

Host institution: Department of Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology at the University of California Los Angeles, 610 Charles Young Drive East, Los Angeles, CA 90095, USA

- General impression of your research stay abroad

My experience from the research stay at The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) was overall very positive. Visitors have to apply for a Visiting Graduate Researcher (VGR) status, which can be a lengthy process and it takes approximately 8 weeks to get accepted and have all the paperwork done. The VGR status, as long as the stay is more than three months, allows the visitor access to a University ID, so called Bruin Card which in turn gives access to almost all campus facilities including libraries and gyms. The campus is large and hosts different institutions, providing conditions for multidisciplinary. In addition the campus is very international.

- Quality of the host institution

The University of California, Los Angeles is one of the top educational and research institution both on a national and international level. The University hosts a number of renowned researchers and has state of the art research facilities. My overall impression was that there is a high level of collaboration between researchers at the institution which is an important condition for academic and research success.

- Contacts within the host institution, inclusion in the organization

I have been working in the group of Matteo Pellegrini, which consisted of approximately 10 – 15 members including senior research associates, graduate students and undergraduate students. In addition to this, the lab is located in the new Terasaki Life Science building which hosts a number of other groups and members open for interaction. The level of interaction depends on the interest of the visitor, but there are numerous networking opportunities as there are weekly seminars and talks.

- Recommendations for future Marshall Plan students and fellows

I can highly recommend this institution to anyone who is excited about research and want to work in a stimulating and open environment.

- Contact E-mail after completion of research stay

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