

Washington D.C., December 1, 2003

Manuel Scherer worked very successfully as an intern in the *Office of Science & Technology*, a division of the Embassy of Austria in Washington D.C. for two months during the summer of 2002.

Manuel applied for the internship at a very early time during the academic year, demonstrating a combination of dynamic initiative and thoughtful foresight. Looking on the basis of his application we could tell that he had thought about why he wanted to do the internship for quite some time and had prepared the application well and thoroughly.

Our interns usually face very high expectations as we try to integrate them into our regular work process as quickly as possible. We expect them to think and work independently and to produce high quality outcomes during their stay at our office. Integrating Manuel into our team was very easy, because Manuel is an exceptionally communicative and very likeable young man. Not only did he fit in perfectly with our time, he also made friends with everyone else at the embassy through his outgoing and friendly manner. The fact that he combines these personal traits with a strong will to perform well and achieve good results made working with him a pleasure.

Manuel took on the challenges of a work environment that often resembles a start up in the unusual and highly complex tasks with a lot of enthusiasm and a persistently high level of personal motivation.

He worked on both administrative and topical issues: he integrated the results of an extended data research in our information-management system; prepared the project

...building bridges of knowledge and expertise between Austria and North America

management for a new series of articles about the U.S. university system that will appear in our monthly newsletters and assisted with a variety of research tasks. When taking care of his tasks, Manuel impressed us with his willingness to seek out the advice of his colleagues and thus benefit from the institutional knowledge at the OST.

Based on my experiences with Manuel as an intern at our offices I fully recommend him as a highly motivated, output-oriented and reliable employee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philipp Steger', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Philipp Steger,
Attaché for Science & Technology