

Biographies guest lecturers International Days BA HRM Thomas More

20-21 March 2024

Ms Lies Beunens (UCLL)

Lies Beunens is a researcher at Stimulans (Resilient People). In her research she takes a focus on strengthening person-centred care and on ethical competencies through experience-oriented learning (PWO Patient Participation, PWO Digital Storytelling, Ethcom ERA+ project).

Lies is a lecturer in social work within project-based education LABO. She holds a Master's degree in educational sciences (KU Leuven). She has 20 years of experience guiding groups and organisations on various themes, including collaboration, project-based work, participation and community building.

Mr Vince Buysens (Thomas More – Starhaven)

Vince Buysens is a colleague at Thomas More. He is a creative digital strategist who has been working at the intersection of technology, design, and culture for over a decade. Under his moniker Voidwalker, he helps brands navigate the communities, currencies and culture of our Internet society.

He has developed community strategies, campaigns and brand identities for a Finnish mobility-as-a-service start-up, a start-up building a real-time 3D animation app, the Flemish Tourism board, and a range of consumer brands.

Through Starhaven he provides AI guidance for the creative industry. His main goal is to help creative people evolve and help guide the development of AI, so that it helps expand creativity instead of eclipsing it.

Ms Cécile Decallais (Henallux)

Ayant suivi une formation en GRH, en Sciences du Travail et en Pédagogie de l'Enseignement Supérieur, Cécile est enseignante à Henallux pendant quinze ans. Elle donne des cours de communication, de gestion de projet et de sociologie du travail, où elle met l'accent sur les questions de genre et le parcours professionnel des femmes et l'inclusivité. Elle est impliquée dans des différents projets internationaux et elle joue un rôle dans l'encadrement pédagogique et les stages.

Hogeschool Fontys

Zes tweedejaars HRM-studenten van de Fontys Hogeschool in Eindhoven volgen een vierjarige voltijdse opleiding. In hun tweede jaar hebben ze gekozen voor de International Stream, een praktijkgerichte leerroute waarbij ze samenwerken met diverse (inter)nationale organisaties.

Binnen de International Stream ontwikkelen ze de volgende competenties: kennis toepassen, professionaliseren, methodisch handelen, anticiperen, samenwerken, inleven, visie ontwikkelen en innoveren.

Door deel te nemen aan de verschillende projecten worden ze voorbereid om een snelle en sterke start te maken in hun carrière en gemakkelijk te participeren op de arbeidsmarkt.

Ms Liesbeth Huysmans (self-employed Intercultural consultant)

Liesbeth Huysmans is an experienced Intercultural Coach and Consultant, as well as a Certified Professional Coach, specialised in global leadership coaching. She is a Belgian national and has lived and worked in Austria, France and the USA. She is fluent in English, French, German and Dutch and holds a Master's degree in Applied Linguistics and a Master's degree in Communication Studies.

Growing up in a place where everyone looked the same, Liesbeth became curious about people who were different and had different life experiences. Moving abroad has profoundly changed her worldview and has led her to the overlapping fields of interculturalism and diversity, equity and inclusion.

Mr Boris Ney (Windeheim University of Applied Sciences)

Boris Ney studied psychology and international management at the University of Twente, Enschede, the Netherlands and since then he has pursued teaching positions in various UAS in the Netherlands. He taught students in the field of social work, international HRM, business, hospitality and international business. Currently, Boris works at the faculty of International Business at the UAS of Windesheim in Zwolle, the Netherlands. He teaches critical and creative thinking, organisation theory, technology-related classes and culture to a diverse pool of international students. He has research ambitions to unravel the adoption of non-conscious data collection methods utilised by tech companies and the public sector on Generation Z.

Boris is a regular guest teacher at Thomas More. He is known for his enthusiastic, energetic and interdisciplinary sessions and has taught at the Thomas More International days since 2010. He knows to dismantle complex phenomena in such a way that students see the distinct relationship(s) between concepts. As such he strives to let students look over the rim of the teacup. Simply knowing is not enough: Boris lets students understand and comprehend.

Dr. Elke Ruelens (Skills Builders)

Dr. Elke Ruelens trained as a linguist at the University of Antwerp, where she obtained her PhD looking at learner autonomy in language learning. Elke has always had a passion for learning & development. It has been the common denominator in her career so far. After several years of research within the field of language learning, she started working as an L&D specialist and more recently as an HR consultant. With her inquisitive mindset as a driving force, she is always looking for ways in which she can facilitate and innovate learning and development in organisations.

Mr Wouter Van den Bosch (IMEC)

Wouter Van den Bosch is R&D Program Manager "Health & AI" at Imec, a high profile research and technology company in Belgium. Together with a highly motivated and capable team of data scientists, developers, domain experts and project leads, his team aims to push the boundaries of data science and AI applied to Imec's technological roadmaps in the domains of health and life sciences. Before taking up this role, Wouter was Program Manager Public Health at Imec, helping to accelerate digital transformation and access to health data at scale in the Belgian health ecosystem and explore how technology can be used to create new insights in personalised and predictive health pathways. Wouter is a seasoned technologist with a passion for innovation, disruption, collaboration and new technology applied well.

In 2016 Wouter co-founded KnowledgeFlow.io, to help organisations overcome their current issues with knowledge management and essentially make knowledge usable on the work floor. Before, Wouter worked as a researcher & project manager on ICT Innovation at Thomas More and helped both SMEs as well as startups in the design of their innovations.

Ms Vera Wamsteeker (Digiparty)

Vera Wamsteeker comes from Enschede, The Netherlands. She has a background in graphic design and has her own business called Digiparty. She likes to be creative and has proven to be that in her previous role of being a brand architect. She also has a keen interest in entrepreneurship. Together with Boris Ney, she has been a regular guest at the Thomas More international days.