

Erasmus+ staff week Limerick 2017

From 3rd to 7th July 2017 I had the pleasure to take part in a staff week at the Glucksman Library in Limerick. The colleagues gave me a very warm welcome and guided me and my colleague from Spain through an exciting week filled with information and cultural experiences.



University Library Limerick

During the week they showed us all the different departments in the library including Information Services, Technical and Digital Services, Information Services, Reader Services and their Special Collections.

The International Department showed us the spacious grounds of this young University and provided us with an insight into their department.

Our colleagues in Luimnigh (Irish for Limerick) were eager to show us their areas of work and patiently answered all our questions. Since all conversations were in English they had to show some deference for our language skills and kindly did so. Nevertheless, this was a fortunate opportunity for us to acquire specific terminology and to extend our language skills. I was delighted to meet everybody and collect as much information as possible. Every library has similar requirements but some issues were handled quite differently there. For example, the library in Limerick offers self-service lending and return desks to their readers and is ordering books shelf-ready. Since some of the software systems Limerick uses are currently tested or planned for my Library in Erlangen I had the unique opportunity to look at their software and user interfaces.

Additionally, we had the pleasurable occasion to visit the library of Mary Immaculate College, the National Library in Dublin and the Library of Trinity College in Dublin. Those three libraries deal with very special needs and challenges which were displayed to us. All the colleagues



Teaching material
Mary Immaculate College

enjoyed the opportunity to share experiences and workflows with each other and to have a glimpse at similarities and differences in library management.



Long Room
Trinity College Dublin

I chose one of the dormitory rooms offered to visitors after term time as accommodation and had the time to enjoy the wide campus. Furthermore, this was a perfect opportunity to learn a lot about the different organisation of studying in Ireland and Germany. Because the campus is not located in the City Centre there are several benefits for the students – for example all buildings are accessible within a 15 minutes’ walk. Aside from that I was able (thanks to the colleagues) to visit the historical village Adare and the capital Dublin. The temperate Irish summer made travelling very enjoyable and provided a beautiful flora.

During the trip I met plenty of helpful, lovely and dedicated people who made work a pleasure and free time even more enjoyable. My wish to use specific terminology in a foreign language and to share and gather knowledge was fulfilled. It was a real pleasure to stay in Ireland and I'd be happy to share my experiences with anybody who is interested.



Living Bridge
University Campus Limerick



Reading Room
National Library of Ireland