

Final Report on your Study Exchange at the University of Lucerne

Please write the report (max. 2 pages) in German or English and in complete sentences (no keywords).

The report will be posted on the website of the University of Lucerne and <u>may also be viewable via internet search engines.</u> A subsequent amendment or deletion of data (e.g. name) will not be possible after the report has been submitted! Please send the report back in Word format only.

Mobility Program	□ SEMP (Erasmus inside Europe)	☑ PARTNERSHIP (outside Europe)
Home university	National Law Institute University, Bhopal	
Semester	(Fall term 16 or spring term 17 or both?) Spring 2017	
Field of study	Main subject? Law	Study level? □ Bachelor ⊠ Master
Name and E-Mail (optional)	Aishwarya Suresh Nair	

General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences	I came with a certain idea of what I should expect based on the experiences of seniors who had been on this exchange before me. I am returning fully satisfied and yet, with a vastly different experience, I will say that to me, this exchange offered the students a vast array of opportunities and options; your experience is based on what you want to make of it. This (almost) four month period is invariably going to be one of the best phases of your student life, so make sure to use your time in pursuing what you find personally satisfying.
Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa	The process was seamless albeit time consuming. The University was extremely helpful during the process and provided us with detailed instructions on the process. The International Relations Office was always open and helped us with any additional queries that we had regarding the same.
Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses	My accommodation was arranged through the University in Emmenbrücke and all formalities had been taken care of before arrival. This was quite helpful as an overseas student.
Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings	The transport system usually runs very punctually so there was no problem with movement. The daily transits to and from university were also quite easy as there are a number of trains that ply regularly from Emmenbrücke to Lucerne every hour. The university itself is centrally located in the city and is placed at walking distance from the Lucerne main train and bus station. Therefore, accessibility was not a problem.
Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records	I found that the University was very systematic with pre-arrival formalities. We were provided with ample course information and were given instructions regarding their requirements well in advance. The University was also quite flexible in accommodating specific requests with respect to the courses based on home university requirements.
Information on the university Location, size, infrastructure	For the comparatively small size of the University, I would say that the University is quite well equipped. The building contains a well-stocked library (although largely German) that spans an entire floor, a lunch and leisure area, a cafeteria and an exercise facility in the basement. Most classrooms are equipped with projectors and there is internet connectivity across the entire building.
German course at the University "German Short Course" visited?	I had enrolled for the 5-day short course. However, due to some unforeseen circumstances, I could not finish the course. From the two days I did attend, I got the im-

Content of course, use?	pression that the intensity and the duration of the course was not sufficient for learning German. I would suggest instead that interested international students be given the option of studying German over the entire semester. The University's Student Association is already providing this option.	
Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments	I had lectures for typically 8 hours a week. Most international students will have similar schedules.	
Assistance at the university Mobility Coordinator, International Relations Office, student advisors, mentors, contact with other students	Apart from the willing help of the administration and faculty, I also found that the students and mentors were very helpful and welcoming. I attended a number of events organised through both the students and the International Relations Office over the semester and thoroughly enjoyed myself. Keep an eye out for the various student events organised by the University: they are good opportunities to meet new people and explore Lucerne.	
Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer	Switzerland is undoubtedly expensive. There are a number of costs that you will have to incur: health, private liability insurance and the local registration costs at the town hall. Apart from these costs however, you can draw your own budget. Buying a half-fare and a monthly pass card are smart ways of saving on transport. The Gleis7 card and availing the SBB Supersaver offers are also good options if you plan to travel around a lot. Making your own meals is another way to save money; restaurants are generally quite expensive.	
Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture	Lake Lucerne provides the perfect backdrop for meeting friends and you will find numerous spots to rest and take in the view along the Lake. Be sure to check out the KKL and the Old Town for cultural activities. A smart way of keeping abreast with local events is to check the event calendar on the Canton's official website (www.luzern.com). As for sports, with the University ID card, you have access to sporting facilities across Lucerne apart from those classes that take place within the University. All details can be found on the University website.	
Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne as compared to your home university?	The quick and ready assistance provided to the student by the University was the most crucial advantage I noted. Apart from this, the quality of student life, the infrastructure and the general faculty were also better in the University of Lucerne. The only serious disadvantage I found was the pricing of some of the course material. I found that the costs were quite high for the amount of material provided and actually required by the course.	
Reasons Why did you choose to complete an exchange semester at the University of Lucerne?	I wanted to gain the experience of an educational system very different from my own and also the opportunity to live in and travel across Europe as a student.	
Duration Looking back, was the duration of your stay here:	□ too short □ too long ☑ just right	