



Mark Countryman (left) and Barbara Lagerquist plant thyme in the Arboretum Herb Garden.

ARBORETUM ATTRACTS INTERNS FROM ABROAD

THIS SUMMER three international interns, two from Canada and one from Germany participated in the internship program at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum.

Barbara Lagerquist from British Columbia, Canada, is a student at the University of Western Ontario. She is in her fourth year of school and is studying ecology. Barbara learned about the program through an international training assistance program. Although she hoped to work with animals this summer, she found her stint at the Arboretum very educational.

She had hoped to go to Europe through the exchange program that sent her friends to Finland and Amsterdam, Netherlands, but she said, she was happy to come to California.

Petra Schmaehling from Cologne, Germany, another intern, has finished her formal education at the college of Horticulture in Osnabrueck, Germany. She graduated with four majors: Tree

Nursery, Fruit Cultivation, Plant Pathology and Nursery Management. At the college she attended, students concentrate only on horticulture courses unlike the United States where they are required to take extensive courses in chemistry, biology and other science courses.

Projects she has been working on at the Arboretum have been mapping areas on the grounds, pressing plants in the herbarium and recording information into the computer. She has also worked with the tree crew and in the nursery sowing and watering.

Petra especially likes the weather of Southern California but could do without the smog.

Petra said that she has been interested in plants for eight years and worked at tree nurseries in Cologne but had never worked at a botanical garden.

"There are two botanical gardens in Cologne. One is much larger [than the Arboretum] and the other specializes in European plants

that originated in Germany," Petra said.

From January through March of this year Petra studied at Ohio State University taking courses in horticulture. She received a scholarship from the German Society, a campus organization, which enabled her to study at Ohio State. She then learned of the internship program at the Arboretum and wanted to further her experience by working in the horticulture field.

Fabian Synaeghel is a student at the College of Sainte-Foy in Quebec, Canada, who is studying horticulture. He has worked at nurseries in Quebec and California but sees the Arboretum as a place to learn about plants from all over the world.

"For instance, there are no eucalyptus trees in Canada because of the temperate zone," Fabian said. "Working here I can learn about different types of plants that grow in a climate like that of Southern California."



1987. "Arboretum attracts interns from abroad." *Garden* 11(5), 6.

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