

Summary of Feedbacks from the DESY Summer Students 2010

Compiled by Joachim Meyer in a hopefully unbiased way
Presented at the 'Students Session on September 9, 2010

We had 82 summer students at Hamburg
74 returned the feedback questionnaire.
MANY THANKS

The comments have been copied from the questionnaire without any editing,
so they contain any misprints and stylistic originalities

The students were asked to comment on the following topics :

- Administration / Organisation
- Housing
- Work in the group
- Lectures in general
- Specific lectures
- Tours, events, ..
- What I liked
- What I did not like
- Further comments

Administration / Organization

- The registration and other administrative procedures were very well organized.
- Very good service and warm welcome, convenient especially for foreign students.
- Very well organised. And Andrea Schrader is very helpful with everything
- The administration and bureaucracy was managed really well! I spent the beginning of the summer at CERN as a Summer Student, and things were so much better organized here at DESY.
- Good, easy, fast. I was kindly helped more than one time.
- Everything was well. I didn't have any problems.
- Everything was (suprasingly) very well organised. I did not expect such an order even in Germany.
- The information on the website is clear and regularly up-dated.

Housing

- I stayed in apartment 25 Guesthouse 3. The accommodation was of a very good quality.

I stayed in the Hostel 33. The accommodation was very good, better than the place where I stay on my own university. I liked it a lot !

Accommodation is perfect.

Guest house 3. Great, however it could do with a microwave in the kitchens and a place for groups of people to sit and talk.

I stayed in Guest House #3. It was nice and it really helped getting into work at DESY, not having to worry about accommodation (again, as opposed to my stay at CERN).

Thank you so much for letting us stay in the guest houses!

GUEST HOUSE BUILDING 33B. I spent very good time together with summer students. It was a comfortable hostel. (except pillows)

I stayed in a single room in the hostel. Everything was perfect, cleaned and tidy. We had sometimes lots of rubbish in the kitchen but in a few hours everything was fixed

I have stayed in an apartment in Gesthaus 3. The accommodation was very comfortable. I liked it very much that all the summer students lived in the same place as it created a nice atmosphere and gave an opportunity to strike up new acquaintances.

Work in Group

Extremely good. My supervisor was very friendly and very expert. I knew from the beginning quite clearly my project and step by step my group followed me and helped me.

Rather poor. For first three weeks I had 2 substitute supervisors, which did not actually know my subject and did not tell me what to do, just helped me with account and computing.

I am glad that was in such group, because have only good sentiments. Excellent admission, co-operation and something new for me, the area of work impressed me very. These two months were big asset for me.

I like a lot that I have the chance to get into the labs and work there, and not just on the computer.

I have done no physics here with the XXX group. My project was in software design and will be of little if any use to me in future.

I really enjoyed my work in the group. It was/is a great opportunity to work in this group and to learn that much things in just 8 weeks.

The supervisors were always there for me if I had any questions or problems.

it really would have been better if it had been clear to me from the beginning what I should do in the end.

Work in Group

I hoped for theory group but is put to simulation group. Anyway, I learnt a lot of experimental stuff from discussion with my supervisor and other people, which complement my scope of knowledge.

My supervisor treats me as a scientist, I like it. I have a lot of responsibility, I also like it.

I liked that my supervisor gave me a project that I could complete in the eight weeks of my stay, rather than something that was only a small part of a larger project

I got one of the best supervisors i've ever had.

The work in the group was a little disappointing.

In first two weeks during my stay her my supervisor was in California, so I could not to very much

I have enjoyed every day at the office and I have seen how the work in the world of research is

I learned a big amount of interesting and useful things. It is a great experience for me, my views on different things in science were changed.

It's great! It's very interesting and exciting. For me this is the first experience of sharing work in a research group and I hope I can enjoy this kind of work for my master thesis.

Lectures in General

I think the lectures covered a wide range of interesting topics.

The lectures were demanding and interesting. They offered insights that one can hardly obtain from a university not specialized in the topic.

A criticism would be that there was too much overlap and repetition between the lectures.

All lectures were very well! The only problem from my point of view is 9-00 starting time when brain is not always capable of thinking well.

In general it was not good that most lecturers did not do any break.

The quality (and difficulty!) of lectures varied quite a lot, however this is understandable. Overall I think I learnt something new in every lecture, so I consider them a good use of my time.

So I knew about 80% percent of the given information before. But the way the professors explain I liked very much anyway(Much better than in my home university)

I usually asked for some questions during the lesson and later by e mail and the professors were always prepared and friendly

Lectures in General

There were a bit too many lectures I think.

Perhaps it would be better to have less lectures only with slide presentation and to do more on the blackboard.

I think the lecture program in general was very good. I'm a chemist and I didn't really know anything about particle physics, so although I didn't understand everything in the first two weeks of seminars, I still got a glimpse about what particle physics is.

I should also mention that I appreciated very much the extra lectures (german class, root, C++...).

Perhaps some more advanced lectures for people who already know a lot.

