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Review on MidStay program in Stockholm

The MidStay program in Stockholm was a great opportunity to meet other students who are interested in participating in a research in Europe, and also to experience one of major cities and institutes in Europe, which were Stockholm and Karolinska Institute (KI) for this term.

On the first day, we gathered at KI and had an interesting discussion about methods of research in various fields. We discussed how two seemingly different areas actually share common properties of methods, while two seemingly interrelated areas may have different perspectives in analyzing one's data. As most of the students were doing research in different fields, it was nice to see diverse perspectives on that topic. On the second and the third day, we presented the researches that each of us was involved in. The research topics ranged from humanities such as philosophy to natural sciences such as biology. As a chemistry major, I was relatively familiar with how research was done in natural sciences but not with other fields. In that sense, it was interesting to hear about the research methods in completely different fields. Moreover, besides the workshops and the presentations, we had tours at SciLife Lab, and Hagstromer Library. The library was one of the most interesting library that I have ever visited as it had lots of old editions of book on biology, from which one can take a glimpse at medical history.

In addition to the academic activities, we also had short tours in Stockholm. We visited a few museums such as Vasa museum, Fotografiska, and Skansen, and also walked around the areas called SoFo, and the Old Town. Since the sun went down pretty early there, we mostly had to see only dark views of the neighborhoods, but the night views were quite beautiful as well. We also used various kinds of transportation to go from one place to another within Stockholm, for example, buses, subways, trams, and even ferries, which was also a new experience for me because I only ride a bike within Leiden, Netherlands. Overall, I think the MidStay program was not only a good time-off from the regular work in research lab, but also a great chance to get to know the other students from academically and culturally diverse backgrounds, and to see a wonderful city in Sweden.