Exchange

Info session WE 2018
Programme info session

- Testimonials
- General overview (IRMOS)
- Meet your exchange coordinator
Meet the experts by experience!

Steven De Hertog
- Geography
- A semester in Stockholm

Pieter Moyson
- Chemistry
- A semester in Copenhagen

Lee Mbambu
- Bioengineering Sciences
- A semester in Murcia
10 reasons to study abroad

❖ Obtain VUB credits for all approved academic coursework abroad
❖ Study & learn differently
❖ Brush up on your language skills
❖ Boost your employment opportunities
❖ Gain a global mindset
10 reasons to study abroad

❖ Enhance your intercultural competences
❖ Learn about yourself & your culture
❖ Boost your self-confidence & independence
❖ Be adventurous & explore the world
❖ Friends for life from all over the world
## VUB Exchange Contacts

### International Relations office (IRM0)
- Practical info & support
- Grants
- Ms. Laura Gruyaert
- Mr. Sander Verhoef
- Pleinlaan 5, 1050 Brussels
- T: 02 614 81 01

### Student Administration Center (OWSA)
- Exchange administration
- Mrs. Gwen Van der Smissen
- Pleinlaan 9, 1050 Brussels
- T: 02 614 87 07

### Exchange Coordinators Faculty
- Application & Selection
- Learning Agreement (Studies & Traineeships)
- Grade conversion
- Credit recognition

| Contact person     | Marjan Maes          | Joris Messens
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[exchange.outgoing@vub.be](mailto:exchange.outgoing@vub.be)
[student.vub.be/go-abroad](http://student.vub.be/go-abroad)
Exchange Programmes

- **Studies or Traineeship**
  - Always *during & part* of your VUB studies, never after graduation (excl. Erasmus+ Traineeships)

- **Grant** - Included? Amount*?
  - Nationality is not a criterion, but you should be enrolled fulltime at the VUB

- **Tuition Fee Waiver**

- **Min – max duration**

- **Study level**

- **EU or non-EU host institution**

* Amounts are subject to change
APPLICATION PROCEDURE
Application Procedure

Application at Faculty
- Application file (host institution, scholarship programme)
- You compose a first study or training plan, viz. a Learning Agreement (LA)

Nomination
- Your faculty nominates you officially to IRMO, after March 1st 2019
- IRMO nominates you to your host institution

VUB Application
- IRMO sends you the VUB procedure, SOP Mobility-Online
- You compose a final LA
- Your faculty approves your LA
Application Procedure

Host Institution Application
• You apply to your host institution or make arrangements with host organisation

Official Approval
• Your Faculty officially confirms your exchange after the June and/or September exams
• Acceptance by the host institution

Departure Administration
• IRMO invites you to a take-off meeting
• IRMO sends you the scholarship administration
EU DESTINATIONS
Erasmus+ KA1

- Studies & Traineeship
- As part of your VUB programme
- Sufficient funds for all nominated students (if not, Faculty ranking)
- Minimum & maximum duration
- Bachelor and Master
- Online Linguistic Support (test & courses) & Online survey upon return
Erasmus+ KA1 - Studies

- Specific cooperation agreements per VUB programme
  - 28 EU member states, FYROM, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Turkey
  - More information per programme & exchange coordinator > student.vub.be/go-abroad

- Grant: € 235 - € 335/month (+ €100/month if Flemish study allowance)
  - Depending on the destination

- Min. 3 – max. 10 months

- Swiss European Mobility Programme (SEMP)
  - Switzerland
  - Grants paid by Swiss host institution
  - +/- 400CHF/month
Erasmus+ KA1 - Traineeship

- **During** your studies
  - As part of your VUB programme that contains an internship (n° ECTS)
  - Traineeship in the framework of thesis work
  - You carry out an internship abroad
  - Evaluation from your host organization is recognized (in ECTS and a grade) by the VUB

- **After** your studies/ graduation
  - Not part of your VUB programme
  - In line with your obtained degree
  - Within 1 year after graduation
  - Apply before graduating, following the VUB rules & deadline, to the VUB and Flanders Knowledge Area
Erasmus+ KA1 Traineeship

- Host organization: university, research institute, company, NGO, etc.
  - Find a host organization yourself or through the contacts of your VUB programme
  - In an EU member states, FYROM, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Turkey
  - Approval Exchange Coordinator
  - Online database: https://erasmusintern.org/

- Grant: €335/month - €435/month
  - Depending on the destination

- Min. 2 – max. 10 months
Erasmus Belgica

- Studies: Specific cooperation agreements per VUB programme
- €100 (1x)
- Min. 2 - max. 10 months
- Bachelor
- Sufficient funds (if not, Faculty ranking)
NON-EU DESTINATIONS
Non-EU Studies

