# EXCHANGE PARTICIPANT QUESTIONNAIRE

## STUDENT INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty:</th>
<th>Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major/Minor:</td>
<td>MBB &amp; Chem Joint Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host university:</td>
<td>Ludwig-Maximilians Universitat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host Country:</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates of your exchange: (month/year)</td>
<td>10/2016 to 02/2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## TRAVEL

- Approximately how much did air transportation cost? $1200 CAD
- Approximately how much did any required ground transportation cost? ~80 Euros from airport to residence
- Do you have a recommended routing or airline?  
  - [ ] No
  - [ ] Yes

If yes, please describe:

## VISAS

- What is your citizenship? (voluntary; may impact following information) Canadian
- Did you need a student visa/permit?  
  - [ ] No
  - [ ] Yes: What was the cost? 
- If yes, what documentation was needed?

- Did you need a visitor visa/permit?  
  - [ ] No
  - [ ] Yes: What was the cost? 
- If yes, what documentation was needed?

Where was your immigration documentation processed? Munich

- How long did it take to procure your visa/permit? 3 hours (address registration)
- Were any other documents required (residence permit, etc)?  
  - [ ] No
  - [ ] Yes

If yes, please comment: Residence permit and address registration after arrival in Germany

## AIRPORT RECEPTION

- Were you met at the airport by representatives of the host university?  
  - [ ] No
  - [ ] Yes

- Is there easy transportation between the airport and university?  
  - [ ] No
  - [ ] Yes

Please comment: Train system in Munich is very well developed, it can get you very far in a relatively short amount of time.

- What is the closest airport to the host university? Munich Airport

## ORIENTATION

- Is there an organized orientation session upon arrival at the host university?  
  - [ ] No
  - [ ] Yes

- Was there a cost for the orientation session?  
  - [ ] No
  - [ ] Yes, how much? 

If yes, do you recommend that future students participate?  
- [ ] No
- [ ] Yes

Please comment: Organized but not mandatory, most of the information given can be found online and I know many friends who skipped the orientation for travelling.
**LANGUAGE PROGRAMS**

Is there a language program available either before or during the term?  
☐ No  ☐ Yes

If yes, how long is it?  
Before term is 1 month of class. During term, class is October to February

Is there an additional cost for language training?  
☐ No  ☐ Yes: How much? 

Please comment:  
140 Euros for German language course with IUCM for October to February
Roughly 250-300 Euros (unsure) for 1 month intensive course prior to term.
1 month class before term (especially the intensive option) is a GREAT way to meet new friends.

**ACCOMMODATION & LIVING**

Is on-campus or university dormitory accommodation available?  
☐ No  ☐ Yes

If yes, are you living in a university dormitory?  
☐ No  ☐ Yes

If yes, can you make a recommendation for a specific dormitory?  
☐ No  ☐ Yes

If yes, please describe:  
Stiftsbogen was very nice and modern, one of the newer student residences.

What is the average monthly cost of accommodation?  
320 Euros

Is there a meal plan?  
☐ No  ☐ Yes: How much is it?

If no, do you have access to adequate cooking facilities?  
☐ No  ☐ Yes

How far is your dormitory from the main campus?

Please comment on internet and phone access in your dormitory:

Internet access is great however it is only the outlet so you would need to buy an ethernet cable and WIFI router if you want wireless. There is no phone access in the dorm.

Did you have to make a deposit for your accommodation prior to arrival?  
☐ No  ☐ Yes

If yes, how did you arrange this?

Is off-campus housing easily available?  
☐ No  ☐ Yes

Please comment on off-campus housing:

All student residences in Munich are technically off campus but owned by a corporation called Studentenwerk, who specifically organize the student housing. In terms of "off-campus" (private) housing, it can be very difficult. The prices usually start around 600 Euros (roughly $1000 CAD) monthly and the availability is quite low. If you look for private housing, you need to search in late August or early September. In mid to late September, it gets much more difficult because other students have taken the availabilities.

Approximately how much money per month is needed for living, including accommodation and meals?  
600 Euro

Any other comments on accommodation:

Most student accommodations were very close to small shopping centres with supermarkets.
**FINANCIAL DETAILS**

Have you opened a bank account in your host country?  □ No  □ Yes

What are the challenges/benefits to opening a local bank account?

To pay for student accommodation, you need a German bank account (not sure if any EU country will suffice). Because Germany is largely a cash-based society, you will most likely have to withdraw cash often.

How would you recommend students bring money (Canadian/American cash, travelers’ cheques, local currency?)

Exchange Canadian money for Euros while in Canada because it's easier to find a currency exchange (in places other than the airport). Could also do bank transfers from home to your new German bank.

What is/are the preferred method(s) of payment at most establishments? □ Cash  □ Debit  □ Credit card

Please comment: Only large/extremely popular restaurants or chain retail stores will have card reader machines. Large supermarkets will have them as well. Cash is definitely more popular.

**ACADEMIC DETAILS**

Was it possible for you to get all of the courses that you wanted?  □ No  □ Yes

Please describe the course registration procedure:

Course registration website is called LSF. For lectures, you do not enroll at all and enrolling in the exam is considered enrollment in the course. For seminars and research courses, you will need to apply online and may have to attend preliminary meetings to decide who remains in the course.

What discipline(s)/program(s) are you taking at your host university? Biology

What is the language of instruction in your courses? English

If not English, are English-taught courses available? Yes - 7 semester or Master courses are in English

Describe the manner and quality of instruction at your host university.

Lectures were easy, similar to SFU in how lectures are not mandatory. Instructors are typically approachable and have given office hours.

Grades for the lecture are 100% dependent on the final exam.

What do you feel is/will be the main academic benefit of your participation in this exchange program?

At SFU before exchange, I noticed that I typically did very well on my first midterm then do increasingly bad on my 2nd midterm and final (but not drastically bad). I thought having only 1 exam would be beneficial for me however I was definitely wrong. I didn't manage to bring home as many courses as I had hoped and it was definitely an academic shock. I will be more grateful to the even distributions when I return to SFU.

Submission Instructions:

1. Please complete and return this form by E-mail to studyabroad@sfu.ca as a PDF.
2. Subject line of email: Questionnaire - [Host Country, Host University]
3. Please include your full name and student number in the body of your E-mail.