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Personal Traineeship Report

Intern: Shubhankar Joshi, India

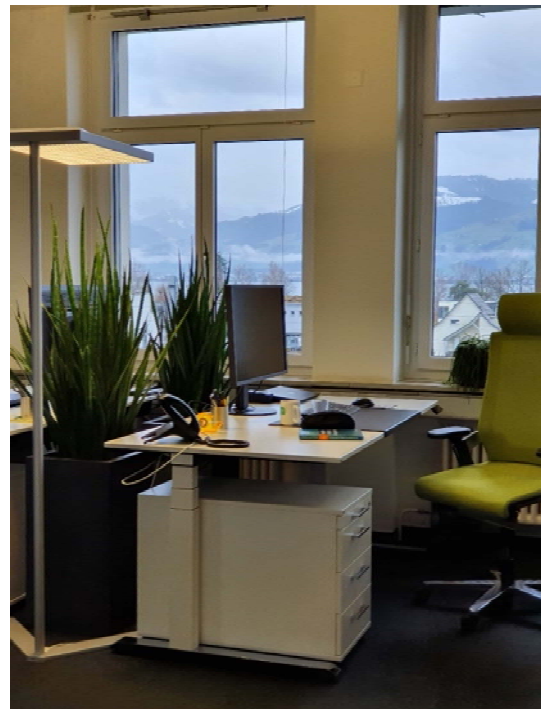
Company: intelliCard Solutions AG, Rapperswil SG, Switzerland

Internship dates: 01.12.2018 – 31.07.2019

1. Experience of being abroad

'To travel is to live.' The experience of living abroad, far away from your family and friends is quite unique, challenging yet rewarding. It not only forces you to get out of your comfort zone but also helps you discover yourself in a way you would never have imagined. You develop your social & networking skills and at the same time get to learn about other cultures & traditions.

This was my second internship with IAESTE and I am extremely grateful for my nine months here in Switzerland. Perhaps the most interesting thing you learn after living abroad is how all of us, the people from different parts of the world, are the same. We all have similar goals & dreams, express the same emotions & deal with similar problems. Sure, culturally there are a few differences & restrictions, but at the end of the day, we enjoy life the same way. I am really proud of how I've been able to meet people & make friends around the world. I will always cherish the memories I made with everyone here.



2. Experience at work

intelliCard Solutions is an IT security company based in Rapperswil, Switzerland. As a student who looks forward to pursuing higher education and making a career in this field, working here has been an invaluable experience. I consider myself really lucky to have been part of a wonderful team. My colleagues always made sure that I adjusted well and have always supported me.

One thing I absolutely love is the work-life balance here. Everyone is so focused & work absolutely passionately during the work hours, and yet during the team lunch breaks & weekends they all wind down, relax and enjoy life. There is a very positive environment in our office and this really helps you grow as a person.

Oh and did I mention we have the best view of the Alps from our office? What else can you ask for 😊



3. Cultural differences

Having travelled a lot earlier, this time I didn't really experience any cultural shocks. I managed to settle and adapt quite quickly to my new surroundings. However, one thing that was quite difficult to get used to were the Swiss prices. Everyone knows it is an expensive country alright, but it is only after you start living here that you realize how expensive it is. Coming from India, the first few months here really boggled my mind.



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But as time goes on, you start getting used to it. You realize that it all makes sense. Everything here is so efficient, so clean & so pure. Perhaps the best quality of life you can ever experience. And when you start exploring this country, you realize it is all worth it. By far Switzerland is the most beautiful country I've ever explored. Zurich has spoiled every other city for me. It is just perfect!

4. IAESTE

I have been part of the IAESTE family for almost five years now. In India, I was head of the Incoming Department at LC Manipal. So I know how big of an organization it is and more importantly how big of an impact it can have on your life.

I am grateful for all the help & support that IAESTE committees in Switzerland and India have given me. The team at National Office in Switzerland have been really helpful and given me advice whenever I've asked. I really enjoyed all the events & trips that were organized by the various committees in Switzerland for the interns. It is really one of the best ways to explore & fall in love with this beautiful country.

We have a saying which goes like 'Once IAESTE, IAESTE forever'. For me the journey hasn't ended yet. As I now begin my Master's studies in Zurich, I plan to become a member at LC Zurich & continue giving back to this wonderful organization.