

Field Report

Home Institution:

TU Wien, Institute of Transportation

Research Center of Road Engineering

Gusshausstraße 28/230-3, 1040 Wien, Austria

Advisor: Prof. Ronald Blab and Ass.-Prof. Bernhard Hofko

Host Institution:

Arizona State University, Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering

School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment

Pavement Analysis and Design Group

1151 S. Forest Ave. - Tempe, AZ 85287 USA

Advisor: Prof. Michael Mamlouk

Scholarship Duration: February 2018 – May 2018 (3 months)

General impression of your research stay abroad

As a civil engineer studying, working and conducting research in Austria, visiting the United States and Arizona was a personal enrichment. Many aspects in the field of civil engineering forces you to focus on national requirements. Furthermore, Road and Pavement Engineering is strongly orientated on national geographical and geological aspects, since the transport of resources is limited. In addition, roads are operated by public authorities, which requires a knowledge of the political system in the particular country to as a professional engineer. Since infrastructure and roads are omnipresent, each day living in the U.S. is a rewarding experience as a road engineer.

Since the climate in Arizona is different to Austria, roads and pavement structures are designed differently. Unexpectedly, the most common damages on pavement in Arizona are transverse cracks that are usually attributed to colder climates.

Quality of the host institution

ASU offers all possibilities for a short-term research stay abroad. Since the University is one of the biggest in the country, the campus consist of all relevant infrastructures. All lecture halls, office spaces and research facilities (e.g. laboratories) are located on the main campus in Tempe within walking distance. Several Professors and faculty members are available for exchange students to answer the respective questions.

The laboratory facilities are well equipped and provide everything that is required for high quality research studies.

All classes dealing with pavement design or material characterization teaches you the topics of the field of research in excellent quality. Furthermore, additional seminars are offered periodically with experts from other research facilities or companies.

Contacts within the host institution, inclusion in the organization

Prof. Dr Michael Mamlouk

Prof. Dr. Kamil Kaloush

Recommendations for future Marshall Plan students and fellows

Phoenix, Tempe, ASU Tempe Campus are perfect for short-term research stays. Otherwise than other US cities, public transportation is available for the Tempe Campus (Orbit bus, light rail). Phoenix Airport PHX is as well connected to the ASU Campus via light rail. It is recommended to obtain an official Arizona ID, since all restaurants will ask you for that. European Passports are not accepted.