



The Stay Abroad

From a student's perspective

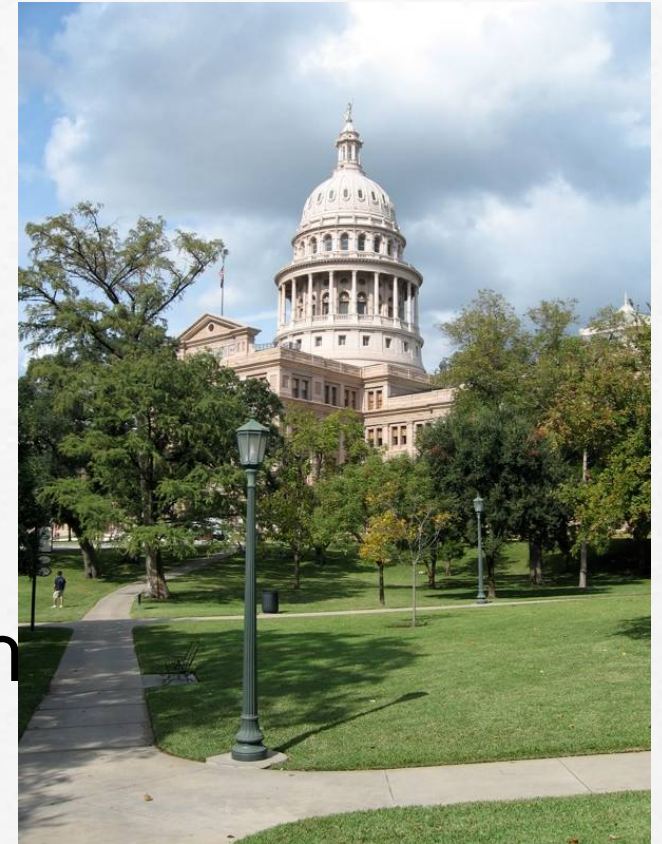
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This presentation

- ❑ How does it work?
- ❑ Where to go?
- ❑ What practical things should you be aware of?
- ❑ How to get the most of it on work and personally?

Why?

- ❑ We are all required to do it
- ❑ Experience another research environment
- ❑ Inspiration, meet new people and new ideas



When to start planing?

- ❑ Usually after 1,5 - 2 years of study
- ❑ High degree of flexibility
- ❑ Usually the planing starts 6 - 12 months before your visit starts
- ❑ Either you go to your advisor or your advisor comes to you

Where to go?

- ❑ You should visit another research institution
- ❑ Your visit should be relevant to your research area - somehow
- ❑ Visit a research group at another university
- ❑ Or a commercial research lab



Where to go? (cont')



- ❑ Maybe you have ideas about where to go?
- ❑ - Learn about people through their research papers
- ❑ - People you meet at a conference?
- ❑ Your advisor definitely has suggestions - listen and make your decision

How to get the contact?

- ❑ Your advisor typically either knows the people you want to visit or - know somebody who does
- ❑ Either he writes them or you do
- ❑ Make the personal contact as fast as possible



How long time?

- ❑ At least 3 months and up to 6 months
- ❑ Less than 4 months is useless
- ❑ More than 6 months?

A spiral-bound notebook with a white page and a dark blue cover. The spiral binding is at the top. The text is centered on the page.

Now I'm ready, right?

NO!

Before you go...

- ❑ You should inform the PhD manager, where, when, how long, address, etc.
- ❑ Do you need a visa, then you should apply as SOON as at all possible
- ❑ Insurance. You should check your insurances, you have the insurance from the university, but it does not cover everything

US visa and American Embassy

- ❑ J1, Exchange visitor programs
- ❑ DS-2019, DS-156, ...
- ❑ Look at http://denmark.usembassy.gov/non-immigrant_visas.html for latest requirements
- ❑ Original bank receipt for payment
- ❑ No electronics, except mobile phone

Housing

- ❑ Two options
 - ❑ Your host finds you a place to live
 - ❑ You do it your self
- ❑ Option 1 is preferable
- ❑ I did option 2

Housing (cont')

- ❑ My host suggested a resort apartment close to work for \$900
- ❑ I used apartmentratings.com and others to locate apartments close to work
- ❑ I booked 3 nights in a hotel, and then found a place when I got there

Housing (con't)

- Result an apartment 3 miles from work for approx. \$630



The travel

- ❑ Make an application for travel support
- ❑ Order the tickets using Via-travel, as you normally would
- ❑ All found on: daimi.au.dk/local/travel
- ❑ Go

Work

- ❑ Before you leave you should know what you are going to work on
- ❑ Make sure you have contact to the actual people you will be working with (email is good)

Work (con't)

- ❑ Clarify expectations
- ❑ Make sure your host knows your plans and agrees on what the result of your stay should be (publish a paper, find a solution to a particular problem, or other metrics)
- ❑ Communicate with your host and advisor regularly so everybody knows your status

Work (con't)

- ❑ Make sure you get introduced to people
- ❑ Don't expect people to get involved in your work by them selves - you should make them interested and involved

Beyond work

- ❑ 6 months without friends and family leave a lot of time
- ❑ You can use the time to do more work
- ❑ But that is probably not what you should do with all of it

Beyond work

- ❑ Bring a book
- ❑ Bring your hobby, scouting, skiing, running, etc. Use local offers



- ❑ Meet local people, e.g. students, faculty, team mates, etc.



- Enjoy the local nature and cultural life



Engage in the local community



Banking

- ❑ Take cash with you, you need it - especially in the beginning
- ❑ Bring Visa, Mastercard, and American Express
- ❑ International bank transfer is more expensive than withdrawing cash on Visa card.

Staying abroad and salaried work

- ❑ More than three consecutive months during which classes are being taught (February, March, April, May, September, October, November, December) then you may be exempt from 70 hours of salaried work
- ❑ You can only do this twice