EUROPEAN STUDENTS’ CONVENTION 2016
‘The modernisation of higher education in Europe’

8TH – 11TH OF MARCH 2016
AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
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Welcome letters.
Dear participants,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 31st European Students’ Convention. We are delighted to be able to organise together with LSVb and ISO three days of work and debates focused on some of the topics put on the spotlight nowadays at European level.

It is not a casualty that the ESC 31 is being hosted in Amsterdam during the Dutch presidency of the Council of the EU and when The Netherlands is co-chairing the Bologna Follow-Up Group (BFUG). During this week Amsterdam will be the epicenter of European higher education policy debates: hosting the general assembly of the European Quality Assurance Register for higher education (EQAR), the BFUG meeting, an EU presidency conference on the future of higher education and the European Students’ Convention. All these events bring to Amsterdam lot of higher education policy-makers, practitioners and stakeholders in times where very important discussions are being held in the Bologna Process and the European Union.

Moreover, colliding with the kick-off of the work of the BFUG working groups and the discussions on the future of the Bologna Process (core values and commitments, implementation, governance and new goals) the European Commission is reviewing its Modernisation Agenda for higher education, as a follow-up of the new Education and Training 2020 new priorities for 2016-2020.

During these three days will discuss some about digitisation, internationalisation and curriculum design; three of areas being tackled both on the discussions of the new goals for the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and on the review of the
Modernisation Agenda. We are confident the conclusions of our joint work will be of great use for ESU in future discussion.

Last but not least, we would like to thank once again LSVb and ISO for their great work and all the different bodies that supporting them. Our most sincere thanks go also to all great speakers and facilitators that agreed to be here, the ESU hacks team and of course all of you that travelled all the way to Amsterdam.

We wish you a constructive and fruitful encounter,

Fernando Galan

Chairperson of the European Students’ Union
Dear student representatives,

Welcome to the 31st European Student Convention in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. A great city with marvellous bars, enchanting canals, exquisite restaurants and cool places to party. But that is, of course, not the only reason you are here.

The theme of this convention is ‘Modernisation of higher education’, with three subthemes: ‘digitalisation’, ‘internationalisation’, and ‘curriculum design’. Several experts on these subthemes will elaborate on these subjects throughout the convention in plenary sessions and workshops.

Currently, the Dutch Student Union (LSVb) has these subthemes high on the agenda. Firstly, digitalisation, our union is currently focusing on the implementation of courses to educate teachers in higher education on the newest digitalisation technologies, so they can use these new technologies in their own classes. Secondly, internationalisation in the Netherlands is focussed on outgoing mobility, and, sadly, these numbers are falling behind. Less students are going abroad. But besides that, there is a new focus on the International classroom, to give students an international experience at home. Finally, the last subtheme of the 31st European Student Convention, curriculum design. Over the course of the last year we have had quite the political debate about the amount of influence student representatives should have on the curricula in the Netherlands. Of course the theme of curriculum design is highly interconnected with the other subthemes of the convention, when teaching methods become more digitalised or internationalised the curriculum changes as well.
I am looking forward to this European Student Convention. To hear your input, get new insights from the speakers and develop some new ideas. I am also looking forward to drink some beers or jenever, our national spirit, with you and sing some karaoke.

Have fun and we will meet each other soon.

Sara Spano
Vice President of LSVb
Dear friends, dear board,

On behalf of ISO (Interstedelijk Studenten Overleg), the Dutch National Students’ Association, it is my pleasure to cordially invite you to Amsterdam at the 31\textsuperscript{st} European Students’ Convention. Having this conference in The Netherlands is a great opportunity to discuss new ideas, and above all, have your ideas blended with ours within our own country.

The theme of this conference is modernisation of higher education. When speaking of modernising higher education, we seek for improvement within higher education while exploring ways to innovate the status quo. In discussing what our education systems must look like, we essentially contribute to shaping our future generation - Europe’s future generation. As Abe Lincoln once said: ‘the philosophy of the schoolroom in one generation will be the philosophy of the government in the next’. As representatives of European countries in challenging times, we are all in the unique position to contribute. Contribute to the higher education system within our countries, within Europe - today, tomorrow, and the days after.

We are happy to present the Conference’s program we have put together for you. There will be various sessions on digital learning, blended learning, the digital community and other forms of innovation. Other sessions will be on new forms of assessment and feedback, as well as on privacy concerns. In addition, considering the challenges Europe is facing, we will build on previous discussions on the humanitarian refugee migration crisis, and discuss socio-economic diversity and student mobility. A diverse program can be guaranteed, and we look forward to learning from your experiences and insights pertaining to various facets of higher education. In addition to the program, we hope
you will also participate in the social events that have been arranged for you. This will be the unique opportunity to get to see Amsterdam and its canals, culture, and people. Your participation will contribute immensely to the success of the 2016 European Students’ Convention.

