



<p>September 2016</p>	<p>BECOME A MEMBER! More info</p>
 <p>Dear Fellow Alumnus,</p> <p>Since our establishment as a US Chapter a couple of years ago, we have been steadily reaching out to fellow alumni in Tri-State area (New York, New Jersey and Connecticut), the US eastcoast and beyond.</p> <p>It is not easy to find all of you, but we are confident that we can build a considerable community who all enjoyed study at the KU Leuven in their career.</p> <p>The Newsletter will appear 4 times a year and we welcome all suggestions, ideas, and input for stories. Next to announcing events and reporting past events, we would like to hear from all of you: your story since you studied in Leuven, fun times then and now, and perhaps suggestions of events you would like to organize in your locality.</p> <p>Please do not hesitate to send us a message.</p> <p>Met vriendelijke groeten,</p> <p>Jan President, US Chapter</p>	<p>An introduction from Chapter President Jan Wauters</p> <p>Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap: Exclusive tour of Flemish artwork at The Frick, NY • Upcoming RSVP: Rector Torfs hosts NY event • Save the Date: Nov. 16 event, NYC. Details TBA <p>Leuven in the News</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leuven is Europe's Most Innovative University • "We" Discovered the Big Bang <p>Patron members and supporting partners</p> <p>CALENDAR</p> <p>Sep 14: Thomas More's Utopia Nov 16: Business strategy discussion</p>

<p>EVENTS RECAP</p>	<p>UPCOMING EVENTS</p>
<p>An exclusive tour at the Frick Collection</p>  <p>This Spring, the renowned Frick Collection on the Upper East Side in New York had a unique exhibition that reminds us of Belgium: "Van Dyck, the anatomy of Portraiture. These portraits, on display from all of over the world, show the craftsmanship of the 17th century painter who grew up in Antwerp and became the court painter of King Charles I of England.</p> <p>Thanks to the support of the Government of Flanders, our Member Alumni were treated on a personalized tour by a Frick curator followed by a</p>	<p>Thomas More & Utopias of the Past, Present and Future</p>  <p>This is a not-to-miss event: The Rector of KU Leuven, Prof. Rik Torfs will host a Panel and Reception to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Thomas More's Utopia, published for the first time in Leuven in 1516.</p> <p>The discussion will explore More's vision of the world during his time and our ideas of Utopia of today and tomorrow. This special evening honors the friendship between KU Leuven and individuals and institutions throughout the US.</p>

on a personalized tour by a former curator, followed by a reception graciously hosted by Consul General Marc Calcoen at this Belgian residence on 5th avenue.

Sep 14, 2016 [05:30-08:30PM] @ Yale Club, New York

For more info and registration, please visit: kuleuven.eventbrite.com

Save the date: Business Strategy Discussion



On Nov 16, we will organize a business strategy discussion with experts from renowned universities and corporations on new trends in business strategy and today's challenges.

More details to be announced!

LEUVEN IN THE NEWS

Leuven tops Reuters ranking of Europe's most innovative universities



We have seen the news releases for a while now: Leuven is steadily making its way to the top of global university rankings. According to one of the most prestigious ranking systems, TheTimes Higher Education, Leuven has entered the top-50 and is now at the 35th position. Of course, these things depend on certain parameters, not always the best ones probably to compare universities of different kinds and structures in all places of the world. E.g., a 35th position for a "democratic" university (meaning very broad access to prospective students at a very low cost and offering nearly all disciplines) is quite an accomplishment.

This last ranking of Reuters shows a very significant point. It states that Leuven ranks nr. 1 in Europe on the contribution of the institution to the economy (based on patent output and innovation impact). The full article can be read here.

Actually, not that surprising, as Leuven - with its LRD, Leuven Research and Development - has, since the 70s, one of the oldest and most active tech transfer units in Europe. And it pays off!

"We" discovered the Big Bang: honoring George Lemaitre



Leuven professor was the first to put forward Big Bang Theory

No, this is not about the sitcom on TV, but the real thing (as we know it).

George Lemaitre, Belgian priest, astronomer and professor at the University of Leuven was the first to propose a Big Bang theory to explain the expansion of the Universe. He was the first to derive what is now known as

Hubble's Law and became one of Einstein's discussion friends on his theory of relativity.

Lemaitre, born in Charleroi, started his study of civil engineering in Leuven when the Great War (14-18) started, where he served in the artillery.

After WW1, he continued his studies in Belgium and abroad and became one of the most famous physicists of the 20th century.

Last May, the Belgian Ambassador, Johan Verbeke, celebrated him on the occasion of 50 years since his death (June 20 1966) with a seminar for the scientific community at his residence in Washington DC.

THANK YOU!

We are a lean voluntary-based not-for-profit organization, and have to rely mainly on membership fees and donations for our operations.

We thank all our members who signed up this year, and a special thanks goes to our Patron members:

Chris Burggraeve
Geert Cauwenbergh
Paul Hespel
Ank Santens

Also, we are deeply grateful for the support of both our Alma Mater and of KBC USA.

Thank you all!

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SUGGESTIONS BOX



Suggestions for an activity? Ideas or accomplishments you want to share in the next alumni newsletter? Let [us](#) know!

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