

Field Report

My stay in Vermont was motivated by the fact that I would have the opportunity to work closely together with my thesis supervisor, Prof. William S. Keeton. I believe my stay in Vermont improved enormously the quality of my research, since I got many research inputs from both Prof. Keeton and his post-doc, Dr. Dominik Thom, and we could discuss frequently the follow up of the research, which it would have been very difficult to achieve in the distance. Moreover, I got the opportunity to get to know other interesting researchers, and I could experience the education system of the USA, very different from what I am used in Spain and Austria.

For my short experience there, I would rank the University of Vermont as a high-quality institution. All professors I met were very engaged in both, research and teaching, and the administrative staff very helpful. I would also emphasize that UVM is very well equipped, I got a working place in a shared office and I had full access to research resources. Besides, I had access to the library, recreation facilities and all other services that are available to students of the University.

My contact at UVM was Professor William S. Keeton a forest ecologist well-known for his research on old-growth forests, natural disturbances ecology and forest carbon management. He is the director of the Carbon Dynamics Lab, at the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources at UVM. During my stay, Professor Keeton invited me to be part of his lectures and extraordinary research activities, such as visiting his experiment sites.

I highly recommend UVM for a research stay abroad. Professors do high-quality research and are engaged with their students. With the Marshall Plan scholarship it is a very good opportunity to go there, otherwise very expensive. Besides bureaucracy for visa, which took long, everything else went fine. I can only give positive feedback from Vermont.