MY OCTOBER IN THE US

My time here is running by so fast. I have already been here for more than two months. I want to give you an update on what I have been up to since my last report.

My October started with a trip to South Dakota. A co-worker and his wife, Joe and Sarah, took the other interns and me on a camping trip to the Badlands National Park in his huge trailer. Together we were ten people. They take the interns on this trip every now and then, so they were good tourist guides for us. As we couldn’t drive fast with the trailer we split the journey in two half’s and spent a night at a rest area. The trailer had almost exactly room for the ten of us, so no one had to sleep in a tent. The weather had already gotten pretty cold, so we had to bring warm clothes as we spent a lot of time outside exploring the nature. We took a long weekend for the trip, so we had five days to experience the area. Not only did we visit the Badlands National Park but also the Black Hills National Forest, where there’s lots of wildlife to see. We saw huge buffalos, loads of them, deer and donkeys. We also made it to the Devils Tower in Wyoming which is just a stone’s throw away. There we even went for a nice hike where we got to see even more wild animals and had an amazing view on the tower. Our last stop was Mount Rushmore – a really impressive memorial.

When we got back from our journey, we went back to work for three days before our next trip was waiting for us - Denver and Rocky Mountains National Park. This was a trip us interns planned together and went there as a group. When we arrived at the airport in Denver our rental car was already waiting for us. We rented a van so all eight of us could fit in there. The first day we spent in the city of Denver, had good food and rested up for the next days, as a lot of hiking was on the list. The second day we got up very early, as our hike had to start early as the weather conditions were supposed to change in the afternoon. At 7 o’clock in the morning we started making our way to the top of Flattop Mountain. Already at the beginning of our hike breathing was difficult as the air was super thin. The trail starts at an elevation of around 7800 ft and abruptly climbs higher. The highest elevation is at around 12,159 ft. None of us was expecting this hike to be this challenging but every step we took further breathing got more challenging. In the end it was definitely worth the effort. The view was breathtaking, and this will be an amazing memory for ever. Our third day we spent in Colorado Springs and drove all the way up to Pikes Peak (14,115 ft). The drive up there was really challenging as the street is really tight and there are no guard railings anywhere. However, it was worth it too. We had an amazing time and the nature, and the views were stunning.

Besides our trips we also had a lot of fun in the Minneapolis area, where we are living. I went to a concert of Ed Sheeran, one of my favorite musicians, at the US Bank Stadium. Also, there were many American Sports events happening too. We went to another football game, Vikings vs. Saints. I saw the basketball game of the Minnesota Timberwolves vs. the LA Lakers where I even had the chance to see Lebron James play.

At work I really got into my daily routine and I feel very confident. My colleagues involve in many of their tasks and I can ask them whenever I have questions. My daily tasks are always the same, but I get to work at many different projects which makes my work really exciting for me. I can improve my skills and can develop new ones. I am confident that this experience will help a lot in my future career.