



## Newsletter Alumni Chapter Zurich

3th edition, october 2013

**The Zurich Insurance office was the venue of our Alumni Chapter meeting on October 24, 2013, almost a year after our first meeting in Zurich. Hosted by Suzan van de Kerk, this “working session” was organized to discuss and gain input from alumni on how to shape the chapter. A small but enthusiastic group of ten alumni gathered for this meeting.**

Having given everyone an opportunity to introduce themselves, Suzan van de Kerk kick-started the meeting by presenting the universities activities with chapters in the Netherlands and abroad. She then posed the questions, “what do we want and how do we see the formation of the Zurich Alumni Chapter?”. Discussions then followed with contributions from everyone which are summarized as follows:

- Set-up a LinkedIn Zurich Alumni Group; to keep and get in contact, to be used as posting platform and a way to have most updated contact details.
- Willingness of individuals to give back to their alma mater in several ways; mentorship, sharing their professional experience, assistance to recent graduates in the Zurich region and support to the university.
- Supporting students with summer jobs and internships.
- Define and select a concrete (research) project with collaboration between RUG and ETH Zürich/ Universität Zürich that we can sponsor as alumni. A working group was established to present three proposals on January 10th.
- Organizing a New Year drink on Friday 10 January and getting as many old Groningers together, to network, to present the proposals and get financial support.

Several alumni were given several tasks to be followed up in ensuring the success of the above discussion. This was followed by updates on the university’s 400th anniversary celebration shared by Prince Ralph Osei, International Alumni Officer, who invited our alumni back home for this milestone. In wrapping up, alumni gathered for the evening group picture.



### > Annual ‘Silvesterlauf’ Christmas Party on Rennweg <

2013 is drawing to a close and it is time for alumnus Rakesh Chand’s annual Silvesterlauf (House) Party! This is an annual event where he gathers friends and associates at his apartment in Zurich’s old town, as you enjoy the Silvesterlauf race event which takes place outside on the street. It is quite a unique evening and this year, he opens his doors to all RUG Alumni who would like to attend on Sunday December 15th, the day of the Zurich Silvesterlauf race! (<http://www.silvesterlauf.ch/>)

So, when you are done with encouraging the runners in the race on Rennweg (or indeed, running in it) come up to the apartment and enjoy the party. It would be great to catch up. Those who are running are welcome to use the shower, feel free to drop off your clothes before the race. Rakesh will bake his traditional Shepherd’s pie and perhaps a few Indian curries as well this year. If you plan on joining this evening, please bring a dish/drinks/snack as well, and the goodies will be shared. Just let him know in advance what you are bringing, so we can avoid five quiches, seven bags of paprika chips, etc! You can send an e-mail to [rak57@hotmail.com](mailto:rak57@hotmail.com).

It will be an ‘open house’ from the start of the first race, food from 19.00. Come when you want to and bring the kids, the Christmas lights on Rennweg will be on and they will love them!

### > LinkedIn Group <

Join our new LinkedIn group for alumni based in Zurich and its environs. This is a platform for connecting and staying in touch, sharing news with other old Groningers, posting internships and other business related to the RUG, Zurich and its alumni.



### > New Year Drink <

Join fellow alumni to celebrate the arrival of 2014 and kick-start the year on Friday January 10. Mark your calendars, more details to follow in December!

> For Infinity <

In 2014, our University will be 400 years old! Naturally, this is a cause for celebration. The lustrum celebrations start May 15th in 2014. There will be many congresses, colloquia, exhibitions and cultural events. The climax will come on the weekend of June 12-15, 2014. International alumni and all alumni from abroad will gather in the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam where Princess Marilène and Wim Pijbes, both alumni, will be the hosts of this event. The rest of the weekend will be a big homecoming event!

> Back to the University of Groningen <

The University of Groningen is proud to present a special alumni environment on [www.rug400.nl](http://www.rug400.nl), the website dedicated to news and information about the RUG 400th anniversary festivities. This alumni environment will enable alumni to find and renew contacts with their former fellow students. The RUG is currently in touch with 80,000 former students, and is hoping to increase this number. Find your former classmates, flatmates, fellow debating club members with the alumni search engine, make appointments so that you can meet up during the anniversary alumni events, use the 'Alumnistee' to arrange an overnight stay at a student house or a fellow alumnus's place, add photo's and memories to the 'Memories For Infinity' photo book – alumni can do all this on [www.rug400.nl](http://www.rug400.nl) once they have created an account.



> Important links <

**Alumni magazine Broerstraat 5:** <http://www.rug.nl/news-and-events/news/archief2013/nieuwsberichten/oktobernummer-broerstraat-5-is-uit>

**Worldwide newsletter RUG:** <http://www.rug.nl/news-and-events/newsletters/international/>

**Website Ubbo Emmius Fund:** <http://www.rug.nl/science-and-society/alumni-and-fundraising/support-the-university/ubbo-emmius-fund/>

**Annual report Ubbo Emmius Fund:** <http://www.rug.nl/science-and-society/alumni-and-fundraising/support-the-university/ubbo-emmius-fund/jaaroverzichten>

**Crowdfunding site Ubbo Emmius Fund:** <http://www.rugsteunt.nl/>

> International Alumni Officer <

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> Attendees <

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Marjan Kraak

Martin de Groot

Rakesh Chand

Susanne Grassmann

Veselin Dimitrov

Ronald Bosma

Jan Huisman

Prince Ralph Osei