“Shooting Three Birds with One Stone” and A Day at HBS.

Zhongyuan (MBA2015) is an outstanding performer at CEIBS. Born in Guandong, Zhongyuan actually grew up in St. Maarten, Carribean. Not satisfied with just sea and sun, he moved to Europe to pursue a higher education and started his career as an investment banker in London. Now he sets his eyes on Shanghai to catapult his global career. During the first year of his MBA, he was elected as SC President, and excelled academically. For his exchange term, Zhongyuan decided to return “West” and study at one of the world’s top b-schools, Wharton – a CEIBS exchange partner.

How was it like to visit Harvard?

I was very excited. Harvard is iconic, and the fact that I had an opportunity to be part of the school, albeit for a day, was a great privilege. HBS is actually in a small campus outside the main university so it does not have the big traditional buildings that Harvard school is famous for. Nevertheless, I had the opportunity to use the Baker Library and stroll through the main campus which was just brilliant!

What services did you use there?

I was given full access to their Career Service Center online platform at the Baker Library, there were hundreds of postings listed there. I searched for opportunities both in the U.S. as well as China / Far East. I noticed they had many opportunities in Asia for PE and VCs, perhaps because of their large number of alumni working in the region. Many of the corporate opportunities offered in Asia are also available at CEIBS. The best part of the day was the counseling session with Peter of Career Services. Extremely helpful, Peter offered many tips and useful recommendations. We even ran over the delegated 30 minutes and chatted some more, when I learned Peter also lived in the Carribean for some time.

We spoke to Zhongyuan after his visit to the HBS Career Services Office. Under the CEIBS-Harvard Career Reciprocity Program, he was given special access to the HBS career platform during his visit to the school in Boston.

What about opportunities for Chinese and international students?

Without a doubt the platform is most beneficial for American students when it comes down to jobs based in the U.S., although they have many international postings as well. I know many of the Chinese students at other top tier U.S. b-schools are trying very hard to get a job in the US – and while they have no problem getting an internship there during their first year, not many actually receive a full-time offer in the U.S. when they graduate.

Any final insights?

Yes. If you take in mind the outstanding synergies between the three schools, CEIBS+Harvard+Wharton, it is undeniably a powerful combination for a job search. I think few programs in the world can offer the amount of opportunities, quality, and global flexibility, which I have been exposed to. Now it is time to get to work and take the next step toward my global career. Wish me luck!

With Phillip Andrews, HBS Assistant Director MBA Career Service.