Dear Parents & CNAU Institutions
By Racquel Muir, On-Site Manager 2016

Hello!

We are happy to share the first newsletter of the 2016 USPP Summer Bridge Program at Northeastern University. Each newsletter will give you a glance into our academic agenda, cultural experiences, and social programming activities with these talented Chinese and Nigerian students during the summer.

The students have demonstrated hard work and dedication throughout the year, and we are confident this will be a rich and successful summer for them. The US Pathway Program team continues to provide an academically rigorous pathway paired with exciting cultural activities and workshops that aim to help the students assimilate to the American culture and educational system. We hope the Summer Bridge program provides a firm foundation from which the students can flourish when they reach their destination institution in the fall.

Since the students arrived in Boston, they have volunteered at the Greater Boston Food Bank and the YMCA close to Chinatown in Boston.

This summer will present students with great opportunities to advance their academic studies and experience fun times in Boston’s beautiful sights and weather.
Arrival

The first week in Boston was an exciting time for the USPP students as we had many fun and informative activities planned for them. Students checked into International Village and received their Husky Card and a USPP T-shirt. Our Global Student Ambassadors (GSA) gave the students a tour of the Northeastern University campus, followed by a bank and cellphone fair where students appreciated the convenience of having several bank and cellphone booths that allowed them to choose the best services for them. Students also learned about campus safety and how to keep themselves and their belongings safe while living in the US. The cross-cultural presentation and goal-setting workshop helped students to prepare for life in the United States as international students. They got to spend quality time with their GSAs, purchase their textbooks at the NU Bookstore, and receive their class schedules. At the end of the week, the students participated in a wonderful welcome reception where the Chinese and Nigerian students got to demonstrate a part of their culture with the audience.
USPP Students Give a Helping Hand

USPP provides students with community service opportunities where they can help people in need or support an organization. On Saturday, June 4, a group of USPP students, along with GSAs Daphne and Amanda, volunteered their time to help out at the Greater Boston Food Bank. The students sorted food and other household goods into appropriate categories and packaged them to be sent to various organizations throughout the city. Another group of students accompanied by GSA Salma volunteered at YMCA tutoring program where Chinese students got to tutor new Chinese immigrants in the 6th to 9th grade in subjects such as Math, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. It was a great day to give back to the Boston community!
Student Spotlight

“Northeastern University has a good co-op program. I want to get good job opportunities to gain work experience and help people achieve their goals by designing software and writing codes.” – Lei Bowen

Computer Science major Lei Bowen is one of our many outstanding students in the Summer Bridge program. He hails from Wuhan No. 6 High School in China, where his group is the first among the international department to join the US Pathway Program. Lei decided to enter the program to adapt to the US culture and university life, to advance his academic studies and become better at expressing his ideas in English.

In China, he enjoyed learning taekwondo. The initial purpose of this hobby was to exercise and be physically fit, however, he discovered that this art taught him the essence of persistence. Taekwondo showed Lei that he should never give up and to always persist until you become better. He has used this to guide him through difficulties in his life. He strongly believes that persistence can help someone to work smart and gain more in the end.

Lei emphasized that Chinese traditional education is important in his family. It is his duty to be respectful to his parents, especially grandparents because they are wiser and the seniors in the family. However, his parents have taught him modern education where he should learn new things that he cannot learn in China. His parents encouraged him to experience new and meaningful things while in another country as this step will help him to develop as an enterprising professional. In the summer, he hopes to find time to explore Boston with his friends and work hard to maintain his grades.
Additional Arrival Week Photos
Other News

Three of our USPP students were featured in News@Northeastern on June 13, 2016. Heather Yang, Elaine Wei, and Claire Song, took selfies together on Centennial Common last week. Photo by Adam Glanzman/Northeastern University.
Events to Ask Students About

June 6-10 – the first week of classes!
June 16-17 – Baylor University visit
June 16 – Bi-Weekly All Student Meeting
June 17 – Museum of Science Cultural Event
June 18 – Museum of Fine Arts Cultural Event
June 24 – DePaul University visit
June 30 – July 1 – University of Vermont visit

Stay tuned for more updates!