

Username	Message
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): Welcome--we'll be starting at 8pm!
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): Hello! Welcome to the Smeal MBA Program online chat. We've got students and the Admissions Team with us today. What questions would you like us to answer today?
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: I would like to know if it matters whether you take the GMAT first or turn in your application materials first
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): Hello tacolover1987--you need to take your GMAT and submit the score with your application for the application to be considered complete
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Doesn't the GMAT score get sent from Pearson to the school?
jruelens	jruelens: What kind of consideration is given to the AWA score on the GMAT exam?
Carla_Dean	Carla_Dean: Hi. I would like to know how would you describe the culture at Smeal?
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Hello everybody
moulik	moulik: Hi Stacey, A very good evening to you. Can you please tell us about some of things currently happening at Smeal, in terms of events, changes in the program structure, or something that would take effect with the next set of students for Fall 2010?
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): jruelens--we will look at the AWA score and possibly read each essay
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Hello everybody. I'm a first year student at Smeal
	induja: hello

induja	
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): jruegens--we use the AWA portion to look for consistency in writing quality and to evaluate written communication skills
rishin84	rishin84: Hi. If we were to take the GMAT more than once, how is the score chosen? Do you take the highest score, latest score, or average of the two scores?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hello Everyone, this is Jingwen Xiang, I'm first year student at Smeal.
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Carla_Dean, culture in Smeal is like a close family. We are very supportive of each other, all MBA staff is always available to you, they even give you their cell phone numbers
rishin84	rishin84: Hi Jingwen, how would you describe your first year so far at Smeal? What are the biggest perks?
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): Hi Moulik--the program structure will stay the same for the next incoming class. One thing that is now an active part of the program is the 2nd year Community Service immersion
Madhu	Madhu: Hi, first year students.....can you please share 3 top experiences at smeal since the time you enrolled ?
	induja:

induja	<p>Hi Stacey, this is Induja from India. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to ask questions. I have taken my GMAT and scored a 650. I am a post graduate in pharmacy with 4.5 years work experience. Do I have a chance if I apply or should I retake my GMAT?</p>
anhoffm1	<p>anhoffm1: For the December 1st Early Admission Deadline, the application is considered complete once all application requirements are in or when the admissions staff has interviewed the candidate?</p>
ga	<p>ga(Stacey MBA Admissions):</p> <p>rishin84--we will take the highest score, however, we will see all scores on the report</p>
ga	<p>ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Also, we have an honor code here, made by students, so you will not see people cheating even when professor left the room during a exam</p>
tacolover1987	<p>tacolover1987: Ana, I am looking at the curriculum section and what does it mean when they mention "your team"</p>
ga	<p>ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Hi everyone, my name is Bronte and I'm a second year here at Smeal.</p>
thaliaea	<p>thaliaea: I want to apply for the supply chain management program. And I have an interview on 29th Nov. How important is the interview in my application.</p>
thaliaea	<p>thaliaea: ?</p>
	<p>ga(Stacey MBA Admissions):</p> <p>Hi Induja--a high GMAT score will always help your application. It's really up to you if you feel you can take it again and perform better. If you think you can improve, a re-take could help you.</p>

ga	
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Thaliea, can I just confirm what the interview is for?
Madhu	Madhu: Hi Bronte...can you share your insights on what are the top strengths of the Smeal MBA program from a student's perspective?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi rishin84, it has been great time since my first day at Smeal. We have finished Module I, which includes 5 courses. All of us learned great things both academic and career.
induja	induja: Stacey: ok. but if i apply with the current score, is there a chance?
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Hi Madhu - Choosing three top experiences is difficult, I would say the first day of orientation, the first time I went out with most of my class and the first time I had a mock interview
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Hi Tacolover1987(...I like your chat name by the way). Means that we work in teams for about 50% of our assignments. The first semester have a 4 to 5 people team. Then in spring you change for a new team.
rishin84	rishin84: Thanks Stacey. Another question, on the application, how is the work experience evaluated? Does it matter which line of work you're doing, or is any experience considered valuable? I asked because one year of my work experience is at a law firm (when I had a mild interest in pursuing a law degree and wanted to know what it was like first hand).
	ga(Bronte 2nd Year):

ga	Hi Madhu, thanks for joining the chat tonight. I think the top strengths so far are the faculty and my classmates
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): The faculty is first rate, and provide a good, challenging learning environment
Carla_Dean	Carla_Dean: What type of person excels at Smeal?
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Carla
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): anhoffm1--once your application is received, we will review it and if applicable, an interview invitation will follow. Does that answer your question?
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): With my classmates, there are a wide range of personalities and skill sets, that help everyone out.
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Yes, thanks
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Carla - I think a collaborative person, who is self-aware and eager to improve
85.michelle@gmail.com	85.michelle@gmail.com: what international opportunities are offered at smeal?
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): It is challenging at the beginning, but after listening to companies such as J&J, Chase, etc coming here and praising our abilities to work in teams, that is when you understand why Smeal curriculum is designed that way
thaliaea	thaliaea: Bronte 2nd Year, the interview is for my graduate program. I am sorry the internet condition is really poor here.

