



Newsletter 4 - November 2016

Special theme: financial aspects of honors programs

The European Honors Council (EHC) presents you news, events and materials to foster exchange in the honors community and beyond. In this newsletter we focus on a special theme: financial aspects of honors programs.

We present you results from our membership survey and invite you to participate in a short new [three-question survey](#) on this topic!

Additional news includes:

- EHC meets National Collegiate Honors Council (USA)
- Innovation Labs open
- Report of Belgian Honors Network meeting
- Good practice of an EHC member: Fontys UAS

Please feel free to send this newsletter around to colleagues and friends, and invite them to also [join](#) the EHC.

Financial aspects of honors programs

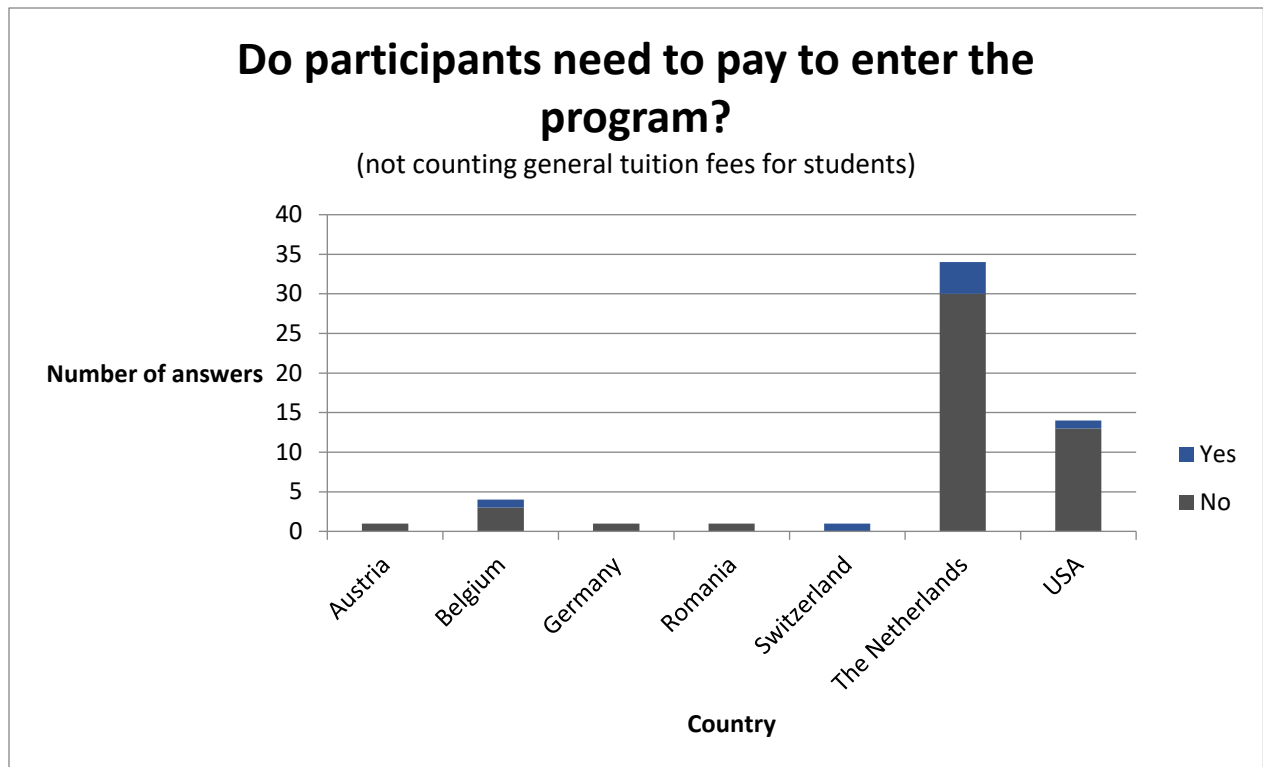
Membership Survey – some results

In our membership survey, we have asked you about some financial aspects concerning the students entering your honors programmes:

- Do participants need to pay to enter the program?
- Do participants receive financial report?

