

Mobility Experience Report

To begin the mobility experience, preparation involved a lot of back and forth communication with the immigration office of Copenhagen, for my host university location. Preparing as early as possible, at least 2 months before the Semester start is crucial for a smooth start. Application and registration for the courses at the University of Copenhagen (UCPH) was a smooth process, thanks to the help and communication of UCPH staff and fellow EnvEuro students.

Studying at UCPH was a great and rewarding experience. Not only is the campus beautiful and big, but it is also located central to the city center which made social life outside of academia very convenient! The staff at the university were very helpful and accommodating to my needs. The Student Services office were always there to answer any questions that I had regarding exam registrations, thesis registrations, and so forth. Classrooms were clean, along with the entire campus in general. There were parks around the university that students could sit and study at if they wished (this is something I did every once in a while when the sun visited Denmark).

As for my accommodation, I was fortunate to have had help from a Danish family in Frederiksberg. They were very welcoming to me and Frederiksberg, in particular, was beautiful and a very safe area to live in (though, Copenhagen in general is very safe). I developed a close relationship with the mother and her two kids and we became almost like a family. By living in the city, and having two main universities located in Copenhagen, my social life was always buzzing. Thanks to Danish "Hygge" culture, much time was spent grabbing a coffee somewhere in the city or perhaps having a picnic out in the park with friends and enjoying each other's company. I developed a handful of strong friendships in this regard, and I am forever grateful for this. In my free time, however, I did a lot of exercising near the lakes and around the city, I would of course, see my friends whenever the opportunities presented themselves. Sometimes, I would stay with the family and we would enjoy having dinners together – or perhaps do some baking with their youngest son. Copenhagen is also a great location for music festivals and student

parties. Studenterhuset, located in the city center, is a great location for students to get together and hang out, or just to find a place to study. This was a cozy spot that many UCPH and CBS students would go to. Shopping, of course, was also nearby the university so this was another leisure experience that I enjoyed in my free time. In addition, I took part in a Danish language course offered by one of the language centers. Thanks to Danish Law and welfare system, students with CPR numbers are able to learn the Danish language for free. I took advantage of this opportunity to further my Danish language knowledge.

Overall, it was a positive experience at my host university, UCPH. Copenhagen is a remarkable city. The biking culture is invigorating and when the sun comes out, you learn to be more grateful for it, after living in Scandinavia after a year. The only negative thing that I can say is that it was difficult, as a non-Dane, to find a job. Danish is a big requirement for the majority of jobs, and while everyone speaks nearly fluent English, the language barrier is a set-back if you, as a student, wish to have a student job during your studies. This is something to surely keep in mind!