

**Helping Chinese 2+2 Students Integrate**  
 University of Waterloo – 24 September 2014



**Lionel Laroche, Ph.D., P.Eng.**  
**Caroline Yang, CHRP, CCP**




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**Objectives**

This presentation will help you:

- Become aware of the challenges experienced by Chinese students
- Discuss actions that you can take individually and collectively to ensure that everyone benefits from the presence of Chinese students in the 2+2 program

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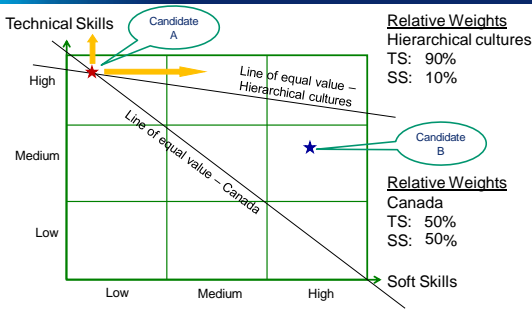
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**Relative Importance of Technical and Soft Skills**



**Relative Weights**  
 Hierarchical cultures  
 TS: 90%  
 SS: 10%

**Relative Weights**  
 Canada  
 TS: 50%  
 SS: 50%

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### Skills We Want Students to Learn

- Taking ownership of their career
- Setting career goals
- Working independently
- Working in teams
- Taking initiative
- Making presentations
- Building new relationship
- Managing time

Critical thinkers who know how to work collaboratively

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### Experiential Learning Exercise

- Read the rules
- Practice a game or two; keep your voice down
- Select a score keeper at your table
- After practice, we will play a tournament of 3 rounds of 2-3 games each
- **No talking during the tournament**
- Person gathering most tricks wins
- After each round, winner moves clockwise; loser moves counter clockwise

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### Experiential Learning Exercise

- Initial emotional reaction when seeing someone behave unexpectedly
- Assumptions and operating based on assumptions
- Impact of small difference on productivity and relationships
- Importance of understanding unwritten rules
- Awareness changes attitude from confrontation to collaboration
- People sort out differences in different ways
- Winning strategies have to change
- More at stake at work than in a card game

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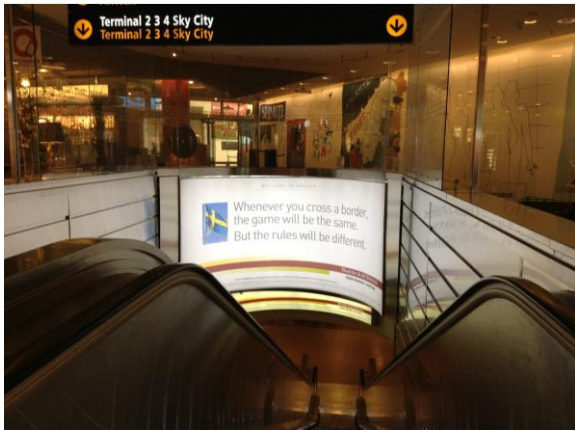
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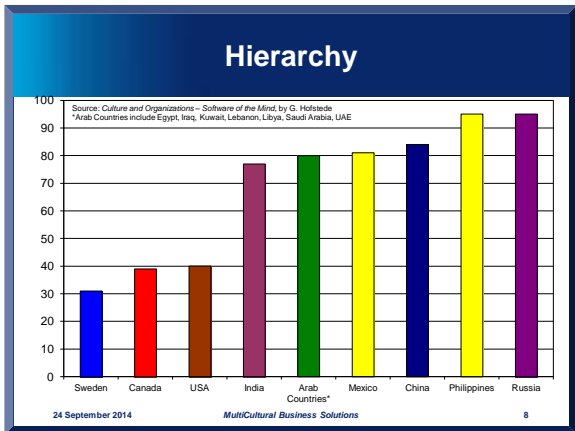
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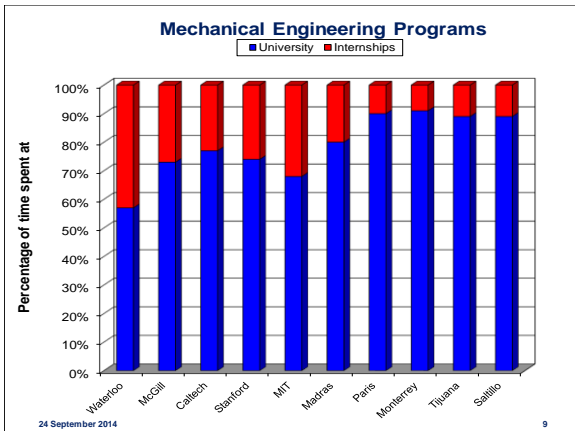
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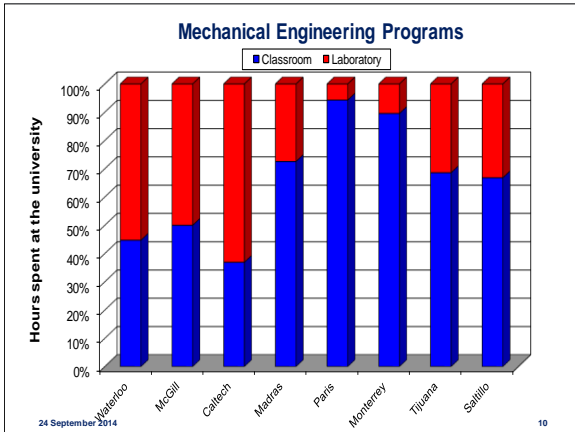
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### Professor-Student Relationship

