



CISP Summer Program, WISO Faculty, University of Cologne, June 2013.

The program started on the 2nd of June with an official welcome dinner. It was held in a local, Cologne typical, brewery. It was a great start for a great program. During that dinner we learned about Cologne, the university, the program and we got to know our buddies.

The buddy system in Cologne is very good and helpful. The students who volunteer for it are very friendly and willing to help. They are great and really help when getting to know the city and the good places to go out to.

The city of Cologne itself is very pretty. Even though it has over one million residents, it has the feeling of a small town, with its beautiful cathedral in the center. Its location is also great, allowing quick weekend vacations to many attractive destinations across Europe.

Staying in Cologne for the weekend is a good option too. Because the University of Cologne is such so large, the city is very lively. You can go out every day and find a place to party or enjoy a quiet drink in one of the many parks. Nightlife during the weekend is particularly vibrant.

With all the possible activities it is easy to forget that the actual intention of the exchange to Cologne is to come and study. The Cologne University is one of the oldest and largest universities in Europe and has approximately 38,000 students. It is also one of the best universities in Germany.

The purpose of the CISP summer program is to teach foreign students about European management. Indeed this is reflected in the interesting courses and their professors. Intercultural Management, European Economy and Intelligent Branding were very great courses. The only disappointment was the business project we did with DHL and I hope that in future the program staff will choose a better project.

The CISP staff is very helpful and nice. They help students with visa issues, finding housing, understanding the benefits of having a student card, i.e. discounts, free use of public transportation and more, and they help with many other logistical issues that derive from staying in a foreign country. The CISP staff also organizes great events for the exchange students such as city sightseeing tours or participation in the university 10 KM run.

In summary my experience in Cologne as a student was a great one. In one, intensive and wonderful month I learned much academically, I experienced a culture I did not know, I got to know great people, from both the students and the staff, and I just had a great time.

On the 28th of June we all sat in a different brewery having a farewell dinner. One month had past so fast and we all were sorry that it was over. But, we were happy that we got to know each other and decided to meet 2016 in Buenos Aires.

Thank you very much for this opportunity.

Philipp Pfeffer