- General VUB exchange agreements
- Approval at Faculty level (Exchange Coordinator)
- Tuition fee waiver
- Min. 5- max. 10 months
- No grant guaranteed
- Preparing for a non-EU exchange application: more effort
- Teaching language: English or local language (Spanish, Portuguese, etc.)
Non-EU host institutions

Countries & host institutions:
✓ Brazil (Rio de Janeiro, Florianopolis - Santa Catarina)
✓ China (Beijing – Renmin & Tongji University)
✓ Canada (Québec - UQAM & Bishops University)
✓ Mexico (Puebla - UPAEP)
✓ Colombia (Santa Marta)
✓ Russia (Sint-Petersburg)
✓ Japan (Kobe – labo’s)
Non-EU Studies

- Contact IRMO (exchange.outgoing@vub.be; copy marjan.maes@vub.be) and your VUB Exchange Coordinator (by Mid-December) by e-mail to express your interest and receive more detailed info on the specific host institutions.

- Look up the offered programs online and compose a draft study plan.
  - Individual match for courses.
  - You will need approval from your exchange coordinator.
Non-EU Traineeship

- Host organization: university, research institute, company, NGO, etc.
  - Find a host organization yourself or through the contacts of your VUB programme
  - Anywhere except an EU member states, FYROM, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Turkey
  - Approval Exchange Coordinator

- Min. 1 - max. 10 months

- No grant guaranteed
Non-EU Scholarship

- Flemish government scholarship: return ticket, 650 – 850 EUR/month
- Min. 1 – max. 12 months (some exceptions)

- **Priority Country Programme** (Studies & Traineeship)
  - 9 countries: Brazil, Chile, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Russia, South Africa, Turkey, USA
  - Express interest to IRMO (mid-December) & if nominated by your Faculty, you receive information on the call (deadline mid-Feb tbc)
  - Application at IRMO and selection done externally
  - Max 2600 EUR
Non-EU Scholarship

- Flemish government scholarship: return ticket, 650 – 850 EUR/month
- Min. 1 – max. 12 months (some exceptions)

- “Generieke Beurzen” (i.e. generic scholarships) (Studies & Traineeship)
  - If nominated by your Faculty, you receive information on the VUB call (after March 15th)
  - Apply to IRMO and selection at VUB (period of May)
  - Priority to exchanges to VUB partner institution
  - At least 25% of the selected candidates receive a Flemish study allowance
Non-EU Scholarship*

- **VLIR - UOS “REISBEURZEN”** (i.e. travel grant)
  - ✔ 32 countries in Africa, Asia & Latin America
  - ✔ Work Placement/Internship or thesis
  - ✔ Apply at VUB (a.o. invitation local supervisor & recommendation VUB supervisor), preparatory programme UCOS, selection external
  - ✔ 1000 EUR
  - ✔ at least 28 consecutive days
  - ✔ Deadlines: 2 December 2018 & 12 May 2019
Deadlines

DEADLINE 1 March 2019

! LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED!
PRACTICALITIES
Practicalities

- Choice of Host Institution
- Required language knowledge
- Selection procedure
- Registration & tuition fee
- Courses, exams & resit exams
- Recognition & credit transfer
Practicalities

- Insurance
- Childcare benefits (‘kindergeld’)
- Housing
- Finances
  - VUB Social, Legal & Financial Support Team (Social Dienst Studenten)
  - student.vub.be/studiefinanciering#ondersteuningsaanbod
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<td>Universität für Bodenkultur Wien - BOKU (Austria)</td>
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Oceans & Lakes

- University of Bremen (Germany)
- Universidad de Oviedo (Spain)
- University of Vigo (Spain)
Inform your exchange coordinator + faculty coordinator (marjan.maes@vub.be) and submit your application **before March 1st, 2019**: 

- Scholarship programme + destination
- Motivation letter (1 page max)

! For non-EU destinations: expression of interest by **mid-December 2018** to exchange.outgoing@vub.be, copy marjan.maes@vub.be and your exchange coordinator.
Meet your exchange coordinator

Your Exchange Coordinator:
• Biology: Gustavo Gutierrez (gustavo.gutierrez.gonzalez@vub.be)
• Chemistry: Yue Gao (yue.gao@vub.be)
• Computer Science: Beat Signer (beat.signer@vub.be)
• Oceans & Lakes: Karolien Van Puyvelde (karolien.van.puyvelde@vub.be)
• Physics and Astronomy: Steven Lowette (steven.lowette@vub.be)
• Geography: Matthieu Kervyn (matthieu.kervyn.de.meerendre@vub.be)
• Urban Studies: Bas Van Heur (bas.van.heur@vub.be)
• SteR*: Fabio Vanin (fabio.vanin@vub.be)
• Bioengineering / Molecular Biology: Joris Messens (joris.messens@vub.be)
• Mathematics: Kenny De Commer (kenny.de.commer@vub.be)

Faculty Coordinator Internationalisation:
• Marjan Maes (marjan.maes@vub.be; F4.107)
Ready, set, go...