

Day 1. Lets go to America

3.9.2018

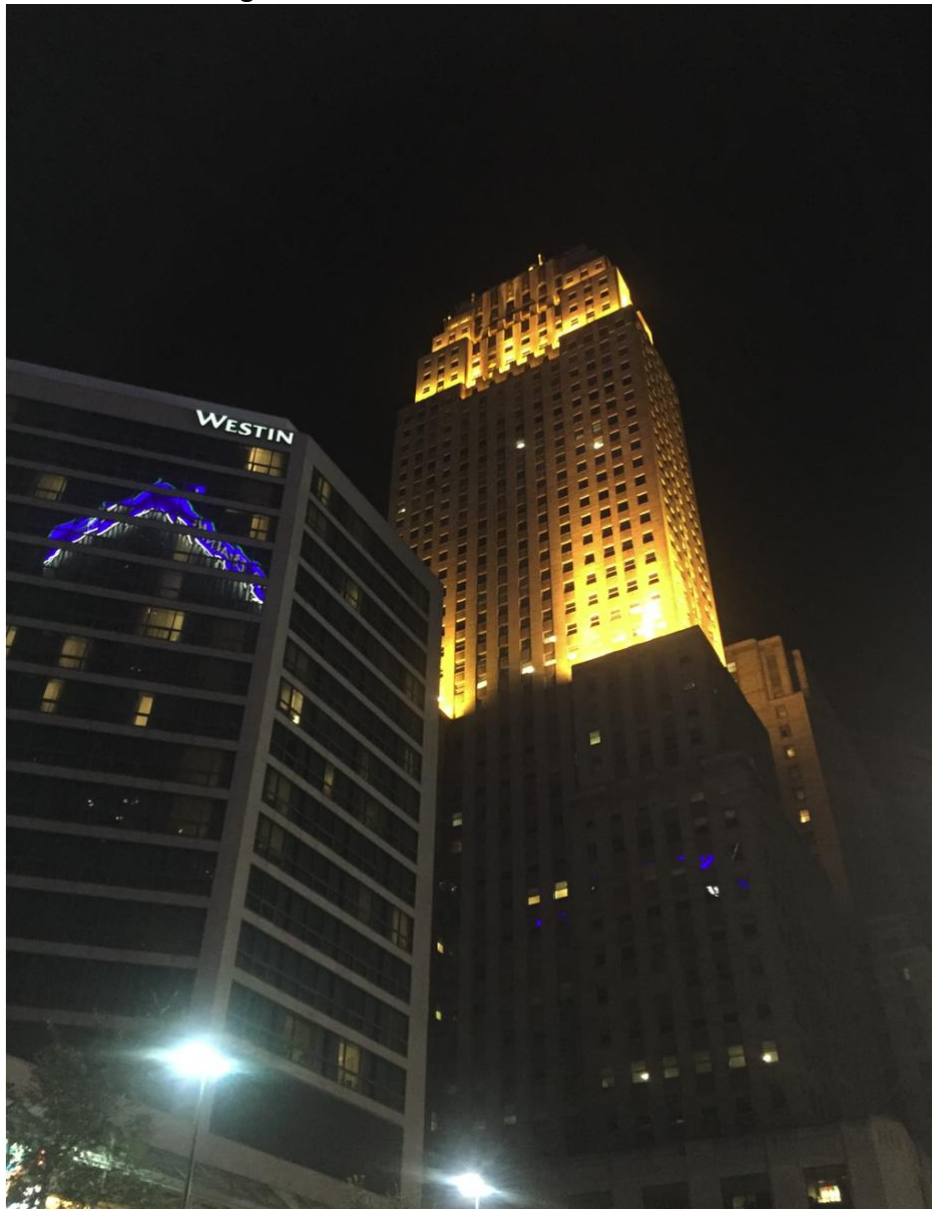
At 4:40 we met at dr. Franjo Tuđman airport in Zagreb. After the procedure, we boarded plane for Frankfurt, Germany. I was so excited because I haven't been flying for a while. Airport in Frankfurt was really fascinating because it is so big. We had coffee and ate and then went to airplane to USA. This plane was also really big. 8 hours later here we are at Washington. Passing all the controls and finally entered the America. Washington Dulles airport is one of the biggest in America so I was fascinated again. Unfortunately, or luckily we had out flight canceled until next day noon, so we had to spend night at Washington.



