MIT Visiting report

Apr. 14, 2015 Yoshihiro Hori Department of chemical engineering

The 1st day

In the first day in the morning, I visited the housing office in the MIT. The main purpose of this visit is to contact one of the office staff and ask about the housing system in the MIT. Since I had already sent an e-mail before leaving Japan and had informed my visit, they gently lectured me about the housing information and suggested to me several options regarding to how to find the house. The first option was to live in the official summer guesthouse and the second option was to find a sublessee who is planning to lend their house during their summer vacation. Unfortunately since the guesthouse was only available from June 8th till August 8th and my visiting period was from June 1st till the end of the August, I decided to choose the second option. In the official webpage of the MIT housing office, there were two pages listing the information of the sublet. One is on-campus housing and the other is off-campus housing. She told me that the difference of these two webpage is not only the location of the building (On/Off campus) but also the person posting the information. In case of the on-campus housing, only the MIT students can post the sublet information and also only the MIT students can access the list of information. However, in case of the off-campus housing, anyone can post the sublet information and only the MIT students can access the information. At the same time, she also told me that I have to wait for some days or weeks to look for the on-campus sublicensing because the posting page for the on-campus sublicensing started two days before I visited the housing office and no information was listed at that time. With the help of her support I had successfully found several off-campus housing and the contact information for the MIT students via the off-campus housing webpage. After visiting the office, I tried to contact some of the sublicensee to get a chance to contact and make a contract for the sublicesing. Although I was not able to contact with those sublicensee directory at that time, I succeeded to communicate with them via Skype and I am still negotiating with one of them for now.

The 2nd day

In the second day, I visited Prof. Rutledge who is one of my research supervisor and collaborator with Prof. Ohshima. Although I have only few chances to join the conversation, meeting with the Prof. Rutledge motivated me. After visiting Prof. Rutledge, I joined the laboratory tour in Jensen laboratory and saw how they conducting their research. The most impressive fact that surprised me was that almost all of their apparatus were well combined and organized to control the conditions and procedures for the experiment. After the laboratory tour, I talked with one of the students in that laboratory about my visit and some practical information about the way of life in Boston and the sublet. He was one of the student who had have already visited Kyoto university once before our visit to MIT. We exchanged our contact information to stay connected.

Summary

Through this short visit to Boston, I succeeded to contact with housing office stuff and get a chance to contact with some of the sublicesee. I also met with several graduate students and exchanged the contact information for the next visit.to MIT.