

Using Partnerships to easily build an International Research Opportunities Program

CUR Biennial Conference 2018, July 1st
Sponsored by EuroScholars

Marisa Moazen, Ph.D.

Director of Undergraduate Research,
University of Tennessee - Knoxville

Marieke te Booij, MA

Head of International Relations Department,
Leiden University - The Netherlands



University of Tennessee – Knoxville

- Why expand research opportunities for our undergraduate students?
 - Globalization
 - Increase opportunities for undergraduate research
 - Top students looking for additional ways to differentiate themselves
- How did we leverage international research?
 - Open to all majors
 - Students with no prior research experience accepted
 - Research is conducted in English
 - Honors requirements – global experience and thesis



Student Outcomes

- Significant exposure to research early in academic career
- Refinement of personal goals
- Cross-cultural collaboration and intro to international scholarship
- Academic maturity
- Global competency
- Production of a paper of publishable quality
- Competitive CV for graduate school entry and career placements



Student Outcomes (specific)

- Joint publications with PI
- Opportunities for national scholarships and fellowships
- Entrance to prestigious graduate programs:
 - Cambridge University
 - Emory University
 - University of Pennsylvania
 - Karolinska Institutet
 - McGill University
 - Various medical and other specialized programs



University of Tennessee – Knoxville

- Which tools did we use?
 - Partnership with Center for International Education office
 - Existing agreement with ISA
 - Research Abroad seminars during Study Abroad Fairs
 - Offered UGR International Research Scholarships (with both OUR and CIE)
 - Targeted honors students
 - Presentations to target majors – Biomedical Engineering, Pre-med, College Scholars Program
 - Presented program and goals to professional advising staff
- What's the outcome?
 - Interest in international research is growing
 - UT Advisors are discussing undergraduate research, including international research options during early advising appointments.
 - Increased participation in EuroScholars



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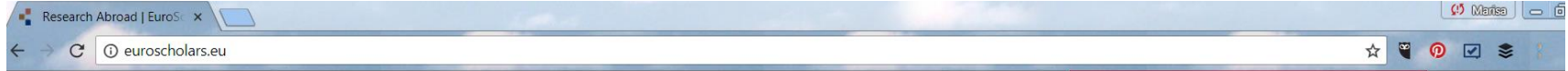
EuroScholars Program

The basics:

- Undergraduate research abroad program in Europe
- 5 highly ranked well-known research intensive universities, 4 countries
- For high-achieving undergraduate / honors students from US and Canadian institutions
- Minimum GPA 3.4 required
- Transfer of academic credits. Earn max. 30 ECTS / equivalent of approx. 15 US credits per semester.
- All study fields. All research and deliverables conducted in English.
- Language course
- Supervision
- www.euroscholars.eu



EuroScholars Program



what is eurosolars?

search project

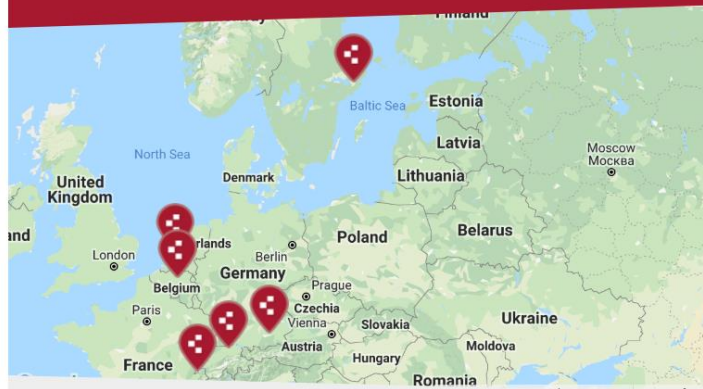
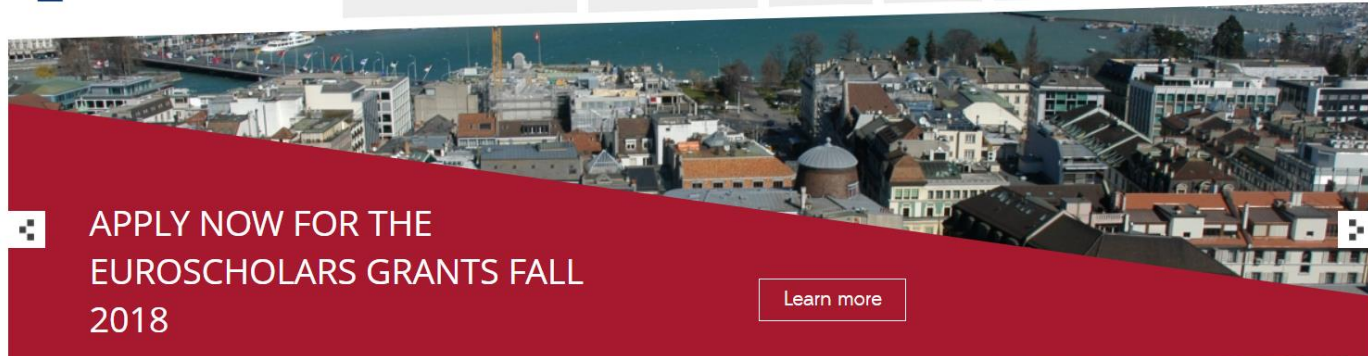
students