56 members from 7 different countries, responded to these questions. The results are shown in the graphs below.

Most participants don't need to pay additional fees to enter the honors programme (49 counts) but when they have to (7 counts), the amount to be paid varied between 150 to 300€ (*if the amount was mentioned*).

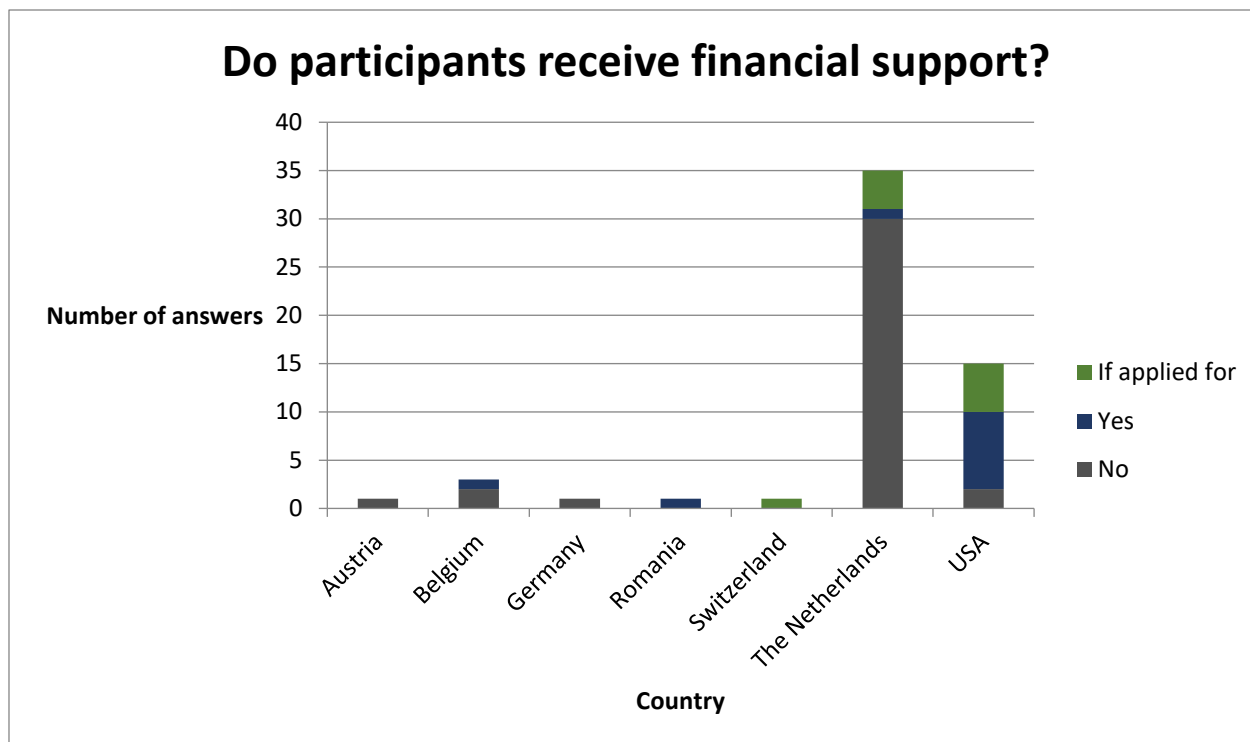


Most programmes don't support their participants financially (36 counts) and if they do (11 counts) it is under these forms:

- Scholarship awarded by a director
- Honors students meet criteria from regular scholarships
- Travel or research grants
- Federal, state or institutional assistance.

