

A Success Story of SIEP

Wpisany przez Administrator
niedziela, 02 października 2011 23:40 - Poprawiony poniedziałek, 24 października 2011 14:42

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Student Internship Exchange Program between Rzeszow and Munich (2005 – 2011)

by Ulrich H. Lein (Ulrich.Lein@foerderverein-fos.de)

Every baby has a father and a mother, and so it is with SIEP. Her *Mother* is Urszula QUENTIN, nee´as Urszula BUREK in Rzeszow region (see

photo 1

). Her

Father

is Ulrich H. LEIN, a Munich project management consultant (see

photo 2

). Urszula and Ulrich are working as volunteers with Munich Municipal

Robert – Bosch – Fachoberschule

for Economics (www.wvr.musin.de), a school having a

European Profile

since 1998 because of its two main programs being supported by its

Foerderverein

(www.foerderverein-robert-bosch-fos.org):

- SIEP (**S**tudent **I**nternship **E**xchange **P**rogram) with schools and companies in up to 17 European countries, and
- COMENIUS (a virtual cooperation between European schools focussing on school marketing and new curricula).

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In 2005 Urszula was attending *Ludwig – Maximilians – University* in Munich and working on her University Diploma regarding *Intercultural Communication* between Polish and German employees. For this reason she made an interview with Ulrich. Thus SIEP was started.

In October 2005 Urszula, Guenter RAISS (who had established and headed SIEP, Munich Chapter, until 2008, see **photo 3**) and Ulrich were invited to a meeting with principals of six Rzeszow schools, and a LEONARDO Agreement was concluded. In May 2007 they were invited by the former Principal of *Zespół Szkół Ekonomicznych im. Marii Skłodowskiej – Curie* in Rzeszow, and another LEONARDO Agreement was signed. From 2008 to 2011 about 30 students from Rzeszow and about 16 students from Munich took part in SIEP, thus performing internships with companies abroad of three to four weeks. Since 2008, Peter GROSSMANN (see **photo 4**) heads SIEP Department in Munich, and in Rzeszow a new Principal, Mrs. Grazyna SABIK, was inaugurated (in 2007). SIEP in Rzeszow is led by its project manager, Mrs. Marta TURZANSKA, a teacher for German language (see **photo 5**).

Since 2006, about 60 students from Rzeszow and from Munich, respectively, have performed internships abroad; they are ALUMNIS. In Rzeszow they are headed by Michal MARTON and Tomasz SIEKIERDA (see **photo 6**)

Munich students enjoyed weekend trips to Krakow and Oswiecim as well as to the countryside in Podkarpatie, organized and led by our volunteers Michal MARTON and Tomasz SIEKIERDA (see **photo 6**), because Munich students are not being accompanied by a Munich teacher.

Rzeszow students enjoyed trips to Garmisch (The Alp Mountains), to Neuschwanstein Castle and to the City of Salzburg (Austria) as well as sightseeing tours in Munich, the Capital of Bavaria, with about 1.4 million inhabitants.

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SIEP is being supported by the Munich General Consulate of the Republic of Poland (see **photo 3**), and the Head of its Legal Department, Mrs. Bernadetta CZECH – SAILER, PhD, from Lancut even had been a volunteer of SIEP, Munich Chapter, in 2007 / 08.

In addition, SIEP is also being supported by Munich Municipal *Robert – Bosch – Fachoberschule* and its Principal, Mr. Johann DENK, as well as by its *Foerderverein* headed by Mrs. Anja – Verena REICH, a PR manager with ALLIANZ insurance group (see **photo 7**).

SIEP is looking forward to enable many more students from Rzeszow and Munich to perform an internship abroad in order for them to gain intercultural experience and respect towards other people. Perhaps even job opportunities as well as vocational or university education abroad may come true because both regions host *high – tech – companies*:

- Rzeszow region is the *Center of Polish Aviation Industry*, and
- Munich region is one of the *Centers of German Industries of Aviation, Space, and Satellite Navigation*.

With those *high – tech – industries* being financed mainly by the *European Union*, the chance of *cross – border – cooperation* between companies and Governments have increased significantly. For the benefit of both countries and their people.

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Photo 1: Urszula QUENTIN nee´ BUREK, *Mother* of SIEP



Photo 2: Ulrich H. LEIN, *Father* of SIEP



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Photo 3: Guenter RAISS, Head of SIEP, Munich Chapter, until 2008



Photo 4: Peter GROSSMANN, Head of SIEP, Munich Chapter, since 2008



Photo 5: Marta TURZANSKA, Project Manager of SIEP, Rzeszow Chapter

Photo 6: Michal MARTON and Tomasz SIEKIERDA, ALUMNIS and volunteers of SIEP,

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Rzeszow Chapter

Photo 7: Mrs.Anja – Verena REICH, Head of *Foerderverein* of Municipal *Robert – Bosch – Fachoberschule* in Munich