I prefer working with managers who

give me enough freedom  
so that I can determine the  
best direction for myself

give me clear directions  
so that I know what  
they want me to do.

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### Program Structure

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### Administrative Structure

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### Expectation for Graduation

- University of Waterloo (Engineering)**
  - 1260 Registered New in 2006 → 69%
  - 874 Degrees awarded in 2011
- University of Waterloo (Business)**
  - 1200 Registered New in 2006 → 63%
  - 761 Degrees awarded in 2011
- University of Toronto (Engineering)**
  - Average 1187 Registered 2003-2007 → 76%
  - Average 898 Degrees awarded 2008-2012

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### First Group Discussion

What is our goal?

- What does "better integrate the 2+2 program students" mean?
  - Ensure that students have an engaging, purposeful and relevant experience
- How do we measure success?
- What are the benefits for the University of Waterloo to run the 2+2 program?
- What are the benefits that Canadian students, staff and faculty members get for being part of this program?

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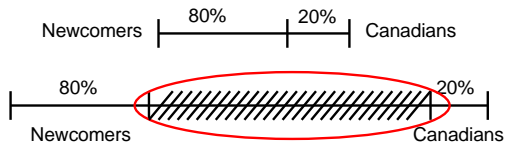
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### Who Should Adapt to Whom?



Newcomers need to learn the unwritten rules of Canadian organizations and follow them

Canadians need to explain these rules and give feedback

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### Second Group Discussion

- Assign percentages to and discuss the following:
  - To what extent do Chinese students need to adapt in order to integrate into the 2+2 program?
  - To what extent do Canadian students, staff and faculty members need to adapt?




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### Possible Action Steps

- Bring Chinese students a few weeks early for English courses
- Provide an orientation program before formal classes start
- Buddy system: pair up incoming Chinese students with more senior students
- Set up a formal mentoring program; provide credit for students who mentor Chinese students
- Create a "Chinese student point contact" person, who speaks Mandarin and understands well how the university operates

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19

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### Possible Action Steps

- Organize monthly movie nights that bring together Chinese and Canadian students to watch a meaningful movie and discuss it together
- Organize a ping-pong, badminton or volley-ball tournament with mixed teams
- Organize team-building events at the beginning of the capstone project
- Provide training and support to faculty members
- Provide cross-cultural training to all students (in particular, do the card game with them)

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### Third Group Discussion

- What can this group do, individually and collectively, to help the program be more successful?

Action	Owner	Timeline	Follow-up

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