

6 Global Outreaching

INTERNATIONAL LINKS

Expansion of International Network

During the academic year 2004/05, IFT continued to strive for the expansion of its international network so that academic and cultural exchanges of academic staff and of students can be further promoted. The protocols signed this year are shown below:

Institution	Date of protocol
Instituto Politécnico de Leiria, Portugal	7 October 2004
Tourism College of Zhejiang, China	21 January 2005
University of Aveiro, Portugal	24 January 2005

Participation in International Events

APETIT Activities

IFT is the founding member as well as the executive member of the Network of Asia-Pacific Education and Training Institutes in Tourism (APETIT) which is fully supported by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). During the



academic year 2004/05, IFT attended the 11th Executive Committee Meeting held in Melbourne (Australia) in February, during which IFT proposed setting up an APETIT Marco Polo Exchange Programme among the higher education institutions in the pan-Asia Pacific region. Information about the Network activities can be found at <http://www.apetitnet.com>.

ATLAS Activities

The Association for Tourism and Leisure Education (ATLAS) was established in 1991 to develop transnational educational initiatives in tourism and leisure. ATLAS provides a forum to promote staff and student exchange and international research, and to facilitate curriculum and professional development.



IFT, being a member of the Executive Board, participated in the ATLAS Asia Pacific Conference held in Beppu, Japan in November 2004 and made a presentation on the impact of mainland Chinese Individual Travel Scheme on the tourism industry of Macao. Information about the Association can be found at <http://www.atlas-euro.org>.

APTA Activities

The Asia Pacific Tourism Association (APTA) aims to enhance the quality of tourism research, facilitate exchange of research works and experience in the region. The Association publishes a widely distributed semi-annual report which gathers a number of high-quality research works.

IFT, being a national member, attended the APTA Board Meeting, held in Gyeonggi Province, South Korea in July 2005 to discuss network activities and to formulate development strategies.

Information about the Association can be found at <http://apta.donga.ac.kr>.

Strengthening Ties with Partner Institutions

In May, IFT visited our partner school NHTV Breda University of Professional Education in The Netherlands and met IFT students who were there doing their Dual Recognition Degree Programme and exchange programme.



IFT participated in the Annual Meeting of "Associação de Universidades de Língua Portuguesa (AULP) 2005" in Lisbon in May, met with the members of AULP from different Portuguese speaking countries and developed closer cooperation with the various universities. The team also visited Fachhochschule Krams in Austria and Escola Superior de Hotelaria e Turismo do Estoril (ESHTE) in Portugal, with additional visits to the Casino Baden in Austria and Casino Estoril in Portugal to learn more about the gaming industry in Europe.

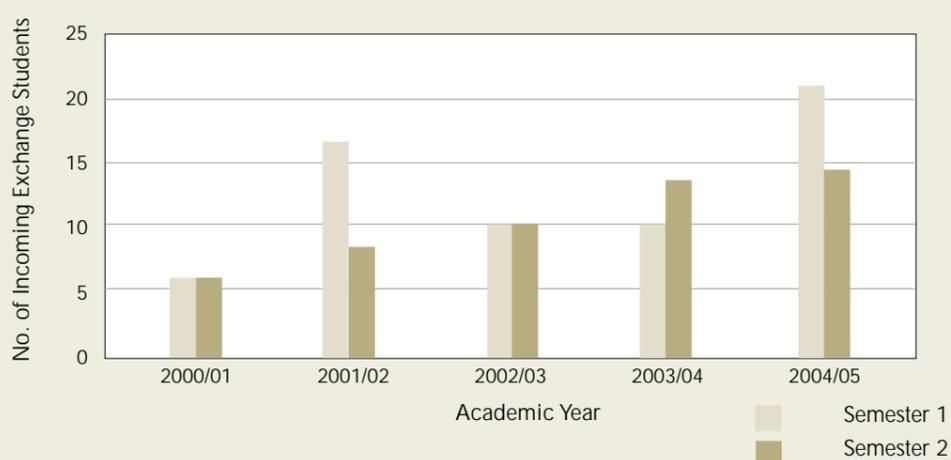


EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

Student Exchange

Incoming Students

In order to enhance the global characteristics of its programmes, IFT established the student exchange programme in 1996. So far, participants are mainly students of various partner institutes from Mainland China, Europe, South Korea and the United States of America.



Outgoing Students

Apart from receiving overseas students to IFT, the Institute also send students abroad. Three students spent a year at NHTV Breda University of Professional Education under the Dual Recognition Degree Programme. Besides, nine students have joined a semester of exchange programmes. One student was awarded DELTA Scholarship offered by NHTV Breda University of Professional Education.



Summer International Exchange Programme



IFT organised the Summer International Exchange Programme from June 12 to 17 and the theme was "The Conference Industry". The programme aimed to develop IFT's relationship with the partner institutes, to share experiences and to expose students to cultural diversity. IFT was honoured to have WTO's (World Tourism Organization) support by sending us a subject expert. IFT had also invited a representative from Macau Government Tourist Office to deliver a talk relevant to the theme. Apart from seminars, Macau Government Tourist Office, Cultural Institute, Cultural Centre, The Venetian (Sands) had also assisted in arranging visits to relevant entities.