We look forward to welcoming you to The Netherlands, to have both constructive discussions and opportunities to share new ideas, as an example for the international community and cooperation we wish to see in Europe. During conferences like these we ought to seize the opportunities to make these contributions together, and shape the education system the way we want to see.

Linde de Nie  
*President of ISO*
Overview programme.
Tuesday march 8 – Arrival day

*Aula University of Amsterdam – Singel 411, Amsterdam*

17.30 – 18.30: Dinner

18.30 – 19.00: Travel to reception by bus

19.00 – 22.00: Reception

22.00 – 22.30: Travel back to hostel by bus

Wednesday march 9 - Digitalisation

*Amsterdam University College – Sciencepark 113, Amsterdam*

08.00 – 09.00: Breakfast

09.00 – 09.30: Travel to AUC by bus

09.30 – 10.00: Welcome speeches

10.00 – 10.45: Introduction on blended learning

10.45 - 11.00: Coffee break

11.00 – 12.15: Workshop round 1

12.15 – 13.30: Workshop round 2

13.30 – 14.30: Lunch

14.30 – 15.45: Workshop round 3
15.45 – 16.00: Coffee break
16.00 – 17.00: Towards a policy on digitalisation in higher education
17.00 – 18.00: Marginalised Groups
18.00 – 18.30: Travel to hostel
18.30 – 19.30: Dinner
20.00 – 23.00: Cultural night

Thursday march 10 - Internationalisation

*InHolland, University of Applied Sciences – Wildenborch 6, Diemen*

08.00 – 09.00: Breakfast
09.00 – 09.30: Travel to InHolland by bus
09.30 – 10.00: Introduction topic and work of ESU
10.00 – 10.30: History, state of affairs and future of internationalization
10.30 – 10.45: Introduction workshops
10.45 – 11.00: Coffee break
11.00 – 12.00: Workshop round 1
12.00 – 13.00: Workshop round 2
13.00 – 14.00: Lunch
14.00 – 15.00: Gender session
15.00 – 15.30: Critical reflection on the Bologna process
15.30 – 16.15: Discussion in small groups, bologna process/internationalisation
16.30 – 17.00: The future of internationalisation
17.00 – 17.30: Travel to hostel
18.30 – 19.30: Dinner
20.30: Bus to cruise
21.00 – 22.00: Cruise at the Amsterdam Canals
23.00 – ?: Noodlanding, Paradiso

Friday march 11 – Curriculum Design

_InHolland, University of Applied Sciences – Wildenborch 6, Diemen_

08.00 – 09.00: Breakfast
09.00 – 09.30: Travel to InHolland by bus
09.30 – 10.00: Introduction Learning Outcomes, as the common language of Curriculum Design
10.00 – 10.15:  Introduction National/International level of CD and Modernization Agenda EC
10.15 – 11.15:  Workshop round 1
11.15 – 11.45:  Coffee break
11.45 – 12.45:  Workshop round 2
12.45 – 14.00:  Lunch
14.00 – 15.15:  Workshop round 3
15.15 – 17.00:  Working towards recommendations
17.00 – 17.30:  Closing by the minister
17.30 – 18.00:  Closing Reception
18.00 – 18.45:  Travel to Restaurant
19.00 - ?: Dinner and Karaoke
Programme conference day 1 - March 9.

Amsterdam University College
Sciencepark 113, Amsterdam
09.30 – 10.00: Welcome speeches

The conference will be opened by
- Fernando Galán Palomares - president of ESU
- Sara Spano – Vice president of LSVb
- Linde de Nie - President of ISO

10.00 – 10.15: Introduction to Blended Learning by ESU

10.15 – 10.45: Blended Learning in Biomedical Education

Most academic curricula are still based on the teaching model once designed to educate craftsmen during and after the industrial revolution. For this reason it still strongly resembles the industrial model. All students go, sorted by production year, through pretty much the same pre-programmed path, with the same quality controls (assessments) and quality levels (learning goals). Is this a future proof teaching model for the current knowledge era and the information age that lies ahead of us? Now, children (=students) are born with a smart phone in their hand, knowledge is everywhere and high-quality education from top universities is freely available Massive Open Online Courses (Moocs). Do we need to develop new teaching models such as Blended Learning that combine the best from online learning and face-to-face instruction, or have our old models been there forever because they are extremely validated?
Harold van Rijen is Director of Biomedical Sciences and Professor of innovation of biomedical education at the University Medical Center Utrecht and will interactively guide you through several examples, problems and surprises with blended learning in biomedical education.