advisors

alumni

universities

apply now



EuroScholars Program

EuroScholars is a unique research abroad programme for highly talented undergraduate students from US and Canadian institutions looking for an international research experience.

EuroScholars offers research projects at 6 internationally renowned European Research Universities in almost any discipline.

EuroScholars and ISA are jointly sponsoring the CUR Biennial conference 2018 which will be from 1 July - 3 July in Crystal City (VA).



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EuroScholars Program

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://euroscholars.eu/search-projects/catalytic-surface-science/>. The page features the EuroScholars logo at the top left, which includes the text "EURO Scholars" and "European Undergraduate Research Opportunities". To the right of the logo is a navigation bar with links: "home", "about us", "faq", "newsletters", "contact", "what is euroscholars?", "search project", "students", "advisors", "alumni", "universities", and "apply now". Below the navigation bar is a banner image showing a group of students. The main content area is titled "CATALYTIC SURFACE SCIENCE" and "Leiden University". It includes a section for "1 or 2 semesters" and a "Project description" which states: "The EuroScholars student will contribute to ongoing research investigating the importance of defects to chemical reactivity or selectivity." The description continues: "The student will learn to use one of our five ultra-high vacuum systems, how to clean and use macroscopic single crystals as model catalysts in catalytic surface science research, and a large range of surface science, supersonic molecular beam, and laser excitation techniques. Depending on the time of arrival, the student may work on adsorption and reactions of water, oxygen and hydrogen on platinum or copper single crystal surfaces, CO2 dissociation on nickel, cobalt or copper, or other topics that catch our interest. The student learns to apply techniques, e.g. reflection absorption infrared spectroscopy (RAIRS), temperature programmed desorption/reaction (TPD/TPR), low energy electron diffraction (LEED), or supersonic molecular beam techniques. We use flat, but also world-wide unique curved single crystals to investigate differences in reactivity resulting from a variation of surface structure." It also mentions: "The project is available in the Fall and Spring semester and is also open for recently graduated undergraduate students and for graduate students." and "Number of places available: 2 per semester." There is a "Pre requisites" section: "Sophomore level chemistry or physics with strong interest in physical chemistry and/or heterogeneous catalysis." and a "Faculty Department" section: "Faculty of Science / Leiden Institute of Chemistry." It further states: "The Leiden Institute of Chemistry (LIC) is organized around two major research areas:" followed by "Chemical Biology" and "Energy & Sustainability". The final paragraph reads: "Our research group contributes to the latter. In the area Energy & Sustainability research is focused on chemical reactions of importance to the sustainable and efficient production and storage of energy. Please check our website for information on our research activities relating to catalysis and surface science."



EuroScholars Program

The outcomes and impacts:


- till now 20 students involved in 1 or more academic [joint publications](#) with researcher at host institution
- unique perspective on field of research
- hands-on experience on international research practices at an early stage
- improved profile for further study and career decisions
- increased academic maturity
- increased interpersonal and academic communication skills
- admission to prestigious graduate programs worldwide
- life-long transatlantic network



EuroScholars Program

- Number of students since the start of the EuroScholars Program in S2008 – S2018: 235
- Students come from: 94 various North American institutions.

How can other US universities participate ?

- EuroScholars works exclusively with [International Studies Abroad](#) 
 - If needed, set up an affiliation contract with ISA for all their programs or only for the EuroScholars Program.
 - EuroScholars doesn't require an affiliation contract.
- Transfer of credits is a requirement to participate in the EuroScholars Program
 - EuroScholars Learning Agreement: signed by all 4 parties involved (student, home institution, research supervisor, coordinator host institution)



EuroScholars Office, European Institutions and ISA

The EuroScholars Consortium is the owner of the EuroScholars Program

EuroScholars Office:

- Head Office
- Based at Leiden University
- Policies, Rules & regulations, guidelines
- Program Fee (set by ES Board & Consortium)
- ES Board & Consortium meetings
- Finances
- Collects ES Program Fee from ISA
- Website
- Marketing & promotion
- ES Newsletter
- Brochure in coop with ISA

European Institution:

