

Green Waves International Summer Academy

15/06/2015-19/06/2015

During this short period of time, I and one of my colleagues got the possibility to participate in this so called Green Waves Summer Academy. Even though it was only five days, we could take a study trip to Vienna, Győr and Budapest. If you are really interested what is happening during such excellently organised programmes, please read this short report, which can help you understand why these international intensive academies are so immersive and necessary for students.

Before I start, I must confess the fact that this was not my first trip with this academy but due to the atmosphere, its soul whirled me back to this limited company. That is why I applied again.

This time, the Academy changed a bit and turned to more serious. As it turned out, the programme was primarily organised for researchers or those students who have already carried out any kind of research/project works that is strictly connected to the Academy's topic. This year the topic was 'Smart Cities'. This way, if you had any kind of topic-related work, you could easily apply for this one-week venture. Naturally, you had to present your results about the topic you chose. So by the end of the programme you had friends in the same field of study from a pile of different countries in the Danube region. But let's begin with the first day.

We arrived to Vienna on Sunday, this was the day of the official kick-off meeting. We had a reservation at hotel Tulip Inn Thüringerhof. **Here I must notice that the travel costs, the accommodations and basically the courses were free of charge.** We did not have to pay for the participation just enjoy and use it as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. On Sunday in the evening, we went together with the group to have a dinner at Brandauers Bierbögen. This was the first get-together event where you could talk to Bulgarian, Serbian, Austrian, German and other nationalities.

On the first official day, Monday, we were warmly welcomed at the University of Applied Sciences Vienna. Representatives of industry (Siemens), Austrian government, representatives of Vienna and the university were carrying out a discussion about Smart City projects. Topics mentioned: Framework strategy of Smart City Vienna and EU-ASCIN Projects. We, students, were the audience. After the lunch we were invited, we took a tour to Aspern. This is a 'district' in the verge of Vienna that is completely designed by a smart city project, 'artificial' environment for living. In practice, a new town was created in Vienna, that is more energy efficient.

Next day, on Tuesday in the morning, the first part of the students presented their own projects. Topics were really mixed from mobile applications to solutions of rural electrification in Africa. After lunch, teachers showed us the laboratories of the university as well as the operation of its sole, energy efficient building. Finally, we closed this day with a tour in the city centre of Vienna.

On Wednesday, the trip continued in Győr. At the university, after the introduction speech, we had a lecture about Audi and basically about the electric vehicles. In the afternoon, a trip was guided to show us an exhibition of different sciences, mostly related to vehicles. Finally, the schedule was the same like in Vienna: trip around the city centre.

The remaining two days were in Budapest. The first one was organised at BME and the second one at OE. As for the programme of Thursday, we listened to the following topics: Liget project, Miskolc Smart City plans, Evopro (modulo bus), Budapest Metro 4 (energy management and autonomous operation). After the exciting morning, further students' presentations and a trip to KFKI (GE intelligent lighting pilot testsite) was organised.

Finally, the last day was organised at our university:



Here we had a lecture with Dr. Péter Kádár about Smart features of energy services and some other student presentations especially from PhD. students. In the afternoon, there was a guide tour to Flórián Square, where an energy efficient building (solar thermal collectors, heat insulation, PV-s) project was introduced us by the project technical leader. In the evening, we were invited to have a dinner in Trófea to say goodbye from our new international friends.

In the end, I just want to emphasise again that these events can prepare you for real life cases. we live in a global, multinational world and as a graduated person you must learn how to behave amongst other nationalities. We can say this is a trial to taste the international environment. If you want to practice your English or German here you can do it. Furthermore, you can gain insight of new technical investments, advancements as well as you can get friends from other countries.

if you are not brave enough, you can get it here, if you are brave enough, you can level up here. Do not hesitate to apply, you will not regret it.

written by Patrik Mátyás