PART I: Trip Preparation:

1. Reimbursement
2. Hostel Details (Handout)
3. Itinerary (Handout)
4. Things to Bring (Handout)

PART II: Guest Presentation by Thomas Oles – “A Tourist in Denmark”


1. Thomas’s Danish Experience
   a. Spent 1.5 years of professional education at 2 big landscape architecture schools in Copenhagen
   b. Lived in dormitory with other Danish students (as a guest student)
      i. Very easy to do: free tuition for Danish and foreign students
2. Observations
   a. Transportation is expensive
   b. The bus system is constantly losing market share to bicycles
      i. Bicycles are faster and cheaper
   c. Importance of social ritual/togetherness
      i. Denmark is a very small society
      ii. Ritualized togetherness is very important
      iii. Speaking Danish is very important to being part of the society
3. Danish Politics
   a. Center/right coalition came to power promising radical reforms in the area of immigration
      i. Put a lot of pressure on government to restrict privileges to Danes
   b. Political Parties:
      1. Two Opposite Parties:
         a. Liberal Party (very right)
         b. Conservative Party (left)
      2. Social democrats are in perennial decline
      3. 10 major parties
         a. The radical left is actually centrist by United States standards
      4. Immigration
         a. Subject driving the entire political debate
b. Current government has initiated very stringent immigration policies
   i. Nearly impossible to emigrate to Denmark now

(c. Most critical voice toward government’s policies in immigrant debate is Marianne Jelved
   i. Outspoken against the Prime Minister on the “Mohammad Crisis”
   ii. Such criticism is highly unusual in Danish politics to this point
       1. Work is usually driven by consensus

d. Evidence of these conflicts in the physical form of the city:
   i. Immigrant ghettos (less desirable neighborhoods)

e. Political conflict mostly about religion
   i. Struggle between Christianity and Islam
   ii. Danish People’s Party (nationalist): “Islam is a plague on Europe”
       1. Membership has been increasing
   iii. Concerted effort by Radical Left Party to diffuse the situation in Denmark
       1. Some smaller demonstrations in Copenhagen
          a. Nothing violent

4. Visiting Copenhagen
   a. Walk as much as you can
      i. Biking is not as good for sightseeing
         1. Difficult to see much
         2. Aggressive bike culture
            a. Familiarize yourself with the traffic rules
      ii. Buses don’t work well in the medieval city
   b. Neighborhoods
      i. Medieval City
         1. Typical European city
         2. Successful pedestrian streets
         3. Does not represent the daily experience of most people in Copenhagen
      ii. “Beyond the Lakes”
         1. 19th century tenement quarters
         2. Neighborhoods
            a. Vesterbro “Westbridge”
            b. Norrebro “Northbridge”
               i. Immigrants mostly in Norrebro
1. Turkish
2. Pakistani
3. Indian
c. Osterbro “Eastbridge”

3. Character
   a. Mostly single-family homes
   b. Not unlike American suburbs built in the same time
   c. Suburbanization wave in 1960s and 1970s

iii. Geographies of wealth
   1. North: Wealthy
      a. North Coast: “Danish Riviera”
         i. Degree of wealth fades back from the shoreline
   2. West: Mixed
   3. South: poor (immigrant and Dane)
      a. Modern Art museum deliberately located to the south to balance the presence of a famous museum to the north.

c. Public Housing
   i. Stages of development
   ii. Rich tradition of public housing
      1. Cooperative still the standard of housing delivery in Copenhagen
      2. 60% of apartments in Copenhagen are cooperatives.
      3. Recently it has fallen out of favor as preferred model

d. Transportation
   i. Finger Plan
      1. Radial system going into the suburbs
      2. Metro is now connecting the inner part of the fingers
         a. First light-rail train
      3. Major planning armature for the city since the 1940s

e. Places to go
   i. Jazz: Student House (Studento Huse) by the Round Tower
      1. hygge: coziness, warmth, almost always refers to indoor conditions
         a. hyggelig: complimentary adjective
      2. astonishing level of sophistication and attention paid to creating good indoor spaces
   ii. Suburbs to Visit
      1. Suburbs start at the end of the Brokvarter
         a. Easy to walk through the transitions between different stages of development.
         b. Higher degree of interest of younger and older people in the center of cities
c. Families move to the suburbs primarily because it is very expensive to live in the city
d. Copenhagen has a great housing shortage
   i. Schools are not as large an impact
      1. Financing is different, not as tied to geography