



Chris Mario Moeckel, the 2017-2018 Joan and Egon von Kaschnitz Gateway Fellow at International House, UC Berkeley



The international atmosphere, heated discussion in the hallway and the exchange of culture and idea are just a few of the many things I am looking forward to at the International House. Ever since I left Germany for my studies, I have immersed myself in an international environment, and I am very excited that the Joan and Egon von Kaschnitz fellowship allows me to continue with this wonderful experience.

I spent my childhood growing up between trees and lakes in rural Bavaria. My parents are keen hikers and have instilled a longing for the outdoors in me. To this day, I try to spend my time outside as much as time permits, always hoping to explore more of this world. With the start of the University, I moved to the Netherlands to immerse myself in a different environment, and it was here that I got to love the international, multicultural environment, that would eventually become my guiding principle:

learning from other people and cultures. Throughout my studies, I had the wonderful opportunity to pursue my study on four different continents, and while not always easy, it has changed me for the better. I hope to be inspired by the people around me, just as much as I want to inspire and motivate my colleagues and neighbors.

At Berkeley, I am planning to study not only our planet but the other planets in the solar system. In my academic tour of the solar system, I have already been involved in projects at Earth, Mars, and Jupiter, where the latter is a continuous source of fascination. The many aspects that are still unknown and the prospect of working at the forefront of planetary science lead me to my Ph.D. program at the Earth and Planetary Science department at UC Berkeley.

From his Personal Statement:

"One of the highlights of my previous studies was the international environment. Consequently, I have worked with and lead international and multi-cultural teams, such as my graduation project which hosted seven different nationalities out of 10 students. And I loved understanding how ideas and ideals can vary between persons. Different cultures have different problem-solving strategies, allowing us to consider a problem from a different viewpoint."



The Joan and Egon von Kaschnitz Gateway Fellowship was established in 2011, with the goal of supporting incoming international PhD. students with financial need, in any academic discipline.