNCCH S\$\$9,396
- Monash University S\$\$17,652
- Chinese University of Hong Kong S\$\$6,608
- Sciences Po S\$\$8,701
- University College London S\$\$11,973
- Fudan University S\$5,248
- Warsaw School of Economics S\$\$3,000
- University of Helsinki - S\$\$10,487



Key Questions to Answer

Can you afford to go on SEP?

Financial Aid from IRO

NASA (ranges from \$400 to \$4000), quantum depends on location)

Faculty SEP Grant

Available only if student cannot get NASA.

Financial Loans

Overseas Student Exchange programme (SEP) Loan from RO- up to \$3000 per semester

Others

Key Questions to Answer

Which Universities offer good training for my major?

- **Please do your own research**
- SEP coordinators
- Your department undergraduate academic advisor

Admin Questions?

- Please write to IRO for University-level partner questions
- For Faculty level partners, please refer to the Departments or Faculty



Key Questions to Answer

Which University is available?

- There are some restrictions stipulated: semester available to NUS student, full year required, language proficiency, must have completed at least 4 semesters of study etc.
- This information will be available in OPAS as well.

Key Questions to Answer

How to increase your chances to go on SEP?

Consider non-traditional locations such as China, European countries outside of the UK.

Be proficient in the language of the country where your university is located. How to do that?

Enrolled in the IRO French and German Language Preparation Programme (LPP)



Key Questions to Answer

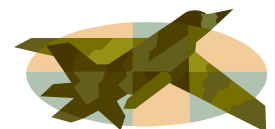
What type of modules can you read on SEP?

Major modules*, UE, Breadths, GEMS and modules towards your minor

Criteria for credit recognition:

- a. Must pass module and credits earned from PU
- b. Must be of certain academic rigor
- c. Must be approved by the SEP coordinator from the relevant discipline
- d. Must achieve a grade of satisfactory pass in the partner university's grading system.
- e. Minor only 8 MC overseas credit

***caveat: 2nd major/degree in business**



Key Questions to Answer

- **Applying online in OPAS**
 - How does Overseas Programme Application System (OPAS) work?
 - Is there a list of available spaces in partner universities?
 - What are the sort of information I need to provide in OPAS?

Application and Selection Process

How does Overseas Programme Application System (OPAS) work?

<https://aces01.nus.edu.sg/VOPSEP/Login>

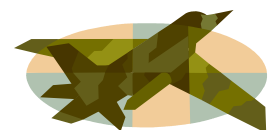
Timeline: 24 September to 14 October 2011

Period for Exchange:

- 1. Semester 1, AY2012/13 or**
- 2. Semester 2, AY2012/13 or**
- 3. Full year, AY2012/13**

Final/ graduating semester exchange not allowed.

Cannot go on exchange in Honours year !!!!



Application and Selection Process

- List of available spaces in partner universities (accurate as at 16 September 2011)
- Maybe several rounds of internal offer starting from late November 2011 to early Jan 2012

Application and Selection Process

Item needed in OPAS

1. Need to state family income, saving amount, number of people in your household, how you intend to fund your exchange
2. Need a proper SEP statement
3. Need to indicate language proficiency
4. Need a complete study plan

Incomplete application will NOT be considered

Key Questions to Answer

- **Selection of Applicants**
 - What is the selection process like and how long does it take?
 - How does the internal offer in OPAS work and what is the collection of documents process and what documents will I need?
 - What happens after I submit the documents to the Dean's Office?
 - How long does it take for the PU to respond? What happens at the PU processing?
 - Is there an appeal system or waiting list?
 - If after acceptance, I need to withdraw from SEP, what should I do?

Application and Selection Process

- Departments' first selection
- Faculty's second selection
- Email to students with internal offer
- **This process can take the greater part of one month**
- **Why so long?**
 - There are over 700 applications a year and they all have to be looked at.
 - Because the Departments and Faculty need time for their recommendations
 - Because the Faculty try to give alternatives when all 5 options are exhausted.



Application and Selection Process



- **Internal Offer Email**

- Documents to complete the SEP application after acceptance of Internal Offer.
- Please adhere to the timeline so that processing is not delayed
- Items required to complete your SEP application

Application and Selection Process

- Acceptance of internal offer (you get 7 to 10 days to decide)
- YOU MUST GO INTO OPAS TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE OFFER. PLEASE DO NOT DO NOTHING.
- Caution: think long and hard before you accept the internal offer; admin fee of \$300 applies if you withdraw after internal offer acceptance.
 - Lack of modules and inability to map modules
 - Lack of financial ability



Application and Selection Process



- **Internal Offer Email**
 - Some of your common questions
 - I tried to search on the PU website but cannot find the application form, what should I do?
 - If PU asked for 2 recommendation letters on their application form, do I need to provide 4 letters?
 - How should I go about getting the bank letter? Is it the same as bank statement? Do I have to pay? Why do I need to provide this letter?