10.45- 11.00: Coffee break

11.00 – 12.15: Workshop round 1

Workshop 1A: Bologna: New Challenges

Mette Moerk Andersen is in charge of policies at the European Commission with regards to higher education, working as administrative manager on matters related to recognition and the social dimension of higher education. Before assuming responsibility for policies at the European Commission, she was linked to education through the Permanent Danish Mission before the European Union, which included the management of the Education Committee at the Cabinet during the Erasmus+ negotiations. Mette Moerk Andersen holds a Master in English and European Studies by the Copenhagen Business University.

Workshop 1B: Feedbackfruits

It is FeedbackFruits’s mission to improve higher education by facilitating blended learning. We have developed an online platform that enables teachers to implement new teaching models, such as flipping-the-classroom and online peer-to-peer learning. Through increased interaction (among students and between students and their teacher) deeper learning can be
Our young team includes programmers, educational scientists and dedicated (former) students. We believe that education can be more than just the means of getting a job or diploma. By connecting teachers and students we help to make education a journey that inspires people and ignites the thirst for lifelong learning.

https://startuppodium.surf.nl/#/pitch/4

**Workshop 1C: Open Education**

Willem van Valkenburg and Martijn Ouwehand both work at the Technical University of Delft. They develop different kinds of open education, like MOOC's or Open Course Ware. So if you're curious how open education can improve accessibility of higher education and the quality of higher education, you should definitely join this workshop.

**Workshop 1D: Improving access to higher education through digitalisation**

Bilan Arte, chairperson of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and Alexandra Flores-Quilty, president of United States Student Association will host a session on how to improve the access of higher education through digitalisation.
Workshop 1E: Right to research

Joseph McArthur is the Assistant Director of the Right to Research Coalition, SPARC’s student initiative. Joe is responsible for organizing and amplifying the student voice to advocate for policies promoting open research and education across the EU and beyond. Joe works to further strengthen and leverage the Right to Research Coalition's engagement with its membership of more than 90 student organizations, which collectively represent nearly 7 million students in over 100 countries around the world. He also supports preparations for Open Access Week and OpenCon in addition to leading OpenCon’s community and satellite event initiatives, to ensure the conference has a year-round, global impact.
12.15 – 13.30: Workshop round 2

The workshops in this round will be the same as in workshop round 1

13.30 – 14.30: Lunch

Enjoy a lunch with sandwiches, milk and typical Dutch Karnemelk.

14.30 – 15.45: Workshop round 3

Workshop 3A: Privacy

How far can we go with digitalization? Which laws are there on EU-level? And how far do we think we should go with privacy?

All questions that will be answered (hopefully) in this workshop. Lex Sietses is an employee at SURF, an organization which improves digitalization at universities and universities of applied sciences. Lex will tell you more about privacy and digitalization and will focus on the role student unions can have in this process.
**Workshop 3B: Quality assurance of digital learning**

Fred Mulder, policy advisor at the Dutch-Flemish Accreditation Organisation (NVAO) will tell us more about ways to assure the quality of digital learning.

**Workshop 3C: Feedback and assessment**

Are you interested in digital feedback and assessment? Curious about what is happening at the moment with this topic? What already is possible and what the future might bring? Then come to this workshop.

Annette Peet is an employee at SURF, an Dutch organization which improves digitalization at universities and universities of applied sciences. She will give an overview about what is happening with digital feedback and assessment at the moment and how this might change the future.

**Workshop 3D: Digitalization as means of improvement of quality or a simple budget cut?**

Digitalization and technology is increasingly being used in higher education. More and more teachers use learning platforms, learning analytics or e-learning but what is the cause and what are the benefits for students?

Each university should carefully consider the goals they want to achieve by using digital resources during education. It’s not a goal in its self, but it is a tool to improve the quality of education. In this workshop we will discuss the different benefits of
digitalization and in what way you can use it to improve the quality of education.

This workshop will be given by Simon Theeuwes. He is board member of the Dutch National Students Association (ISO) and focuses amongst other things, on digitalization in higher education and in what way we can improve the quality of education in the Netherlands.

15.45 – 16.00: Coffee break

16.00 – 17.00: Towards a policy on digitalisation in higher education

In small groups we discuss what ESU should do on digitalisation in higher education. These small groups will be led by the ESU hacks.

17.00 – 18.00: Marginalised Groups

Together we will define what Marginalised Groups are and which role they should have in ESU. This will be led by ESU – hacks.
18.00 – 18.30: Travel to hostel

The bus will take us back to the hostel.

