

Interview with Hanneke Brul

Internship at the American Hospital and Cerrahpaşa Academic Hospital

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How did you find out about Concordia and their services regarding internships in Turkey?

My contact with Concordia came because of my dad doing business with Ultimo for Hema. Concordia did a great job and helped me with anything, I couldn't think of my stay there without their help. For my internship they found two hospitals, one private and one university hospital and it was great seeing two different types of hospitals in Turkey.

What is your study about? Could you describe it?

I'm studying nursing, and in my third year I did a minor program about international nursing, it was very interesting and prepared me very well for my internship in Istanbul. In Istanbul I worked first in a private hospital and that was an observation period. I couldn't touch or do anything with the patients. In the other hospital I was part of the nursing team, I was in the operation room actually helping and being a part of the team. Also in the patients department I helped everywhere I could, like a nurse. Because of the difference in language, my Turkish is not that great, it was sometimes quite hard. But most of the time there was somebody who could speak more or less English and explained things.

Did you like Istanbul, the Turkish people and the environment? Could you also give your observations?

I love Istanbul! It's such a big, living city. Every day I saw or discovered new things in the city. It was really a good choice staying here 5 months, it was never boring. I had really a lot of adventures here, of course with so many people there are always crazy things happening too. Turkish people are much, much more friendly than I expected. Their hospitality is incredible and I met such nice people. Always trying to help me and support me whenever and wherever. Such a big difference with the Netherlands in many ways.

What are your plans regarding your future career?

One more year to go before I finish my education, and I'm still not sure what I want to do after this. I'm thinking about something totally different like learning a language, it's a dream to speak another language fluently. But I also love nursing and working with people. Which department in the hospital I still have no idea of that. In this internship I saw a lot of different departments, things I thought I would like I didn't, and things I thought I wouldn't like I did.

Are you satisfied with the service of Concordia and what is your opinion about their services?

I'm very satisfied with their service, I would recommend it definitely to other students.

Interview by Onur M. Ahmet
