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SWITZERLAND

Personal Traineeship Report

Intern: Gicele Silva Duarte Sá, Brazil

Company: ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

Internship dates: 18.06.2018 - 17.06.2019

Experience of being abroad

How did your traineeship influence your personal development?

It was a unique opportunity to develop new skills such as programming in R, python and also I was allowed to attend some classes at ETH Zurich as auditor. Thus, I could understand more about my area and get a different perspective between my country and the necessities of Switzerland and Europe. Moreover, it was an incredible opportunity to work with different nationalities and see how each person likes to deal with problems and work.



ETH Zurich Grassland Sciences Group

Experience at work

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

Time management and work planning. They know really well what they should give preference, what should come in first place to achieve the goals in the best way as possible. I learned to believe more in my potential, my capacity to develop and build what I have in mind. If it does not work learn with it, improve and try again. Hence, Grassland Group, ETH Zurich and IAESTE gave me the opportunity to do and achieve things that I couldn't imagine.



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What projects have you been working on?

I had the opportunity to collaborate with ETH PHD student Yujie Liu for a poster called “Can We Sustainably Get Services from Cropping System Facing Drought?” and also for an abstract for a talk at the international conference EGU. The RELOAD project which I was working on was even on TV! More information can be found on the [ETH Grassland Sciences webpage](#).



Hiking in the Swiss Alps



BBQ in China garden, Zurich



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Cultural differences

What was the most special food you had during your stay?

Fondue and raclette is amazing traditional food from Switzerland, incredibly good. I am a big fan of cheese, so I had a great and tasty time there.

What will you miss most when back home?

All the friend I have made, the weeks and weekends traveling and discovering Switzerland. The most beautiful Alps and nature I have seen.

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What was your general experience with IAESTE in Switzerland like?

Every weekend has been an opportunity to meet new people from around the world who come from different countries and still have the same interests and goals as I have: The desire to live abroad, learn about new topics and OF COURSE discover Switzerland as much as possible. Thank you so much IAESTE Switzerland and Brazil for all the adventures and support.

What does IAESTE mean to you?

It's the best experience that someone can have, a huge network community which is growing every year. The trainees today could tomorrow give a chance to another person. Aside from helping foreigners in our country it is always a possibility to share interests and believes as well as to learn from others.

Here some more impressions from my internship abroad.





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