Madhu	<p>Madhu: What is special about the teaching methodology? Is it mostly lectures or business cases? Do students get to work on live projects with companies while pursuing their studies?</p>
ga	<p>ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): rishin84--work experience from all fields is considered. We are more concerned with the quality of your work experience than in what field you worked</p>
tacolover1987	<p>tacolover1987: Thanks Ana, I go to Drexel and in every class we do group work. Do you have to come up with some sort of business for a class because I see something about presenting a business strategy</p>
moulik	<p>moulik: Thank you Stacey. Hi Ana, Jingwen, Manu, Bronte. Did you try to speak with professors before you came to Smeal? Would they mind being contacted by prospective students as well?</p>
induja	<p>induja: Stacey: ok. but if I apply with the current score, is there a chance?</p>
ga	<p>ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): Hi Moulik--if there is a specific professor you would like to speak with, you can e-mail me and I will try to put you in contact with him/her</p>
ga	<p>ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Thalia, that is fine! I just wanted to check :) The interview is very important. While Admissions here can gain a sense of you from your resume and application, the interview is where you really get to show them who you are.</p>

ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Michelle - In the spring we have global immersion, a one week course abroad. Our destinations for this year are Shanghai, New Delhi and Santiago (Chile). Each student must choose one destination. It's a good chance to learn how to do business on a global scale and learn about a new culture.
cdudley8151	cdudley8151: Hi! I was wondering if Smeal requires an incoming student to take any required courses prior to starting class in the Fall?
85.michelle@gmail.com	85.michelle@gmail.com: thank you manu.
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--without seeing your entire application, I can't really evaluate where you would stand just based on GMAT score. Of course, there is always a chance--but again, I can't really give you a definitive answer. It is really up to you and if you feel you have done your best or can improve your application and score further
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): We have a combination of everything, Madhu. We have lectures, then you have the opportunity to use the trading room, be part of the Nitanny Fund (5 million dollar investment portfolio).
thaliaea	thaliaea: Bronte 2nd Year. Thanks a lot . Well, what questions should I prepare for the interview then?
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): cdudley8151--Hi We do not have any pre-requisite courses that are required prior to admission
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): We also have a Marketing and a Supply Chain hands on experience, where companies actually come to Smeal and ask for our professional advice for their organization

<p>induja</p>	<p>induja:</p> <p>Stacey - Thanks. what is the average GMAT? and has there been any other student(s) with a score in the range of 650 and got admitted because of overall strong application?</p>
<p>ga</p>	<p>ga(Manufirstyearstudent):</p> <p>Michelle - It is up to you to take advantage from international opportunities here at Smeal. For instance, I just got back from a Spanish Workshop.</p>
<p>moulik</p>	<p>moulik: Thanks again Stacey. How diverse has the first year class been this year, given there were many changes in the economy?</p>
<p>ga</p>	<p>ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--Our average GMAT is a 652--but that is only one part of the application considered. We have accepted those with GMATs above and below that score depending on what the rest of the application looked like</p>
<p>ga</p>	<p>ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Thalia: A format that we use here in preparing for interview questions is 'STAR' - think of responses in terms of Situation (the background); Task (what you were supposed to do), Action (what you did do) and Result (the outcome). This lets you give specific answers for a range of different questions</p>
<p>85.michelle@gmail.com</p>	<p>85.michelle@gmail.com: Thank you Manu.</p>
<p>ga</p>	<p>ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): Hi Moulik--this year our class is 30% international and 70% domestic. Roughly a dozen countries are represented</p>

tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Stacey, when looking at GPA do you also consider which undergraduate school that person went to? Like a 3.5 GPA would be more impressive for a student who went to an Ivy League school
induja	induja: Stacey: also, is it possible that I apply with the current score and then retake GMAT and send the score later
Madhu	Madhu: What special clubs and workshops do you have at Smeal ?
Carla_Dean	Carla_Dean: How much control do students have over your own study program?
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Does early admissions give a prospective student the best opportunity for acceptance? (as typical in undergraduate admissions)
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Any student: while attending classes do you have any extra time for a part time job?
thaliae	thaliae: Bronte 2nd Year , "Star" is so cute. I think I will prepare it well,thanks.
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Madhu - they are almost too many to count! Some examples are interview workshops, resume workshops, venture capital talks, etc
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): tacolover1987--yes, we do look at undergraduate institution and transcripts. We are more concerned with the quality of the classwork vs. the name of the school

ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): At the end of the first year, tacolover, we are going to have a business strategy presentation where faculty and C level representatives from the company come to Smeal and choose the best business strategy presentation.
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Thanks Thalia!
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): tacolover1987--you may have a bit of extra time for a part-time job, but we would not recommend working more than 10 hours per week in the first year
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Tacolover - it's all a matter of organize yourself. I personally don't but there are people who do. You want to make sure that you leave enough time to enjoy classes and social activities
thalia	thalia: and, since I am from China. I am kind of curious how many international students are in the supply chain management program?
cdudley8151	cdudley8151: to current students - is there any disconnect from the undergrad student body or other graduate disciplines. I have heard from other programs that it is so intense, you don't really get much exposure to what else the University may offer. Is this true in your experiences?
moulik	moulik: Hi Bronte, Just curious. Being a second year student (compared to a first year's schedule) do you find yourself having a lot of time on your hands? And what do you typically find yourself involved doing outside of the classroom?
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): I can back up Stacey's comment - it would be difficult working more than 10 hours in the first year. However, in second year, I'm now working 20 hours per week

rishin84	rishin84: How do you guys evaluate the life around the school area? I've lived in California my entire life, so going to the east coast would be a big change for me. I understand the weather would take some adjusting too, but what about other things? Have any of you moved from a different part of the states to attend Smeal? If so, how would you describe the move up till now?
induja	induja: Stacey: also, is it possible that I apply with the current score and then retake GMAT and send the score later
moulik	moulik: :) Thanks Bronte.
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Second years that I have talked to speak highly about this experience. In addition, you have case analysis during your regular classes to build on your analysis strengths
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Moulik: I'm actually a lot busier than I thought in second year. However, a lot of it is how much you choose to take on
Madhu	Madhu: What do you mean by venture capital talks?
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Carla Dean - The first year is fixed, while during the second you can choose your concentration and choose the classes you like the most
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--yes, that is a possibility. There is a place on the application for GMAT re-test date

ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): I'm working 20 hours per week, plus a couple of classes, and playing in the intermural volleyball competition
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Stacey, would taking a minor give you advantage over taking just extra useless classes
induja	induja: Stacey - what is the timeframe
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi thailia, I'm also from china. Supply chain management is one of the most popular concentrations for international students. We have 20 chinese students in both classes, and most of us will at least choose SCM as a minor
induja	induja: Stacey - if I send my application by 1st dec...latest by when should I send my retest scores
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Students: is it easy to find housing around Penn State and how expensive is it
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): tacolover1987--a minor may help you if it fits in with your career goals. I would encourage you to take classes that are of interest to you and fit in with your goals
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--I would encourage you to take them no later than 12/15
moulik	moulik: Wow.. thanks Bronte
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: For example Stacey, I'm majoring in marketing and minoring in pscyhology
85.michelle@gmail.com	85.michelle@gmail.com: how big is the korean community at smeal?

ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Madhu: we have a lot of people who are involved with venture capital projects or companies. They might visit for a breakfast or working lunch, or present a lecture, especially to members of our entrepreneurial club
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): You have to look for housing with time, it's gets kind of hard as the beginning of the semester approaches.
thaliaea	thaliaea: Jingwen First Year, 20 chinese students, that is sweet.
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): No worries Moulik. I'm also involved in a couple of other committees and activities like that
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: I'm interested in pursuing Corporate Finance, either consulting or "in-house" for a global corporation. Is there a focus for these types of studies at Smeal?
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): I can tell from my experience (I was living in Florida before) that housing is not as costly as in big cities. You can expect to pay for rent one bedroom \$ 750.00
moulik	moulik: Hi Manu, Ana, Jingwen, How has your experience been in the US so far? Have you felt any changes in behavioural skills and getting accustomed to the US culture?
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): tacolover1987--you may want to consider taking another type of business-related course if it is of interest to you...or perhaps explore another area of interest

ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hello, 85.michelle@gmail.com, there are several Korean students in MBA program, and in the range of Penn State as a whole, you won't be lonely. And actually, LG is recruiting from our program too.
induja	<p>induja:</p> <p>Stacey: Apart from the GMAT score, what else is preferred in a prospective student?</p>
85.michelle@gmail.com	85.michelle@gmail.com: That is awesome! thank you jingwen
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): anhoffm1--yes, we do have an finance concentration
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--competitive GPA, work experience (quantity and quality), leadership experience, focused essays and strong recommendation letters
ga	<p>ga(Manufirstyearstudent):</p> <p>Hi Moulik. It's been pretty smooth so far. People are very warm and ready to answer your doubts or help if you struggle with cultural issues</p>
thaliae	<p>thaliae:</p> <p>Jingwen First Year, then can international students get jobs in America or they just go back home?</p>
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Is there acceptance statistics for in-state/out-of-state/international?
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Have any of the students earned an assistantship or know exactly what is involved in it
	ga(Bronte 2nd Year):

ga	anhoffm1 - I'm actually doing a finance concentration, and my interest is in corporate finance. They have an excellent series of lectures here on that topic
85.michelle@gmail.com	85.michelle@gmail.com: Stacey- I work an average of 75 hours a week and have not had much time be involved with extra curricular or community activities. Would I be at a disadvantage because of this?
rishin84	rishin84: For any 2nd year students, how would you describe your summer internship after your 1st year?
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Although it's by no means always easy....
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Hi rishin84 - I had a fantastic internship experience
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): anhoffm1--roughly, we accept 1/3 of our applicants. It is definitely more competitive as an international student given the volume of international applications
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi thaliea, for international like you, Smeal is a perfect place to start your American journey. Our classmates will make the greatest effort to help you get used to American culture. About the job hunting, I believe if you make great effort, you can get great offer after excellent education in Smeal.
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Yes tacolover. I'm have a Grad. Assitanship. They award you with one at the time of admission decision. But your don't actually know where you're going to work until your are here.

Madhu	Madhu: Hi Stacey, does having an MBA degree from another country brings a disadvantage during admissions?
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): I was working with a Pennsylvania construction company, and provided them with a strategic and competitive analysis
induja	induja: Stacey: Do you have pharmaceutical companies announcing job offers in campus? I am asking this as I am a Masters in Pharmacy, with a 4.5 yrs work experience in business research for pharmaceutical clients and looking for a placement in pharmaceutical company
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: ana, how difficult was it for you to get one?
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--yes, we work with Pfizer, Bristol Myers Squib and Johnson and Johnson, as well as some smaller companies
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Moulik - Smeal is a community and in a community it is easier to cope with cultural differences. I had no problems so far in adapting myself to the US way of life!
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): rishin84: it's also a really good chance to get out of school for a while and apply what you've learned
moulik	moulik: Thanks Manu
rishin84	rishin84: Stacey- does Smeal have any seminar's/ information sessions being set up at any time in the future in Southern California?
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Honestly, it was not. I had my admissions interview and they offered me the opportunity. I am a Grad. Assistant for Admissions now
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): rishin84--as of now, we do not

ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): rishin84--if you would like us to connect you with an alumni in California, we can try to do that
moulik	moulik: Stacey, Are there any specific tips for re-applicants? I have had my feedback session and have significantly focused on improving areas highlighted during the session and have made sure I point them out in my essays.
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Ana, also do you know if there's a possibility that you can become a teaching assistant for an undergraduate course
85.michelle@gmail.com	85.michelle@gmail.com: Stacey- I work an average of 75 hours a week and have not had much time be involved with extra curricular or community activities. Would I be at a disadvantage because of this?
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Does Smeal put a stronger emphasis on research or career development?
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): They offered assistantships based on your overall profile. Bronte would answer the Teaching Assistant part
cdudley8151	cdudley8151: MBA for a Day - how is this structured?
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): tacolover1087 - it will depend on what the college needs. I'm currently a TA for an undergrad MIS class, and also for a first year MBA class. You can interview for positions if there is flexibility
	thaliae:

thaliaea	<p>LOL thanks a lot Jinwen. Can you give more information about the international students in Smeal? I do not have experience in Supply Chain Management fields, I only did project with my friends in ERP systems. And, my GMAT is 680, Tofel is 101, GPA is 3.72. I released two papers however they are not about the supply chain management. So if I am competitive in the applicants or I should retake the GMAT?</p>
rishin84	<p>rishin84: Thanks Bronte- that's really important to what I want to learn from MBA school. I think it's very important to apply what's being taught, as opposed to simply learning about a topic.</p>
rishin84	<p>rishin84: Stacey- maybe I can email you later for an alumni from Southern California? Or is there a database somewhere that I can search?</p>
ga	<p>ga(Stacey MBA Admissions):</p> <p>cdudley8151--we start off with breakfast and a welcome, then you have 30 minute sessions throughout the day with our Student Services director, Career Services director, Dean Sheehan, and the Admissions team. In between, there is a 2 hour class observation and a lunch with the current students. We end the day with a trip to the Penn State Creamery for ice cream. You get a building tour and get to meet faculty, staff and students</p>

ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): rishin84 - I agree. It's one of the things that I like here, that there is a strong emphasis on applying what you learn to work. I'm looking to start a project in spring working with a start-up company, so there's a range of options available too
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): rishin84--feel free to e-mail me at sld138@psu.edu
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Thanks Bronte, what exactly is involved with the TA position?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi Anhoffm 1: Smeal does put strong emphasis on career development. We just had a career immersion week last week, and our Career Service Office provided interview skills, resume revision, and many others. And you will have a lot of interesting info session for you to get first hand information about many big names.
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): 85.michelle, don't think of community services as just hours apart from your work place. If you for example do some kind of community service as part of your job you can reference that
85.michelle@gmail.com	85.michelle@gmail.com: thank you ana-
Madhu	Madhu: Hi Stacey, I had completed my MBA in India a few years ago. Will that be a disadvantage during admissions?
cdudley8151	cdudley8151: as far as the class observation, is it a set class or are their options on which one's you observe?
	anhoffm1: Does the 'MBA for a Day' help to be a more

anhoffm1	competitive applicant or is it more for personal 'familiarity' with the program?
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): anhoffm1 - the 'MBA for a Day' is for personal familiarity and to get to know the students, staff and facilities here
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Cdudley8151, the first year is pretty much a fixed set of "core" classes.
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): We just have the chance of have one elective in spring. Then, second year is mostly electives according to your concentration
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Ana, you said that you are from Florida. With that said, is there things to do for the college during the summer or would it be advisable to go home
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): madhu--we will be very interested in what your goals are in pursuing a U.S. MBA--having an MBA from India isn't necessarily an advantage or disadvantage. The important thing is why you are looking for a 2nd degree in the same area of study. This will also have to be approved by Penn State's Graduate School in regard to you being eligible for a 2nd MBA degree
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): thaliae: More than half of us do not have SCM relevant experience, and it is really normal for an MBA student to change his/her career path through MBA program.
induja	induja: Stacey - Does Smeal offer any kind of assistantships to the MBA students? what is the criteria for selection?

ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): I'm from Honduras but lived in Florida. Actually during the summer, you hopefully expect to have an internship
thaliaea	thaliaea: Jingwen First year, thanks a lot. It is really helpful
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Do most 1st years have internships over the summer? If so, what % of these go on to work for the companies full-time after graduation?
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--we offer roughly 30 graduate assistanships per year. The awards are based on the merit of the application --GPA, GMAT, Work Experience, leadership experience, etc.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): thaliaea: About the scores, if you feel confident to retake them and be more competitive it's a good idea then.
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Talking about career path change, I was a business law attorney prior to joining Smeal
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): So, you go to whatever city, work for 12-14 weeks, and then come back for 2nd year
Madhu	Madhu: Well Stacy, my undergrad degree was a 3 year one. Infact because of my MBA in India, I am able to meet the norm of 16 yrs education that is required in the US for pursuing graduate studies
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): anhoffm1 - yes, most if not all 1st years do an internship over summer. A large percentag of those (I don't know the exact number) get offers from the company that they had the internship at. On the other hand, it is a learning experience, and it is perfectly ok to work for a different company to the internship company
	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions):

ga	madhu--thank you for the clarification
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Bronte, are these internships typically paid or unpaid
thaliaea	thaliaea: Jingwen First Year, thanks a lot. Have you started SCM concentration in the first year? what do you think is the advantage and disadvantages for international students in Smeal? LOL
rishin84	rishin84: Bronte, if you don't mind me asking, where did you do your summer internship? And what tasks did they have you perform?
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Now, for christmas I do plan to go back to Miami. However, I have classmates staying around the area which is very convenient. We have 4 or five Big cities a couple of hours driving from us (NY, Baltimore, Philadelhia, DC)
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): tacolover1987 - it really depends on the situation and the company. My company had never had an intern before - it was paid, although probably not as high as some in my class. If you are trying for a more unique or niche company, it might be unpaid.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): thaliaea- We won't have SCM course until next semester. But we have strong supply chain association, and believe me, our great professors will not wait until next semester to welcome you and introduce great part of SCM to you!
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Ana, I live in the Philadelphia area so I could find a job here while living at my house
Madhu	Madhu: I guess there is a general management concentration too. Any one here with that concentration ?
	thaliaea:

