ORIENTATION WEEK 2017
WELCOME TO BRUSSELS. WELCOME TO VUB.
Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB. Orientation Week 2017
“Thinking must never submit itself, neither to a dogma, nor to a party, nor to a passion, nor to an interest, nor to a preconceived idea, nor to anything whatsoever, except to the facts themselves, because for it to submit to anything else would be the end of its existence.”

Henri Poincaré, 1909
ORIENTATION WEEK 2017
WELCOME TO BRUSSELS. WELCOME TO VUB.
First, a presentation on administration, life in Brussels, life at the VUB.

Then, split up in groups (colour-coded) for a tour of the campus.

Finally, the best bit: drinks, & a chance to mingle & meet people.
AGENDA

- Overview: VUB
- International Relations Office
- Administration in Brussels
- Living in Brussels
- Travelling in Belgium & Europe
- Life @ VUB
- VUB Departments (SBC, Information Hub)
- VUB Student organisations (Student Council, ISP, ESN, BSG)

Presentation on Student Portal ➔ student.vub.be/en/international-student-life
OVERVIEW VUB

8 FACULTIES

- Economic and Social Sciences and Solvay Business School
- Law and Criminology
- Psychology and Educational Sciences
- Arts and Philosophy
- Science and Bio-engineering Sciences
- Medicine and Pharmacy
- Engineering
- Physical Education and Physiotherapy
International Relations Office
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

What we do

- International Programme management
- International student support
- Study abroad opportunities
- International initiatives by students
- Development Cooperation
Contact

General Questions:

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Specific Questions:

- Book meeting with Officer
- Pleinlaan 5
  1050 Brussels
- International.relations@vub.ac.be
- +32 (0)2 614 81 01
Administration in Brussels
BRUSSELS CITY

BRUSSELS:
A DIVERSE CITY WITH ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES
Housing in Brussels

- VUB Campus rooms & U-residence or in private sector
  ⇒ Questions? Contact the International Relations Office or Br(ik)

- Short stay/semester/year

- **Rents:**
  - Student room on average €400
  - Studio or apartment on average €550

- **Contract!**
  - How to end the contract
  - Sublet? All costs (water, gas, internet, electricity, etc.) included?
  - Deposit? On secured account or not?
  - Registration for residence permit possible?
  - Fire insurance
  - Third-party liability

**Student Portal**

= Brussels & Ik (‘me’)
Registration in Brussels

**Short-type residence (max. 3 months)**
EU: No registration required

Non-EU:
- Report to District Town Hall (‘Commune’) for ‘Declaration of Arrival’ (annex 3) within 8 days of arrival after finding temporary accommodation other than hotel, youth hostel (family & friends).

**Long-type residence**
EU + Non-EU:
- Report to District Town Hall (‘Commune’) for ‘inscription request’ (annex 15) after signing rental agreement
- Annex 15 can then be used for opening bank account e.g.
- ID-card compulsory

-> **ID card valid for duration of academic programme**
Registration in Brussels

Required documents

- Rental contract
- National ID/Passport with type D visa
- Registration certificate from VUB
- For EU citizens: Proof of Health Insurance (annex 32)
- Proof of solvability (scholarship, savings, loan, job)

Sometimes also: birth certificate, civil status certificate, or certificate of good conduct

Appointment @ Foreigners Department

Local Police Check

Belgian ID-card

Can take 2-6 months!

There can be different procedures depending on the Brussels District
In Case of Emergency

EU EMERGENCY NUMBER 112

POLICE 101

Campus Security:
Etterbeek 02 629 11 11
Jette 02 477 6112

ICE – Contact
(In Case of Emergency)
Healthcare in Belgium

Every person living in Belgium is advised to register with a national health insurance provider.

With a national health insurance you will benefit from reimbursements:

- ±70% general care
- 100% for critical diseases

Partenamut Office at VUB

- National health insurance
- Multinational, Assistance and advice
- Communication in English
- Specialised in student matters

Partenamut office VUB
Pleinlaan 5 (International Office)
Contact person: Mrs Areta Duka

Mondays from 9.00 to 12.30 + 13.30 to 16.00
(Monday & Friday during September until mid-October)

E-mail: vub@bepartena.be
PARTENA BUSINESS & EXPATS INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
1.1 PARTENAMUT IN BELGIUM

Partena Mut health insurance is an independent & a-political public (state) insurance provider with the following responsibilities:

- Reimburse health care expenses (doctor, medicines, hospital)
- Keep your budget
- Represented in Belgium: University, Colleges, companies etc..

