EUCANADA Student Mobility Program: Personal Experience Report

By: Soheil Keshmiri

In the Fall of 2010, my supervisor, Prof. Shahram Payandeh, provided me with an amazing opportunity of participating in the EU-Canada Academic Mobility Program. As graduate student who was pursuing his PhD study, I was appointed with a position of Visiting Research Associate in Intelligent Control Department at Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Budapest, Hungary.



Budapest University of Technology and Economics

I left for Budapest from Toronto on September 3rd, 2010 since I had a paper to present at the conference which was held in York University, Toronto, Canada.

Upon my arrival, I started searching for a flat to rent. I was lucky enough to meet with an undergraduate student on campus who gave me a realtor business card. I rented my flat in Museum Utca which was only in two tram stops from university campus and was in a walking distance to the Budapest Jazz Club.



A jam session in Budapest Jazz Club

Next few days was all about finding my way through the city and orienting myself to in the city that was going to be my home for next three months to come. Budapest is a very cosmopolitan city, full of beautiful vistas and panoramas to explore. The River Duna (Danube) flows peacefully between the two sides of the city, Buda and Pest



Budapest City: (a) St. Stephen's Basilica (b) parliament house (c) Royal Palace at Night (d) Matthias church (e) Chain Bridge (f) Hero Square

After about a week I met with Prof. Istvan Harmáti who was my supervisor during my stay in Budapest. Thank to him, I had a chance of lecturing experience for the course



entitled Optimal Cooperating Agents (VIIIM212).



Teaching VIIIM212

Intelligent Control Laboratory

Conference Attendance

Prior to my trip, Prof. Shahram Payandeh and I decided to submit two papers to "*IFAC Workshop on Intelligent Control Systems (WICS 2010), Sinaia, Romania*" which were thankfully accepted and provided me with the opportunity of visiting Sinaia, Romania.



(a) (b) (a) Presenting one of the accepted paper in IFAC-WICS 2010 (b) Peleş Castle, Sinaia

Travelling

My visit to Hungary wasn't all about working on my project and attending conferences, but an amazing opportunity of travelling inside country as we as abroad. During the period of 3 months that I lived in Hungary, I had a chance of visiting many cities inside country such as Esztergom, Eger, Miskolc, Dobogókő, Szentendre, Szentgotthárd, to name a few.



Szentgotthárd, Esztergom, Dobogókő, Hévíz, Miskolc

I had also few chance of visiting other cities abroad such as Vienna, Prague, and Amsterdam.



Vienna, Prague, Amsterdam

The Canada-EU Student Mobility Initiative allowed me to accomplish my dream of traveling through Europe. It has also afforded me a wider view of the world and allowed me to see and appreciate my own country in a new light. Overall, I would like to say it has been such an amazing, unique experience and I feel privilged to with the opportunity.