



Newsletter 3 - October 2016

The European Honors Council (EHC) presents you news, events and materials to foster exchange in the honors community and beyond. In this newsletter:

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

First meeting of “Belgian Honors Network”

On Monday the 19th of September 2016, the University of Antwerp hosted a first networking event on the topic of honors & talent development at a higher education level in Belgium! Representatives of KULeuven, UGent, Vives Hogeschool and UAntwerp briefly presented their programmes and discussed general threats and opportunities for Honors education in Belgium. Throughout the discussion, the merit of forming a Belgian Honors Network was shining through and in the near future, next steps will be taken to establish a, firstly informal, network via LinkedIn. More info with Marleen Eyckmans, marleen.eyckmans@uantwerpen.be

EHC President at EU Talent conference

On 12-13 September, the European Conference on the Fostering and Development of Talent was held in the Slovakian capital Bratislava. This event brought together researchers, teachers, policy makers, business leaders and politicians to discuss progress in the field of talent development.



EHC President Marca Wolfensberger hosted a session on 'Seeking and promoting talent in higher education and science.' The conference was co-sponsored by the EU's Erasmus+ programme and was the flagship event in the area of education of the Slovakian EU presidency. More info can be found on [the conference website](#).

Landmark report published in Norway

For the first time in Norwegian history a government-appointed commission wrote a report on provisions for the highly talented in education. It contains clear proposals to create a culture more appreciative of academic giftedness and talent in Norway. The report by the commission called [Jøsendalutvalget](#) was named 'Mer å hente', literally 'more to gain'. The report is focused on provisions for gifted or talented children in basic education (up to the age of 16), but it can also be an incentive for the development of honors program in higher education. Such programs have not been developed yet, although there are [Centres of Excellence in Education](#), focusing on excellence at the institutional level. [The report](#) is only available in Norwegian, but we received word that work is done to make an English summary.

New edited series on honors education

The first two volumes in the new edited series: Honors Education in Transition, have just been published. The series examines the proliferation of honors programs and colleges in American higher education and is co-edited by Robert W. Glover of the University of Maine and Katherine M. O'Flaherty of Barrett, the Honors College at Arizona State University. The first volume, Present Successes and Future Challenges in Honors Education, and the second volume, Continuity and Innovation in Honors College Curricula, are now in print with Rowman & Littlefield and the third will be available in December. You can find more information about the series [here](#).



Successful Nordic Talent Network meeting

The annual Nordic Talent Network conference was held on 22-23 September 2016 in Vaasa, Finland. In the [Nordic Talent Network](#) teachers, researchers, policy makers and others interested in talent development at all levels of education are gathered. Members come from Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland. From each country, a representative gave the audience a short update about important developments. In addition, research results were presented and good practices shared. EHC Secretary Maarten Hogenstijn presented about the importance of networking internationally. For now, the Nordic Talent Network focuses mainly on primary and secondary education, but some talent programs already link to higher education and more links can be made in the future. A very interesting feature was the Nordic Science Camp for 15-17 year-olds, which was held parallel to the conference. The youngsters presented their results at the last day of the conference.



Good practice of an EHC member

How to give your students a better insight in defining good and evil in the complex reality we live in and give them tools to reflect, communicate and critically look at themselves? Using interdisciplinarity through an interfaculty honors programme, the University of Leuven (Belgium) challenges their students to engage in a dialogue about 'Evil, retribution and forgiveness'. Visit their [website](#) and see which courses they provide to achieve their goals!

EHC Board meeting in November: input welcome!

The Acting Board of the European Honors Council will have its next 'live' meeting on 7-8 November in Sorø (Denmark), hosted by [ScienceTalenter](#). We very much welcome input from members. If you have anything you would like to bring to the attention of the Board or would like to have discussed, please contact the [EHC Secretary](#) before November 1st.

Documents available on EHC website

On the EHC website, information and materials about honors education are freely available. This includes:

- the brochure 'Honors in Europe: getting to work' with practical tips for honors educators and policy makers, available in three languages: [English](#), [German](#) and [Dutch](#)
- The book which inspired the founding of the EHC: *Talent Development in European Higher Education: Honors Programs in the Benelux, Nordic and German-speaking countries*, by Marca Wolfensberger. This was published in [open access](#) at Springer in early 2015
- The new article [Slow Shift - Developing Provisions for Talented Students in Scandinavian](#)

[Higher Education](#) by EHC board members Marca Wolfensberger and Maarten Hogenstijn, published in the open access journal Education Sciences.

-A brochure with [Information about the EHC](#)

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 November 1st.