A total of 27 participants completed the programme in 2005 from institutes in Mainland China (including Hong Kong), England, India, Iran, Japan, Nepal, Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka and Macao.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

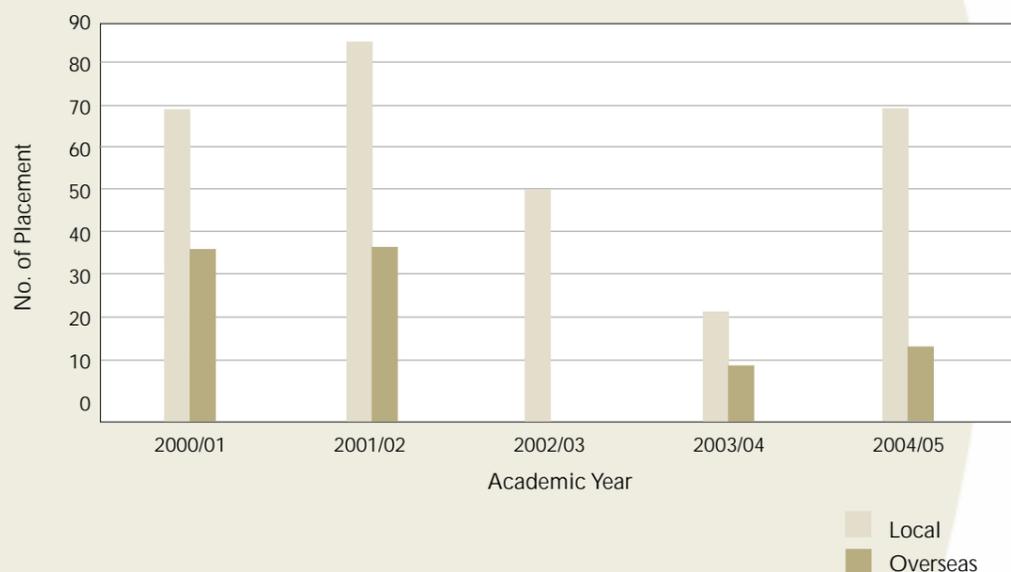
IFT Students

With the launch of the new curriculum in the academic year 2002/03, students in both Tourism Business Management and Hotel Management degree programmes are required to do a 6-month internship during their third year of study at the Institute. Through such practical programme, students will not only gain work experience in the industry, but also can consolidate their theoretical foundation. Since the academic year 1995/96, besides receiving placements from local industry, the internship programme of IFT has also been supported by a number of overseas tourism and hospitality related organisations in Mainland China (including Hong Kong and Taiwan), Europe, Iran, Mongolia, New Zealand, South-east Asia, South Africa, the United States of America and others. Some prominent international placements included the UNESCO Regional Office in Bangkok Thailand, the Architecture Conservation Programme of the Department of Architecture of the University of Hong Kong, a national heritage trust property in United Kingdom, Nissho Gakuen Education Corporation in Japan and the MGM Mirage Resort & Casino in Las Vegas USA. Besides sending out students, IFT also welcomes overseas students to complete their internship at the Institute.

A breakdown of the internship places of IFT over the past 5 years is depicted as follows:

Academic Year	Local Placement	Overseas Placement	Subtotal
2000/01	69	36	105
2001/02	85	36	121
2002/03 ¹	50	--	50
2003/04 ²	22	9	31
2004/05 ³	69	14	83

- ¹ In light of the risks involved in exposing students to the hazardous environments caused by the SARS outbreak, all overseas internship placements for the academic year 2002/03 had been cancelled by the Institute.
- ² IFT has introduced a new curriculum since the academic year 2002/03 and a 6-month internship is arranged in year 3. Therefore, this figure only reflects those students who completed their internship under the old curriculum.
- ³ Besides these 69 students who had performed their internship in Macao in the academic year 2004/05, 6 students from the old curriculum performed their 2-month internship locally during the second semester of the academic year 2004/05.



Incoming interns

During the academic year, IFT received interns from the following institutions:

- 3 interns from Homa Hotel Group in Iran received training at the IFT Educational Restaurant and Educational Hotel. They also visited various departments to understand the daily operations. Before they left, they prepared delicious Iranian food for our staff and students.
- 4 MBA students from Khon Kaen University in Thailand were trained at Educational Restaurant and Educational Hotel. Towards the end of their programme, they conducted a session introducing Thailand and showed us traditional Thai dance. The session was concluded by the serving of traditional Thai food.
- 4 students from Cheju Tourism College in South Korea received dealer training at the Macao Tourism and Casino Career Centre.
- 2 students from City University of Hong Kong received training at Educational Hotel and they also visited various types of hotels in Macao.

