

10th Student Research Symposium: Research Topics and Intercultural Learning in International Context

Day 1. Arrival (July 5, 2022) Tuesday

At 4:30 a.m. we left Varaždin on our journey. We headed to the Zagreb airport, from where we flew to Frankfurt. After the first short flight, we had an 8-and-a-half-hour journey across the Pacific at Newark International Airport. Although the flight was long, we got food, blankets, and over 100 movies to watch and enjoy. After the second year, we still flew to the Kentucky airport.

We were lucky that not a single flight was canceled and we arrived at the Clifton house, a traditional American house where we were staying, as planned.



Day 3. Visit Clermont College (July 7, 2022) Thursday

After a delicious breakfast prepared for us by our hostess Nancy at Clifton House, we took an Uber to Clermont University. We were warmly welcomed by the dean Jeffrey C. Bauer, Ph.D.; Full Prof. Victoria S. Appatova, Ph.D.; Asst Director Matthew Sauer, Ph.D.; Exec Dir Accessibility Heidi Pettyjohn; Assoc. Prof. Sharon Burns, PhD., and student Leslie, student representative. After the welcome speeches, we presented our research, which stimulated interesting discussions full of ideas and possible collaborations. They liked our research and showed interest in it as well as in the applicable results. After lunch, student representative Leslie took us on a campus tour. What we particularly liked was the sensory room and meditation space for students that was launched by the Office of Accessibility. After returning from campus, rest followed, and in the evening, going out into the city and walking along the Ohio River and the sounds and dancing of salsa.



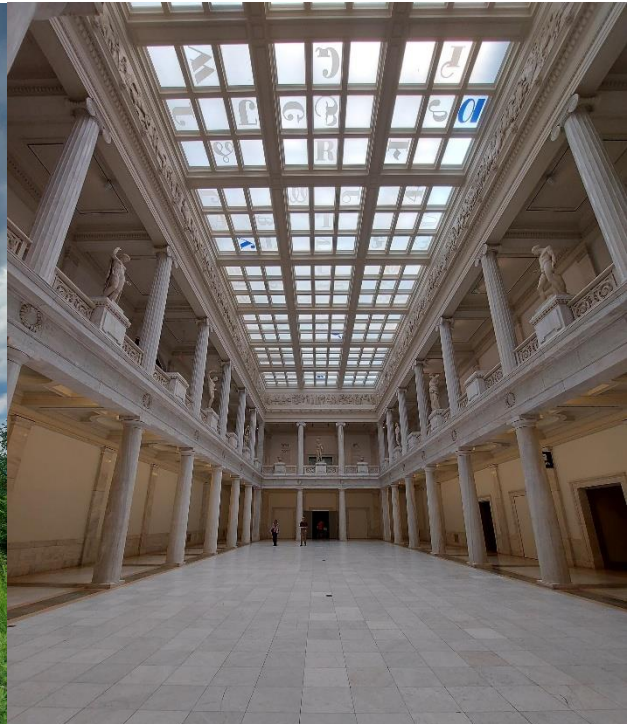
Day 5. Pittsburgh (July 9, 2022) Saturday

Early in the morning, we left Clifton House for the Kentucky airport from which we flew to Washington D.C. We had the opportunity to see the sights of the capital city of the United States Capitol and the Washington Monument from the air.

The next flight took us to our final destination, Pittsburgh.

There we were warmly welcomed by a professor from Carlow University, prof. Enrique Mu, Ph.D. To begin with, the professor took us to a hill above the city to show us Pittsburgh from afar. We had lunch together and talked about our studies and cooperation. After lunch, the professor took us to the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, a natural history museum in Pittsburgh.

In the museum, we had the opportunity to see minerals and crystals, dinosaurs, mammoths, and other extinct animals, the life of Eskimos and Indians, and many other interesting things. After visiting the museum, there was a panoramic tour of the city by car. Scenes from movies that are shown as scenes from New York are often filmed in Pittsburgh, because many of the buildings look like those in New York, and the filming costs are lower. We checked into the Hampton Inn hotel.



Day 7. Presentation of research at Carlow University (11/07/2022) Monday

In the morning, our friendly hosts Prof. Enrique Mu, Ph.D., and Prof. Jessica Huber, Ph.D. took a tour of The Cathedral of Learning. A Gothic skyscraper decorated in Harry Potter style where students can study and listen to lectures. Then we visited the house with a rich collection of scientific works of the originator of multi-criteria decision-making using the AHP method, prof. dr. by Thomas L. Saaty. His wife prof. dr. Rozann Whitaker Saaty kindly hosted us and recounted interesting details from his life. The afternoon was reserved for free time and preparations for our presentations. The evening event began with a welcome by the rector, prof. dr. Sibdas Ghosh and dinner. The guests liked our presentations, and the students of Carlow University also had interesting research topics. The event was also attended by a member of the Croatian Fraternal Union Ivan Begg, editor-in-chief of the newspaper "Zajedničar".



Day 9 Second part of the Symposium (July 13, 2022). Wednesday

We had until noon to rest from the trip back to Cincinnati. We held a short meeting with a pleasant conversation and coffee with prof. Withney Westricht Ph.D. and Director Lee Armstrong from the Office of International Cooperation, who were interested in what kind of virtual collaborations and projects we carry out at FOI. Then the second part of the Symposium took place, in which American colleagues from the McNair scholarship program presented their interesting research. The afternoon was reserved for lunch and rest until the farewell dinner. The hosts surprised us with gifts and nice memories of this trip and stay in America, and we also gave a small gift to everyone who participated in the Symposium.



Day 11 Return to Croatia (May 15, 2022) Friday

We arrived in Frankfurt early in the morning across the Pacific. We transferred to the Croatia Airlines plane and headed for Croatia. At noon, we arrived in Zagreb, where this exciting journey of ours, full of beautiful and unforgettable memories, ended.



Acknowledgments

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UC Clermont College: Dean Jeffrey C. Bauer, Ph.D.; Full Prof. Victoria S. Appatova, Ph.D.; Asst Director Matthew Sauer, Ph.D.; Exec Dir Accessibility Heidi Pettyjohn; Assoc. Prof. Sharon Burns, Ph.D.

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-Croatian Fraternal Union: Ivan Begg, co-editor of news "Zajedničar".

-And to all student participants of the symposium, thank you all!