

## **Internship at EIL Office in Cork – By Marius Kulmer (Juni/Juli 2009)**

### Impressions of Ireland

I have been in Ireland for one week now. More precisely I am doing an internship at the “EIL Intercultural Learning” office of Ireland situated in Cork City in the south of Ireland for four weeks. It is the first time for me being in Ireland and it is amazing. But how time flies!



I started work at the EIL office on last Monday. I was really nervous about what would await me. But I had never thought that the staff would be so friendly and warm-hearted. I was introduced by Marian, my great adviser, to all members of the office. My working hours are 9.30am-1pm and 2pm-5pm, so I would have enough time to show a great deal of dedication. Most time I am working with the “Data Base” and the “Intranet”, software which is used to administrate information. It is my business to do small jobs for the different persons. My “fellows” are very open-minded, that is why I can ask for help or more work or anything else at any time. All in all I enjoy my stay very much. I get first working experience, improve my English and learn to manage things on my own.

My host family lives in Carrigaline, a village 15km from Cork City Centre. I was very cordially received. They are really kind, warm and generous. Sometimes I feel like an au pair, because of the two incredible hyperactive, but nevertheless nice and lo

vely kids. My most impressing experience until now was the view of the seaside of Roches Point in the first evening. I was not expecting to see as many characteristics, I had heard of Ireland, at the same place: steep cliffs, rocks, rough sea and green hills. The nature is awesome. The people are amazing. The weather is ... unpredictable.

*... einige Wochen später...*

Time to say Goodbye!

My time at the EIL office in Cork is nearly over. As I was hoping at the beginning the time at EIL taught me lots of things. I wish I could turn back time!

Four weeks of Intercultural Experience taught me what motivated and purposeful people can change. Their work makes a difference! So I am proud and deeply grateful that I could be part of EIL. In my opinion the mission of EIL deserves to be supported. Because EIL offers you the chance to look behind the curtain and to make changes.



My last weeks were characterized by doing preliminary works for the different people of the office. Thence I get to know all the diverse scopes of duties. From individual programmes, where foreign students attend secondary school in Ireland, to group programmes, where American seniors do a round trip through

Ireland and learn about Irish history and culture. The rich diversity of programmes is just amazing.

I want to thank everybody for the kindness how I was welcomed into the EIL "family". I enjoyed the stay very much and therefore I want to thank everybody.

Also I want to thank my host family. They gave me an understanding of Irish life, culture and people. I really appreciated the time with you.

Thanks for the experience!