



Brussels, 6 June 2014

# STUDY TRIP TO THE UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

# REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Dear HUMANE Member,

In the past years we organized ten successful study trips to Helsinki, Utrecht, Heidelberg, Warwick, Uppsala, Vienna and Zürich. Many of you, and members of your staff, participated in these events, and provided us with very positive evaluations and useful ideas for improvements in the program.

We are delighted to be able now to offer a new, eleventh HUMANE intensive study trip. This trip is to the **University of Amsterdam**, again one of the leading comprehensive universities in Europe.

The programme starts on the evening of Tuesday 14 October 2014 and will end on Friday night 17 October 2014

The University of Amsterdam (UvA) and the city of Amsterdam are closely intertwined. The city is an obvious and ideal environment for the UvA: 'the city is our campus'. UvA, established in 1632, is a modern university with a rich history, Today, with some 30,000 students, 5,000 staff and a budget of more than 600 million euros, it is one of the largest comprehensive universities in Europe.

UvA has adopted a strategy of cooperation with the other universities in the area of Amsterdam. It shares its Board with the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (HvA), both institutes share most of their service departments. Recently, the University of Amsterdam and the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU) have intensified their cooperation, on the university level, and particularly in the field of the sciences. Under the umbrella of the Amsterdam Economic Board, The University of Amsterdam, together with governmental agencies, the business world and other research institutes have jointly taken responsibility to work towards strengthening the economy of the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area. The Board strives to stimulate and support sustainable collaboration, innovation and growth in the region, and strengthen international competitiveness.

This strategy of cooperation will be presented, discussed and analysed. Also, its operational – administrative, managerial and other –translation will be a main theme of this study trip. Its efforts in the areas of knowledge transfer and the management and budgeting of contract research will certainly prove to be useful and rewarding to you and your colleagues individually and to your institution.

The program is enclosed. It will be intensive. Plenary sessions will focus on the University and its operating and policy context, discussion of the topics and demonstrations of the ideas and methods used by the host University. Sessions in small working groups will provide us with opportunities to deepen our understanding of the approach taken and of the experiences of the other universities present. Each day will end with a plenary session to review the day's discussions and you will be expected to participate in the production of a SWOT analysis of the host University, in the course of the event.

The programme will conclude with a dinner on Friday evening, where certificates will be distributed.

#### **Format**

Group participation creates the best results, both in terms of the content of the discussions and of the learning experiences of the participants. We therefore suggest that you do not attend as an individual but with a small group of colleagues (approximately three people per participating university). We would also like you to make sure that every participant is able to understand the English presentations and participate in the discussions, which will also be in English.

#### Costs

The fee for the study trip is € 1,900 per participant. The fee for representatives of non-member universities is € 2,250. The fee includes all meals (lunches and dinners) but not travel and accommodation.

#### Hote

You are expected to make your own hotel reservations. The participants will receive instructions for hotel bookings when they have registered.

## Registration

We had to disappoint some subscribers on previous occasions so we strongly advise you to register as soon as possible. A registration form is available at <a href="http://www.humane.eu">http://www.humane.eu</a>. Due to the limited spaces on the Study Trip your registration will be binding. If you cancel your registration before 1 September 2014 we will reimburse 75% of the fee. No reimbursement can be made after that date.

NB:

The number of participants will be limited (approximately 21 per trip). Please wait for confirmation of your registration before making any travel arrangements.

We believe that these visits will be of great benefit and will add greatly to the services we offer our members. HUMANE will carefully evaluate these visits for their effectiveness and relevance. Please do not hesitate to contact Anton Nijssen (ajnijssen@wxs.nl) or myself (jhopkinson@plymouth.ac.uk) if you require any further information.

Best wishes,

Anton Nijssen,

on behalf of Jane Hopkinson, Study Trip leader (former delegate of UK in HUMANE Executive Committee).

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# Study Trip to the University of Amsterdam (UvA) 14-18 October 2014

# ACADEMIC AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION: KEY TO SUCCESS

# Program, Outline

Context, strategy and practices of UvA will be presented. Main theme will be its cooperation with neighbouring academic institutions, and the operational consequences of this cooperation. Also, the strategic economic cooperation on the local and regional level will be discussed.

Group sessions and group work will focus on:

- The development of the cooperation with neighbouring academic institutions (governance and resource allocation).
- The cooperation of the universities, businesses and government in the Amsterdam Economic Board.
- The operational and managerial translation of the cooperative approaches taken, its difficulties and the solutions found.
- The effectiveness of the chosen approach.

The programme will start with a warming-up session on Tuesday 14 October at 20.30 hrs (<u>venue</u>: Amsterdam Academic Club) and will end on Friday night 17 October. During the welcome meeting, participants will introduce themselves and will be informed about the programme. Sub-groups will be established and assignments distributed. Mieke Zaanen (Secretary-General UvA) will provide an introduction to the Dutch higher education system.

