

## EXCHANGE STUDENT EVALUATION REPORT

Dear Fellowship / Scholarship Recipient:

The Scan|Design Foundation requests that fellowship / scholarship recipients submit an evaluation report concerning their experiences and the services provided by the institutions that manage grant programs funded by the Scan Design Foundation. This report has a dual purpose: to help us evaluate our current programs and to help us inform and orient grant seekers who will be future recipients. We ask you to reflect on your experiences in the US or Denmark. Advice or comments on other topics are also welcome.

- Use this form and fill-in your answers.  
*It is not necessary to answer every question.*

- Send a copy to:

1. [admin@scandesignfoundation.org](mailto:admin@scandesignfoundation.org)

And to your University

2. UW-Madison: [scandesign@international.wisc.edu](mailto:scandesign@international.wisc.edu)

Thank you for your cooperation. We appreciate your time and effort.

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**Student Name:** Hannah Patzer

**Institution where you studied:** Copenhagen Business School

**Semester of participation:** Spring 2018

**E-mail address (if possible *not* University email):** patzer.hannah@gmail.com

### 1. Pre-Exchange. Why and Where:

- a.** Why did you decide to study in the US or Denmark as an exchange student?

I decided to study abroad in Denmark because I had previously studied abroad in Sweden while in High School and absolutely loved it. I fell in love with Scandinavia and the way of life there, so when college came around and I was presented with the opportunity to study abroad again I knew I wanted to go back.

- b.** Why did you select the program/University?

When researching Universities to study abroad at, I was immediately drawn to Copenhagen Business School. They offered a vast range of courses that would not only transfer as credit back to Madison, but also interested me. I also liked that there would be other Danish students in the courses as oppose to the other strictly American Universities.

- c.** What were your expectations?

Going abroad I did not have many specific expectations. I overall had hoped to take different courses that I would not have had the opportunity to take in the states. I also hoped that there would be structured aide to help me if I had any questions and had hoped that there would be opportunities to mingle with the other exchange students as well as local Danish students.

- d.** What preparations did you make prior to departure?

**e. How could you improve your preparations?**

To improve my preparations, I wish I would have looked at the types of exams my courses had. I did not realize that there were several different options (oral, written, take-home, and group papers) and would have chosen different courses because of this. In hindsight, I also should have brought some warmer clothing. It is really cold in the winter time!

**2. ARRIVAL/ON-SITE ORIENTATION:**

**a. Recommend accommodations for future students upon arrival.**

I lived in Katherine Kolliget and liked it! However, if you are looking for more social building that has more common rooms and is easier to make friends would recommend Nimbus Park.

**b. Comment on the orientation and activities offered at both your home University and the host University, what did it cover and how did it help you prepare / adjust after arriving?**

The orientation activities that CBS offers are great. I would recommend doing the welcome package. The first week CBS has slides on how the courses work, exams, housing, and basically everything you would need to know. My advice would be to make sure you check your emails regularly as they are very good at keeping you informed of all of the visa and residency permits we need to acquire.

**2. ACADEMICS:**

**a. Evaluate the instruction you received. Compare the following to your home institution's system:**

**- class registration**

Class registration was very different than at my home University, because we do not handle it directly. At CBS we pick out the courses we would like and send them to CBs via email and someone enrolls everything for us. I do not enjoy this process very much because I found it frustrating and like I was annoying the people at CBS because I changed my courses multiple times.

**- classroom structure**

The classroom structure was somewhat similar to my home University. I had all lectures that were between 30-80 people and all courses were taught in a classroom setting. The one difference being that CBS often had longer classes that were only held once or twice a week.

**- instruction**

Very similar to back home. Although slightly more student participation.

**- teacher/student relations**

This was very different to me. I found the power distance between students and teachers in Denmark to be much smaller. Students will often refer to teachers with their first name and it is not uncommon to hear swearing in the classes.

**- grading/exams**

Grading in Copenhagen differs from that of my home University because 100% of the final grade is based on the exam. This is nice because there is no homework, quizzes, or attendance grades; however, it is also very stressful because you must do very well on the exam as there are no buffers.

**- library, computer, and classroom facilities**

All great! I loved the study seat rental that CBS libraries offer so you don't need to worry about not getting a seat or being by an outlet. I would highly recommend taking advantage of those.

**b. Evaluate the quality and content of instruction.**

The quality of instruction at CBS was very good. I had very knowledgeable professors who truly were passionate about the courses they offered. The content was interesting, however sometimes difficult to comprehend. Because there are no quizzes or ways to check your understanding of the material I often struggled to gauge whether I was understanding the material adequately enough.

**c. In general, what did you like best and least about the academics?**

I liked best the topics offered and more relaxed process of learning the material. I liked least how spread out the buildings were and the written exams.

**d. Are there any courses or instructors you would recommend to future students?**

Retail Marketing! Very relevant information and great professors. Final exam is also an oral exam which were my favorite type.

**3. HOUSING:**

**a. How would you assess the housing arrangements?**

The housing was fine. I liked that they provided us with bed sheets and a fully stocked kitchen. My one complaint would be that there is no common area to hangout in. Living in a studio can be a bit lonely and it would have been nice to have an area to hangout and meet other exchange students in my building.

