

Indoor Air 2008

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Copenhagen, Denmark

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Did you know that Denmark is home to the happiest people in the world?* And what a location to attend my first international academic conference! We were in the capital city of Copenhagen. It is rich with history while at the same time mixing with the contemporary. Attractions such as Hans Christian Andersen's Little Mermaid (background), Tivoli Gardens, and many a castle offered memorable sights away from the conference. Pictured also are a statue of the famed author and a popular canal, both located downtown.



*With my presentation entitled
"Application of singular value
decomposition for estimating airflow"*



*With a statue of Hans Christian
Andersen in downtown Copenhagen.*

Indoor Air 2008: The 11th International Conference on Indoor Air Quality and Climate brought me to Copenhagen. Over 1,000 attendees, including professors, industry professionals, and students, were in attendance. They came from all parts of the globe and represented a broad range of topics related to indoor air quality and the indoor environment. Meeting people from around the world with both the same and different research interests as mine opened up opportunities to form friendships and collaborations.

I was fortunate enough to have my presentation scheduled on the first full-day of the conference. The early exposure solidified my and Drexel University's presence on this international stage. After my presentation, those showing interest in collaborating included a professor from England and a researcher from South Korea. Attending almost 100 presentations myself, I spoke with researchers working in areas not directly related to mine as well. I am certain that the contacts made will serve me and the University well in the future.



*Along the popular Nyhavn
(New Harbor) canal.*

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Frederiksborg Castle in Hillerød.

The conference was held at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU). It is home to the International Centre for Indoor Environment and Energy (ICIEE). I participated in a tour of this facility, which housed climate controlled chambers, a mock aircraft cabin, and thermal mannequins. The ICIEE welcomes collaborative efforts and is a resource for me to

keep in mind.

I want to thank the Office of International Programs for their funding of my trip through the International Travel Award. The chance to meet such intelligent and talented members of the international research community would not have been possible if I had not been able to attend this conference. I intend to



Main campus of DTU.



Tivoli Gardens at night.

maintain correspondence with many of the people I met. The future holds many not-yet-discovered ways to work together in order to advance the field of indoor air quality research.

**Denmark was given the title of Happiest Place on Earth upon completion of a scientific survey on happiness conducted by Leicester University in England.*