

Field Report for the Marshal Plan Scholarship from 4.1.2017 until 5.4.2017

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1 General impression of the research stay abroad

My research visit at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama was a valuable and positive research and personal experience. In the period of my visit I was actively participating on a Continuum Theory Seminar in Mathematics Department at Auburn University and gave three research talks on the Seminar on which I shared the research conducted during my PhD program in Vienna. I had several longer inspiring research discussions with leading experts on their respective fields, Prof. Dr. Piotr Minc, Prof. Dr. Michel Smith, Prof. Dr. Krystyna M. Kuperberg and Prof. Dr. Stewart L. Baldwin and thus I felt accepted and appreciated in their mathematical community. With my local host Prof. Dr. Piotr Minc I had regular meetings where we conducted mathematical research, i.e. we were solving an open problem. The outcome is reflected in a Final Report and the extension of the the Final Report is most likely going to be send in a peer reviewed journal.

I also visited University Alabama at Birmingham, Alabama for seven days where I was accepted nicely. I gave an invited colloquium talk and started a research project with Prof. Dr. John C. Mayer and Prof. Dr. Lex Oversteegen. Furthermore, I took advantage of being in the United States in the early Spring and attended largest annual conference in my field, Spring Topology and Dynamical Systems conference, which was held in Jersey City, New Jersey and gave an invited talk in the Continuum Theory Session. Therefore, I am sure that the research visit in the United States majorly benefited my research capabilities and also enhanced the range of my potential collaborators.

2 Quality of host institution

Auburn University is a high quality institution which offers numerous benefits to a visiting student or fellow. University Campus has a low crime rate and several facilities which improve the quality of living and working close and in the Campus itself. University library has big capacity of working space and a good and modern collection of library material. There is also a modern recreational center with numerous sports facilities. The administration staff at Auburn University was very helpful and prompt.

Research-wise, a topological research group at Auburn University in Alabama is one of the world's most renowned research groups in Continuum Theory and Dynamical Systems and thus the quality of research conducted in that research group is not questionable.

3 Contacts within the host institution, inclusion in the organization

International office staff of the Auburn University was accurate and helped me to solve initial problems with accommodating at my host institution and referred me to the organizations and events of general visitor's interest. The social events at the University I mostly attended were Mathematical Colloquiums and Continuum Theory Seminars which were accompanied with social events afterwards where I have met most of the staff from Department of Mathematics. Therefore, I felt included in the mathematical community of Auburn university.

As a free time activity I attended dance lessons organized by a student organization of Auburn University where I was accepted and treated well.

4 Recommendation for Marshall Plan Students

I highly recommend a research visit at Auburn University, especially in the Continuum Theory group, since I had a personal contact with them.

A visiting student can not obtain an accommodation within the University Campus. Affordable accommodation can be found through real estate brokers. Therefore, when finding an accommodation close to the Campus in Auburn, Alabama I would recommend to contact real estate brokers directly since for the most of the year there is plenty of opportunities to find a condo close to the Campus for a reasonable price.

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