thalia	Jingwen first year, that is so nice. LOL.
thalia	thalia: And what about the interview?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): thalia- Association and Professors will bring you on board ASAP
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): An internship? Yes, you can actually apply for an opportunity to work in the Philadelphia area. We have Big name companies coming here to recruit.
thalia	thalia: well the professors ask some questions that needs strong supply chain management background??
thalia	thalia: sorry, need
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): thalia-please clarify your definition about the "interview", do you mean career interview or Smeal program recruiting interview?
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Should recommendations be strictly professional? I'm on the board of a small charitable foundation, would a recommendation for the Board of Directors be appropriate?
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Yes thats what I meant
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Hi Thalia, not at the beginning but as you go through courses do expect faculty to ask questions that challenge your skills and force you to do research
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: *from
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Madhu, I'm also doing a Strategic Leadership Concentration along with finance, that is the closest to a general management concentration here

induja	<p>induja: Stacey - Since I have a 650 on GMAT...how does retaking the test to improve my score impact my application for consideration? does it improve my chance? The rest of the application will remain the same, right? so only a change in GMAT score - will this help my application?</p>
ga	<p>ga(Jingwen First Year): thalia-They won't ask you professional questions from the very beginning. Instead, you will learn an overview at Module 1-2</p>
thalia	<p>thalia: Smeal program recruiting interview, they well give me telephone call on November. And, to tell you the truth, I am a little bit worried</p>
rishin84	<p>rishin84: Which is the most enjoyable class you guys have attended so far at Smeal? And why?</p>
ga	<p>ga(Stacey MBA Admissions):</p> <p>anhoffm1--a board of directors letter would be appropriate in your case. The important part is that they know you well and can write a strong letter</p>
ga	<p>ga(Manufirstyearstudent):</p> <p>Anhoffm1. If the recommendation shed light on your profile, adding value to your application, my suggestion would be to go for it!</p>
moulik	<p>moulik: Bronte, how important is to be a representative of a student club as opposed to just being a part of the club?</p>

ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Thalia, the best thing you can do is to prepare, and know what your goals are and why you want to come here. And the admissions people are definitely not scary!
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): rishin84:I think the answers would be diverse and may change as time goes by. My favorite course up to now is management.
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): That's a pretty nice question rishin84. I honestly like my management class form 1st mod. It was a discussion format, read cases, group interaction...for me it was a lot of fun and a lot to read too
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Anjoffm1 - at the end of the day, it is up to you to decide. Crafting the application is also a matter of self awareness
moulik	moulik: Well I second that Bronte, but Scott can be a little intimidating right? :)
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Moulik - it is completely up to you and how you feel you can balance the many responsibilities here. It definitely won't be a detriment if you just want to be a member of a club
thalia	thalia: Well, thanks again Bronte. LOL
moulik	moulik: He is very helpful but he scared us at the MBA for a Day event :)
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): rishin84 - my favorite classes would be a tie between management with Dr Gioia and Finance with Dr Muscarella
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Did any of the students come straight from undergraduate to the MBA program, or did you work for a few years

thaliaea	<p>thaliaea:</p> <p>Jingwen, what is your favorite class in Smeal?</p>
rishin84	rishin84: It seems like management has been a plus in everyone's book!
moulik	moulik: Hi Ana, I'm sorry if this is a repetition, but do you have a specific concentration in mind that you wish to pursue in the second year?
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Yes, we have 3 or 4 guys in our class coming directly from undergrad. However, they have some internship experiences and/or really superb academic performance
taclover1987	taclover1987: Stacey, I plan to graduate in spring 2010. Will I meet the requirement for a bachelor's degree even though my transcript will show that I have not earned my degree yet
moulik	moulik: And have any professors influenced your decision?
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): taclover1987--yes
induja	<p>induja:</p> <p>Stacey - Since i have a 650 on GMAT...how does retaking the test to improve my score impact my application for consideration? does it improve my chance? The rest of the application will remain the same, right? so only a change in GMAT score - will this help my application?</p>
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): thaliaea -Nothing to worry about, and I think everyone here should have a basic agreement with us, we are nice people~~
thaliaea	<p>thaliaea:</p> <p>HAHA</p>

tacolover1987	tacolover1987: I have 1 1/2 years of co-op experience plus a 3.7 GPA
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--if your GMAT score increases, yes, it will strengthen your application--the rest of the application will remain the same
induja	induja: Stacey - I know I can improve my score if I retake the test, but I am evaluating if it is required. I will retake the test only if it has a significant impact on my admission probability...otherwise I will focus on the rest of my application (as there is not much time left)
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): tacolover1987--make sure your co-op experience is noted on your resume. It is not considered full time work experience, but it will give us a good idea of your background
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--it is really a personal decision. Like I noted earlier, a stronger score can only help your changes--not only for admission, but for merit- based aid consideration
thaliae	thaliae: Thanks a lot Jingwen, lots of love.
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Is there any drawbacks from applying Early Admissions? I talked to an admissions counselor who stated that might not always be to an applicants advantage.
moulik	moulik: Stacey, has the admissions committee started sending interview invites for the Fall 2010 program?

ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): thaliea-My favorite course up to now is management, while at the same time I learned great expertise in Financial accounting, which is held by professor Dan Givoly, a top ranked professor, at the same time Statistics are held by DeSarbo, google them, you will be surprised by their biography.
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: It wouldn't be considered full time work experience even if it was 6 months at a time without school getting in the way and working over 40 hours a week
induja	induja: Stacey - Thanks. So if i apply by dec 1 and then retake the test (around mid dec) ideally by when should the scores reach you before you take a decision on my admission
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): tacolover1987--official work experience (as reported on the application) is full-time post undergraduate work only
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: ok thanks Stacey because I would have listed it as full time
thaliea	thaliea: I heard abpit Dan, he is smart.
thaliea	thaliea: OK, I googled and I shocked

ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--we would receive the score in roughly two weeks. For those who apply for the December 1st deadline, we will have decisions out by January 31st. However, if your scores come after December 1, that could delay the decision process until February
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): thaliae- You will find more smart professors here at smeal.
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): we have really smart faculty here,
induja	induja: Stacey: So if i indicate that I am retaking GMAT, you will for the decision until feb or is it better if I apply in jan (if that's not too late)
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): tacolover1987--there are specific instructions on the application that will clarify that. If you start the application and have questions, please let us know and we will gladly help you
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--as an international student, you have until February 1st to apply
rishin84	rishin84: Thanks everyone for your answers to my questions. Thank you Stacey for hosting this chat. It has been very helpful. I will be emailing you in the near future for further information. Thanks again.
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): rishin84--thank you for joining us!
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Good luck rishin84!
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): thank you, have a great rest of the day

anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Stacey: I have a technical question about the application. Should I put it in the chat or email the question?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Rishin84: You are more than welcome to bother with any question! Good luck!
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Rishin84 - Thank you and take care !
thaliea	thaliea: Well, now I am determined to go to Smeal
thaliea	thaliea: LOL Jingwen
induja	induja: Stacey: I hope applying in feb does not reduce the chances as generally you review application on a first come first served basis
kmkrishna	kmkrishna: how disadvantageous is it to apply late ... I mean as induja ..even I'm planning to retake my GMAT .. sometime in Nov .. and it may not reach you by Dec 1st ...
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): anhoffm1--you can ask here as it may benefit everyone. Or, if you are more comfortable, you may e-mail me at sld138@psu.edu
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--overall, we encourage students to apply when they are able to submit the strongest application possible. Ideally, the sooner the better--but not at the cost of quality

moulik	moulik: Hi Manu, would you mind being contacted regarding specific questions as an international student? If not, is there a place I can look up your email id?
induja	induja: sure thanks....but a submission in feb does not lower the chances right?
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): kmkrishna - the sooner you can apply the better, especially with regards to being viable for merit based assistantships. However, you shouldn't sacrifice quality for this. In terms of myself, I applied very late, but didn't get an assistantship immediately on arrival (I did get one in the Spring though)
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: For the work experience portion. I've been with the same company for 4+ years but have been promoted several times and my company has been acquired during the course of those years. Should I list the individual job 'titles'? I do not want it to seem that I have been jumping around from company to company.
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--no--we will be evaluating many candidates who submit in the February deadline
induja	induja: alright, thanks
kmkrishna	kmkrishna: how is the assistantship decided .. is based on the # of them available .. or the quality of the incoming student. What % of students are awarded assistantship ?

ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): That is very good anhoffm1. Don't see your different positions as "jumping" rather they are a recognition of your expertise, hardwork and leadership
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): kmkrishna--it is based on the merit of the application and how many slots available. Typically about 1/3 of the class receives assistantships--about 30 per year
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Are MBA students required to be a TA for undergraduate classes?
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): When you're crafting the resume just write the company, bullet the different positions and develop your accomplishments
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: I'm sorry if this has already been touched on. I'm not familiar with a
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): anhoffm1 - you are not 'required' to be a TA for an undergrad class. It just depends on the requirements of the individual professors. Some of my classmates teach, some have no contact with students and others are more involved with grading and writing assessment
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: assisstantships. What does it comprise of?
kmkrishna	kmkrishna: thanks Stacey -- I would also lilke to have a look at the placement history of the college .. and the current alumni position. Is there a place where I can get this information. Also would it be possible for me to get in touch with any of the alumni to get a more perspective of the program in Smeal.
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Generally, though, you will probably do some form of office hours, and then some time spent grading or assisting the professor or staff member

thaliaea	<p>thaliaea:</p> <p>Jingwen, I cannot get in</p>
thaliaea	<p>thaliaea:</p> <p>moderator gone?</p>
cdudley8151	<p>cdudley8151: I have a question regarding work experience. I have almost 3 years experience now, however the way my company is structured, there isn't opportunity for what most would view as a traditional promotion. How would you recommend approaching this in my application, given that my responsibilities have increased tremendously?</p>
ga	<p>ga(Bronte 2nd Year): With my GA, I am assisting a professor for a 1st year MBA class and also an undergrad class. I grade papers, help write business cases and assessment, run office hours, and also have review sessions</p>
ga	<p>ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): kmkrishna--our placement statistics are on the career services portion of our website at <u>www.smeal.psu.edu/mba</u>. If you would like to e-mail me directly, we can get you in touch with an alum that is appropriate <u>sld138@psu.edu</u></p>
ga	<p>ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): cdudley8151, don't worry about the "title"</p>
tacolover1987	<p>tacolover1987: Bronte, when you run office hours does that mean you help students who may have a problem with an assignment?</p>
ga	<p>ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): cdudley8151--I would recommend showing the career progression in detail on your resume.</p>
	<p>ga(Jingwen First Year):</p>

