

October 4, 1998

Andrew D. Horchler  
Princeton University

Dear Mr. Wildenstein,

This summer I had the good fortune to participate in a Princeton in France internship thanks to a generous fellowship from the American Society of the French Legion of Honor. I am a junior mechanical engineering student at Princeton this year and was able to profit from very valuable and interesting engineering research this summer in Paris. In addition, I was able to be a participant in a festive and exciting two months.

I worked for the Laboratoire Central des Ponts et Chaussées (LCPC) as a researcher and assistant to Dr. Pierre Argoul, the head of the Department of Mechanics and Physics of Complex Systems. More specifically, I worked in the field of signal processing using wavelet analysis. Much of the work was high level programming but I also did collaborate on several scientific articles in French. The internship was a successful learning experience in terms of the new programming language and mathematical concepts that I learned, my increased technical French vocabulary, and my close exposure to a pure research environment.

While in France I lived by myself in a small studio not far from where I worked. This gave me a sense of independence made me feel integrated into the French way of life. As I have come to say: "It was the best possible time to be in Paris!" Summer, the World Cup, France's victory, the numerous festivals, Bastille Day, Tour de France -I got to be a part of them all in some way. These in combination with the rest of the city and my job made this summer a truly a unique cultural experience for me.

This fall I have returned to Princeton energized. I have gained new knowledge that will be useful in my future studies and new experience that will be helpful both now and after college. I hope that in the future more Princeton students can profit from an experience similar to mine. Again, I thank the American Society of the French Legion of Honor for giving me such a wonderful opportunity.

Sincerely,



Andrew de Salle Horchler