

PEN-INTERNATIONAL 2006 SUMMER LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

**August 5-12, 2006
HERSTMONCEUX CASTLE,
EAST SUSSEX, ENGLAND**

August 5, 2006

We met at DLS-CSB at 3:00 a.m., Joyce and I went there together and her parents brought us there. When we arrived we waited for the interpreters and other students and when we were complete we went to the airport. When we arrived at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport I felt so amazed. This was the first time that I have been to this place. We waited in line for our tickets to be checked and then we waited again for the airplane to leave and take us to Hong Kong and I was enjoying everything because it was my first time. I was one of the student ambassadors of for the 2006 Summer Leadership Institute of Pen-International. In the airplane, I remembered what Ms. Myra Medrana and Melissa told me that maybe my ears would feel painful but I was ok with it. But I wasn't comfortable sitting still on the airplane ride from the Philippines to Hong Kong. When we arrived at Hong Kong we had to go fast to our departure gate. I thought that it was a beautiful place, and I wanted to see more of it.

August 6, 2006

I think I have eaten five times today. This experience has been happy and enjoyable being with others. I like it here because I am eager to learn from others and also eager to share through our presentations. Each country had a presentation and I was very curious what everyone would present. We also had a chance to do icebreakers and interact with each other.

August 7, 2006

Today we had a feedback session with Ms. Nicky. She observed us during the sessions and she wanted to be honest and frank and tell us what she observed. This is so that we will be aware and have time to adjust ourselves and also understand what she said. There is a time to just be comfortable, and there is a time to be serious and really cooperate and share with everybody.

August 8, 2006

Today we had speakers who were Deaf and from England and they used BSL (British Sign Language). They were stuck in traffic for 10 hours on their way to the Castle. While we were waiting, we played games and were able to interact with each other. After the talk of the Deaf men from England we were invited by Dr. Kevin to go to

the pub for one round of free drinks. We were enjoying and we were happy in our interaction with each other.

August 9, 2006

Today we went to on a field trip to Brighton and White Cliffs. Again it was an enjoyable, happy, and exciting experience. In Brighton we had freedom to stroll around and walk in the Mall. Joyce bought chocolates for us. I like it here in England because it is a beautiful place with a clean environment. At night, one of the girls from Japan invited us to the pub because it was her birthday. We were able to interact with the different people there and we enjoyed ourselves. We also had time that evening to practice the Filipino dances that we will be presenting.

August 10, 2006

We wanted to have time to chat with the students from the different countries at Bader Hall but we needed time to practice for our presentation. I think we are ok, but Ms. Tess still helped us. I have made a friend from China and she has a lot of stories to share. I also need to fix my things already so we don't panic on the day that we leave.

August 11, 2006

We shared about our Filipino culture today and we exchanged tokens with the other countries. Then we went to the pub so we can have time to share and interact with others. I was very happy and inspired. I felt very shy because Sir John treated me to a drink. We then went back to Bader Hall and we started to prepare for our trip back home.

August 12, 2006

We went to the airport but there was a problem because the lines were so long and confusing. The guard was very strict and we were so tired standing in line. But it was okay when we reached Hong Kong because we had time to rest and stroll and view the airport in Hong Kong.

August 13, 2006

We arrived here in the Philippines and I was able to rest. I went straight home to Caloocan City because it was my mother's. I gave her chocolates. I also had time to rest and sleep and I needed this because of the jet lag.