

## **DAMOC STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME: TU-DRESDEN**

**27.09.2018 - 31.01.2019**

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### **Tanzania to Dresden**

I arrived in Dresden on 27.09.2018 via Berlin. Despite several connections, my trip from Dar es Salaam to Dresden was so fantastic.

### **City Registration**

After being registered as a student and getting student Identity Card (ID), I was also required to be registered to the public office (Bürgerbüro) of Dresden. The city registration certificate was mandatory document for opening of bank account, library membership registration and other legal representations. Before leaving the City of Dresden, I reported to Bürgerbüro for de-registration and I was given a certificate, that I used also for termination of services like bank account closure and other legal contracts.

Despite the fact that compliance to these requirements was time consuming, but I think intended to have a system that regulate and control every details of single area of life for the security benefits of the community.

### **Transport**

Dresden was reached almost every corner with public transport. The means of transport was either tram/ trains or commuter buses. The transport service in Dresden was very good as per my view. The tram/trains operated in real time basis, and all routes information was available online. The TU Dresden campus was conveniently reached by public transport. Moreover, the shared bicycle service (community bicycle) was one of the brilliant idea that gave people quick alternative to meet appointments in some occasions.

### **Studies**

I attended some modules in the faculty of Computer Science. The modules were Security & Cryptography-I and Distributed System. The courses delivery comprised of lectures and exercises. The exercises or class assignments were not contributing to the final examination marks. To my view, it's not easy for student to have regular self-assessment with the opted mode of delivery. In other way, the lecturers were so motivated to teach and gave the most of what they knew to the students. I liked the character of most of the lecturers to communicate well with the audience and gave the chance to the students to share freely what they knew about the topic.

### **Tour to Energy Companies in Dresden**

The tour to energy based companies around Dresden was so good. Together with DAMOC team, we visited DREWAG, one of the distributors of electricity, natural gas and heat in Dresden

and KIWI Grid Company, the manufacturer of SMART meters and Energy Management Software solutions.

DREWAG company uses various power generation sources like fossil fuel, natural gas, photovoltaic arrays and storage system to serve its customers with reliable service. Furthermore, the installed large capacity Battery Storage System was used to trade auxiliary services for Grid stabilization. The company also supplies natural gas and warmth (heating & cooling) services to customers around Dresden. The complex mixture of power generation resources and all outputs were monitored and controlled using Energy Management System.

I also learned how KIWI Grid intended to be a pioneer in the development of innovative Smart Meters and Energy Management Software solutions. The tour increased my knowledge about importance of data privacy and security in implementation of Smart Grid Technology and a need for further study on the area.

### **Library Services**

The *Sächsische Landesbibliothek – Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek* (SLUB) is the Saxony state and university library at Dresden. The library contained large number of books and online access to myriad of reference papers, journals and so forth. The SLUB organization was of unique features, referred as the one of the largest and best public academic libraries in Germany with about 9 million collections, as per wikipedia. I liked mostly the service offered by the SLUB.

### **Culture and Life**

I managed to meet and make friends from different countries including Russia, Kazakhstan, Romania, Poland, Netherland, Italy, South Korea, Taiwan, China, India and so forth. Among the benefits of inter-cultural gathering is language improvement which I experienced through different events I attended. However, most of Germany students were living in other hostels which make it a bit difficult to exchange life experiences and culture. Generally, my life in the hostel was neither stressful nor bored.

In the period of my stay, I also managed to visit Berlin, Dortmund, Siegen, Gütersloh, Leipzig, Chemnitz and Prague (Czech Republic) in order to explore more about Germany and some neighboring European Countries. It was a good exposure for me that extended my knowledge.

### **Weather**

The winter season in Dresden was a new life familiarity to me. The temperature started to be unstable after October and even more challenging on January to February. It was my first experience to such a weather condition, that was averagely varying from zero down to minus 10 degree Celsius. Referring to free online weather forecasts, the period from June to September seems to be the best time to visit Dresden.

## Ending

I appreciate DAMOC team for giving me an opportunity to attend the exchange programme at TU-Dresden. I've acquired exposure and learned from different people and culture which has surely increased not only my knowledge but also academic network. Thanks for offered opportunity to learn and explore more about data privacy and security in Implementation of Smart Grid in Tanzania and South Africa. Great appreciation to DAMOC team at TU-Dresden for making my stay beneficial and so enjoyable.

## Events Pictures (some)



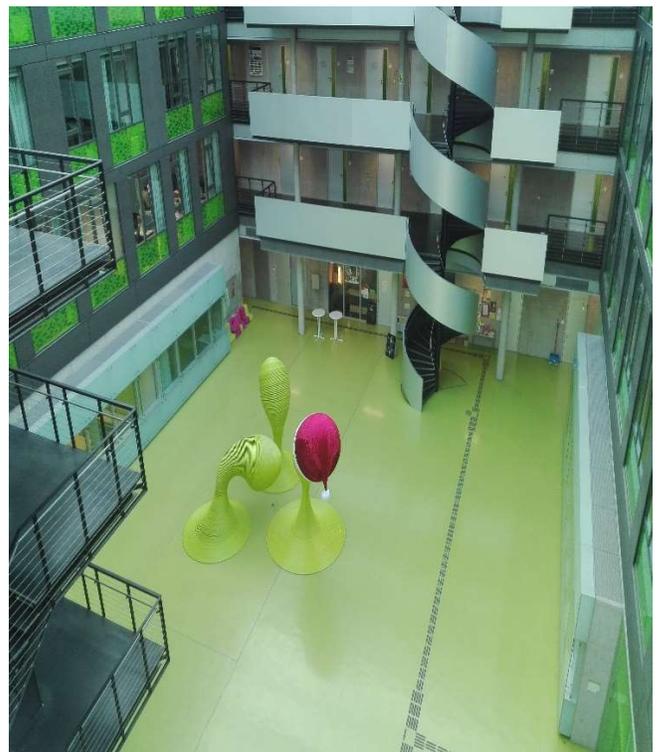
The part of Elbe River - **Dresden**



The part of City - **Dresden**



Statue of Albrecht von Roon - **Berlin**



Faculty of Computer Science – **TU- Dresden**

