

Rachna Dherwani

EUROSCHOLARS

PROJECT: ETHICAL ASPECTS OF HUMAN GENETICS

The Centre for Biomedical Ethics and Law (CBMER)

I am an international student from Karachi

- International student at Rutgers University
- Start my Senior year in fall 2020



**BIOLOGY
MAJOR
PSYCHOLOGY
MINOR!**

EuroScholars Program:


- Conduct research at one of the 5 internationally renowned universities:

1. KU Leuven
2. University of Zurich
3. Leiden University
4. Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
5. University of Geneva.

15 US credits
= 30 ECTS

MY PROGRAM CHOICE:

ETHICAL ASPECTS OF
HUMAN GENETICS
KU Leuven

- 
1. the ethical and legal aspects of genetic testing in minors;
 2. the ethical, legal and social aspects of genetic tests sold directly to consumers;
 3. the ethical, legal and social aspects of research on human biological material;
 4. the ethical, legal and social aspects of expanded carrier screening;
 5. the role of empirical contributions in bioethics.

GOALS FOR EUROSCHOLARS

1. Get research experience that will provide a good foundation for my career as well as grad school!
2. Make connections across the world, especially for considering biomedical genetics and epigenetics research programs.
3. TRAVEL!!!
4. Expand my cultural and personal horizons

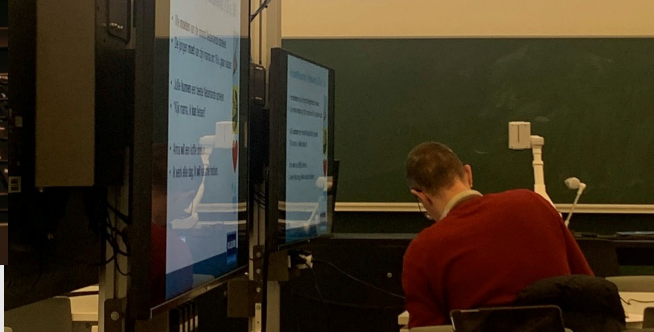
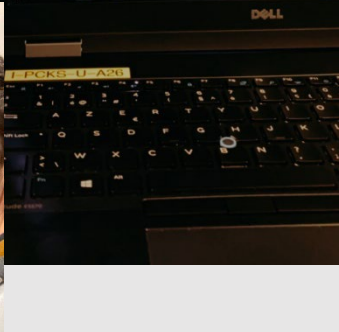
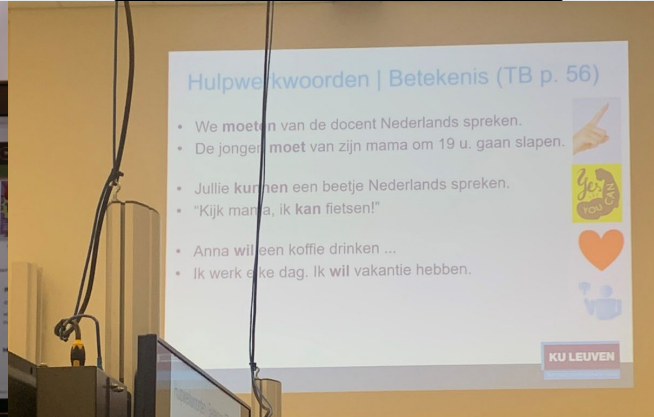
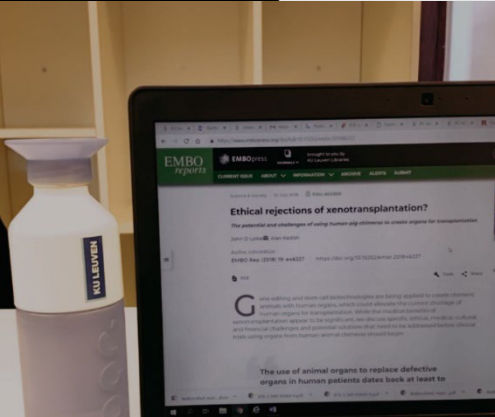


INTERNATIONAL SCHOLAR AT KU LEUVEN

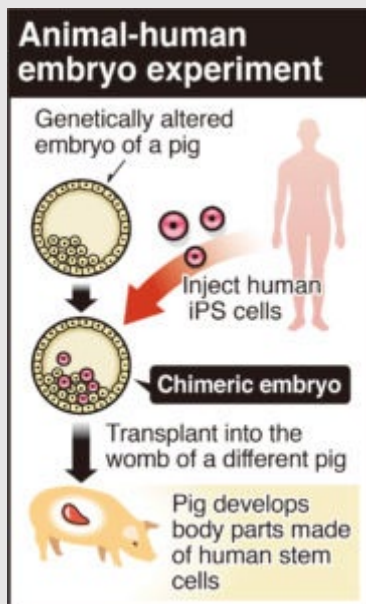
RESEARCH
PROJECT !!

LEARNING DUTCH
LANGUAGE!

BELGIUM BEER
WAFFLE AND
FRIES!!!



RESEARCH PROJECT



Nel's Master Thesis:
"Flemish High School
Students' Attitude toward
Organ Transplantation,
Xenotransplantation and
Chimeras"

1. First public attitude survey
conducted towards
Human-animal chimera
in Belgium

2. Great Learning Opportunity
-Teamwork
-Workplace environment
-Positivity
-Routine

Flemish High School Students' Attitude toward Organ Transplantation, Xenotransplantation and Chimeras

Xenotransplantation: The transplantation of living cells, tissues or organs from one species to another.

Chimera: made of cells that are derived from two (or sometimes more) organisms.

↓
Ethical concerns!!

Participants: recruited from various secondary schools in West Flanders.

Survey had a wide range of questions; participants age, religion, gender etc. Additionally, scenarios to evaluate difference in answers.

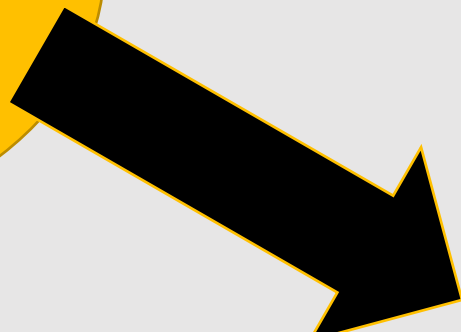
LEARNING PROCESS

Challenges:

- Understanding someone else's approaches for this particular paper
- Great new rare topic choice
- New and different education system

However;

- I was given a lot of time to understand the context and be fully immersed in a research project was a great experience especially coming from predominantly lecture learning and appreciating the differences.
- Prepared me for my final thesis this fall 2020!
- Great experience for Grad School!
- New Skills: Use of Citation software and IBM SPSS etc.



one close to
RaTG13
(isolated from
the *R.affinis* bat)

the other closer to
the **pangolin virus**

- the COVID-19 coronavirus is a chimera between two other pre-existing viruses.