

Start an adventure called America

Monday, 09/03/18

In early morning hours we left Franjo Tuđman Zagreb airport towards Frankfurt where we arrived at the scheduled time. During check-in in Frankfurt my adventure has begun. I was picked by airport security for a random safety search. That's the first time I experienced something I saw only on documentaries about border protection. Everything went well and we continued toward Dulles in Washington. When we arrived, our flight to Cincinnati was canceled, so we spent the night in hotel in Dulles.



Photo 1. Dulles airport

First station-Cincinnati

Tuesday, 09/04/18

Today we finally went to Cincinnati here our accommodation has been waiting for us at Sisterhood dormitory Hebrew Union College. We went later to sightseeing Clifton campus in University of Cincinnati. After dinner we went to Student Recital which was held in the one of rooms of College Conservatory of Music then after that we were sightseeing center of Cincinnati with HaRoon, he is a student now studying marketing on University. We saw beautiful square with fountain where they have many different events and center of town filled with high buildings, hotels and banks.



Photo 2. Fountain on square in Cincinnati

Sightseeing and presentation at Clermont College UC

Wednesday, 09/05/18

Today's day was reserved for Clermont College UC where we had a beautiful welcome by professor Victoria Appatova, how is one of the cofounders of this project. During a morning we presented our search project. The topic of my research was the Adaptability of information-communication technology for student with disabilities. Later we were hosted by professor Jeff Rubel at his class. After we went to see Art Gallery where was a photos made by students with bad social status. This exhibition give to us many ideas about new project in our Faculty. Picture below was a description about picture and in the beging was short description about author's life. Sightseeing of College we was finished with conversation with dean and we asked him to come visit us in Croatia.



Photo 3. Photo with dean of Clermont College UC

Meeting new faces for further cooperation

Thursday, 09/06/18

During the morning we went to sightseeing of Clifton College where professor Appatova and Vidaček Hainš were having their presentation. After their presentation we went on opening of the new rooms of McNair program. There we meet new people from UC International and McNAir program. UC and we talked about experiences and new projects and collaboration. At the end of the day we went to Taft Museum of Art where we saw exhibition of photographs by Ansel Adams.



Photo 4. Cutting the rope during opening

Local attractions of Cincinnati

Friday, 09/07/18

Today we explored local culture with Assistant director of McNair program UC. We went to a baseball stadium called „*Great American Ball Park*“ where we bought a souvenir of their club Cincinnati Reds. After that we went through a beautiful park full of flowers and fountain, all the way to the „*Ohio River*“. After visiting the park and enjoying the sounds of water and the scents of flowers, we moved to the roof of the hotel where we had a wonderful view of the river, bridges and part of the city. At the end of the day it has started to rain and we decided to spent the rest of our afternoon in the restaurant trying American food.



Photo 5. The view from the roof of the hotel on the river



„Dobrodošli kući“

Saturday, 09/08/18

In the morning hours, we left the student dormitory and we went to the Cincinnati airport where we had a flight to Dulles. After we came to Dulles we went to the next flight for Orlando on Florida. At the airport, we met Michael, our Dean, Vice Dean and Izabela, where we all met the well-known inscription "Dobrodošli kući". Upon arrival in Orlando we made a check-in at our hotel and went on a tour of one part of Orlando.



Photo 6. "Dobrodošli kući"

Part of the universe

Sunday, 09/09/18

Michael came over in the morning with his students. Today's day is dedicated to cultural and historical sights. Among other things, we also visited the John F. Kennedy Space Center where we heard about the historically successful and less successful missile launches in the universe. Within the space center there is the McNair Memorial Park, dedicated to astronaut Ronald McNair. On the way to the hotel, Michael drove us on their campus and explained where are the parts of the University.



Photo 7. Kennedy Space Center

Encouraging future cooperation

Monday, 09/10/18.

Meetings on possible future cooperation and joint projects have come today. They got acquainted with how interdisciplinary studies, summer schools and international cooperation work. Various interesting discussions and ideas emerged about possible student exchange and participation in summer schools. After all the meetings we went on a tour of the University. Among other things, we visited the student union building where we saw their rooms for designing and realizing their entrepreneurial ideas.



Photo 8. Discussion about possible cooperation



Chicago-City of Winds

Tuesday, 09/11/18.

We spent the morning hours in the final preparations for going to Chichago. At about noon, we all went all the way to the airport in Orlando where we waited plane for the Chichago. The flight was short, but our trip to the hotel was long. Chichago is a big city with a lot of cars and big crowds of traffic. In the hotel we had been welcomed by the assistant director of the McNair program at DePaul University. After we settled in the hotel we went to dinner with the director of the MCNair program DePaul and his assistant.



