

**ERFAHRUNGSBERICHT**  
**Studienaufenthalt im Rahmen der Promotion an der Universität Regensburg**  
**2014-2017**

Country of origin:	Russland
University in Bavaria:	Universität Regensburg
Subject of study:	Organische Chemie

**I. Practical experiences and tips**

On that happy day when I received a letter that I became a scholarship holder of BAYHOST organization I already started to think of all administrative procedures which I had to perform. These bureaucratic procedures were quite new and frightening for me but BAYHOST made it very clear that I can ask all questions I want. They were really patiently answering my not easy questions and I would like to thank them for their great help and support. The first problem I encountered was visa problem. German citizens have to apply for visa if they want to visit Russia and same for Russians who would like to visit Germany. I prepared a lot of documents, applied for visa and got it! The next big issue was finding accommodation. Welcome center of University of Regensburg offered me three different places to live. I cannot say that they were very good but they were quite normal and I had to choose something because it is difficult to find a good flat even for German students in Regensburg. Regensburg became a popular place for living in Bavaria. This city occupies the third position of the highest prices of square meter in Bavaria. Other problems concerning preparation of the stay were not so difficult. My travelling to Germany was pleasant. All information about buses, trains can be found on the websites. I read in the Internet how to get to Regensburg from Munich airport before my trip started.

It was inconvenient for me that shops are closed on Sundays and during a week are open only till 8pm. There are different kinds of supermarkets in Regensburg, in some products are cheaper, and in others are more expensive. Furthermore I am glad that there is the "Semester Ticket" in Regensburg. It really helps students to save money. The Welcome center of the University of Regensburg quite often organized meetings for international guest researchers and PhD candidates. It was interesting to meet and get to know new people especially if you moved to another place where you do not know anybody. Sport center of Regensburg University offers lots of different opportunities to do sport for a very cheap price.

## **II. Academic experiences and further qualifications**

I came to Germany to do my research in the laboratory of organic chemistry. Everything I needed for successful conduction of my research I found at University of Regensburg. In our scientific group English is a working language. It allows foreign people who work in this group to feel very comfortable. And of course all publications released from our group are in English.

I visited two conferences in Germany in 2015 and 2016 with participation in poster sessions presenting this research conducted in Regensburg. Beside my lab work, I have also expanded my knowledge about new lab techniques, reaction mechanisms, and photochemistry which will certainly help me in my future career. The free access to scientific literature, databases, and undergraduate and graduate lectures as well as the presence of many helpful colleagues and students made my research stay a valuable experience. Every week we had seminars where my colleagues and I presented some results. We could have three different types of seminars: research report concerning current research results, literature report about research of other scientists and seminar called "synthesis" where we solved tasks or problems of synthetic chemistry.

During the entire stay in Germany I have been learning German. And I really improved my reading, listening and speaking skills. I came to Germany with little knowledge in German, but now I can have a conversation with a native German. I feel that I develop myself by learning the second foreign language. And of course it is easier to learn a foreign language in a country where this language derives from. In this regard BAYHOST scholarship gave me a chance not only to get high quality education in chemistry but to develop myself as a person as well. Even after completing my PhD studies I desire to improve my German as much as possible. I have no doubt that it will help me in my future work.

## **III. My plans after the BAYHOST-funding**

For my future career as a chemist, this research stay at the University of Regensburg is a perfect preparation where I learn excellent science, European culture, and new languages. And the best of all is that I can combine all learning processes within my research work where I study chemistry and perform my research, discuss with colleagues and students, speak German and English, and get to know the culture. But I am only at the beginning of a steep learning curve and I look forward to improving on all levels.

I am going to defend my Doctoral thesis and continue doing research in organic chemistry as professional scientist.