ga	And as Graduate Assistant in Admission office, some of us have the opportunity to share our experience with you guys.:)
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): It is very important that you craft your resume to play and show your strengths and the responsibilities you have
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): tacolover1987 - yes, that's exactly it. I differs from class to class, but a lot of the time there won't actually be that many students visiting during office hours, so I use it as a chance to catch up on my homework at the same time
cdudley8151	cdudley8151: okay...I have had others question it, and view it as a lack of progression, however my accomplishments are highlighted on my resume
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Is there any benefit to have a relative who graduated from Smeal MBA program? Should I mention somewhere in my application/essay?
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: that is probably most likely for undergraduate students Bronte right?
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): tacolover1987 - yes, that does seem to be the pattern!
kmkrishna	kmkrishna: does Smeal help International students in getting student loans ? Does it have a any endowment or college fund from which loans are awarded to the students ? Do we need a gaurantor/co-signer for the loans ?
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): cdudley8151--if invited to an interview, this is also a good place to talk about your career progression. You can certainly detail it further in your essays if it fits with the essay question (as well as on your resume)

ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): kmkrishna: Unfortunately, we don't.
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): People can question it a lot, but actually you can demonstrate that what you do takes the abilities of a true leader..you don't have to worry
tacolover1987	tacolover1987: Thank you everybody for your help. I think all my questions were answered. Now to concentrate on studying for my GMAT
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): tacolover1987--thank you for joining us, and best of luck on your
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Thanks for joining the session tacolover1987 - good luck!
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): GMAT
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): International students though are considered eligible to apply any of our merit based scholarships.
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Wish you success in your GMAT tacolover1987, thanks for participating
induja	induja: Thanks Stacey for your answers to my questions and for hosting this chat. Thanks everyone. It has been very helpful. I will send an email for further information. Thanks all.
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): induja--thank you for joining us!
misspath	misspath: Hi, I just entered this chatting room
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): Hi misspath
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): hi misspath. Welcome to the chat!
gpxb0626	gpxb0626: Hi, speaking of GMAT, what is the average score of smeal

misspath	misspath: Do you have any minimum score requirement for GMAT?
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Good luck induja, thanks for joining
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): hello misspath
thaliaea	thaliaea: Jingwen First Year, can international students apply for the dormitory in school or they should rent a room outside the school?
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Hi gpxb0626 - the average score is 652
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): thaliaea- About the housing, you can apply for apartment on campus. But most of us live off-campus because of the more affordable prices and more comfortable environment.
cdudley8151	cdudley8151: I have another question regarding recommendations. I feel as though my supervisor can speak to my direct accomplishments from a professional standpoint, so I am looking at having someone outside the company write my other recommendation. I would like a client that I deal with to offer a different perspective on my abilities. Would that be appropriate?
gpxb0626	gpxb0626: thank you, Bronte.
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): cdudley8151--yes, that would be appropriate
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): there's no GMAT required score. However the average is 652
misspath	misspath: Will you consider any candidate who have been to business school before?

thaliaea	<p>thaliaea:</p> <p>Jingwen, really helpful of you</p>
anhoffm1	<p>anhoffm1: I'm still a little confused about the Dec 1st deadline. Is there any difference between applying Nov 30th vs Dec 15th except the two week window for other applicants to apply? Or is there some time of 'freeze' where all applications from Dec 1 - Feb 1 are lumped into the same pool? I hope thats not too confusing.</p>
thaliaea	thaliaea: you
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): misspath--it would depend on the situation
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): You're welcome, please feel free to contact the admission office if you have any other questions.
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): anhoffm1--we evaluate applications as they come in. On Dec. 1st, however, we focus on all applications received to that point. Once we get through those, we will then begin looking at those that came in after the 1st
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Thank you, that clears it up.
thaliaea	<p>thaliaea:</p> <p>Stacey, I have already send out my application. However, If I retake the GMAT on December, is the score useless then?</p>
kmkrishna	kmkrishna: as you evaluate applications as they come in .. do you make a decision before the deadlines ? or evaluate and wait until the deadline to announce the result for a particular candidate .
misspath	misspath: How competitive is the enrollment?
	anhoffm1:

anhoffm1	should I send my transcripts or does admissions prefer they come directly from my undergraduate university?
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: *should I
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): thaliea--we can still consider it, just let us know when to expect the score and we will not evaluate your application until we receive it
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): anhoffman1--your transcripts need to come from the university
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Hi misspath - it is a competitive process. About one-third of the applicants are admitted
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): kmkrishna--sometimes we are able to make decisions prior to the deadline, sometimes we are not--it depends on the volume of applications an when they are received
misspath	misspath: How big is the class?
kmkrishna	kmkrishna: Thanks Stacey and other for answering my questions. I have some more questions, which are not general and my not help others in the chat, so I would mail you the questions. Thanks all and have a good evening/day.
thaliea	thaliea: Stacey, then, If I apply before December, when will I get to know if I am accepted or not
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): our class is 85-100 is average
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: I requested 2 official transcripts but did not direct them to be sent directly to Smeal. I cannot send two unopened transcripts to Smeal?
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): kmkrishna--thank you for joining us!
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): my class is 85, 2nd years are about 100

ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Bye kmkrishna - take care
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): thaliea--it's possible, but you may not hear until January
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): we do our best to make decisions as soon as we can, but sometimes it takes more time
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): kmkrishna thanks for participating, good luck!
thaliea	thaliea: Stacey, thanks a lot. It is very helpful.
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): thaliea--glad the chat has been helpful
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Thank you for everybody's time. Stacey: For future admissions questions, what is the best way to contact you ?
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): anhoffm1--you are welcome to contact me via e-mail at sld138@psu.edu
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): Thanks anhoffm1, wish you success in your endeavors.
thaliea	thaliea: Thanks a lot. Jingwen and Bronte, hope to meet you next year. LOL
gpxb0626	gpxb0626: Thanks Stacey
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): good luck anhoffm1!
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): You're welcome Thaliea!
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): I look forward to it thaliea

ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): :)
anhoffm1	anhoffm1: Thanks! Have a good night everybody. Hope to see you 1st years next Fall.
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): thanks for joining us!
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): we hope to see you too !
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Thanks everybody for joining us, hope you will have best luck in your application and see you at Smeal.
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): We have a few minutes left in the chat--what other questions can we address?
misspath	misspath: Stacey, my university doesn't provide transcript mail service, can I mail them to you by myself?
ga	ga(Stacey MBA Admissions): misspath--you can, just ensure that they are sealed and stamped on the back
thaliea	thaliea: well, what is the perspective of SCM students? Can we get internship??
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Penn State Smeal SCM is one of the top ranked in the US, and it will provide you with great internship and even offer if you work ***** it.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): sorry, work on it
thaliea	thaliea: good, thanks a lot.
misspath	misspath: Thank you for your answers.

ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): SCM is our traditional, we have many big companies offering internship and offers, including Dell, Amazon.com, Apple, etc.
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): you are very welcome misspath
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): You're welcome.
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): is there any more questions about culture, life at Smeal or any other thing you want to know?
thaliea	thaliea: Thanks a lot. I will try my best to get in
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Thaliea- You're welcome, be prepared for the whole application process, and best luck!
thaliea	thaliea: LOL thanks a billion
misspath	misspath: I will work ***** my GMAT first
ga	ga(Bronte 2nd Year): Good luck thaliea - I'm sure you'll be fine :)
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): misspath- good luck to you!
thaliea	thaliea: :) Bronte
misspath	misspath: Thanks everybody
misspath	misspath: Hope to you see you there next year
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): best of luck misspath!
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): hope to see you here too ;-)
thaliea	thaliea: thanks everyone
ga	ga(Ana Salgado 1st Year): good night everyone, best wishes to all!

ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): We hope you found this to be a productive and informative session, and we're really glad you could join us. Please feel free to contact us at SmealMBA@psu.edu for any further questions. Thank you for spending the time with us, The Smeal MBA Program Team.
misspath	misspath: Good night everyone
misspath	misspath: This chat is really very helpful
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): jux107@psu.edu
thaliaea	thaliaea: ok got it
moulik	moulik: Hi Manu
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Hello Moulik
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): how are you ?
moulik	moulik: Am doing very well thanks, yourself?
moulik	moulik: I had a few questions as an International student...
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): unfortunately we have few minutes, just shoot me questions and I will be happy to answer you
moulik	moulik: Did you have any experience in the US prior to joining Smeal?
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): I have been here as an exchange student 10 years ago
moulik	moulik: Would you be comfortable sharing your email id?
moulik	moulik: If we run out of time that is...
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): and I traveled several years ago

moulik	moulik: Are you doing your MBA in a related background?
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): no at all
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): I have studied law before my mba
moulik	moulik: :) Wow, you must've had a real strong reason to switch careers
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): I would like to find a job I love
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): the mba is a tool in that direction
moulik	moulik: I agree absolutely. If I may ask, what path are you planning to pursue?
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): I am interested in marketing and general management
moulik	moulik: And do you work with a diverse team for your first year courses ?
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): yes
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): My team is as follows: italian-american guy from NY, a girl from thailand, and two american students
moulik	moulik: Great!! And I'm assuming this helps a lot in brainstorming and discussions for assignments...
moulik	moulik: Also, how do you recommend an applicant prepare for his or her interview once the application is complete?
moulik	moulik: Quite honestly, I'm smitten with Smeal
moulik	moulik: I had been on campus last year, and had interviewed with Smeal.
moulik	moulik: In my application this year, I have made it a point to highlight my career path, principled leadership
moulik	moulik: and service experience.

ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): good
moulik	moulik: I really needed to understand what should I be doing differently this year to make it through
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): I guess you are an expert by now!
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): During an interview, just be yourself and relax
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): principled leadership is important here
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): also, ethics is a key point
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Did you get any feedback from last year ?
moulik	moulik: Were you offered a GA? What did your application look like, GMAT, GPA, Experience etc?
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Yes, I have a g.a. with the international programs department
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): My gmat was 650, I had almost 3 years of work experience and I graduated with honors from my law school
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): but in general
moulik	moulik: Wow...
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): don't obsess yourself with single data
moulik	moulik: I'm sorry?
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): it's the big picture what's important
moulik	moulik: I see... Also, (unfortunately) I'm an applicant from an over represented background
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): I mean, it does not make a lot of difference the numbers you put in your application. Talk about people and personal experiences that make you unique.

ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): where are you from ?
moulik	moulik: I'm originally from Mumbai
moulik	moulik: have been working in the US for around 3 years
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Don't worry and remain confident.
moulik	moulik: background in technology...
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Just think about what set you apart from the others
moulik	moulik: Thanks very much Manu, for your time and inputs
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): no problem moulik
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): it was a pleasure
moulik	moulik: I hope I wasnt asking to many specific questions that I got kicked out from the main lobby
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): not worries
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): I was happy to help you out
moulik	moulik: I hope to see you next year...
moulik	moulik: :)
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): I hope it helps!
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): Yeah, I will definetely see you next year...
moulik	moulik: :D
moulik	moulik: thanks
ga	ga(Manufirstyearstudent): you are welcome! Take care, bye bye
moulik	moulik: goo night
moulik	moulik: have a great week ahead