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#Alumni - Aeres UAS (University of Applied Sciences) - CAH Dronten

WE ARE PROUDLY
PRESENTING:

The second International Alumni newsletter!

It been a while since we launched the first Alumni newsletter. In the past months many interesting things have happened at Aeres and we want to share some of these special moments with you.

An event which created a lot of public attention and interest was the visit of the Prime Minister of the Netherlands Mark Rutte to our university in Dronten. It was a visit which created an interesting discussion, and that discussion is not finished yet.

Next to regular Bachelor and Master programs, Aeres is actively involved in organizing different trainings for professionals. In the past three months we have been hosting a group of "students" for international dairy training. They are soon about to graduate with a certificate. The big story this time is about the 'three musketeers': Kata, Tina and Roxana. About how they met in Dronten and how their friendship started.

Ever thought of visiting your Dutch Alma Mater again? Take a look at the future events at Aeres university – these might be reasons to visit us!



Willing to contribute to this newsletter by sharing your story or have information which could be useful for other alumni? Please write to Sintija Moroza: s.moroza@aeres.nl

Greetings from Dronten!

Springtime! We are entering into the final phase of the academic year and assessing to which extent our students are blossoming or otherwise need attention. We are preparing our seedbeds by preparing new module workbooks, teaching materials and hiring new colleagues. An exciting time of the year!

At the moment we are working on a new 4 year Food Business program with the University of Wisconsin in the US, allowing interested students to choose between studies in the US and an American Bachelor degree (next to the Aeres degree) or studies in Canada and a Canadian Bachelor degree (next to the Aeres degree). We are planning to launch the new program in 2020.

In our short Animal Husbandry Bachelor program we nowadays provide the option to choose for a specialized program in Poultry Management, Dairy Management or Pig Management. Next to regular Bachelor students, international professionals join this program.

Another interesting development is that we are offering and increasing amount of international training programs for professionals at our location in Dronten. Next spring we will launch a milk processing training.

Our Double Degree in Agribusiness in collaboration with our partner university in Angers (France) will be focused on the international business of beverages, in line with the French program that is linked to "Marketing of wine".

Finally yet importantly, we are launching two new international degrees, both with 2 years duration: International Equine Business and Smart Green Cities. In the Equine Business program we will cooperate with the French partner universities, in the Smart Green Cities program we are still exploring

opportunities for cooperation with international universities. This year again we have been meeting many alumni, both at the university and abroad. This is always a great joy as alumni are now providing guest lecturers, which sets a great example for our current students. Furthermore, Alumni are a great source for possible internships. Alumni also help us to check to which extent our programs are tailored for the needs of the labor market and at the same time, they provide us with an input on how we could improve and innovate our programs.

All of our alumni are global citizens and versatile professionals who can apply their expertise in any given situation. The best thing about meeting all of you is simply to hear how you are doing. We are proud to hear about your successful careers but just as much to hear about your developments in personal life. Wedding announcements and baby photos make our day!

You are our ambassadors, but more so part of the family. Do keep in touch!



Natasja Spaargaren

Head Department of International Studies and Consultancy

FRIENDSHIP THAT STARTED IN DRONTEN

The three musketeers

Dronten is known as place where students from different parts of the world, with different cultural backgrounds meet.

They have come to Dronten with one goal – to study. But also to make new friends, develop themselves or gain new career perspectives. During the past 25 years we have witnessed how many friendships and relationships have started in Dronten.

We are proud that Dronten has served as a catalyst in these encounters.

This time a story about “three musketeers” Kata, Tina and Roxana and their friendship, which started in Dronten.

Who?

Kata Korosi (33 years), from Szent Istvan University Budapest (Hungary), studied in 2016-2017 International Food Supply Chain Management.

Tina Wang, from National ChungHsing University (Taiwan), studied in 2016-2017 International Food Supply Chain Management.

Roxana Huja (24 years), from University of Applied Science and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj Napoca (Romania), studied in 2016-2017 International Food Safety Management.

How did your friendship start? Was there a special moment which could be considered as a starting point of your friendship?

Tina: I don't remember a particular starting point but we did a nice trip to Zwolle at the beginning of the school year. Also the weather was still nice and we could all eat together outside. In the winter we tried to squeeze in a car to do groceries together



First picture together (from left to right): Kata, Tina & Roxana in 2016

and talk about the cheese guy who handed out cheese samples (on was it Wednesday?).

Roxana: I remember the first ever trip we made to the Urk fish factory. We were the 3 of us together in one car going to the factory and that's when we started to talk more with each other.

After that it came naturally with group dinners, parties and group studies.

Kata: Our friendship developed slowly throughout the time we spent in Dronten and later on and we decided to stay in the Netherlands and ended up working for the same company.

What exactly are you doing now?

Kata: I work at Prodalim Group as QA manager in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Roxana: I work at Cargill Cocoa and Chocolate as FSQR Officer in Wormer-Zaandam, the Netherlands.

