

**Carla Oey van Kerkvoorden**

**Henry Fong Award 2009**

In 2009 Carla Oey van Kerkvoorden was one of two students from INU member Parahyangan University in Indonesia to participate in the Student Seminar in Hiroshima. After the Seminar, her thoughts about Global Citizenship that were awakened during the Student Seminar resulted in an application for the Henry Fong Award 2009. Carla's application turned out to be outstanding amongst several other excellent applications and the Selection Committee announced her as the Winner of the 2009 Henry Fong Award.



In September 2010, almost exactly a year after she received the Henry Fong Award, Carla sent her story to the INU Secretariat. The story about how the INU, the Seminar and the Henry Fong Award gave her the opportunity to study abroad. Here it comes:

*"It's a great honor being asked to write a bit about the experience I acquired from the Henry Fong Award, moreover being able to experience a wonderful time due to the award. Therefore, first of all I would like to thank the International Network of Universities for the generous award they have provided me. Not to forget, I would also like to thank Kajsa Werlestål who has been very busy helping me with basically everything! The story began after I attended the International Network of Universities conference held in Hiroshima, Japan on August 2009. The conference was a magnificent event presenting knowledge on global citizenship and peace. After receiving the Henry Fong Award, I was put up to making a tough decision on which university to attend for the 6 month scholarship program provided. At last I decided to set off for Flinders University, Adelaide, South Australia. I settled on doing a postgraduate certificate on Business Administration.*

*On February 2010 I flew off to Adelaide, South Australia. It was the first time in my life setting off away from home for a period of time. Although nervous, I was indeed very excited about Australia. I realized that apart from paying attention to my study, I would also have to learn to survive on my own. However, the situation was not as difficult as I expected it to be. At once, I found myself enjoying most of my time. Professor Michael N Barber (Vice-Chancellor of Flinders University) declares that "Our touchstone is that university life should be enjoyable and*

*enriching for Australian and international students and the campus should be a stimulating place to work.” I certainly agree that Flinders University has managed to create a lively study environment enriching both Australian as well as international students like me.*

*Not only did I study in Australia, I also did a part time job doing admin work for Daisy Veitch, one of the loveliest people I met in Adelaide, SA. Social life in Adelaide was brilliant. I lived in a share house with great housemates and had the best neighbors I could ever ask for. Adelaide made me find some of the best of friends I could find in my journey of life! I'd like to credit them by mentioning some of their names which are Listy, Monik, Judit, Yasuyo, Jay, Dwight, and Daniel-thanks for the great times guys! Furthermore, Adelaide itself is an organized city made up of beautiful sceneries such as hills, mountains, and best of all, the beaches! Never have I imagined being able to live in such a beautiful city – not to mention the magnificent South Australian wine they produce.*

*The great times passed by way too fast. Now, I've moved up all the way to the northern part of the globe, Rotterdam the Netherlands. I currently study a master degree in economics at Erasmus University Rotterdam. Although the Flinders University & South Australian experience is over, it's still fresh in my mind and I have been missing it since the day I left.”*

