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Host Country: Lithuania

Host Institution: LCC International University

Where is Klaipeda, Lithuania?



Taken from Google Earth, the city of Klaipedia is located on 55.7033° N, 21.1443° E. Notable cities along the same latitude include Edinburgh, Moscow and, if you swim or trek due west via the Baltic Sea (which I do not recommend at all this time of the year), you will end up in Copenhagen. Here is a short video promoting the wonderful city of Klaipeda. Our apartment, located in the D building, is featured prominently in the video.

This wonderful campus is like the 'United Nations'....

I am so thrilled to meet and interact with the students here at LCC International University. While many are from Lithuania, the balance come from all over Eastern Europe and Asia. We also host StudyAbroad students from the USA and Canada. One of my students, who is in his early twenties, has traveled to 65 countries.





Letter from the President of the United States

It was indeed an honor to receive a signed letter from the 45th President of the United States, Donald J Trump!



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Department of State Exchange Participant:

Congratulations on being selected to represent the United States as a member of the Department of State Exchange Program.

I have made it a top priority to strengthen and maintain our Nation's oldest friendships and build new partnerships in pursuit of peace. This program is one of the many ways our Nation is achieving this goal. I am proud to have you take part in this special opportunity.

Participants of this program represent our Nation as citizen ambassadors. You have the responsibility to demonstrate American values and display leadership around the world. May you use this time to teach, learn, grow, and make connections that will last a lifetime.

Melania and I join your family and friends in wishing you a safe journey and a memorable experience.

Sincerely,

Guest Speaker from USA

During the 2020 spring semester, we covered databases and their role and importance in supporting the business functions of an organization. I was delighted to have an experienced database administrator from the States as a guest speaker. Mr. Ward Slager brought a wealth of practical know-how in the field of databases, and shared important insights with the students. Thank you, Ward Slager!

Representing LCC International University at the International Student Fair

We traveled by train from Klaipeda to Vilnius to be part of the largest Lithuanian University Fair where thousands of middle to high school students visited booths sponsored by colleges and universities in Lithuania, greater Europe, as well as the United States and United Kingdom. LCC International University was well represented by knowledgeable admissions staff and student ambassadors, and many prospective students visited the LCC kiosk. It was particularly delightful to engage with eleventh graders as they searched and explored various options and programs available to them.

As an aside, some 35 years ago, I attended a similar international college/university fair at the Singapore Hilton. With hundreds of universities to choose from, I was particularly drawn to a booth and the admissions representative (hi Lynn!) who took the time to share the highlights and academic programs of this university in the US. It was her genuine interest in me as a person that made the difference. As a result, I decided to attend Western New England University in Springfield, Massachusetts. So, by attending this Student Fair, I came full circle to where I started, and thoroughly enjoyed talking with youngsters who also have dreams of advancing and bettering their lives.....

Support Staff - U.S. Embassy Vilnius

It was so good to finally meet the support staff with whom I interfaced only by email before we came to Klaipedia. I want to publicly thank all the support/administrative staff here in Lithuania and those back in the US (IIE/CIES) for their excellent and faithful work supporting the Fulbright program. It is truly appreciated.



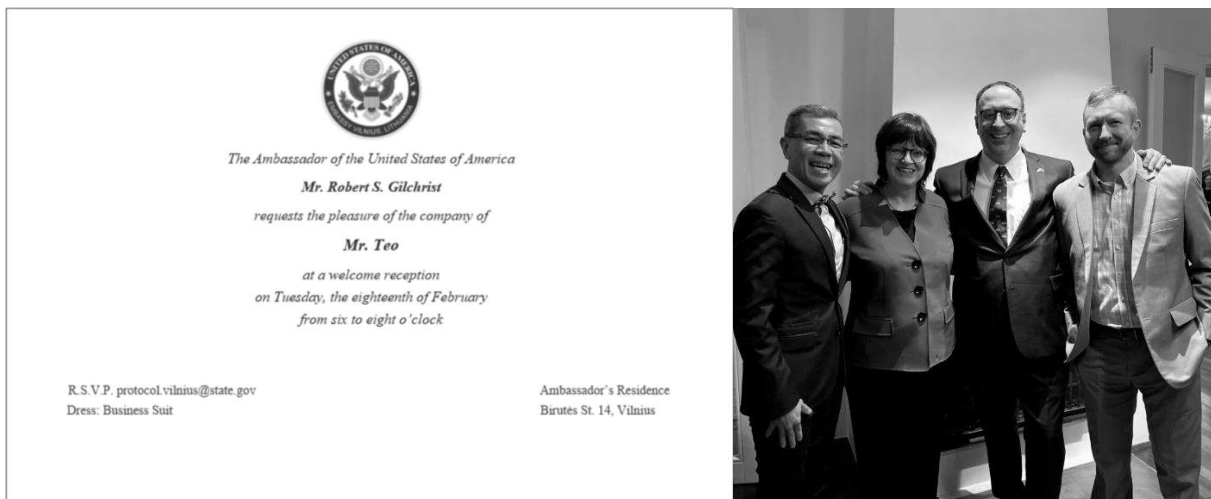
Klaipeda Light Festival 2020 02 14

We began a weekend of festivities by attending a movie screening titled "Sea of Sorrow, Sea of Hope," a "Light on Syria" event sponsored by LCC International University and Global Refugee Forum/UNHCR. This powerful documentary told the story of a Syrian family caught in the conflict, their attempts to flee to safety and to seek refuge in a safe country. The strong bonds of a mother's love and her deep desire for the well-being of her children are universal human traits.



The Ambassador of the United States

LCC International University President Dr. Marlene Wall, fellow Fulbrighter Mr. Robert Bethke and I were guests of The Ambassador of United States, Lithuania, Mr. Robert S. Gilchrist. The Ambassador hosted a welcome reception at his residence.



Cybint and LCC International University: The First University-BootCamp Partnership for Cyber in Europe

An important tenet of my Fulbright engagement is the promotion of program capacity to increase cybersecurity expertise in Lithuania. This ground-breaking partnership between LCC International University and Cybint positions them to rapidly increase both the capacity and expertise of cybersecurity knowledge to help defend against a rising number of cyber threats against people, organizations, and governments worldwide. In Europe, the shortage of skilled workers in this industry has more than doubled over the past year, from 142,000 to over 291,000. Cybersecurity education is needed to close the employment gap in the region, and the most efficient way to do so remotely in the post-pandemic world is through Cybint's BootCamp. I will be teaching the inaugural BootCamp scheduled for February 2021.

