Graz Medical University
Department of Biological Sciences
Summer Internship
Vanessa Cruise
Why?

- Exposure to the hospital setting
- Insight to career plans
- Hands-on medical & surgical experience
  - To an extent not typically available to undergraduate students
- Develop & strengthen skills
- Receive advanced training, place yourself ahead
What you have to look forward to...

- 6 weeks under the Department of Transplantation Surgery
- Patient room rotations
- OR shadowing & surgical assisting
- Consults to other departments
- Workshops
- Lectures
- Holidays & travel, cultural exposure
Still not excited?
Surgical Experience

- Explantation (2 observed, 3 assisted)
- Kidney transplant (1 observed, 1 assisted)
- Liver resection (2 assisted)
- Laparoscopic cholecystectomy (2 observed)
- Laparoscopic gastrectomy (2 observed)
- Roux-Y anastomosis (2 observed)
- Portimplant/port-a-cath (4 observed, 1 assisted)
- Pacemaker replacement (2 observed)
- Mandible resection (1 observed)
- Drainage tube removal (1 experience)
- Rigid colon content removal (1 assisted)
- Septic pt. review of necrotizing fasciitis, amputee (1 assisted)
- Pseudo-cystic pancreas (1 assisted)
- Nephrectomy (1 observed, 1 assisted)
- Whipple surgery (1 assisted)
- Liver resection + cholecystectomy + sigmoid tumor removal + bladder/ureter resection + r. adrenalectomy + diaphragm resection (1 observed)
- Laparoscopic splenectomy (1 observed)
- Revision 18.06.19 case (1 observed)
- Liver transplant (1 ½ assisted, 1 ½ observed)
- Back-table prep kidney (2 assisted)
- Whipple’s revision (1 assisted)
- Back-table prep liver (1 assisted)

- Total observed: 21 ½ surgeries
- Total assisted: 17 ½ surgeries
Addendum

- Lecture
- Interdisciplinary meetings
- Workshop
Explantation in Villach - A Special Opportunity

- Graz, Austria → Villach, Austria = about 2 hours
- Lights & sirens
- Liver retrieval
- Organized, orchestrated chaos
- Independent steps—closing
A Preview into the People
Casual & Kind Outreach

Furthering Education

- Overnight: EMT ambulance
  - EMT offers crash course
- Dr. Wisiak
  - German

Outreach

- Overnight: ER patient
  - During break stared conversation
- Dead charger panic
  - Kind stranger offered assistance
Friendships Around the World
Sightseeing
Housing Experience

- 3 roommates
  - Czech Republic
    - Spoke Slovenian
    - Studying Spanish
  - Netherlands
    - Spoke Dutch & German
    - Education → teacher
- Czech Republic
  - Spoke Slovenian
  - Studying Statistics
Impact

• This experience not only solidified my decision to pursue a career in the field of surgery, it solidified my longing to take my career around the world.

• Before this experience, part of me thought I would end up working at a hospital within the U.S. for the entirety of my career. However, after seeing the influence being placed in an entirely different medical environment had on my view on the practice of medicine and my learning, I decided I definitely want to take my skills around the world to help those in need.
Winter vs. Summer

- **Winter:**
  - 2 credit Biology Independent Study
  - Training
    - Skills workshops & assessments
    - Assignments
      - Article Analyses
      - German Medical Terminology
      - Get-To-Know Graz
  - Summer:
    - Internship abroad
Requirements

- Registered Halmos College Junior or Senior for Fall 2020
- Successfully completed Anatomy & Physiology, Medical Terminology
- Science GPA 3.0+
- Preference given to students who have completed upper-level biology courses
- Committee interview, if qualified
A Special Thank You To

The Halmos College of Natural Sciences and Oceanography

Dean Richard Dodge

Dr. Deanne Roopnarine

Dr. Mark Jaffe

Dr. Aarti Raja