Learning and teaching can take shape in many forms. Apart from instilling knowledge in students through lectures in the university, travelling is an effective way to enlighten students on global outlook, sense of social responsibility as well as communication and interpersonal skills. Same as the previous years, a seven-day study tour was arranged for the UGC BE2 and SF BE1 students as a voluntary learning activity. It was co-organized with the School of Environment Science and Technology of Tianjin University, which is the first university in modern Chinese education history.

A total of 55 participants attended the study tour, including 48 students and 7 staffs from the department. During this trip, our students spent four days in Tianjin, where they made visit to Tianjin University, and another three days in Beijing for site seeing. In the visit to Tianjin University, our students received a cordial welcome and they had cultural and academic exchange with the mainland students.

Students talked about their living and learning environment. They shared their interests and opinions about education. They also took the chance to visit the campus environment and facilities. Besides, Tianjin University had arranged a site visit to Danfoss (Tianjin) Co., Ltd. which is a global producer of components for heating, refrigeration and air conditioning.

This technical visit broadens students’ horizon of manufacturing and testing of system components. After the four days of fruitful experience, our students proceeded to the capital of our country. They were amazed by the majestic historic attractions like the Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City and the Great wall. They had also experienced the fashionable and modern part of Beijing by paying a visit to the modern architectures, like the Beijing National Stadium (Bird’s Nest) and Beijing National Aquatics Center (Water Cube).

The study tour was an enjoyable experience and involved interaction with and by the students rather than mere travelling and site-seeing. The feedback from the students was excellent and it would appear that they all enjoyed the tour and felt that they had had a good learning experience as well.