Application and Selection Process



- **Internal Offer Email**
 - Some of your common questions
 - If my sponsoring organisation is already sponsoring me, do I still need the bank letter?
 - What if I do not have sufficient funds at this point to produce the bank letter?
 - What is a certification of enrolment?
 - How shall I get my transcript?
 - What does a copy of passport page mean?

Application and Selection Process



- **Internal Offer Email**
 - **Some of your common questions**
 - The partner university's application form required signature from my exchange coordinator, what should I do?
 - The partner university ask for a study plan/ course selection/ registration form. Do I need to get module mapping from the SEP coordinators at this point ?
 - If the PU asked me to send the documents to them directly on their website, should I do so?

Application and Selection Process



- **Internal Offer Email**
 - Some of your common questions
 - Do I need to produce proficiency of English for the partner university?
 - If the partner university requires a medical report or X-ray, do I have to include this in my application materials?

Application and Selection Process

- Faculty then send your SEP documents to RO
- RO process and forward to PU

Application and Selection Process

- **Receive acceptance packages from PU**
 - As various universities have different submission timelines, the timeline for collection of documents from you to Dean's Office is NOT indicative of the time period of processing by the PU.
 - Please do not email the PU to ask about your application and the arrival time of your acceptance packages.
 - This process can take several months so expect to hear from them no earlier than 2 months before the start of your SEP semester. So if you are going in August, expect to only hear from them in June; even if you gave the documents to Dean's Office in mid January.
 - If you are away from Singapore during the waiting period; please ensure that someone picks up the package for you and make sure that you can get your visa done in a 3rd country.
 - In the meantime, please be patient.

Application and Selection Process

Appeals for Non-Successful Applications

- The odds of reversal is not high.
- Wait-listing may be possible but it depends on the timeline given by RO/PUs for the submission of SEP documents.

