

FIELD REPORT

General Impression

When I have arrived in Boston, I was really impressed by this amazing city which offers so many opportunities. The city has a lot of beautiful places to visit and there are also many great things to see close to Boston. The public transportation is not the best therefore it is sometimes very hard to reach destinations without a car.

Winters in Boston are very cold but the weather could change every second. Due to COVID-19 my stay was very short and I have no experience how the springs and the summers are.

I enjoyed my internship from the first they, as I was welcomed with open arms and everybody was trying to help me as much as they can. Also during my home office time we had lab meetings mostly three times a week and I was able to learn a lot.

Host Institution

My lab at the Harvard University is called Harvard Stem Cell Institute (HSCI), Core Facility. The university and also the laboratory is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Harvard University is devoted to excellence in teaching, learning, and research, and to developing leaders in many disciplines.

In July 2008, the HSCI iPS Core Facility was created to accelerate research in the stem cell field by facilitating the derivation and distribution of induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cell lines.

I was working in the Research Group of Laurence Daheron, PhD. The group is working with disease-specific iPS cell lines provide us with an opportunity to study the mechanisms of disease and ultimately to develop new treatments. The iPS Core operates on a fee-for-service basis to provide investigators with customized iPS derivation and genome editing based on the latest cutting-edge stem cell technologies.

My project was focused on optimization of the generation of gene reporter lines.

Contacts within the Institution

My supervisor Laurence was very nice and helpful and was explaining all the steps very detailed. She always ensured that I understood everything and helped me with any questions. Also the rest of the lab members were very nice and helped me whenever necessary.

Despite my short stay I was able to learn a lot during my Internship, so I could improve all the techniques that I have learned during my studies. Additionally I was able to design projects for the generation of gene reporter lines.

Personal Recommendation

I can recommend all fellow students to do their Internship at the HSCI because you have the possibility to learn a lot and improve the laboratory techniques.

Laurence and the international office at the Harvard University was very helpful with all the paperwork that is required for the Visa. Also after the outbreak of COVID-19 Laurence did her best that I was able to leave the country on time and finish my master thesis at home.

Despite shortening of my stay, it was the best time in my life and was able to see lot. I would recommend everyone to use the opportunity to do an internship abroad.

Contact email of the Host Institution:

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