

Winchester Report

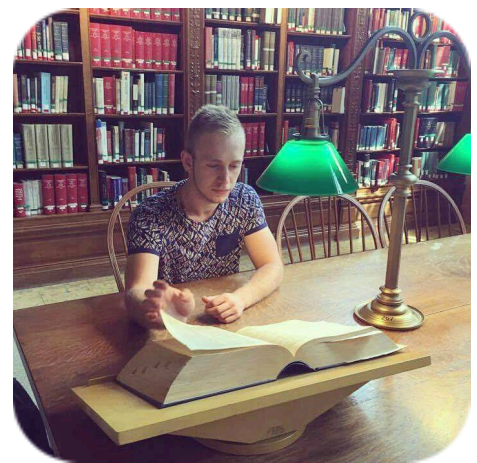


I'm beginning this report in the plane just after the take off and leaving John McConnell. Firstly, I want to say that this internship was one of my best experience of my young life.

I'm Johan Goncalves Procek, 19 years, a lucky student of Sciences Po Saint Germain en Laye chosen by the Jumelage association to stay three weeks in Winchester and to work with Representative Michael Day in the State House of Massachusetts.

As a freshman studying political sciences, it's a great opportunity to work in a State House. Indeed, the political system of the USA is entirely different than our political system because they have a federal system. Therefore, most of the Americans political issues are managed at the state level so I had the opportunity to discover the Americans political life.

Every summer, the State house of the Massachusetts choose many students to do an internship in the different office. I was in the office of Michael Day, the Winchester representative, a wonderful representative who takes care of his citizens but also a very great person : funny, serious and interesting. As a foreign intern, my role was firstly to do some boring office work but after a few days, I began to do some interesting reports for the representative about a lot of subjects which are big issues in the country as for example, the water rising, the pharmaceutical industries... The internship program is composed of work but also of a lot of events. Every days, I could assist at different committees, conferences and programs for interns. Some of them are global events and a few had even free food as Mandela Day or Hong Kong Day where I assisted at two wonderful conferences eating delicious food. I had also the opportunity to see a movie and a speech about the jail issue in the USA, which was horrifying. I was the only intern in the office who stayed all the week at the state house, the other interns were present only some days of the week. Therefore, I met a lot of people, made very good friends and talked a lot about politics.... as a good political science student.



However, my three weeks in Winchester can't be resumed by my State House work. This travel was composed of many people and many experiences. Firstly, I spent most of the days with the 2 other French interns : Clément and Albane, drinking coffee, playing cards, joking that's to say spending good time. In addition, I was welcomed and hosted by the Cregger Family, a wonderful family living in a lovely house in the wood. Betsy and Dave Cregger are both baseball fans, supporting the Boston team, the RED SOX !! I became also a big fan .. And I had the opportunity to see two real games at Fenway park.

Every members of the association was so great with us, they invited us for dinner, they took care of us proposing a lot of visits and activities. Therefore, I discovered that in some Cinemas, people applause when there is action in the movie. We discovered the beautiful landscape of New England, going in many places as the White Mountain. After visited the famous Massachusetts University, I tried to make some partnerships with some Colleges to return in this lovely state. We saw Izzy, the student who came in St Germain last June, and we did some shopping in Boston but also a party with her friends.

The Americans food is entirely different than ours. Fast food are everywhere (I discovered the Ice coffee of Dunkin Donuts which is so pleasant) and portions are more bigger. However, the only displeasing thing was the TIPS and the taxes which made me crazy.

Now, I'm still on the plane, crossing the Atlantic to go to Reykjavik. I'm a little bit sad to quit the United States. Indeed, I discovered a wonderful country composed of people from the whole world. I discovered that American people aren't all like the Simpson family. However, I only saw a little part of the country but I met many wonderful people. My three weeks were very busy, I worked a lot, I increased my English level but I also had too much fun with every people that was with me. That's the reason why, to finish with, I want to say « Thanks You everybody » for this amazing opportunity, you are awesome.

