

Occupational training in Melbourne, 2016

Cooperative State University Stuttgart

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In my fifth semester I had the incredible opportunity to participate in an occupational training at the Alfred hospital in Melbourne. This hospital is operated by Alfred health, situated close to the Central business District of Melbourne. The Alfred is a public hospital and has a very good reputation.



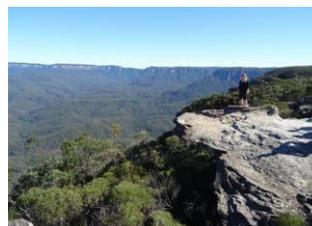
During my occupational training I was located in the Human Resources department, On my first day the director of the HR department, Sean Curtain, asked me which parts of the hospital I was interested in and what I wanted to see during my time at the Alfred.

I came to know my supervisor and the HR team. Aside from the work in the HR department I was very lucky to familiarize myself with the work of the Occupational Health and Safety team. Due to the diverse work this team conducted, I could gain many interesting insights into everyday life in an Australian hospital.

As a result I had the possibility to get an understanding of the work in the intensive care unit, the psychiatric ward, the oncology ward, the burns unit, the surgery department and as well an insight into the work of the Australian Centre of Health Innovation. The staff were always very open-minded and friendly. Each person I met at the Alfred cared about my needs and interests. Furthermore all of them have been very interested concerning the differences between the work in a German hospital and the work in an Australian hospital.

To summarize I had an awesome time at the Alfred hospital and I want to say thank you again to all who supported me during my occupational training. Also a very special thanks to Sean Curtain, Nicole Paino and Vicki White who made my time at the Alfred such an amazing experience.

Once a week, a tutorial with Prof. Just Stoelwinder took place at Monash University. At the tutorial I had the possibility to get to know other international students and to learn about their health care systems. Furthermore I had the chance to attend two lectures on the topic of *Clinical Leadership and Management*, and *Foundations of Health Policy*. Prof. Stoelwinder was always happy to help with questions or problems.



Despite all my work at the Alfred and my classes at Monash University I had a lot of time over the weekends to explore Australia. Australia is popular for its beautiful landscapes and I am more than happy that I had the chance to visit and explore many places. On the weekends I was able to do various trips to the Grampians, Tasmania, Phillip Island, Wilson's promontory, and the Mornington Peninsula. Another highlight was the drive along the Great Ocean Road. Additionally I had time to travel up the East Coast of Australia at the end of my occupational training.

After all I can only reiterate how much I enjoyed the time in Australia and I would highly recommend anyone to partake in such an experience if possible. Besides my personal goals of the occupational training and my improvement of my English skills I also was able to improve my methodical and professional knowledge. Finally I would like to thank you, Prof. Anke Simon and Prof. Just Stoelwinder, for such a great opportunity!