Photo 9. View of Chicago from the plane

Care for the community and people with disabilities

Wednesday, 09/12/18

Today we visited a non-profit organization El Valor with the head of the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Illinois. El Valor wants a community that enables all its members, especially people with disabilities, to spend a day in it, learn and work, and also allows students to volunteer and help people with disabilities. We saw people with disabilities learning some everyday things like washing clothes, dressing or making a bed after they got up. After that, we made a tour around the quaint where we saw a lot of different works of art on the buildings. We headed to the

University Buildings where we met a professor from the Department for People with Disabilities and Human Development. Together with him we have listened to a couple of presentations with a topics about how and where people with disabilities can ask for help, and at the end of the lecture we took us to workshops where new ideas and stuff for people with disabilities are being developed. We ended the day with a tour and learning about cultural in the Chicago Center and visiting the Millennium Park.



Photo 10. Group photo at the premises of El Valor

Extending ten years of cooperation

Thursday, 13.09.2018.

We spent a day at DePaul University where we were met with the student exchange programs offered by the McNair program. At the end of this program, Professor Begičević Ređep and Vidaček Hainš invited all present professors and students to participate in the 9th Symposium that will be next year in Croatia. After lunch, my colleague Alagić, a colleague Sarah from Carlow University in Pittsburgh and I presented our research that was on a poster. The program continued in the library where was also Consul Gerant, Mario Martinec and Fr. Joe Grbes, Custos of the Croatian Franciscans of the USA and Canada. Our dean and director McNair have symbolically signed a contract for further cooperation between the University of Zagreb and the DePaul University.

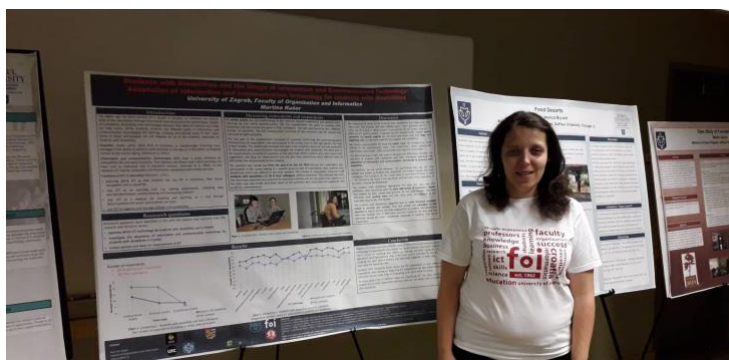


Photo 11. Poster section at DePaul University

Chicago City View

Friday, 09/14/18

The day started, and ended with a sightseeing of the cultural sights of the city of Chicago. We first went to the Navy Pier and went to the wheel from which we had a wonderful view of Lake Michigan and part of the town of Chicago. After that, we visited the highest building, Willis Tower in Chicago which consists of 108 floors and is 443 meters high. After a short afternoon break we visited the arena that was home to Chicago Bulls and Chicago Blackhawks. This is where NBA and NHL matches are played. We have seen the statue of basketball player Michael Jordan and the jersey of our basketball player Toni Kukoč.

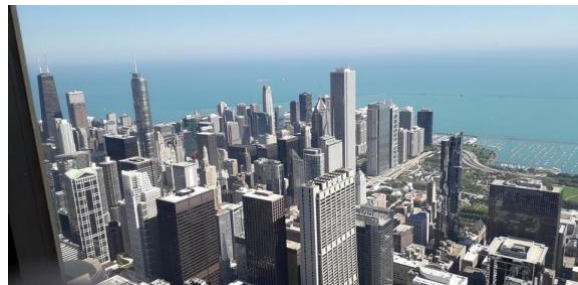


Photo 12. Look at Chicago from Willis Tower

Saturday in the museum

Saturday, 09/15/18

Saturday was reserved for visiting The Field Museum. In the museum we could go through whole past and the evolution of earth. The museum had a main exhibition and a few additional exhibitions. From other exhibitions I chose the mummies. Today's activity was also writing short descriptions about the observations and events on this trip.



Photo 13. Lobby at The Field Museum

It's time to go home

Sunday, 16.09.2018.

Today is the day to go home. In the morning we spent time packing and writing articles about events and experiences from our journey. After we checked out from hotel, we walked around the area where we got to Lincoln Park with the lake. After a walk we went to the airport where we were waiting for a flight to Frankfurt. As we waited for our flight, we completed and redrafted the articles.

We came to Croatia on Monday during the afternoon so our adventure ended. And at the end of this wonderful story, I would like to thank everyone who worked and enabled my colleagues and me to participate in this International Exchange of Students, enabling me to develop new skills and acquaintances.



Picture 14. Lake at Lincoln Park