**b. How did you locate your housing?**

I was recommended Katherine Kolliget by students who had studied abroad previously. It is a bit farther away from SP than some of the other housing options, but not far enough to make a difference. It is also very close to the Flintholm station which was a nice bonus.

**4. EXCHANGE SITE:**

In general, please describe your impressions of the host University campus and its location and surrounding community.

My first impression of CBS was that unlike Copenhagen University it is a bit outside the city. However, the surrounding areas of Frederiksberg is very nice. Lots of parks and restaurants as well as a big mall directly across from one of the Universities main buildings. To get to downtown is only a 10 minute Metro ride which is not bad at all. I never once felt unsafe anywhere near the campus buildings or where I lived – it is a very safe community.

**5. HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

Describe any health or safety concerns (e.g., quality of medical facilities, unsafe districts, theft, etc.) associated with your study.

N/A

**6. CULTURAL ASPECTS:**

**a. How did you integrate into the host country culture and meet members of the community? (e.g., mentors, clubs, sports, extracurricular activities, pubs, etc.)**

The most effective way I was able to integrate into my host country was through my buddy. She showed me all of the best local restaurants and pubs. I also go to meet and hangout with all of her Danish friends which was so fun. In addition, I tried to visit a lot of museums and even went to a Danish film. There is always events going on in Copenhagen open to the public which is another easy way to integrate more into the Danish culture.

**b. Describe cultural differences and challenges you encountered and how you addressed them. (e.g., gender issues, social etiquette, stereotypes, etc.)**

One difference that I noticed and had to adapt to was gender neutral bathrooms. Most bathrooms in CBS are gender neutral and while everyone has their own separate "stall" it still can be rather strange washing your hands next to a boy. However, as with anything else I just took it in stride. It is only weird if you think it is.

Another cultural difference was the way students dress, especially to class. In Madison, you can wear sweatpants to class and no one would bat an eye. In Denmark, you can wear a fur coat and heels and it is just the norm. There were many trips to Zara and I learned how to step up my style game when I was there.

## **7. FINANCIAL:**

- a. Describe how the Scan|Design Foundation Fellowship assisted you / made a difference in your decision to study abroad.  
Without the Scan Design Foundation Fellowship studying abroad would have been a real struggle for me financially. Copenhagen is a very expensive city and with the ScanDesign Fellowship I was able to take away the burden of housing which allowed me to travel more and see much more of Europe than I would have been able to.
- b. What is the best way to access/transfer money?  
If I were to do it over again I would have opened a Danish bank account. It gets very annoying having to sign everything. However, you can get around this with Apple pay on your phone.
- c. How much spending money do you recommend per month? Please include rent, food, transportation, etc.  
Rent: \$900  
Food: \$400 (depending on how much you eat could be way higher)  
Transportation: \$50-80  
Misc: \$100
- d. Comment on the relative "cost of living" between your home University and the host University.  
Copenhagen is a very expensive city. Eating out is almost always a \$20 minimum ordeal and drinks are about the same. Clothes, transportation, and everyday items are also more expensive. There are not many "cheap eats" like Qdoba around and if you want to save money I would recommend eating at home a lot.

## **8. EXCHANGE/SCAN | DESIGN FELLOWSHIP COORDINATORS AND ADMINISTRATION:**

### **Coordinator team**

Comment on the assistance by the Scan|Design Fellowship coordinators and administration before your departure, upon arrival, and during your stay. What worked and what could be improved or changed?

The ScanDesign Coordinators were great in preparations and on arrival. They were always so clear with what was going on and where the activities would be located. I appreciate how much effort they put into the program and how they truly care about our well-being.

### **Activities**

Comment on the number and type of activities arranged by the coordinators. What worked and what would you like replaced with some other activity?

The Scan Design Team was great in all aspects. I was very happy with the events that they coordinated and loved meeting all the other students. One way that they could have improved is maybe creating a Facebook group with all the current and past students for us to meet and ask questions. Also, maybe a few more informal meetings for us and encouraging more of the Danish alumni to come.

Suggestions for activities we should add to the program

- Danish cooking class

- A hike or camping trip

## **9. PROGRAM/STUDENT TYPE:**

Describe the type of student for whom this exchange is best suited and what advice would you give to future students.

CBS is best suited for someone who wants to immerse themselves in another culture. Unlike other schools that the UW Madison Business school offers for study abroad that are American Universities filled with other Americans, at CBS you truly will be surrounded by Danish students. The ideal student would have to be self-motivated to attend class, as there is no attendance grade, and be open to different ways of taking exams such as oral exams and partner papers. They should have a passion to learn another culture and if they are coming in the spring semester, but okay with the cold and dark for a little bit!

## **10. OVERALL EXPERIENCE:**

- a.** How would you rate the quality of the overall experience?

The overall program was amazing. It helped me to grow as a person and truly impacted my experience in such a positive way. I left Copenhagen a more confident version of myself with stories to last a lifetime.

- b.** What did you consider to be the greatest benefit and challenge of studying abroad?

The greatest benefit of studying abroad was making lifelong friends. The people I met in Denmark will be with me forever. In fact, one of my Danish friends has booked a flight and will be visiting me in Madison in the Fall!

The greatest challenge of studying abroad was learning how to go with the flow and adapt in an unfamiliar environment.