Partenamut gives full support to International students
1.2 EUROPEAN STUDENTS

Registration for LESS 1 YEAR => Monthly fee

- Reimbursement: doctor, pharmacy, hospital

Registration for MORE 1 YEAR => € 9.99/Month

- Reimbursement doctor, pharmacy, hospital
- Advantages for sport, opticians, etc.
1.3 NON-EUROPEAN STUDENT

Registration at District town hall (‘commune’) => € 9,99/month

- Reimbursement doctor, pharmacy, hospital
- Advantages sport, opticians, etc,
1.4 **STUDENT STATUS**

NO Registration at District town hall => € 60,23/Quarter + € 9,99/month

- Reimbursement doctor, pharmacy, hospital
- Advantages sport, opticians, etc,
AT THE DOCTOR
AT THE PHARMACY
AT THE HOSPITAL
2.1 AT THE DOCTOR

- Pay full amount in cash
- Receive a medical attestation
- Fix your Identification sticker
- Send your claim to Partenamut
- Reimbursement within 7 days into bank account (even foreign bank account)
2.2 AT THE PHARMACY

PAY non-reimbursable Amount only
2.3 AT THE HOSPITAL

CALL AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

SHOW YOUR BELGIAN ID CARD OR STICKER AT THE RECEPTION
2.4 EMERGENCY

Go directly to the hospital via the emergency department

Worst medical cases are treated first

Family doctors also provide emergency services at night and during the weekend

_Do not make improper use of this service_

_Hospital has the right to refuse you_
3.1 BECOME A WEB MEMBER

www.partenamut.be

- To order documents: ID-stickers, address change, advantages
- To calculate your reimbursement
- To search for general information: rates, doctors, hospitals…
- Check your file
3.2 FOLLOW UP

www.partenamut.be

You have questions:

=> expats@bepartena.be
katrien.vandenwaeyenbergh@bepartena.be

=> 02 44 44 700
QUESTIONS?
Living in Brussels
LIFE IN BRUSSELS

Public transport

MIVB/STIB = public transport system in Brussels covering metro, tram and bus.

Student year pass = €50
-> VUB certificate for MIVB / 24 years old
-> 6 MIVB ‘Bootiks’: monthly passes, 10-trip cards
Tickets at MIVB machines for single tickets or day passes.

Night busses are only at weekends!
LIFE IN BRUSSELS

BRUZZ and Arsène 50

• Nocturnes of Brussels Museums ("Night at the Museums")

• EYCA card

• Arsène 50: http://www.arsene50.be/nl (French/Dutch)

  → Get tickets for concerts & cultural activities: -50%

• VISITBRUSSELS: https://visit.brussels/en

Student Portal
Travelling in Belgium & Europe
Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB. Orientation Week 2017

TRAVELLING IN BELGIUM & EUROPE

Travelling in Belgium

**Visit:** Ghent, Antwerp, Liège, Namur, Bruges, Mons...

**ESN** organises guided tours to different cities – check out their site and Facebook page for more information.

A **Gopass** (for trains) is a 10-journey ticket for trains = €52
- You can use it as a single person or group
- Valid for 1 year.

Always check special weekend rates or rates for those under-26 years old.

National Rail = NMBS
www.belgianrail.be
**TRAVELLING IN BELGIUM & EUROPE**

**Travelling in Europe**

**ID card or Visa:**
Valid multiple entry visa type D
!! Check UK and multiple entry
!! Check Schengen Visa = travel in EU

**FROM BRUSSELS TO**
- London: 2 hours
- Paris: 1 hour 20 min.
- Frankfurt: 3 hours
- Amsterdam: 2 hours
### Travel options with cheaper prices and deals:

- **Flixbus/Eurolines**
- **Izy trains to Paris**
- **Blablacar**

- [www.rome2rio.com](http://www.rome2rio.com)
- [www.kayak.com/explore](http://www.kayak.com/explore) (define price & dept and you get info on cheap flights)
Life @ VUB
FACILITIES ON CAMPUS

• Restaurant
• Library
• Bookshop
• ‘crazy copy’
• Sports facilities
• Computer rooms
• Medical facilities:
  • **Campus Etterbeek**: doctors
    • Mon-Fri: 08:00-18:00. Appointments online
    • Schoofslaan 8. Tel: 02 629 23 00
    • Includes: dentist, physiotherapy, mental health care & gynaecology
  • **Campus Jette**: doctors
    • Tuesdays: 08:30-11:30. Appointments online
    • Agora Building. Tel: 02 477 42 10
Exchange student

Deadline 15 October

What to do?

