

Eutin Internship Report
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First off, I just finished reading Brandy's report, and I agree wholeheartedly with everything she said! I will therefore try to bypass repetition and write only the things that she didn't mention or that pertain to my personal internship.

Transportation

The bikes we were supplied were a FABULOUS help, but we needed locks as well. Mark worked awfully far away to be biking—setting up a carpooling option for interns whose jobs are far away is an idea to consider for the future.

Housing

I don't think I heard a single negative word about any of the host families the entire time we were in Eutin. My host mom said that she was happy to have college aged guests as opposed to the high school students she hosted in the past because she as a Gastmutter had more freedom. We came and went as we pleased and the talks I had with her enriched my experience this summer more than I expected. I would suggest splitting the time in half, three weeks with the host families and three weeks in the Seeschloss. The time spent living with the other interns was also worthwhile and I wouldn't cut it out of the plans in future years. We got a kickstart with our German with the families and kept it going after moving in together. The accommodations at the hotel were WHACK but kinda added to the experience; the internet we had was less than functional, 'allowing' five people on at once, but in reality working at a snail's pace with only one connected. Absolutely unacceptable for a multitude of reasons that I'm not going to spend the time going into because we made it pretty clear that while we understood this summer, that that needs to be changed for future interns. The hotel was all in all both in a good location and functional.

Work

All in all, the time spent in Eutin this summer and the hospitality with which we were met were absolutely mind-blowing. The massive amounts of coordination and set up required to get us there and in a functional environment, the banquets, the sponsoring companies (and coworkers), our host families—all of these things showed us that we were enthusiastically welcome there—but that ended up being the problem for me. They wanted me there, but just for the experience of having an American in the school/classes for the students to interact with (but not in any sort of linguistically advantageous/constructive way until I began to get politely pushy about being utilized). I went there expecting to get hands-on experience teaching, and in

the end the most teaching I did was to Mark Daly's students when he travelled to Holland one weekend (which, by the way, was AMAZINGLY fun—I love teaching German!). Professor Baron warned me that I would have to take initiative in getting involved, which I did as much as possible, but was ultimately more in the way than helpful. Here are the suggestions I would make for following years:

- **Have two interns, one for the KBS and one for the Voss Schule. If only one can be financed, split his or her time between the schools**—the first three weeks at one school and the next three at the other. I was bouncing between the schools daily and it was not conducive to feeling at home or meeting all the teachers. Hanging out in the Lehrerzimmer was NOT fun, especially when I was there what seemed like only randomly (taking into account all of the national and school holidays and our excursions) and so didn't have time or continuity to meet/bond with everyone.
- **Set a daily school schedule for the intern before he/she arrives.** This way, his/her schedule is consistent, they will know what to expect, there will be no confusion, etc. I found teachers I could shadow every day/hour at the Voss Schule that day and it was horrible, trying to read that schedule, never knowing who would take me that day/Stunde.
- OR better yet--if the intern **served as a student teacher for one teacher** (or two since they wouldn't be busy 24/7 with only one), he/she would get to know the students and the material and be able to be involved with the instruction. I was in various Klassen and Faecher so it was impractical for me to instruct the class—they mostly wanted me to introduce myself in English, do a little Q&A session and then observe the class.

Excursions

Faaaabulous! Just enough freedom during the excursions, just enough freedom in regards to participating in the excursions, just enough funding for them, just enough number of them, etc. Nooo complaints here. Loved Copenhagen trip, would definitely praise Jan-Malte and Torben on their part in planning it and recommend it be a part of the program next year.

General

I would have liked a lot more upfront information and communication during the whole process of applying, accepting, training (the course at KU), and leading up to leaving. The one thing all of the interns had in common going into this was that we had no idea what was going on (no clear expectations were established), what we would find in Eutin when we got there, what our daily routine would look like, what kind of 'work' we'd be doing, the fact that it was more like a summer study abroad program than job experience, etc.—we all left extremely appreciative for the

experience and even the opportunity to have been involved with all of the wonderful people in Eutin, but communication between the two sides of this program (KU and Eutin) can be strengthened. I wish that I had written this while still in Eutin; the information/specific details would have been better. You should consider moving the deadline for the report the last day in Eutin. We had enough free time that we could have completed it by then. Also, if you have any specific questions, please please email me with them and I will gladly answer them.