18.30 – 19.30: Dinner

We will have dinner at the hostel in two groups. Fifty people will eat between 18.30 and 19.00 and the second group will eat between 19.00 and 19.30.

20.00 – 23.00: Cultural night

At 8 o’clock the cultural night will start and we will enjoy different drinks from different countries.
Programme conference day 2 - March 10.

InHolland, University of Applied Sciences – Wildenborch 6, Diemen
09.30 – 10.00: Introduction topic and work of ESU

ESU will give a short introduction on the topic Internationalization and describes what ESU does at the moment around this topic.

10.00 – 10.30: Varied Concepts - Varied Activities: Internationalisation of Higher Education in Europe

Ulrich Teichler, born 1942, since 1978 (full) professor at the International Centre for Higher Education Research Kassel and at the Department for Social Sciences of the University of Kassel. Ulrich Teichler was Director of the International Centre for Higher Education Research Kassel for altogether 16 years. In this short overview he will give an overview of internationalisation of higher education in Europe in the past years.

10.30 – 10.45: Introduction workshops

10.45 – 11.00: Coffee break
**11.00 – 12.00: Workshop round 1**

*Workshop 1A: Mobility*

Susanne has been working for Nuffic (since 1 January 2015 *EP-Nuffic*) since 1999 in a number of positions. EP-Nuffic is the expertise and service centre for internationalisation in Dutch education. Susanne worked, a.o. as a consultant for innovation in higher education at the National Agency of the European Commission Leonardo da Vinci and as a consultant on professional recognition (in Croatia, Bulgaria and Russia) at the Recognition department. She was also posted at the Ministry for Education, Culture and Science. During this period she prepared the Dutch contribution to the Bologna ministerial conference in Vienna and Budapest and was responsible for the coordination of the Netherlands Institutes Abroad (NIB) in Morocco, Turkey, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. Currently Susanne is holding a position at the Education Promotion department. She coordinates the national action plan *Make it in the Netherlands!* (MiitN) that was launched on 22 November 2013 by Jet Bussemaker, the current minister of Education, Culture and Science in the Netherlands. The action plan is based on the advisory report by the Social Economic Council, see the abstract of the advisory report in English and the action plan:

**Workshop 1B: Socio-economic diversity / Refugees and education**

Olga Wessels works for the Netherlands house for Education and Research in Brussels. There, she represents the Dutch knowledge field to the European Union. In this workshop she will introduce possible responsibilities of and changes for knowledge institutions in the refugee crisis. Furthermore, she will explain a Dutch example: the UAF, an organisation that assists students in their studies. After this introduction, she will brainstorm on new opportunities in the field of refugees and education.

**Workshop 1C: Modernisation Agenda**

Julie Anderson will give this workshop. In this workshop the focus will be on the modernisation agenda. You hear the last update and can give input. Julie Anderson works at the European Commission. Her specialities are for example immigration and law. Julie Anderson has a commercial and public law practice acting for the Treasury Solicitor, Solicitors to Departement of Work and Pensions, Departement of Health, HM Customs & Excise and Inland Revenue, local authorities, various public bodies & charities (e.g. Benefit Fraud Inspectorate, Food Standards Authority, Police Authorities, National Crime Squad & NCIS and British Olympic Association), commercial solicitors and other professional clients through direct professional access. Julie read Politics, Philosophy & Economics at Oriel College Oxford with tutor Sir Derek Morris (formerly Chairman of the MMC/Competition Commission 1997-2004). She was Associate Lecturer in Economics at University of Surrey (full time then part time whilst qualifying
for the Bar), and qualified with a Diploma in law from City Guildhall University.

**Workshop 1D: EU values**

This workshop will be given by Maria Freitas, employee at FEPS. Maria joined FEPS in April 2015 as a policy advisor working on democracy, extremism and new political movements. She has over 3 years experience in EU Affairs in Brussels, having worked at the European Parliament, first with Member of European Parliament, Luis Paulo Alves, representing the Azores and then with the Parliament’s Chairman of the International Trade Committee, Vital Moreira. Maria holds a law degree from the Lisbon University and a Master of Arts of European Political and Administrative Studies from the College of Europe in 2014. Maria brings on board significant experience in European Union policy and politics as well as advocacy outreach and engagement strategies. Before joining FEPS Maria worked at PaRR Global, the Financial Times’ competition law consultancy as a junior analyst. Maria also worked at Vodafone where she covered the European Commission’s Digital Single Market Strategy and Telecoms Single Market negotiations.
12.00 – 13.00: Workshop round 2

Workshops in this round will be the same as in workshop round 1, except for 1C

Workshop 2C: Vision Internationalisation Dutch HE institutions

Jurgen Rienks is Director International Relations at the Associations of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU). Last year, together with the Netherlands Association of Universities of Applied Sciences they wrote their own vision on internationalisation for Dutch higher education institutions. In this workshop Jurgen will tell more about this vision and translate this to an European context.

