In this report, I will discuss about my stay in Hannover for the winter semester 2015/2016 as a part of the International Mechatronics double degree program. After finishing the first year of this master program in St. Petersburg Polytechnic University, I arrived in Hannover in the beginning of September 2015.
I consider it so supportive that I get to stay in a student dormitory so that I didn’t go through the troubles of finding a private room in a shared apartment. The atmosphere in my dormitory was very convenient to live and be productive as I had very nice neighbors and also a lot of activities organized by the student dormitory’s administration.

I had the chance to participate in a free of charge intensive German language course during September which helped me to improve my German and integrate much faster in the German society. Moreover, this course also included some activities to know the city and get to know other international students.

One of the main reasons that I really admire about my stay is being rewarded a scholarship by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for the first semester which helped to cover a part of the expenses of my stay, which decreased the pressure on me and made me more motivated and able to study harder, be more productive and enjoy my time.

Since I have arrived here, everything went easily and smoothly concerning registration and all paper work. Although it was a little bit unpleasant to get the semester card after one month of arriving to Hannover, it was still great that our semester ticket includes the busses, S-bahn and U-bahn and the trains in the whole lower Saxony.

Concerning the academic experience, I really liked that all our courses were well structured and our lecturers were very flexible and considerate. However, I would have preferred to do more of practical work than theoretical topics. The labs and the library were really good and helpful and I get to access them easily and efficiently. As an overall experience, it was very positive and I am looking forward to start my next semester to do my master thesis.