Day 2.

04.09.2018. Coming to Cincinnati, OH

Day started with delicious breakfast at hotel. Real American breakfast. Pancakes, eggs and bacon. After that we took a ride to airport where we finally boarded to Cincinnati. After landing to Cincinnati we took Uber to dormitory where we stayed. We visited University of Cincinnati campus to look around. It is really nice. At campus we met Haroon, the student of University of Cincinnati. He is a friend of our colleague Lucija who met him while being on internship on University of Cincinnati. In short notices he told us about campus. After that we took a rest and in the evening we went to downtown Cincinnati to look around. Wow, what a city, architecture and buildings.



Day 3. Clermont College roasting
05.09.2018.

Third day began with another typical American breakfast – bagels. After that we went to Clermont College, also part University of Cincinnati. We met so many nice people there and we had very original welcoming. At Clermont College after the presentations by professor Violeta Vidaček Hainš and professor Victoria Appatova who presented the beginning and future plans of collaborations between our Universities Martina, Aldin and I had presentations about our research. Mine research title is “Students’ Communication in the International Environment with the Support of the Information and Communication Technology”. I think we were successful to get their interest in visiting Varaždin and apply for Symposium. After that we went to look around campus and to the lunch.



Day 4. New McNair Office

06.09.2018.

This day was reserved for McNair Office at University of Cincinnati. Professor Violeta Vidaček Hainš and professor Victoria Appatova held a presentation again, but this time we discussed how to get valid results in new survey for research purpose. The problem is that we are being bombed by lots of surveys these days and this one is pretty long. Not so many people is willing to fill in the survey that takes 40 minutes. Also, we discussed why students prefer grades before knowledge. After discussion we went to new McNair Office opening and visited museum.



Day 5. Skyscrapers, stadiums and rain
07.09.2018.

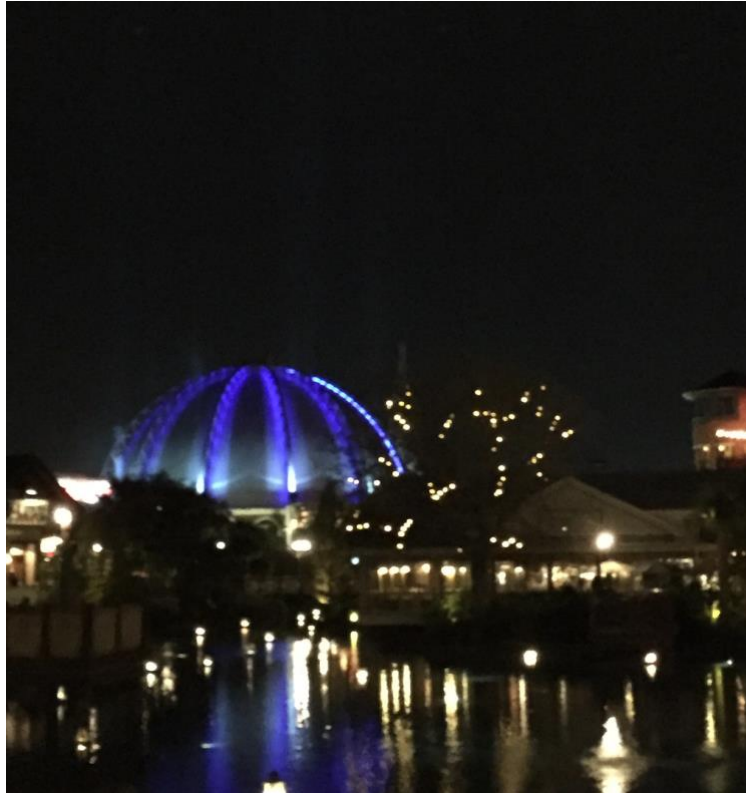
Day five was reserved for sightseeing and getting know local customs. We walked in downtown Cincinnati, went to Cincinnati Reds fan store. Then continued walking to Ohio river which is border between federal states of Ohio and Kentucky. After that we had drink at rooftop of hotel and enjoyed in view. Then we went to eat. After we wanted to walk around and visit baseball game, but the rain ruined our plans.