13.00 – 14.00: Lunch

14.00 – 15.00: Gender session

15.00 – 15.30: Critical reflection on the Bologna process
Peter van der Hijden is an independent higher education consultant. Former Head of Sector Higher Education Policy at the European Commission, DG Education and Culture (Modernising Universities, Bologna Process), where he was part of the early Erasmus team. Peter also worked for DG Transport and Energy (inland waterways) and, during the last five years, for DG Research and Innovation (European Research Area and Horizon 2020). A Dutch citizen, Peter has studied law in Nijmegen and Leiden and graduated from Maastricht University, the place where he started his career as University Council Vice-Registrar and Education and Research Policy Officer. He currently advises the European Commission, the Flemish Government, universities, individuals, NGOs and networks, in particular garagErasmus, the professional network of the Erasmus generation, the Groningen Declaration Network (on student data portability) and GELF, the Global Education Law Forum.

He will talk about the Bologna process, where it has taken us, what opportunities and dangers lie ahead and discuss if this is the way forward.

15.30 – 16.15: Discussion in small groups, bologna process/internationalisation

We will again discuss in small groups about the bologna process and internationalization and what ESU does and should do. These small groups will be led by ESU hacks.
16.30 – 17.00: The future of internationalisation

In this panel discussion, Fernando (president of ESU), Jet de Ranitz, dean of Inholland, Linde de Nie (president of ISO) and Peter van der Hijden will discuss the role students have on EU-values and how higher education can help to strengthening those values.
17.00 – 17.30: Travel to hostel

18.30 – 19.30: Dinner

We will have dinner at the hostel in two groups. Fifty people will eat between 18.30 and 19.00 and the second group will eat between 19.00 and 19.30.

20.30: Bus to cruise

21.00 – 22.00: Cruise at the Amsterdam Canals

You have not seen as Amsterdam if you have not been on the canals. During an one hour cruise we will see Amsterdam from a boat. Drinks not included.

23.00 – 02.00: Noodlanding, Paradiso

Noodlanding is the typical student night in Paradiso. Paradiso is one of the biggest places to go out in Amsterdam. Entrance is free, drinks are not included.
Programme conference day 3 - March 11.

InHolland, University of Applied Sciences – Wildenborch 6, Diemen
9.30– 10.00: Introduction Learning Outcomes, as the common language of CD, as presented by ESU

10.00 – 10.15: Introduction National/International level of CD and Modernization Agenda EC

10.15 – 11.15: Workshop round 1

Workshop 1A: Qualifications and recognition

Brian Mcquire, director of quality assurance at Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI), will tell us everything about qualifications and recognitions in the light of curriculum design.

Workshop 1B: International curriculum

‘Internationalization of education is about socio-cultural and economic success of future generations in the world of tomorrow’

All members of new generations should be allowed significant international experience in order to understand the impact of changing ones decorum. They should master non-mother-tongue
languages. And the content of their educational curriculum should be significantly internationally- and empathy-oriented.

Jan Anthonie Bruijn will give during his workshop an insight in the necessities of internationalization in the curriculum for higher education.

Jan Anthonie Bruijn (1958) is since November 6, 2012 Senator for the VVD (People's Party for Freedom and Democracy). He is professor of immunopathology in Leiden, specializing in kidney diseases. Jan Anthonie Bruijn focuses as Senator particularly on education.
Workshop 1C: Flexibility in higher education

Tim van den Brink works for the LSVb, the Dutch Student Union, as a policy advisor on education. It is in this capacity that he came up with the concept of ‘flexstuderen’ (flex studying). In his workshop he will look into the needs and wishes of students to make their education more flexible. We will also discuss the benefits and dangers of flexibility and try to come up with innovative ideas to make higher education more flexible for everyone in Europe.

Workshop 1D: Recognition of Prior learning

Karolina Pietkiewicz will give different examples on existing procedures for recognition of prior learning. In the workshop we will discuss the limitations of RPL and how it should look in the real world.

11.15 – 11.45: Coffee break

11.45 – 12.45: Workshop round 2

Workshop 2A: Qualifications and recognition

Same as previous round

Workshop 2B: International curriculum

Same as previous round
Workshop 2C: Virtual Teamwork in action – Erasmus+ financed project to create a toolkit and help develop students’ virtual collaboration skills.

