Environmental sustainability internships, Australia & New Zealand

Beth Hughes, Environmental Sciences

My overseas experience took place in Perth, Western Australia and also in Auckland, New Zealand. I spent almost 12 weeks between the two countries and had the most incredible time. The work I was involved with focused on sustainability. In Perth I worked with a Professor at Curtin University within CUSP. Work varied from research in to creative thinking and sustainable leadership, renewable energy, biophilic urbanism and town planning conflicts. In Auckland I worked for The Planetary Accounting Network (PAN). Here I was working largely on improving PANs social media platforms. I was also involved in environmental consulting work.

The trip has definitely helped me decide on what I wish to do in the future. Immediately after finishing my undergrad I would like to work in environmental consultancy. I do however have aspirations to return to university to undertake a masters in urban planning in the future. I had an idea of this path before the trip, hence why I organised this work, but I feel stronger about it now and I know what I'm doing is right.

I am unbelievably grateful for the opportunities I had this summer. My hosts were very kind for letting me work with them during my summer. Both offered me great opportunities and I received wonderful feedback from both of them. I appreciate the financial support from the university as I would not have been able to have done this trip without it.



Photos:

Left – meeting citizens involved with 'Future Wattle Grove'. Right – My mentor and I on our last evening together.

Placement website: <u>https://sustainability.curtin.edu.au</u> <u>https://www.planetaryaccounting.org</u>