Tina: I work at Danone Nutricia as Ingredient specification technologist for the Baby food business. Located in Utrecht, the Netherlands.

What do you remember the most from your study time in Dronten?

Tina: The campus life I have the most memories about. Dronten is a special place to study and all the international students live closely together. We were able to sport, cook, party, hang out together and make some good bonds.

Kata: The vivid international environment and the homey feeling we had at the campus.

Roxana: I remember the multiple group projects that we had to do which allowed us to know ourselves and our colleagues better, discover and improve certain skills, the interactive classes and of course the intensive search for a good internship.

How do you “keep your friendship alive”?

What do you do together, what are your common interests?

Tina: We all worked in the same company for a while and the hardships, chaotic first work experience in a foreign country stuck us together. We just meet whenever we can and take care of each other. When you are abroad alone, friends kind of become family.

Roxana: There isn't a certain way to keep a friendship alive, all friendships are different.

We share the common interest in traveling and food, so I think that is one of the thing that keeps us together besides caring and supporting each other.

Kata: We became each other's family here, so for us it is natural that we travel or hang out together whenever we can.

Is there anything you would like to do together in the future?

Kata: Visit Taiwan and Japan. But first we have to go to Maastricht. We are planning that for a year now and couldn't put a date on it.

Roxana: Visit Taiwan and having Tina as a guide.

Tina: Visit Japan!

What would you wish fellow Aeres international alumni? After all, you are one big family.

Roxana: I wish everybody all the luck in following their goals, to work hard and never lose hope as life is like a rollercoaster. It may go down but eventually it goes up again.

Tina: I wish everyone very good luck.

Kata: I can quote what Olga Lis told us at our last conversation as a class: Never give up! ■



Painting Kata's new house in 2019.



Visiting International Food Business alumni in Sweden

On March 30-31, Natasja and Wieke went on a `mission`. Their goal was to meet five International Food Business alumni, who, after graduating in 2018 with a double degree from Aeres UAS and Dalhousie University (Canada), decided to continue their academic journey and started Master studies at Jonkoping University in Sweden.

This is really remarkable and does not happen often, that the graduates of the same program choose to study further at the same university! Worth a visit to Sweden.



From left ro right: Natasja and Wieke with IFB alumni Kevin, Hilde & Laura

Some students have chosen to study Global Management, while others have opted for International Logistics and Supply Chain Management. All in all, they are happy with their studies in Sweden! Alumni gave some tips which could be implemented at Aeres. An App being something that should definitely be considered. With the Swedish university app students can book rooms at the university if they need a place to work/meet with other students, check their lesson schedule, sign-up for the exams, get the exam mark with feedback.

Students also had time to reflect on their study time in the Netherlands/Canada. They were all grateful that they had a chance to be a part of International Food Business. It is a very special program that allows students to grow both personally and professionally. It broadens the worldview, and is personal – every student matters. Another compliment was that we hire alumni – it shows that we have trust in them and that is a very strong statement.

'Be a student as long as you still have something to learn, and this will mean all your life.' – Henry L. Doherty

Visit of the Prime Minister of the Netherlands Mark Rutte



On March 5, 2019 Mark Rutte visited Aeres University of Applied Sciences in Dronten. The aim of his visit was to meet current students and alumni and discuss the future of agriculture, also in relation to climate issues. During the discussion the Prime Minister invited students to come to the Hague with ideas which can help to solve the climate-related problems. This meeting should take place in September 2019. The students are invited to put their solutions on a poster and present it to the Prime Minister and other responsible and involved parties.

At the end of his visit, the Prime Minister expressed his appreciation for the Aeres Agri Innovation Centre, it is very inspirational to see it working. If the Netherlands wants to stay ahead of the agri-food game, it has to keep innovating!

Dairy training for professionals

Aeres Dronten does not only offer Bachelor and Master programs, but also short courses and trainings for professionals. In January 2019 Aeres launched a Dairy training with three different modules/focus areas:

- Dairy farming & entrepreneurship
- Dairy breeding, reproduction management, A.I. and pregnancy diagnosis
- Dairy cattle nutrition, forage production and conservation

This training attracts professionals from different parts of the world: Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Bhutan, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Jordan.



On April 17, 2019 the students of the first two modules finished the training and received a certificate. The day was special because of the presence of the ambassadors of Sri Lanka and Bhutan and the representatives from the Embassy of Nigeria.

We hope that this training will bring new knowledge and insights which will be applied in practice across the globe!

Agenda Aeres

14-5-2019	Inspiration session: Next generation farming Dronten
22-5-2019	Symposium Successful examples in poultry Dronten
23-5-2019	Symposium Safe food - a task for everyone
23-5-2019	NWA Matchmaking event Green and healthy Almere
20-6-2019	Inauguration Annet Velthuis, lector Bovine Health Management
12-07-2019	Graduation ceremony Dronten