Specific Lectures

Very amusing approach, I like the way it described the discoveries with the scientist involved.

The special lectures on physics beyond the standard model was fantastic.

It cover so many things that after a while it was hard to keep on paying attention to everything.

That was first lecture, where I understood 80% information.

really interesting, very well organized (the most stimulant I've attended) and I learnt really a lot of things (I think that the interaction with students and the final questionnaire were really a good way to gain attention)

I'm afraid, but for me this was a very confused lesson because I did not know anything about the subject but I have not even learned anything new: I think the lesson was too dense

Really good lecture cause even when was introductory, which I need it, it was also profitable for those who already knew of HEP.

I really like the fact that he look for the participation of the students.

The students were asked to rate lectures

The best ratings received :

COMMON LECTURES :

Neutrino Physics (Caren Hagner)

HEP LECTURES :

Introduction to HEP (Joachim Meyer)

PHOTON SCIENCE LECTURES :

X-Ray Absorbtion Spectroscopy (Edmund Welter)

Tours , Events

The guided tours were excellent and very interesting.

I absolutely loved the tour through DESY, the HERA tunnel is very impressive

I think the guided tour could have been more detailed. but the visits to the ALPS and the HASYLAB were really interesting.

No guided tour was conducted (at least to my knowledge).

Guided tour was perfect. Now I can say that I really saw big accelerators quadrupoles, detectors and I'm proud of it.

The dinner was nice. The guided tour was not may be as interesting as I would have expected

Tours were very good. Also, it was very nice that a common dinner was provided.

What I liked

The place, the atmosphere that has been created between the summer students, the visit at the HERA tunnel.

I liked that the program comprised both: lectures and working. Working in the top-class research-center was great experience and I really enjoyed the lectures held by the best scientists in their field. I also liked that the duration of the program was nearly two months and that we could receive financial support.

I do really like German teacher and his lessons of German, which were fun and successful.. He is "Grossmeister" of his work. I have nearly forgotten to mention the canteen. The meals were delicious.

I really liked the Exercise Week

I liked the ability to see how "real research" works and experience the day to day stuff that may help me make a decision about what I wish to pursue in the future.

I really liked the general atmosphere at DESY. This scientific environment was breathtaking.

I really liked the overall atmosphere in the summer program, and the fact that besides work, we have weekends and sometimes evenings to enjoy the city, meet new international people, go around Germany...

What I liked

General atmosphere is great, this programme is really great chance to practice english with different people from all over the world.

I think the whole programme has been well prepared and organised.

I liked my work, and learning new things I never heard of before. The support DESY gave to us (financial, accomodation, place to work in, etc.). I am very grateful to DESY right now.

Firstly, Desy library - a large amount of scientific books what I couldn't find at home. Also, the enviroment is very good, the air is so fresh as never at home.

I liked the ability to see how "real research" works and experience the day to day stuff that may help me make a decision about what I wish to persue in the future.

What I did not like

Nothing.

Frikadelle at the cantine

except of the every hour changing weather I have nothing to say here

People partying upstairs in the guest house most of the nights.

That there was no program in addition to the work as desy, like visiting the harbour or going to bars together.

I think that the table and benches that used to be outside the guest houses should be a bit far away from the guest houses, in order to get the noisy students (me included in a number of occasions) far from the guest house.

We have only 10 meal vouchers in august. What should we eat other 20 days?

It would have been better if it would lasted one more month.

Further Comments

Everything was excellent, I am very happy that I was accepted for this program.
Thank you very much

Thanks for the great opportunity to be a part of DESY

It's a little pity that I have to leave in a week. I had a great time here in DESY.

I'm thinking about doing a PhD here in DESY thanks to the summer student programme and I hope that there will be a place for me.

It was really nicely spent scientific summer with no exceptions. This programme is great and well organized idea. I will be very happy to advise my friends to apply.

I will have nice memories of this summer school because of both the knowledge I gained here and nice meetings with people from various parts of the world. It has been one of the most interesting events of my life

Thank you very much for this program! Participation in it is very useful for everything: for studying physics, for applying knowledge in practice, for learning German, improving English and other languages, finding new friends... I really enjoyed my staying in Hamburg!

Thank you for the best summer in my life.

THANKS

to

- Administration : Mrs Hoppmann, Mrs. Pettersson and all others involved
- International Office : Mrs. Killough and her crew
- Hostel : Mrs. Hummerjohann and her crew
- The Guides
- The Lecturers
- The Supervisors
- And all others behind the scene

AND TO

ANDREA SCHRADER

The summer student program ends today.

I suppose some of you still have some work to do,
since I did not yet receive all work reports.

Please deliver yours still today.

Thanks to YOU, Summer Students 2010 for

- Your interest in DESY and its research
- All your (active) participation in the lectures
- Your superb project work
- The very nice presentations given today
- Your tolerance when things were not so smooth

It was a pleasure to have you here.
I wish you all the best for your future and a safe trip home.

Good Bye Summies 2010