- Every institution has an Institutional Coordinator
- Education & Research
- Marketing & promotion
- Student services :
 - Application procedure
 - Guidance
 - Housing
 - Visa / residence permit
 - Orientation days/week
 - Transcripts

ISA:

- Based in Austin, TX
- Pre-application procedures and guidance of student & home university
- Marketing & promotion
- Study fairs & conferences
- Distribution of ES Newsletter & brochure in N-America
- Student services
- ISA Health insurance
- Collect transcripts from European Institutions
- Collect ES Program Fee from student / home university





Leiden, Netherlands
Ranked 67 (THES) / 88 (SJT)

Munich, Germany
Ranked 34 (THES) / 57 (SJT)



Leuven, Belgium
Ranked 47 (THES) / 90 (SJT)



**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**

Geneva, Switzerland
Ranked 130 (THES) / 60 (SJT)



**University of
Zurich** UZH

Zurich, Switzerland
Ranked 136 (THES) / 58 (SJT)



THES = [Times Higher Education Ranking 2017-2018](#)

SJT = [Shanghai Jiao Tong Ranking/ARWU 2017](#)

Quotes

Prof. Dr. Steven Verhelst (KU Leuven)

*"The student performed excellent work, which gave good support to a running research project in the lab. **The student had no research experience in an academic lab, the project exposed him to cutting edge research for the first time,** and this was very helpful to him. Although he was a BSc student, he performed at the level of a starting PhD student. I believe that undergraduate students who are very ambitious and who would like to pursue a PhD should broaden their horizon and also get exposed to different kinds of research labs."*

Andrew Goldfarb (The College of New Jersey / Leiden University, S2014)

Current Trajectory : PhD student in Biological and Biomedical Science program at Harvard University.

*"I absolutely loved my time in the EuroScholars Program. I say it was the most influential experience of my undergraduate years. It had a huge impact on my personal growth and perspective, as well as my career goals. Every single one of my interviews for graduate school asked about the research I did abroad. Participating in EuroScholars was the most important decision as an undergraduate student. My home university was a small liberal arts school that does not offer much on research. **Having the opportunity to conduct research at a large research university exposed me to a higher level of research that I could not have had otherwise.**"*

Gregory Zegarek (Rutgers University, New Jersey / University of Geneva, F2010)

Current Trajectory: 4th year medical student at the University of Chicago

*"I am currently in my last year of medical school. Next year, I will enter my residency training in Neurosurgery at the University of Geneva (my EuroScholars host institution). **The EuroScholars experience broadened my exposure to European academic institutions and hospitals.** This experience was invaluable in securing my residency position. I will be working at the University of Geneva Hospitals as a neurosurgery resident next year in part due to the contacts that I made there as an undergraduate."*



Quotes

Bradley Brummel (Associate Professor of Psychology and Director of Undergraduate Studies in Psychology, The University of Tulsa), EuroScholars site visit 2013:

*"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**. Through the visit, we got to experience what life would be like for students in the 3 locations we visited and to learn about the quality of research and mentorship happening at these 3 universities. 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. 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 EuroScholars locations, but I am confident that all of them would provide an excellent experience for students."*

Anne Dahlman, PhD (Director Honors Program, Minnesota State University, Mankato), EuroScholars Site Visit 2015:

*"I became very enthusiastic about the EuroScholars Program on the trip. **It would be good for every student to do some high-level research and at the same time to look beyond his or her own familiar little world**. This programme combines those two things. For that reason, participating students need to be independent and resourceful, as well as willing to take risks."*



Join the site visit!

ISA group site visit + EuroScholars add-on, October 2018

October 20-25, 2018

- Prague, Czech Republic; and
- Amsterdam, The Netherlands

October 25-27

- optional **Euroscholars (research) add-on**: Leiden, The Netherlands and Leuven, Belgium

Fee:

- Non-Affiliate: \$500
- Affiliate: \$250 (50% discount)

Application:

- <https://studiesabroad.com/advisorsAndFaculty/study/visit-isa#g>
- Deadline: 17 August



Thank You !

Marisa Moazen, Ph.D.

University of Tennessee – Knoxville, Director of Undergraduate Research
mmoazen@utk.edu

Marieke te Booij, MA

Leiden University – The Netherlands,
Head of International Relations Department
m.t.te.booij@sea.leidenuniv.nl

Main contact persons EuroScholars Program:

Usha Mohunlol

EuroScholars Program, based at Leiden University - The Netherlands,
Coordinator Head Office EuroScholars Program
u.c.mohunlol@sea.leidenuniv.nl

Rachel Rogers

ISA

Enrollment Management & EuroScholars
rachel@studiesabroad.com; euroscholars@studiesabroad.com

