

We have an exciting collaboration between Umass and HIT on developing “Plant clonal systems as a strategy for ammonia-nitrogen pollution removal from drinking water in cold latitudes”. This is in collaboration with the State Key Lab of Urban Water Resource, HIT and two laboratories at Umass (my own and Dr. Kalidas Shetty of Food Science).

I gave my US visa interview at Thursday 16th of September in the U.S. Consulate in Shenyang China. My visa type was J-1 as I am funded by China Scholarship Council. At about 7:15 I was standing in a queue outside the Embassy. Everyone had to wait until 7:45 when the guards allowed to enter. Again there was a security checkin and one of the guards checked the green receipt from American Express to verify whether i have paid the visa fees or not. After that I entered in US Embassy building, and guess what, again an X-Ray machine was in front of me. I placed my file that had my documents in a basket and let it through the X-Ray machine. It was 7:50 when I reached outside the visa counselor`s OFFICE. Everyone waited until 8:00 and then we were allowed to enter the OFFICE of counserlor. Everyone was seated according to his turn by a guard. My turn was 5th. I was a bit nervy and the chill in the office made my legs to shake. There were 6 counters in total. I kept on waiting till 8:30 and no one was called for interview until then. I think there must be around 50 people in total waiting for the interview. One of the guards asked me to go to counter no 4. A young Asia girl, probably around 23 asked me to give my passport and visa application form. Then she asked me to place my left index finger on the scanner and then the righ index finger. After that she told me to have a seat and wait for a moment. After 5 min, a bell rang and a lady spoke, "No.5, please come to counter no.4". I said some prayers and went to the counter. The visa counselor was a lady. I think she was about 32 years. Then we had the following chat OFFICER:Hello Me: Hello OFFICER:So what are u going for to USA? Me: For a joint PhD degree. OFFICER:What would you be studying there? Me: I would be studying at Plant, Soil & Insect Sciences Department at Umass and would be studying sorption of hydrocarbons and metals in soils and sediments, and contaminant water chemistry. OFFICER:OK. Have you got some documents from your university. ME: Yes. Here they are. OFFICER:OK. What is this. is it a deadline of your DS-2019. ME: YES OFFICER:I would be needing the change the date. Me: Ok. Here it is. (She entered something on her computer after seeing my admit letter) OFFICER:So you are going to study water treatment systems? Me: I am going to study Ammonia-nitrogen Removal from Drinking Water Using Modified Zeolites. OFFICER:To which other schools did you apply? Me: I got admit from 2 schools. From Umass and from UA. OFFICER:WHY did you choose Umass? Me: Some of my seniors who have performed well at Umass. OFFICER:From where did u do your MSc? Me: I did my BSc from Nanchang University, Department of Food Science. OFFICER:Ok It will take three weeks for the processing and we need your new DS-2019. Me: Ok, I have got the DS-2019. And then i went out of the EMBASSY. So first thing is to stay cool. Your interview would take only 3-4 mins. Try to answer the questions concisely and dont go in to much of the detail. These days they are not taking a tough interview. SO GOODLUCK TO EVERYONE.



我们在麻省大学和麻省理工大学开展了一项令人振奋的合作 ,即开发植物克隆系统 ,以此作为从高纬度地区的饮用中去除氨氮污染的研究策略。这项研究是由国家城市水资源重点实验室 ,麻省理工大学以及麻省大学的两个实验室(我所在的实验室和 Kalidas Shetty 博士的食物科学研究所 ) 共同合作。

我于9月16日周四到美国驻沈阳总领事馆签证面谈。我申请的是J-1签证 ,由中国国家留学基金委资助。我大约早晨7:15在领馆外排队等候。直到7 : 45武警才允许申请人入馆。接着是安检 ,有保安检查我是否持有签证收据。第一步安检结束后我进门。紧接着又有一部X光扫描仪出现在我眼前。我将装有资料的文件袋放入仪器上等待通过安检。7:50我到达办公楼前 ,一直到8 : 00大家才可以进入等候室。大家按照保安的指示就坐 ,我是第五位。我感觉有点紧张 ,空调的冷气让我觉得腿都在发抖。等候室里一共有六个面谈窗口。一直到8 : 30都没有人被叫去面谈。我看了下周围大概有50多人在等面谈。这时 ,保安叫我到4号窗口。

一个大概23岁左右的亚洲女孩让我把护照和申请表交给她。然后让我把左右食指依次放在指纹扫描仪上，之后让我回大厅等候。五分钟后，我被叫到四号窗口面谈。我起身在心里默默祈祷，然后走到窗口，面前是一位大约有32岁左右的女签证官。以下是我们的对话：

签证官：你好！

我：您好，签证官！

签证官：你为什么要去美国？

我：我要参加一个博士后项目。

签证官：你去学什么专业？

我：我要去麻省大学植物土壤及昆虫科学学院学习从土壤沉积物以及污水中提取碳氢化合物和金属附着物的化学技术。

签证官：嗯，你有学校给的相关文件吗？

我：我有，请看。

签证官：好，不过你的DS-2019表过期了。

我：是啊。

签证官：我需要日期最新的表。

我：您看这个。（她在看过我的录取信后往电脑里输入了些信息）

签证官：这么说你是要学习水处理系统对吧？

我：我是打算学习利用改性分子筛将氨氮从饮用水中分离技术。

签证官：你还申请过其他学校吗？

我：我收到两所大学的录取通知，麻省大学还有加州大学。

签证官：那你为什么选择麻省大学？

我：因为一些我的学长们都在麻省大学取得不错成绩。

签证官：你在哪所学校取得的硕士学位？

我：我在南昌大学食品科学学院取得的硕士学位。

签证官：我们需要大约三周的时间来处理你的签证，而且还需要你提供最新的 DS-2019 表。

我：可以。

然后我就出了领馆。首要的是你要保持冷静。面谈通常只有 3-4 分钟。试着用最简洁直白的语言回答问题。如今美国签证面谈已经不是很困难。祝大家好运啦！