

## Marshall Plan Scholarship

### Feedback on Research Stay at Stanford University

**Duration:** Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 – Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019

**Host university:** Stanford University, School of Medicine

**Host lab:** 3DQ Laboratory, Department of Radiology

**Supervisor at host university:** Prof. Dr. Dominik Fleischmann

**Supervisor at home university:** Prof. Dr. Dieter Schmalstieg

**Quality of the stay:** very good

**Integration within the group:** excellent

**Further contacts for future students:** Dr. Martin Willeminck, Dr. Marina Codari

**Personal e-mail address:** antonio.pepe@outlook.at

The hosting group has been really welcoming and warming. Despite some initial organizational issues, the office mates helped making sure that all the work could be conducted as planned.

The host institution provided the necessary hardware and material, as well as all the data described in the project report.

The stay gave me the opportunity to accomplish results which would not have been possible at my home university, and, at the same time, also gave me the opportunity to integrate in a world-leading research group with which I am still remotely collaborating to date.

Prof. Fleischmann has asked for my availability for a longer research stay, which might happen in the near future.

I would recommend Stanford University to further students for their (first) research stay in the US and particularly Prof. Fleischmann's group for cardiovascular imaging.

Nonetheless, the Bay area is known to have rent prices well above average, which, together with tuition fees and health insurance, require a much higher budget than what provided by the scholarship.

I understand that providing bigger scholarships would then reduce the number of awarded students. Being this a transatlantic cooperation, a suggestion might therefore be to set an agreement with some of these universities for lower tuition fees for PhD students.

Furthermore, I would gladly like to share that a short conference paper on aorta segmentation has been accepted and orally presented at SPIE 2020 in February. A review manuscript on aortic dissection has been submitted to the journal "Medical Image Analysis" and it is currently under major revision, and a full conference paper is currently being submitted to MICCAI 2020.

*I take the opportunity to sincerely thank the Marshall Plan Foundation for offering me this opportunity, without which I would not have had this experience, and the TU Graz International Office for the support offered.*

Best regards,

Antonio Pepe

**P.S. On behalf of the supervisors, I would like to request for a delay in the publication of the report. Some of the results are currently under double-blind review for a major conference (MICCAI) and it is not allowed to publish a pre-print before the acceptance. The notifications of acceptance will be sent in June 2020. We would therefore kindly ask you not to publish the report before this time.**