Day 6. Lets pick up the rest of the FOI team

8.9.2018.

After packing and check out we headed to airport in Kentucky. From there we took off to Florida. We arrived in the afternoon and met dean Vrček, vice-dean Begičević Ređep and Izablea Oletić Tušek, head of International Office. After setting at the hotel we went to see the city which is beautiful. When we got to the hotel we prepared everything for the next day.



Day 7. Space experience

9.9.2018.

On Sunday, after the breakfast we went to Kennedy Space Centre which is about 1 hour of ride away from hotel. We had students from UCF with us – Chance, Juan and George and we talked about differences and similarities in educational system, interests etc. One of the reasons why Kennedy Space Center was our destination is because the astronaut Ronald McNair was the first latino-american who died in accident on Space Shuttle Challenger launch in 1986.



Day 8. Serious day for international cooperation
10.9.2018.

Monday was very busy. We had a lot of meetings. Our FOI delegation was having meetings with people at UCF who are in charge of international exchange and collaboration. We, students were present on them because hosts wanted to hear our opinions. After the meeting we went sightseeing the campus which is beautiful.



Dan 9. Hello Chicago!

11.09.2018.

After Orladno our destination was Chicago. We got there in the evening and checked in at the hotel. We were impressed with the city. We also got there at rush hour which we could see only on TV. At the hotel our hosts were waiting and then we all went to dinner. We ate deep dish pizza and it was delicious. After that – rest!



Dan 10. Posjet University of Illinois
12.09.2018.

This day was rich in events. We went to „El Valor“ community where they worry about people with special needs. They get the opportunity to socialize and leand some basic skills needed in everyday life. Then we went to University of Illinois where we had a chance to see what they do to make studying easier to students with dissabilities and also there was inovation center where they make individual tools to help students with dissabilities as needed After that we went downtown Chicago which is amazing and did some sightseeing and walking around until evening.



Dan 11. DePaul University
13.09.2018.

After breakfast we went to DePaul University where we had introduction into international exchange of students between different universities and then panel discussion with key people for students exchange on universities. The discussion was about advantages and positive effects on students who went to exchange. I held a presentation "Students' Communication in the International Environment with the Support of the Information and Communication Technology" again. This time it was more oriented to get interest of students and to convince them to come to Croatia. Rest of the day we used to explore Chicago.



Dan 12. Odlazak kući

14.09.2018.

Return time is really close. We had to use our left time maximally so we went to Navy Pier and to see Willis tower (tallest building in Chicago). While enjoying in view we realised it's time to go to a hotel and to go to the airport. What was the sign our adventure in USA has ended. Even though, I think this is just the beginning...



Zahvale

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to this Symposium in any ways. First, a big „Thank you“ to our partner universities:

DePaul University, Chicago

University of Illinois at Chicago

Carlow University, Pittsburgh

University of Cincinnati, Clermont College

University of Central Florida

University of South Carolina

Special “Thank you” to the University of Zagreb, Faculty of Organization and Informatics and FOI Alumni, ex participants of Symposium. And also big “Thank you” to our prof. dr.sc. Violeta Vidaček Hainš who made this happened and had everything under control.