Age: 27
Home town and Country: Seoul, South Korea
Home University: Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University
Study Program: Computer Science

Start-up culture
I wanted to take advantage of the startup culture of Amsterdam. The Semester in Amsterdam was best in doing so because the program enabled me to hand pick courses that I could create synergy with my passion towards start-ups.

Semester in Amsterdam staff
Another important reason I chose this program is because of the staff. This may be a strange reason, but I was really happy with how all the staff helped out with all the questions very promptly and in a very helpful way too. They were much more welcoming than any other program coordinators and thus made me choose Amsterdam (VU) over other cities.

City impressions
The city is a sight to behold, especially in fall when the leaves have fallen and everything is red and brown. Also, the city is unique in that it gives a very different vibe at night compared to day. When the sun is up, there is a lot of modern architecture that blends in with the traditional row houses of Amsterdam, but at night, everything seems to turn a bit more old fashioned, but very scenic with the lights reflecting on the canals.

Classroom environment
The program in general is very fast-paced but also exciting. Unlike my home university, VU Amsterdam has a very unique undergraduate curriculum in that it has many ‘practical’ courses that are less focused on theory and more on experiments or simulations. Seeing such curriculum, I was eager to enroll as a semester student to take advantage of the courses that I have never been exposed to.

Free time
If I want some quite me-time, I like to cycle to Amsterdamse Bos and just wander about in the park. You forget that you are in Amsterdam because all you see around you are just trees and nature. This park is also great with a couple of friends since you can have a simple picnic by the waterside.