Market Basket/Beezr Virtual Student Collaboration Model - An Erasmus + financed project of the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (part-time commercial economics programme) together with Kozminski University in Poland, Business Academy Aarhus in Denmark, University of Applied Sciences BFI Vienna in Austria, University of Zagreb (FOI) in Croatia.

As the coordinator internationalisation, Eva Haug develops policies and strategies through staff mobility, international (student) projects and curriculum development. As lecturer intercultural competence she trains students to work in multicultural teams and develop intercultural sensitivity. She is COIL coordinator and has been involved in virtual projects with Finland, Denmark, Austria and the US. Randy Bundel is senior lecturer Marketing Communication and English Language. He works at the Part tie Academy of the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences. He is an expert in teaching courses which virtual student collaboration is integrated and senior development lecturer in the Market Basket/Beezr model.

Workshop 2D: Peer Assessment of Student Centred Learning

Dominique Montagnese, from the UNICA Network of Universities from the capitals of Europe, will tell us everything about the PASCL project of which ESU is also a project member.

12.45 – 14.00: Lunch
14.00 – 15.15: Workshop round 3

*Workshop 3A: Curriculum design and student representation*

Laurens Nuijten, board member of the LSVb and Joey Boon, board member of SOM will give a workshop on curriculum design and student representation. A few weeks ago the law around this topic change. Laurens en Joey will give an overview and translate this to other institutions in Europe.
**Workshop 3B: Youthful entrepreneurship**

Loek Zanders and Willemijn Boskma work at Jong Ondernemen, a Dutch foundation which enriches education programs – primary school through university level – with practical entrepreneurship programs. Through the programs of Jong Ondernemen, students develop skills necessary to succeed in future occupations, either as entrepreneurial employee or as innovative entrepreneur. On a yearly basis, Jong Ondernemen reaches approximately 40,000 Dutch students. On European level, through partner organization Junior Achievement Europe, 3.5 million students are reached each year."

**Workshop 3C: PASCL**

Dominique Montagnese, from the UNICA Network of Universities from the capitals of Europe, will tell us everything about the PASCL project of which ESU is also a project member.

**Workshop 3D: Flexibility in higher education**

Tim van den Brink works for the LSVb, the Dutch Student Union, as a policy advisor on education. It is in this capacity that he came up with the concept of ‘flexstuderen’ (flex studying). In his workshop he will look into the needs and wishes of students to make their education more flexible. We will also discuss the benefits and dangers of flexibility and try to come up with innovative ideas to make higher education more flexible for everyone in Europe.
**15.15 – 17.00: Working towards recommendations**

In small groups we will work towards recommendations to hand over the Dutch minister of Education. These small groups will be led by ESU hacks.

**17.00 – 17.30: Closing by the minister of education**

The minister will close the conference and will say something more about the Dutch situation and the role we take as president of the European Union. At the end we will hand over some conclusions from the conference. She can use these conclusions in further debates about modernization of higher education.

**17.30 – 18.00: Closing Reception**

**18.00 – 18.45: Travel to Restaurant**
19.00 – 1.00: Dinner and Karaoke

The conference will be closed at Old School Restaurant. We will have a three courses meal. At the end of the meal we can do some karaoke.
General information.
Hostel

A former school-turned-hostel will be your accommodation for the event. Located east of the city centre, the hostel has its own bar, restaurant and in-house movie theatre. The rooms which will be provided will be both 4 and 6 persons rooms. The hostel is located at Timorplein 21, 1094 CC Amsterdam. Dinner will also be served in the hostel. We will eat in two groups. The first fifty people in the first half hour, the second fifty people in the second hour.

From Schiphol to the hostel

It will take you around 40 minutes to go from Schiphol airport to the hostel. You take the train to Amsterdam Central station. From there you take the train to Amsterdam Muiderpoort. From there it is a nine minutes' walk to the hostel. You can see the walking route here:
Venues

Amsterdam University College

At Wednesday we will have our first conference day at the Amsterdam University College. It is a liberal arts & sciences college. It is a collaboration between the University of Amsterdam and the Vrije Universiteit. Around 720 students are studying at the moment at AUC. The address is Sciencepark 113, Amsterdam.

InHolland University of Applied Sciences

At Thursday and Friday we are welcome at the InHolland University of Applied Sciences. InHolland has nine different locations and we are welcome at InHolland Diemen. At this location different studies are given like Media and Entertainment Management and Business Studies. The address of InHolland is Wildenborch 6, Diemen
Amsterdam

Amsterdam is the capital of the Netherlands and its largest city. The city was founded somewhere in the Middle ages but it was not until the 17th Century, the Dutch Golden Age, that it blossomed and grew. The famous channels and the channel houses come from that era, as does much of the art which can be seen in the Rijksmuseum, among which the Nightwatch by Rembrandt.