In 10 programmes, participants can apply for a refund of expenses or grants, which are paid for by/with

- Provision from school governments or different foundations (*Switzerland*)
- Institution, Faculty, Government, State,... (In means of financial aid, fellowship opportunities, scholarships, grants to support study abroad, grants for research, grants for service-learning opportunities,...) (*USA*).
- Faculty or own research budgets (for small specific expenses, summer school, a prize to be won, extracurricular activities) (*The Netherlands*).



In this light, one of our members was wondering how most of the honors programmes are financed themselves. Is it mostly goodwill of institution’s staff, faculty members, others; or do you seek sponsors? Is there a fixed financial support by government? Does you institution have a specific approach?

We would be delighted if you could share this information by going to this [three-question survey](#).

Your responses will be collected until the 29th of November and results will be shared in the newsletter of December.

EHC meets National Collegiate Honors Council (USA)

The annual honors conference organized by the NCHC (the American honors network) was held in Seattle in early October. It’s a large conference: over 1900 participants are present and swarm through the hotel and city. Three Dutch board members of the EHC participated in a few activities in order to make new contacts and to ensure some form of collaboration with universities and above all: with the NCHC. A large group of Dutch faculty and staff, working with honors within their departments, was present in Seattle.

In one of our sessions, we explicitly worked with the group to find out what they thought would be the most profitable way of collaboration, on what subjects and through which channels. There were four subjects: research, professional development, student level and advocacy. To give a few examples of the outcomes: in *Research*, one of the topics was ‘diversity of students in honors programs’: what students do (or do not) join these programs, what are their needs and what would be the best kind of program for them? In *Professional development* one of the topics was ‘exchange of best practices’ and ‘Teacher/Student exchange’, which is a very effective way of learning from each other (and maybe easier on a European scale). At the *Student level* (this panel was mixed faculty and students) topics were ‘attention for diversity in content (STEM!)’ and ‘global citizenship’. In the *Advocacy* group, topics were mentioned about ‘publications’ and ‘find “natural” academic allies’. All together

a very lively meeting with a positive vibe on collaboration. We will stay in contact with the NCHC and see what might help us all further on the road of collaboration!
EHC and NCHC board members also enjoyed a meal together, as shown in the picture below.



Innovation Labs

From February-April all Dutch minors (30 ects, sep-jan) will be open for registration, also for European students. Please have a look at <https://www.kiesopmaat.nl/modules/> . Some of these programs are listed as ‘honors’ (in the text) and may be profitable for your students as well. Officially an agreement about collaboration is needed, but individual students might contact the minor to see if they are welcome even without an agreement.

In Rotterdam, but also at other Universities of Applied Sciences, a number of minors from honors programs are open for all disciplines. If a student is interested, or if you think one of your students could be interested, please make them aware of this challenging possibility.

Report of “Belgian Honors Network” meeting

The first networking event on honors & talent development at a higher education level in Belgium was held in September at the University of Antwerp. The full report of the meeting is now available at www.honorscouncil.eu/belgianhonorsnetwork.pdf

Good practice of an EHC member

Wonder how to incorporate a good relationship between your programme and external partners? The Fontys University of Applied Sciences in The Netherlands offers a Talent Academy to talented students of the department of Marketing and Management. They

interact openly with companies letting their students profit from real-life experiences. The programme searches for *'companies that encourage students to develop themselves and bring themselves and their organization to a higher level'* and therefore creates sustainable relationships with external partners. You can read [here](#) about their current projects.

More info?

www.honorscouncil.eu

See the full [European Honors Council Acting Board](#)

For membership questions: membership@honorscouncil.eu (Marleen Eyckmans)

All other questions: info@honorscouncil.eu (Maarten Hogenstijn)

This newsletter was sent to you because you registered as a member of the European Honors Council. If you no longer want to receive these e-mails, please send a message to membership@honorscouncil.eu

This newsletter is sent out on a monthly basis. If you have input for the next newsletter, please send it to info@honorscouncil.eu before December 1st.