

Personal Experience Report

Tenglan Chan



Home Country: Macau, China
Country of Placement: Switzerland
Company: Paul Scherrer Institute, Villigen AG
Duration of Placement: 5/9/2016 – 26/11/2016

How did your traineeship influence your personal development?

This is my first time came to Europe. Before I came to Switzerland, I had never lived away from China. This internship let me realize the culture of some western countries and it was really interesting for me. The first week I arrived to the guesthouse of PSI, I thought I was a man with few words, but a month later, I became more talkative and out-going. The trainees and exchange students in guesthouse let me changed a lot. Before I met them, I had never known the true meaning of "Work hard, play hard". The most impressive experience for me was hiking with them. I still remember the day hiking in Mountain of Pilatus with other IAESTE trainees. It totally took 10 hours to go up and go down. I thought this was too hard for me but they encouraged me to achieve the top of Pilatus. This is the most exciting and crazy thing I did until now. After this trip, I realized that nothing is impossible for a willing heart.



What was the most valuable thing you learned from a Swiss colleague at work?

During this internship, my supervisor helped me a lot. At work, I think the most valuable thing I learned from him was personal time management. My work was applied simulation studies to optimize the geometry of an electrochemical flow cell, so I was almost working in office and waiting for the computational results during my duty time. If I didn't schedule some self-study related to my project, I would just waste my time and do nothing here. Therefore, I made two daily plans for my duty days and one was for back-up. And based on my self-study, these three months let me know more about electron-chemistry and engineering. Also by participating the seminars in PSI, this internship broadened my interest of science and engineering.

What will you miss most when back home?

I miss my guesthouse buddies and the atmosphere of the guesthouse in PSI. They often held some trips and excursions at weekend. And we always had dinner together and played some games in the kitchen of guesthouse. I really enjoyed staying with them and it was the most memorable part of my internship.



What does IAESTE mean to you?

For me, IAESTE means opportunities. The opportunity of broadening your horizon, the opportunity of knowing more about yourself, the opportunity of making new friends from different countries.

