



EuroScholars Program:

European Research experience for North American undergraduates

Why was EuroScholars created?

To create a framework for young talented **undergraduate (honors) students** and senior researchers to work together on academic research.



Who created EuroScholars?

A consortium of **9 renowned European research intensive universities** (LERU members).

What is EuroScholars?

- Unique **research abroad** program (1 or 2 semesters).
- Designed for **outstanding** and highly motivated North American **undergraduate (honors) students** (GPA \geq 3.4).
- **Tailor made** and **flexible** research opportunities for scientific knowledge and cultural exchange.
- **International research experience** in almost all fields.
- **Transfer of academic credits.**

Challenges and Best Practices

1. How to persuade study abroad advisors and (honors) students to opt for a research abroad program instead of a traditional study abroad program?

Solution

Create higher interest in the program and explain the added value of the program through:

- Active marketing.
- Advertising and promotional activities.
- Participating in and exhibiting at local study fairs and international conferences (e.g. NAFSA, EAIE, NCHC)
- Face-to-face meetings / On-campus presentations.
- Organising site visits at the European institutions for honors program directors.
- Cooperation with International Studies Abroad (ISA) in the US. [isa](http://isa.org)

Outcomes and Impacts

- Increased **academic maturity**.
- **Hands-on experience** in international research practices.
- **Unique insight** into chosen field of research.
- **Increased** interpersonal and **academic communication skills**.
- Actual **academic (joint) publication**.
- **Improved profile** for further study and career decisions.
- **Admission** to prestigious graduate programs worldwide.
- **Life-long** transatlantic network.



Challenges and Best Practices

2. How to find and persuade senior researchers to accept undergraduate (honors) students in their research projects?

Solution

Create a better understanding of the program and explain the added value of the program through:

- Face-to-face meetings / On-campus presentations.
- Involvement in the site visits.
- Setting clear and appropriate procedures and processes.
- Facilitate possibility to set up a custom made research project.
- Short lines of communication.
- European Institutional Coordinator at each host institution.

Outcomes and Impacts

- **Highly motivated students** with new perspectives and input.
- **Increased internationalisation** within the research group.
- **Increased** academic/research **cooperation** and network between the **LERU partners**.
- **Increased** academic/research **cooperation** and network between **European and North American institutions**.
- Better understanding of the **added value** of the program.

