

## Exchange in Kajaani UAS gave personal development and many new friends

Markus Laurisch, an electrical engineering student from the Lausitz University of Applied Sciences, Germany, spent 6 months in Kajaani UAS doing his practical training.

Markus had great time and he recommends the student exchange to everyone, not only for the CV but also for the personal development.

In the practical training Markus could combine many aspects that he had learned before and also improve his skills in designing and programming. In addition, Markus took two courses: one course from his study field and one course of Finnish language.



In the beginning Markus noticed that the relationship between the students and the teachers was more relaxed than in his home country. First it seemed that the students didn't have respect for the teachers and it felt weird to call the teacher by their first names. Soon Markus realized that it was easier to study and handle things when there is no fear to go to talk to the professors.

In the free time Markus took the best out of the sport and outdoor possibilities in Kajaani. He played volleyball, he went to bowling and ice-skating and he also played disc golf for the first time. With the other students he made a campfire by the lake nearby the campus and grilled some sausages and enjoyed the time there. During the weekends and holidays Markus went to hiking in Hiidenportti and Oulanka National Parks and also traveled in Lapland.

The Student Union KAMO organized parties and activities, and the exchange students made their own parties too. One of the unforgettable memories was the Show Your Colors party where the students from different countries dressed in their national colors and outfits.

Especially Markus appreciated the student tutors. It was nice that there was someone to give the keys to the apartment and helping to get started after arrival. "The student tutors were open-minded and offered lot of help", Markus says.