## Health Sciences International Student Experiences Transcript

**Text on Screen:**

Health Sciences International Student Experiences

**Text on Screen:**

Boon  
Singapore

“Especially for me, because I was interested in sports as well, I specifically picked Podiatry, I always felt that health care and medicine was a noble profession. You help people. You save lives sometimes. You make a really big difference in peoples lives. So I always thought it was a very meaningful profession to pursue. This is one of the reasons I went into Podiatry, and Health Sciences.

**Text on Screen:**

Shruti  
Zambia

“I think also from where I come from, there is a lot of poverty in the country so just the fact that I’ve got an opportunity to study, to do something , so why not give that back eventually, I think that was my main thing, that was my main reason.”

**Text on Screen:**

Polly  
Singapore

“I think its just a balance between pursuing your interests and science and being compassionate and just giving back to society.”

**Text on Screen:**

What is it like studying health sciences in Australia?

“It was very different, in terms of culture and the way life is here, especially because here you are very independent as a person, back home, you’re not. You have to be dependent on everyone for a lot of things even just moving around, public transport isn’t a big thing, where as here, there is. So that way, it was very different. It is something you can get used to, because everyone does it, because I lived on campus there was a lot of students who are on their own, and there are a lot of students who are international students who are new as well. You get that kind of support because their going through exactly what you are going through. So it wasn’t as bad as I thought it would be, so it was okay.”

“Yeah I think on a personal level, like what Schruti said, we come from different places, from our sheltered comfortable homes and set our own amenities and study at the same time. I think also on that, coming to a foreign land with different people and different cultures, we are internationals, and the local guys are a bit different from us. So there is a bit of apprehension at first but after a while its just getting used to it, and you find that they are all nice people, you get together, you have a laugh and you study. You have fun. In the end, it’s a bit of inertia at first, but once you get over that step its fine. It’s a good experience, it’s an excellent experience so far.”

“We met so many new friends. They are so fun. I think in terms of our faculty, by itself, there are not many international students but because everyone is just here to have fun, study what we want to, and I think in the end we all end up being.”

“I think with the Health Sciences Faculty, in particular, I think we have a lot of group work, a lot of group assessment. That makes a difference, you are kind of, even if you don’t want to, you’re forced to work with someone, and so you have to mingle, but its good you get experience you get exposure, so that’s a good thing.”

“To start we are all group work, and you don’t know if you have lousy group mates, and you find out, its just like reality, in the future if you have to work with someone you don’t like, you have to work with them and make the best out of everything. And I think the course as a whole, first of all it’s a very generic course, and you have to group us along with different professions. We are podiatrists but we work with occupational therapists, speech therapists, which is something we are probably going to be doing in the future. So its good to have a different, diverse group of friends, that can network in the future and get to know everyone, rather than sticking to your own group of Podiatrists.”

**Text on Screen:**

So far what are the highlights of your course?

“I think the highlights are that, the school provides a lot of clinical placements for each discipline.”

“We have external placements so its not only in Melbourne, like you can go to Brisbane, you can go to other cities within Australia, and they even have it to the UK and Singapore. So you know you get exposure. Experience comes with exposure and any discipline within the health sciences. When you work, you’re working with different people, you learn their ways of doing things, so that helps you, that always helps you.

**Text on Screen:**

What are your aspirations for the future?

“Because I am going back to Singapore after I study, I have a sponsorship from one of the hospitals here, so I’m legally binded to go back after that, but yeah I like Melbourne a lot, so I might come back in the future, after my bond, who knows, so yeah enjoying my studies now and we’ll see in the future, how it goes.”

“Future aspirations, its like childhood dreams to be called a Doctor something, but perhaps, maybe, being a doctor isn’t like everything, you know, I could go into Podiatry in a really like find out what my interests are and maybe do a research project.”

“Future, I definitely want to work here I think, cause you get great experience, Podiatry is definitely a field that’s coming up, at least here in Australia, and a great, great experience, and because its so new, your kind of, its not like everything is set and found out already, so you’re still in the finding out about things, like diseases, or disorders etc so its good, but maybe head out after some time, and work somewhere else, we’ll see.”