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University in the spotlight: The University of Helsinki

TOP RANKING UNIVERSITY

Finland is more than saunas, Santa and snow. It's also home to one of the world's top universities. The University of Helsinki is the largest university in Finland and is constantly ranked among 100 best universities worldwide. We are especially strong in the fields of atmosphere physics, metapopulation biology, molecular medicine, mathematics of inverse problems, world politics and Russian studies.



LEARN BY RESEARCH IN AN INSPIRING STUDY ENVIRONMENT

A multidisciplinary approach is our way of discovering and exploring. Students are closely connected to research from the start of their studies. International students have ranked our learning spaces, and above all, our laboratories as the top position globally. We are committed to providing excellent library and IT services to all.

Some of our international student ambassadors revealed [their favorite places at the](#)

[university.](#)



SUPPORTIVE STAFF AND LAIDBACK ATMOSPHERE

The University of Helsinki has a laidback atmosphere leading to a relaxed study environment. Even though academic freedom is highly valued, it does not mean that students are left alone. Feedback from our international students states that it is easy to approach professors and teachers at the university if in need of help or consultation.

The University of Helsinki currently enrolls approximately 3,000 international students, mostly at the graduate level. The University offers courses in English in all its faculties and a comprehensive selection of research-oriented two-year [International Master's Programs](#).

HELSINKI: AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CITY

Helsinki is the northern-most urban capital and one of the most livable cities in the world. Helsinki is a very safe, modern and green city with half a million friendly folks located in the middle of the archipelago.

Never been in Helsinki? Wondering what it looks like? [Visit Helsinki virtually](#) or follow [UH on Instagram](#).

With several higher education institutions in the Helsinki metropolitan area and 60 000 university students, it is well set up to cater to the needs of students from all walks of life. News, stories and updates for applicants and international students at the [University of Helsinki are available on our blog](#).

Think clear, head north!

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)!

[AEIA conference](#)

(Association of international Education Administrators), Washington D.C,

In February at the annual AIEA conference in Washington D.C., EuroScholars was represented by Yasmine Inauen (University of Zurich) and Caspar de Bok (Utrecht University). They discussed and presented EuroScholars in various ways. The conference was attended by about 900 people, many of them Senior Internationalization Officers (SIO) from the US. The focus of the conference was internationalization strategy and policy processes and procedure. The conference made clear there is a growing interest in study abroad options beyond regular semester exchange programs and faculty-led programs. The EuroScholars Program perfectly meets this interest. It is therefore important to inform the SIO at your institution about the program.

EuroScholars site visit Spring 2015

(by Usha Mohunlol, Coordinator European Office EuroScholars Program, Leiden University)



From March 8 - 14, EuroScholars organised their 3rd site visit, this time visiting the [University of Helsinki](#), [Leiden University](#) and [KU Leuven](#). Our guests - 10 Honors Directors / Professors and Deans from 9 US institutions - attended several presentations about research projects offered at these 3 institutions and also visited labs and student facilities at each location. During that same week, 14 current EuroScholars students participated in the MidStay program, which was organised by Leiden University.

A note from one of our EuroScholars site visit participants:



Bradley Brummel, Associate Professor of Psychology and Director of Undergraduate Studies in Psychology, The University of Tulsa

The University of Tulsa works to provide distinctive experiences for undergraduate students through service, research, and international engagement. We are especially interested in opportunities that combine these areas of engagement. I was excited to be offered the opportunity to represent the university on the EuroScholars site visit because it seemed like a great combination of research and international experiences for our students. Although I am not directly in charge of either undergraduate research or global education at TU, I am involved with interdisciplinary research across areas as diverse as psychology, mechanical engineering, computer science, and neuroscience. All of these disciplines actively include undergraduates in their research. So, I was curious to see what the research opportunities offered through EuroScholars would involve.



Through the visit, we got to experience what life would be like for students in Helsinki, Leiden, and Leuven and to learn about the quality of research and mentorship happening at the University of Helsinki, Leiden University, and KU Leuven. I came away from the trip very impressed with the variety and quality of research opportunities available to students through EuroScholars at all of these universities. Additionally, I would not hesitate to send and of my students to live and research in these great European cities.

In Leiden, we had the opportunity to listen to the current EuroScholars students talk about their research and to interact with them more informally at a dinner. These students are clearly getting an immersive experience in research and country culture. They are ambitious and bright, and I have no doubt that they will achieve great things. EuroScholars has the potential to serve as a strong statement of their current aspirations and as a clear marker that they should be selected for other opportunities in the future.

I will definitely be serving as an advocate for the EuroScholars program on my campus for excellent students who would benefit from combining an intensive research experience with a study abroad. I was only able to see 3 of the 9 EuroScholars locations, but I am confident that all of them would provide an excellent experience for students.

New Research Projects

University of Helsinki:

- [Vascular Growth Factors in Development and Disease](#)
- [Research projects at the Centre of Excellence in Reason and Religious Recognition Research](#)
- [Genetic Basis of Wood Development](#)
- [Research projects at The Finnish Centre of Excellence in Russian Studies](#)
- [Research projects at the Centre of Excellence in Changes in Sacred Texts and Traditions](#)
- [Research projects at The Finnish Centre of Excellence in Computational Inference Research \(COIN\)](#)
- [The Centre of Excellence in Atmospheric Science - From Molecular and Biological processes to The Global Climate](#)

University of Zurich:

- [Experimental high energy physics with the CMS detector at the LHC](#)
- [The role for protein tyrosine phosphatases and epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition in the pathogenesis of inflammatory bowel disease and colorectal carcinoma](#)

Upcoming Conferences 2015

April 16 - 17

National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)

Spokane, WA

www.cur.org/ncur_2015/

If you would like to schedule a meeting please contact [Andrew Wingfield](#)

May 24 – 29

NAFSA

Boston MA

www.nafsa.org

Some of the members of the EuroScholars Consortium will attend the NAFSA. Would you like to schedule a meeting, please contact:

[Ms. Usha Mohunloi](#)

Sept. 15 – 18

EAIE

(European Association for International Education)

Glasgow, Scotland, UK

www.eaie.org

Some of the members of the EuroScholars Consortium will attend the EAIE. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please contact:

Ms. Usha Mohunlol

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