The city is full of culture and you can find musea with art from all era's. If it's not culture that you're looking for, there is an abundant choice of different forms of entertainment to explore. As with all things in life, try to enjoy them in moderation. As for the weather, expect rain, wind and temperatures around 8 degrees Celsius.
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<thead>
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<th>English</th>
<th>Dutch</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hello</td>
<td>Hallo</td>
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<td>Goodday</td>
<td>Goedendag</td>
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<td>Bedankt</td>
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<td>Can I pay, please?</td>
<td>Mag ik afrekenen alstublieft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How are you doing?</td>
<td>Hoe gaat het ermee?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is nice weather today.</td>
<td>Lekker weer vandaag.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How much is it?</td>
<td>Hoeveel kost het?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Organizers.
The Dutch National Students' Union (Landelijke Studenten Vakbond LSVb) is concerned with the interests of all students in the Netherlands and of course this also includes you since you are (temporarily) studying here. It represents and promotes the educational, social, economic and cultural interests of students towards the government, political parties and other national organisations that have to do with higher education or other student interests. It is, so to speak, the national voice of students.

The LSVb consists of nine local students' unions that, in their turn, represent the interests of students in their own city or on their own higher education institute. Students can easily get in touch with either the local or the national students' union. If you need legal advice about your rights as a student, about housing or about financial matters, students can contact us.

Every year a new board is selected and they are responsible for the activities of the LSVb. Next to that two organisations for joint decision making in higher education (LOF & SOM) are part of the LSVb. Also the LSVb has approximately 25 part time employees and many volunteers.
In 1973, the ‘Interstedelijk Studenten Overleg’ (ISO) was founded in Amsterdam as a national umbrella organisation for five university student councils from different cities in the Netherlands. These students felt the need to discuss affairs and exchange information with fellow student council members from other cities. This way, they were able to strengthen their own position in the university. Quickly ISO expanded and started to represent university students from the entire country. Since 1995, ISO also represents students of universities of applied sciences.

Mission and vision
ISO represents all university students of applied sciences. Secondly, it makes sure that higher education is accessible for all people who are motivated and have the intellectual capacity to finish an education, regardless of socio-economic and financial background. Thirdly, ISO pursues a high quality higher education system. Finally, it pursues compliance with all national and international norms in higher education that contribute to the above.

Higher education offers students the opportunity to develop themselves as individuals. Equally important is the transfer of knowledge and skills that contribute to the advancement of the society and the economy. The ‘Interstedelijk Studenten Overleg’ (ISO) chooses to represent ambitious, critical and curious students as well as students who want to own these qualities. This requires high-quality education that is created by students and teachers in consultation with the labour market and society.
ESU

The European Students’ Union (ESU) is the umbrella organisation of 45 National Unions of Students (NUS) from 38 countries, being present in 27 out of the 28 EU member states. Through its members, ESU represents over 15 million higher education students in Europe.

The NUSes are open to all students in their respective country regardless of political persuasion, religion, ethnic or cultural origin, sexual orientation or social standing. Our members are student-run, autonomous, representative and operate according to democratic principles.

ESU is established as an international non-profit non-governmental organisation registered in Belgium.

Mission
ESU’s mission is to represent, defend and strengthen students’ educational, cultural, political and social rights. We advocate for sustainable, accessible and high quality higher education in Europe.

Vision
Equal educational and social opportunities in an open and democratic Europe where students shape a sustainable future.

Values
- ESU is diverse, democratic and open-minded.
- We represent all students in Europe, understanding the diversity of
students. ESU is inclusive and strives for solidarity within the students’ movement.

- We are independent. ESU structures facilitate the accountability of the elected representatives, works with respect towards all members and their different opinions and functions transparently.
- We are unconventional and open for new thoughts. We, as experts of higher education bring in courageous and smart ideas through a fresh and spontaneous, but professional attitude.

Activities

ESU represents and promotes the interests of students at the European level towards all relevant bodies and in particular the European Union, Bologna Follow Up Group, Council of Europe and UNESCO.

- We bring together, resource, train and inform national student representatives on policy developments in higher education at the European level;
- We organise seminars, training, campaigns and conferences relevant to students;
- We conduct European-wide research, partnership projects and campaigns;
- We produce a variety of publications for students, policy-makers and higher education professionals.
Code of conduct.
**Preamble**

Based on the principles of equality, accessibility and respect, that ESU has given itself and agreed upon by adopting this code of conduct at the Board Meeting 68 in Yerevan, Armenia, the representatives and participants on internal and external events are expected to adhere to the points detailed below. The purpose of this document is to have guidelines that prevent unwanted behavior in the organization and also determine the process to follow up on potential breaches. The participants of each event have to assure that they are aware of the code of conduct and behave according to it. The EC is responsible for promoting the code of conduct in an appropriate way in the beginning of each event.