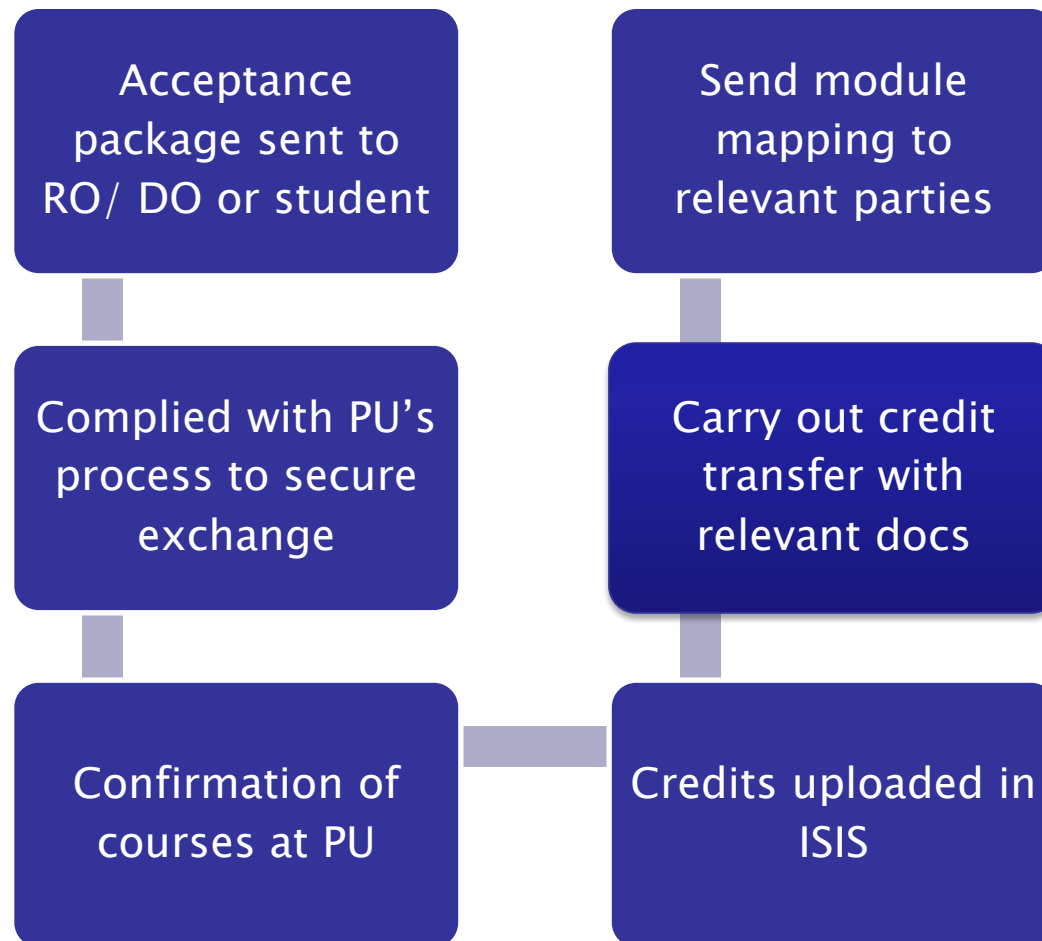
Application and Selection Process

Withdrawal Process

- Write formally to Assistant Dean c/o Study Abroad Query
- Please do not assume that withdrawal is automatic because you did not submit the relevant SEP documents
- Come start of semester, you will not be able to participate in CORS to register module as your status is “On Student Exchange”



SEP Application Workflow II



Key Questions to Answer

- **Module Mapping**

- How does module mapping work?
- When do you do this?
- How does equivalency of MC/ credit exchange work?
- What happens if there are changes to the modules when I get to the partner university?
- Are there restrictions on module mapping?
- How long does it take for approval?

Key Questions to Answer

How does module mapping work?

- Module mapping/Study Plan Form
- For FASS related modules
 - 1 form per module
 - Fill in details and send it to SEP coordinators
 - based on discipline
 - For language module mapping: CLS Language Module Mapping
 - Will take up to one month

Key Questions to Answer

How does module mapping work?

When do you do this?

- Module mapping/Study Plan Form
- For non-FASS related modules
 - 1 form per module
 - Fill in details and send it to FAS Study Abroad Enquiry
 - Forwarded to the relevant Faculty administrator
 - Make sure that you have an equivalent NUS module code for the mapping on the form
 - Will take at least 1 month before approval

Key Questions to Answer

How does module mapping work?

- For Business-related modules, you can first check this [website](#) for pre-approved modules
- If it is already pre-approved, no need for additional approval.
- Just print the page and use it as a record.

When do you do module mapping?

- When your modules are confirmed by the partner university
- Before you leave for exchange

Key Questions to Answer

How does equivalency of MC/ credit exchange work?

- Equivalency of credits btw Partner Universities and NUS
- Normal semester load at partner university* = normal semester load at NUS ie 20 MC
- MC Exchange Ratios

* for their students which may be different for exchange students

Key Questions to Answer

How does equivalency of MC/ credit exchange work?

Example

For Peking University, 15 credits= 20 MC so therefore if you read 17 credits= 23 MCs.

You can read more credits if you want, you get to bring back more MCs.

If you read less, you will also bring back less MC– no if and butts about this rule. If you end up with 1 MC less and you need to graduate, then you will need to do special term or another semester for 1 MC to graduate.

Key Questions to Answer

University of Copenhagen

Module A, B and C and D= 30 ECTS

	NUS MC	Dummy codes
Module A- 10 ECTS- major	(7 MC) 8 MC	EC3741, EC3742
Module B- 6 ECTS- major 1MC	(4 MC)	EC2741
Module C- 4 ECTS- UE	(3 MC) 4 MC	EC3743
Module D- 8 ECTS- major 4 MC	(5 MC) 1 MC	SC3741
Module E- 2 ECTS- major	(1 MC)	EC2711

Major= 16 MC, UE= 4 MC

Key Questions to Answer

Boston University

Module A, B and C and D= 16 credits

	NUS MC	Dummy codes
Module A- 4 credits- major	(5 MC)	EC3741, EC3711
Module B- 4 credits- major	(5 MC)	EC2741, EC2711
Module C- 4 credits- UE	(5 MC)	SC2741, SC3711
Module D- 4 credits- UE	(5 MC)	SC3741, SC3712

Major- 10 MC, UE- 10 MC

Key Questions to Answer

Boston University

Module A, B and C and D= 16 credits

	NUS MC	Dummy codes
16 MC Module A- 4 credits- major	(5 MC)	EC3741
15 MC Module B- 4 credits- major	(5 MC)	EC2741
Module C- 4 credits- major	(5 MC)	EC2742, EC2743
Module D- 4 credits- UE	(5 MC)	SC3741, SC3712

4 MC

Major= 16 MC, UE= 4 MC

Key Questions to Answer

- Almost all departments do not map level-4000 modules
- If any do, limited to 2 modules only
- CNM do not do mapping after the exchange semester.
- Econ do not map essential modules

NB: Best to check with your major departments

Key Questions to Answer

What happens if there are changes to the modules when I get to the partner university?

- **Module mapping via email**
 - SEP coordinators
 - [FAS Study Abroad Enquiry](#)

Reality Check Here

- Limited spaces for US, Canada, UK, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and Hong Kong
- CAP still rules
- A lot of students disappointed
- Choose wisely





Questions?