



## Semester Exchange Programme 2018/2019



NAME: ABRAM

SURNAME: SCHONFELDT

CAMPUS ID: SCHABR004

UCT PROGRAMME PLAN: BSc

YEAR OF STUDY AT UCT FOR 2019: THIRD YEAR

PARTNER INSTITUTION: UC BERKELEY

STUDY PERIOD AT PARTNER UNIVERSITY: 1 SEMESTER

### PRE-DEPARTURE COSTS

What was your experience with managing the following costs prior to your departure to your host institution?

- Flight Ticket and UCT Vendor Management – Fortunately my parents were able to cover the cost of the Flight Ticket. I am still waiting for the refund though.
- Visa Costs – There were lots of unexpected costs with US Visas. In total the various fees came to \$333.00
- Health Insurance – Health Insurance was particularly expensive at UC Berkeley, costing \$1 500.00
- UCT housing – I was able to exit housing and re-enter it. I just had to go to student housing a few times and speak to them about my situation, as well as follow up via email.
- Ensuring that UCT tuition is paid before your departure – This was fine.
- Financial Aid/Sponsorships – This doesn't really apply to me

### LIVING COST SCHOLARSHIP

- Date/period of disbursement by partner – The scholarship only came through in October which was too late, since I had been living in Berkeley since August already. My parents had to cover lots of costs over that period.
- Total sum of scholarship disbursed by partner - \$6 500.00
- Meals – Largely included in Housing since food was supplied as part of Housing, but ate out about once every two weeks, and the average meal was around \$20.00 for just a main course including tax and a tip. I estimate I spent around \$500.00 on eating out.
- Housing - \$3 934.00
- Transport – Could largely walk or cycle to campus. Most transport costs came from going out and traveling around the states, but those were quite costly. The average trip to San Francisco cost just over \$20.00 to get there and back, and if you were going by Uber or Lyft, it could get as expensive as \$40.00 one way.
- Books – Fortunately didn't have to spend anything on textbooks – they were available at the library there. However, I did need to buy notebooks which cost \$15.00
- Travel – I travelled to L.A., Yosemite, Santa Cruz and Colorado. My ticket to L.A. was a bus ticket that cost just under \$100.00 to get there and back. The cost of the trip to Yosemite was \$50.00, and the cost of the trip to Santa Cruz was \$20.36. Each flight to Colorado cost about \$150.00. I flew there and back for Thanksgiving to visit my family who live there, and then I flew back from there after Christmas (I drove down with my cousin).
- Participation Funds (orientation, clubs, societies) Cal Climbing had a \$20.00 joining fee, climbing gym membership cost \$62 a month, orientation cost \$320.00 and the season pass to watch the football games cost \$100.00.

#### COSTS INCURRED RELATED TO YOUR SEMESTER ABROAD UPON YOUR RETURN TO UCT

- Costs incurred for enrolling for additional courses at UCT - None
- Alerting your sponsors/financial aid upon your return - None
- Ensuring housing at UCT student residences - None

