

IPID4all Internship Research Exchange with University of Oldenburg

Feedback report

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Self-assembly of organic dye monolayers on various
surfaces*

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Introduction

When I found out about the internship program, I was beginning my MSc studies. One of my friends attending a PhD program at the University of Oldenburg told me of the possibility of visiting the University over the summer. As my BSc and MSc theses had a theoretical character, I was excited to learn more about material science, electrochemistry, and catalysis in a practical setting. I have read some of research conducted by the group of prof. Wittstock, and I was very interested to have the experience first-hand.

Research Undertaken

My research focused on characterisation of various quinone dyes and HATN complexes, for applications in energy conversion and as sensors. Methods I used were primarily electrochemical, and I have also seen and learned about many others, spectroscopic and microscopic, perhaps most importantly SECM.

Personal Experience

The host group was very interesting and welcoming, and I had a lot of fun working in that environment. Since the internship was during the summer, there were many possibilities for outdoors activities and visiting nearby cities, which served as a nice break from the lab work.

Conclusions

The internship has been very educational, as I have learned much about various methods and possibilities of investigating many characteristics of physical systems. I will certainly recommend this internship programme to my fellow students at the Faculty of Physical Chemistry.

Outlook

Given the similarities in the research conducted at my home and host research group, future cooperation, especially a combined theoretical and experimental approach, has been discussed, and remains as a possibility.

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