



Experience Report

Research stay 29 July – 18 October 2019

University of California, Berkley

René H. Reich

The work together with Prof. DI Dr Peter Hosemann was prosperous and constructive. Thanks to him, I considered totally new concepts of materials informatics, which are fairly unknown at the Montanuniversität Leoben, for the process of my research.

During my research stay at UC Berkeley, the Department of Nuclear Engineering took very good care of me. Everyone in the research group of my supervisor welcomed me warmly and I conducted my work in their shared office. Every Friday evening, the members of the Nuclear Engineering Department meet in an Italian restaurant to start the weekend together. So, some of my American colleagues became friends who I stay in touch with.

The University of California, Berkeley ensured that I would make the best out of my stay. I was able to attend the lectures of my host department. Further, I completed courses about academic writing in English, and job application and interviews. Especially, the academic writing course of Nicolas Gating, a New York Times columnist, enhanced my English skills remarkably. I am sure this will improve the quality of my master's thesis and future academic journal articles substantially.

Based on the considerations with my supervisor about my research, I was able to complete several online courses about machine learning and text and data mining. I will apply these concepts in my research topic "Summarization of material mechanisms in nuclear environment". Last week, I even presented the basics of machine learning to interested MU Leoben students within a lecture.

Of course, I discovered the United States a little bit during my stay. I was astonished by the beauty of the National Parks in California and by the iconic views along the coastline. Vitally, I am thankful for the invitation to the Austrian Research & Innovation Talk (ARIT 2019) in New York and for the travel grant. I really appreciated the reception of the Marshall Plan Foundation and I was glad to meet my Marshall Plan fellows.

I can recommend most warmly interested and future Marshall Plan fellows to do a research stay in the United States and I am deeply thankful to the Marshall Plan Foundation for making this possible by their grant and support.

René H. Reich, Leoben on 19th January 2020