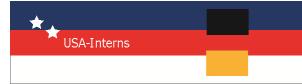




Steuben-Schurz-Gesellschaft – USA Interns



My Internship at the Karlsruhe Institute for Technology

Karl zur Loyer

Karl zur Loyer, from the Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, is a student majoring in mechanical engineering and robotics. He was happy to get an internship in 2016 at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, coordinated by *Juliane Adameit, Steuben-Schurz-Gesellschaft*. In his report Karl zur Loyer writes us how much he liked his work at the institute and life in Karlsruhe

This summer I worked at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology in microrobotics. The lab group I was assisting focused on photonics chips, which are only a few micrometers wide.

I worked to construct and program the instruments that would print and manipulate the chips for their research. Primarily, I worked in C++ and G-Code, and got some great experience in software development. The manipulation instruments ran on G-Code, but since it's a hassle to write G-Code by hand, I designed a user interface in C++ that would allow the researchers to easily build a print pattern to match their specifications, and the program would automatically generate the G-Code for them.

I also had the opportunity to work with the chips themselves, including research into materials and working to print certain patterns manually, with the help of the printing instruments. I found the work environment to be very relaxed and my coworkers to be very helpful.

During the internship I lived in Blankenloch, which is directly between Karlsruhe and KIT (about 6-km from both). One of my coworkers very generously gave me his old bike at the beginning of the summer, and I had a lovely bike ride through the Black Forest to and from work each day.

Though Blankenloch didn't have much besides a few stores and restaurants, Karlsruhe was only a short S-Bahn ride away. Karlsruhe was



a really nice city with lots of fun activities, cool restaurants, and good shopping.

In Karlsruhe I became friends with a group of au-pairs, and they showed me many cool things within the city and surrounding suburbs. Because of Germany's well-established transit system, I was able to easily make weekend visits to different areas of Germany.



My visits also included cities such as Berlin, Munich or, see picture, **Heidelberg**, foto taken from the castle.

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