## Venue:

(The participants will come to Academic Club of the university (AAC) directly and be taken to the hotel afterwards. The address: AAC, Oudezijds Achterburgwal 235, Amsterdam Center)

During the conference your contact person is Anton Nijssen (+31 6 235 231 63)

# Programme for Day 1

Wednesday 15 October

## The strategy of cooperation: What does it entail?

We will leave the hotel at 8.45 hours Venue: University Library, Singel 425

Opening Session (9.00 - 9.15)

Welcome address on behalf of the University of Amsterdam, And on behalf of HUMANE,

**Louise Gunning** (Chair of the Board) **Jane Hopkinson** (program leader)

Morning session: 1 (9.15 - 10.45)

09.15 – 10.00 The University of Amsterdam: facts, figures and the new strategic plan (instellingsplan) Mieke Zaanen (Secretary-General UvA)

10.00 - 10.45 Questions and discussion

#### coffee break

#### Morning session 2 (11.00 - 12.30)

11.00 – 11.45 The triple A: Strategic Academic cooperation

Jacco Bonnink (Vrije Universiteit, VU) and Arne Brentjes (Head of Strategy and Information UvA)

11.45- 12.30 Questions and discussion

## 12.30 - 13.45 lunch, venue: Museum Café

## Afternoon session 1 (13.45 - 15.30)

13.45 - 14.00 Feedback discussion

14.00 – 14.45 The Amsterdam Economic Board: policies and its effectiveness Babs van den Bergh (Head of Academic Affairs)

14.45 - 15.30 Questions and discussion

#### coffee break

## Afternoon session 2 (15.30 - 17.45)

15.30 – 17.00 work in subgroups, Themes of the day: (1), (2), (3)

17.00 – 17.45 plenary presentations and discussion (Chair: **Jane Hopkinson**)

20.00 dinner offered by UvA (Restaurant: tba)

Dinner speech

During the conference your contact is Anton Nijssen (+31 6 235 231 63)

# Programme for Day 2

Thursday 16 October

# Strategic university cooperation: the operational translation, difficulties and solutions on the level of the institutions

We will leave the hotel at 8.30 hours

**Venue: Complex Roetersstraat** 

### Morning session: 1 (9.00 - 10.30)

9.00 – 9.45 Operational consequences of cooperation between universities 1: administrative issues Erik Boels (Head of Finance & Control)

9.45 - 10.30 Questions and discussion

#### coffee break

#### Morning session 2 (10.45 - 12.15)

10.45 – 11.30 Operational consequences of cooperation 2: the cooperation with the HvA Geke van Velzen (Secretary-General HvA, Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences)

11.30 - 12.15 Questions and discussion

## 12.15 - 13.30 lunch (Venue: tba)

## Afternoon session 1 (13.30 - 15.15)

13.30 - 13.45 Feedback discussion

13.45 – 14.30 The Science Park: cooperation between the universities, the municipality and the National Research Council (NWO)

Geert Haksteen (Director Matrix Innovation Center)

14.30 - 15.15 Questions and discussion

### coffee break

#### Afternoon session 2 (15.15 - 17.45)

15.30 – 17.00 work in subgroups

Themes of the day: (1), (2), (3)

17.00 – 17.45 plenary presentations and discussion (Chair: **Jane Hopkinson**)

#### Guided walk back to the hotel

20.00

dinner

Restaurant: tba

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# Programme for Day 3

Friday 17 October

# Towards operational excellence

We will leave the hotel by bus, at 8.15 hours

**Venue: Science Park** 

Morning session: 1 (9.00 - 10.30)

9.00- 9.45 Financial and project administration: an integrated system

Pieter-Jan Aartsen (Strategy & Information)

9.45 - 10.30 Questions and discussion

coffee break

Morning session 2 (10.30 - 12.15)

10.30 – 11.45 Cooperation with the Vrije Universiteit: Faculty level

Gert Grift (Director of the cooperation between the Science Faculties: UvA and VU)

11.45 - 12.30 Questions and discussion

12.30 - 13.30 lunch (Venue: De Polder)

Afternoon session 1 (13.30 - 15.15)

13.30 - 13.45 Feedback discussion

13.45 – 14.30 Operational consequences of cooperation 3: cooperation in IT Bert Voorbraak (Director ICT Services, UvA and HvA)

14.30 - 15.15 Questions and discussion

coffee break

Afternoon session 2 (15.15-18.00)

15.15 - 16.30 work in subgroups

Themes of the day: (1), (2)

General theme: SWOT analysis of the approach taken by the UvA.

16.30 - 17.15 plenary presentations and discussion

(Chair: Jane Hopkinson)

17.15 – 18.00 closing session with panel (Chair: Jane Hopkinson)

20.00 closing dinner (certificates)

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