

By Jargalsaihan Tamir

A Few Words to My Colleagues about Studying in Australia

In Mongolia, I met a number of people, who had educated in developed countries such as the United States, Australia, England and Japan. It was a real pleasure to know their deep knowledge, high communication skills and open-minded speeches. I had had a chance to study in a Japanese University, however I chose an Australian University. The reasons included first of all, the fact that Australia is an English speaking country, secondly, AusAID's scholarship was the best option for Mongolian civil servants who want to study abroad, and last but not the least was a broad range of choice for information technology related subjects at the Swinburne university. I gained the most demanding knowledge and experiences from my study which I could share with my colleagues.

I am very proud of graduating the Australian university. I have been working at the Cabinet Secretariat of the Government of Mongolia since 2000. After I finished my course in Australia I came back to Mongolia, and I was appointed as a CIO (Chief Information Officer) at the Cabinet Secretariat. My work colleagues expected me to do some changes and initiatives in the information technology sector, because few people came back after completion of their courses in developed countries. My first move was I intended to develop an IT strategy to enhance IT services in my organization. We did not have a sufficient budget to purchase licenses of proprietary software. Thus, we used a free and open source software for the server operations. I hired two guys specialized in configuration of networking equipment and Unix and Linux like operating systems such as FreeBSD, Red Hat, Fedora and Suse as system administrators. I promised them to share my knowledge that I possess, and to help for their future study in developed countries. They improved unreliable operations of the local area network and public management information systems network which connect over 20 government organizations. The networks were of a very low quality due to poor configurations and a lack of engineering skills of IT specialists. Now, I am instructing them how to develop IT project papers, business cases, as well as how to successfully implement IT projects. These are the few results that I have achieved since I returned from Australia.

I have been actively involved in online discussions of Mongolian information and communication technology's mailing list that has over three hundred registered members at ict@ict.mn. Information and communications technology specialists, who are registered in the mailing list, share and gain each others' knowledge and experience through the mailing list.

I gave "Web 2.0 technologies and its uses" presentation to information technology experts in August, 2008. The presentation was organized as a part of the project supported by Australian Education International. Here you can have brief information of the presentation at http://mozzies.mn/alumni/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=52 website.