**Participation rules**

Actively engage in the organized activities during seminars, panel sessions and discussions as well attending all the organized sessions, meetings, discussions and debates. Respect the timeframes given by the organizers of the event. Respect the event's facilities and any rules associated with such use. Respect the environment and take care about their surroundings.
General Believes

- Treat everyone equally irrespective of socio economic background, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, political views, reduced mobility, gender expression, disabilities or any other basis of discrimination, abstaining from any direct or indirect discrimination as well from any form of harassment.
- Do not make any inappropriate jokes or remarks, based on any discriminative grounds that cause people to feel uncomfortable or discriminated against.
- Behave and react towards their colleagues with respect.
- Respect the different multicultural backgrounds of their colleagues and reflect on the own behavior.
- Proactively create an inclusive welcoming atmosphere for all of the participants, during both formal and informal parts of the event.
- Do not use demeaning or abusive language towards other participants.

We are emphasizing herein that this list is not exhaustive and that the violations of the Ethical Guidelines might happen outside of the frames given by this Code of Conduct.
Rules of Procedure

Depending on the gravity of the behavior, the EC in accordance with the ad hoc committee (see below) reserve the right to address the issue in the best way they see fit by applying one or more of the measures listed below through the set procedure.

Active Legitimacy

Any of the participants witnessing the breach or the victim her/himself may report the matter to one of the two persons specifically entrusted to that role for that particular event. These are designated by the EC for every event and are bound to discretion towards the reported matters. The trusted persons need to be briefed by the equality coordinator before being assigned to be able to handle sensitive situations adequately. The two persons will be announced at the beginning of the event and should reflect the participants’ diversity.

The person informed will immediately forward the information to the ESU Executive Committee and the Equality Coordinator. The person informed will immediately forward the information to the ESU Executive Committee and the Equality Coordinator. However, in case it was not the victim itself reporting the breach, the trusted persons must not forward any information before consulting the perceived victim.
The Acting Procedure

Upon receiving the report, the EC has to set up an ad hoc committee balanced with regard to region, gender and other relevant parameters of three to five persons within 24 hours. The ad hoc committee is bound to discretion and obliged to handle the issue brought up with the utmost care.

The ad hoc committee is chosen by the EC including one representative of the EC, the Equality coordinator, and one representative from a member union. The ad hoc committee is chosen by the EC including one representative of the EC, the Equality coordinator and one representative from a member union not involved in the conflict.

At least one member of the ad hoc committee will be of a different gender.

The ad hoc committee will immediately look into the report, consult the acting parties and bring a decision whether there has been a breach of the Code or not. If the ad hoc committee decides, there has been a breach of the Code, it will immediately decide upon enacting one of the below proposed measures, on their free estimation of the most appropriate reaction to the breach.

The decision making process within the committee needs to be unanimous.

If the situation requires it, the decision of the ad hoc committee will be read before the beginning of the next session of the event.
Measures

- Spoken warning to the perpetrator in question
- Written warning to the perpetrator read before the beginning of the next session of the event in question
- Removal of the perpetrator from the session/event in question
- Official ESU letter to the sending organization of the perpetrator
- Restriction of participation in future ESU events of the individual breaching the code.
- Allow the injured party (also if no individual was harmed) to make a statement before the next session

Any other measure not mentioned here, in agreement with the Executive Committee. No public action must be taken without the consent of the injured individual or party.

Right to Appeal

If the perpetrator (or his/her NUS) in question, or the injured party, feels that the EC decision is wrongly based, whether on fact or principle, they must send in an appeal in writing to the EC or the trusted person within two hours. No action can be taken within that two hour period, unless there is a reason to protect the victim’s person. Otherwise the objection has to be presented in writing to the EC or the trusted person within 12 hours. The EC then decides unanimously to revoke the decision or not or to propose an alternative sanction. If unanimity cannot be reached, the original sanction stays valid.
Important Information.

Important phone numbers:

Tim van den Brink: +31 633 91 51 42
Jeff van As: +31 634 18 18 16

Hostel:

Stayokay Zeeburg
Timorplein 21
+31 205 51 31 90

Venue day 1:

Amsterdam University College
Science Park 113, Amsterdam

Venue day 2 & 3:

InHolland Diemen
Wildenborch 6, Diemen
Colofon.

Designed by Leonie Damink

Text by Tim van den Brink and Josephine Verstappen