

University of Iowa

Why Iowa? That's the question everyone asked us. What we told them was that we just throw the dart on U.S. map and get it... OK ... that is not true, but still, we don't really have a whole lot of reasons other than some information from isep website that have a list of good business schools.



When the day came, we were heading to New York City to travel for a week before going to our campus in Iowa. We had a really good time there and actually felt kind of sad leaving a big town for a smaller one. When we arrived in Iowa, there was a sign saying



“Welcome to Iowa, fields of opportunities and cows ...and cow shit... and not much else to be honest”. This is so funny and sad in the same way. However, we try to cheer ourselves up by thinking that people in the Midwest is very well known about their kindness and people in Iowa actually showed us that it was true by the very first day we got there.

The first week on campus is the orientation week for international students. The campus is very quiet because all American students were still on their school break. We were a bit home sick during the night time but tried hard to get over it by making friend with others and talking to them to get through the night. The trick is only going to bed when you are really sleepy ... if not “keep talking”. By doing this, we made a lot of friends during the orientation week. During the day time, we were too excited to be home sick because there are a lot of new things that we have to explore. The university has some volunteers as well as people



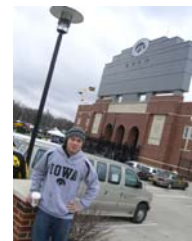
from office of international affairs that help international students like us get to know our way around the campus and also tell us all information we need to know about life in Iowa City such as the weather, restaurants, and banks. They helped us in preparing ourselves physically and mentally and we really had nothing else left to be worried about because, at least, people here had shown us that they are willing to help us any time we have any problem and we really appreciate what they did for us.

Since we lived on-campus, we had chance to get to know our neighbors before school start, which was one of our greatest experience. We talked, asked, and discussed with students who wasn't here for the first year. We became really ready for school before we even realize it.



Once school start, every professors have their own office hour which you can go talk to them in anything even non-academic related. The first few weeks were so exciting since everything was so tempting in doing, but we had controlled ourselves not to jump into everything at the same time otherwise, it'll be out of control.

There are many libraries on-campus which is in a walk-able distance such as Papajohn business building library which can be a great help for our study. These libraries are open until very late at night and we can always catch up the bus called "cambus" that the university provided for free to get back to our dorm.



In Iowa, there are not many exciting activities to choose like in a big city such as California but still, in our opinion, enough to entertain us throughout the year. Other than studying, we



like to hang out with our friends at downtown. One of our favorite places is Bread garden market, because they have tons of table where you can sit comfortably in the afternoon. Also, they have variety of drinks for us to choose, start with wine, whisky, vodka, and even imported beer from around the world. After hanging out we always moved



to some bars or our friends' place to hang out till late at night and end the night happily.

Other than night life, during spring and summer, there are varieties of activities that you can choose such as golf, soccer or even Frisbee. The resident hall also has activities for us to join almost every week such as bingo night, Halloween party and pizza night. So, we always have things to do other than study if we want to.



We had such a great experience in Iowa and definitely made the right choice going there. What make Iowa special than the other places is the number of heart we found in it. We would like to thank you everyone there for these memorable experience they gave us.

By Kantee Leepoolsapya & Kankamon Pinpatamarekha