



AURORA
EDUCATION FOUNDATION



2016 AURORA INDIGENOUS SCHOLARS
INTERNATIONAL STUDY TOUR
REFLECTIONS



Baringa Kukoyi





Baringa Kukoyi

University of Queensland

"I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all supporters of the Study Tour. This is a fantastic opportunity and I honestly feel so privileged to be a part of it."

Stanford

I was fortunate enough to visit the Native America's Centre for Learning which reminded me a lot of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit at the University of Queensland. To have the Native Americans welcome the Study Tour participants with open arms only further consolidated my new-found interest in Stanford University.

I had the amazing opportunity to sit in on an Entrepreneurship lecture at Stanford's Business School [...] It was phenomenal and is definitely something I will think back to for years to come.



Berkeley

The meeting I had with an MBA professor had an impact on me as it made me realise that the Berkeley MBA program could be suited to me. I previously did not think this would be the case.

I had the amazing opportunity to sit in on a panel discussion with current students. They were asked many questions which assisted to give prospective students, like myself, an insight into life at Berkeley.



Harvard

Prior to the Study Tour I did not even once consider applying to Harvard as I assumed I did not stand a chance at admission. The visit influenced this decision as I was able to meet students who shared the same sentiments but nonetheless proceeded with applying.

It was amazing to see the manner in which the Leadership lecture at Harvard Business School predominantly involved student discussion with the lecturer merely steering the direction of the lectures. Following this class visit, Harvard quickly jumped to my number 1 university preference.



Columbia & NYU

Subsequent to the visit, it is unlikely that I will apply to Columbia or NYU. The visit influenced this decision as I was able to experience life as a student on campus.

I had the opportunity to sit in on a Finance lecture at NYU's Stern Business School. The lecture did not involve much interaction with the students which contrasted significantly to the lecture I had attended at Harvard the previous week.



Cambridge

I met with an MBA student from Angola. She was incredibly inspirational and to my surprise she was touched by my story. So much so that she took me to meet other MBA students and even emailed the Head of Admissions about me. This encounter is probably one of the highlights of the entire Study Tour. Even if I do not attend Cambridge, I will stay in touch with the students I met.



London Business School

After the UK visit, I can definitely see myself applying to Cambridge, Oxford and surprisingly London Business School [LBS].

LBS was an institution I had not considered applying to as I assumed I did not stand a chance at admission given it is ranked number 1 business school in Europe. After visiting the school and meeting with the Head of Admissions, my perspective shifted and LBS jumped to number 2 on my rankings list.



Oxford

I had the amazing opportunity to sit in on a Leadership lecture at Oxford Saïd Business School. Similar to Harvard, the lecture was highly interactive and involved a lot of student participation where questions from students were highly encouraged.

Following the lecture, I met with several Australian students who were studying at Saïd Business School. This was a truly fantastic experience. Not only were they incredibly smart, but they were so down to earth and generous with their time. I could not believe that they were willing to take two hours out of their busy schedules to meet with me. They went into great detail explaining their experience at SBS.

I would strongly encourage future Aurora Scholars to meet as many students as possible; through the tour I was able to build an international network.



Scholars (from L to R) Logan Hignett, Jayde Geia, Casey Millward, Ashley Walker, and Baringa Kukoyi at Stanford

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Universities

- Australian Catholic University
- Australian National University
- Charles Darwin University
- Griffith University
- Harvard University
- Queensland University of Technology
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- University of Adelaide
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- Christ’s College, Cambridge
- Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge
- Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge
- Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge
- St Catharine’s College, Cambridge
- Trinity College, Cambridge
- Wolfson College, Cambridge
- Balliol College, Oxford
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