Changes to learning agreement
- Log in to SOP Mobility online
- Under “During mobility”: Click here to let us know whether changes to the learning agreement are needed or not
- Approvals
- Questions: exchange.incoming@vub.ac.be

Full Degree student

Deadline 8 October

Course registration deadline: 15 October. Course registration done by faculty

What to do?
- Check your VUBmail for registration invitation
- Register your courses through Student Self-Service
- Problems?
  -> Helpdesk Registration of your courses on Student Portal or Pleinlaan 2, campus Etterbeek
Figure 5.1 A representation of the transtheoretical model related to exercise. Adapted, by permission, from J. Buckworth and R. Dishman, 2002, Exercise psychology (Champaign,
HUMANITIES, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING CAMPUS

LANGUAGE LEARNING

Academic Language Centre (ACTO)
Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish & Modern Greek

-> Campus Etterbeek, Pleinlaan 5

https://my.vub.ac.be/en/acto

Brussels Education Centre (CVO)
Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish

-> Campus Etterbeek, Building D, room D.1.33

- Adventures in Waffle-land: how to talk to a Belgian
  - Stand-up comedy
  - Friday, 22 September, 16:00-17:30, QA
  - with an introduction by ACTO!
Every weekday, language tables are organised in the restaurant at lunchtime:

= Dutch, French, English, German, Spanish, Italian =

- every weekday a different language,
- you mix & mingle with other learners & native speakers

-> ideal opportunity to hone your language skills and meet new people!


“Language Tables”
Sustainable development is a central goal of the university, with 4 green campuses. Throughout the university and across Belgium, recycling is vital. The following rubbish bags are used across Belgium, colour-coded:

- Blue bags = plastics and cans
- White bags = general refuse
- Green bags = garden waste
- Yellow bags = paper and cardboard
- Orange bags = food waste (composting)
EXAM TIME!!!!
Building D, entrance hall
Pleinlaan 2, 1050 Brussels
Mon-Fri: 09:00-18:00 (17:00 during holidays)
Tel: 02 2 629 2010
Email: info@vub.ac.be

student.vub.be/en/student-information-hub
Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB. Orientation Week 2017
The Study Guidance Centre offers
• information,
• counselling and
• training to help you study more efficiently.

Contact us any time for personal advice, and check what's going on in our free workshops.

Contact our Meeting Points: guidance@vub.ac.be

- **Campus Etterbeek**
  Building F - +32 2 629 23 06

- **Jette**
  ILRC, Building A room A.053A - +32 2 477 44 81

- **Kaai**
  By appointment - +32 2 629 23 06
HELP FOR STUDENTS
REPORT IT!

Report it! @ VUB

- Report inappropriate behaviour
- Prevent an escalation
- Stop other people’s unwanted behaviour
- Get the support you want.

➢ Confidentiality is guaranteed.
➢ YOU determine which behaviour is unacceptable.
➢ Report it! No procedures started without express permission by person who filed the report.
➢ Report it! => professional secrecy.

report via email: reportit@vub.ac.be
Student Organisations
STUDENT COUNCIL
YOUR VOICE

• Defending the interests of students

• Spontaneously issuing written opinions on all matters affecting students

• Making decisions vis-à-vis policies of the various student services

• Adopting the budget and allocation of social grants

• Approve the annual report 'Student Services'

• Formulation of proposals on cooperative agreements
Recent activities:

• Quicker access to exam timetables
• Lockers and a bread machine on campus
• More spacious student study spaces with better opening hours
• Free earplugs at student parties
• Night busses on Thursdays
• Opening of the Lounge Bars 1050 and 1090
**Our achievements and work:**

- Earlier Graduation ceremonies (*WiP*)
- Availability of (official) Transcripts of Records after 1st semester (*WiP*)
- Cheaper sports facilities during exams and weekends (*WiP*)
- Organization of international sports day

**The integration of International Students in VUB**

- Little language problem
  - Language courses
- Informing about events
  - Belgian and International
  - **Still everything in Dutch?**
  - We ensure the Belgian&International experience
ISP Facebook Address: https://www.facebook.com/VUBISP/
ISP Twitter Address: https://twitter.com/ISPVUB
The ISP MyVUB Address: https://my.vub.ac.be/en/ISP
The ISP mail Address: isp@vub.ac.be
Erasmus Student Network

ESN VUB EhB Brussels
Big Events

OCTOBER
ESN Gala
Beer Tasting
Trip Leuven

NOVEMBER
International Dinner
Saint Vé
Trip Liège

DECEMBER
Cantus
Christmas Market
Goodbye Party

Regular Events
Happy Hour
Comedy Nights
Game Nights

Date changes are possible

Erasmus Student Network

The Erasmus Student Network was founded in 1988 and has now more than 105,000 members all over Europe. Students helping students is our motto. ESN offers help in the social, cultural and practical integration process by providing a different range of activities to make you feel like home during your exchange.

ESNcard
The ESN membership card gives you the chance to enjoy thousands of discounts (housing, food, bars, sport, etc.) You can purchase it on all ESN events and ticket sales.

facebook.com/ensen.brussels
esen_vubehbx
esenbx@gmail.com
Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB. Orientation Week 2017
What else is on for you to do this week still:

• Belgian Politics for Dummies
• Campus tour Jette
• Social Entrepreneurship event
• Adventures in Waffle-land: how to talk to a Belgian
• ESN party …
Next up: Campus Tours!
Thank you!