



## Vesalius Teams Up with the Royal Racing Football Club Montegnée of Liège

In Spring 2009, Vesalius College established a partnership with the Royal Racing Football Club Montegnée (RRFCM), a professional soccer academy located in Liège, Belgium. Qualified young men and women who wish to play professional-level soccer can also earn a European Bachelor's degree through the club's unique partnership with Vesalius College.

The RRFCM recruits young, talented soccer players worldwide to be trained by top European soccer coaches here in Belgium. The club plays the professional circuit and achieves excellent results. These young athletes can now play international-level soccer, while earning a degree in international affairs, business or communications. The program is designed such that students live and train in Liège (approximately one hour from Brussels), and then commute to Brussels 3-4 days a week to attend classes. Training sessions take place every evening and thus do not conflict with the students' course schedules. Most matches are played on the weekends. For more information on the RRFCM, please visit their web page at <http://www.royalracingfc.com/>. For information on admissions to the degree-earning programs at Vesalius College, please contact Ms. Willemijn Nieuwenhuys at [wnieuw@vub.ac.be](mailto:wnieuw@vub.ac.be). (VG)

## Graduation

On May 30, the College held its nineteenth commencement ceremony, celebrating the Class of 2009. The festivities took place in the Grand Aula of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and were followed by a stylish champagne and canapé reception, enabling graduates, their friends and family, professors and alumni to casually mingle (and network!) in a convivial atmosphere. This year's commencement speaker, Prof Dr Hilary Fraser, came to us from the U of London Birkbeck School of English and the Humanities, and delivered an inspiring address entitled "Back to the Future: Learning to Be at Home in the World." Musical interludes were, for the very first time, performed by a dynamic jazz trio composed of senior students from the Royal Belgian Conservatory, with which the College recently signed a course transfer agreement. This year's Vesalius College Alumni Association Prize went to retiring Prof Dr Michael F. Palo, honored for his dedication to excellence in teaching as was evident in his unforgettably lively and inspiring lectures. But the "Grand Prize," as it were, deservedly went to the Class of 2009 itself – clearly one of the best in the College's history – with three summa cum laudes, two magnas, and four cum laudes. We wish you all the best for the future, be it in graduate school or in a professional career. (WLC)

## Vesalius College at the Capitol in Washington DC

In June 2009, Vesalius College participated in the 6th Annual Scholar's Day Program, organised by the National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS). This event took place in the Dirksen Senate Building in Washington DC and hosted NSHSS members, families, educators, and academic partners to celebrate and recognise excellence for talented high school students from the United States. Mr. Nobel, founder of NSHSS, presented scholarships and recognised honored educators, thereby continuing the Nobel family's legacy of recognising and rewarding contributions to world betterment.

Student members and their families began this memorable day visiting the NSHSS College Fair, featuring representatives from eighteen top domestic and international universities. During the event, Vesalius College's Director of Recruitment had the opportunity to interact with exceptional young students and to enlighten them about college life at Vesalius College Brussels. (WN)



## Academic News

- The College is sad to announce the retirement of one of its most popular professors, Dr Michael F. Palo, after over a decade of dedicated service to his students and to the College community in general. But there is good news too! He will not be lost to his students completely, as he'll be teaching the occasional course on a part-time basis. What is more, Palo will contribute his indefatigable drive to re-energising the Vesalius College Alumni Association.



- In the Fall, Dr Joachim Koops will join the College as a new full-time, tenure track professor of politics. The young and dynamic Koops obtained his M.A. at

Oxford, his PhD at the German U of Kiel. He specialises in peace and security studies and international organizations and wowed a focus group of students and faculty during a mock lecture presented at VeCo in the Spring. Welcome to the team!

- Prof Dr Luc Hens has been appointed research coordinator at the Institute for European Studies, Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Three of his four courses will remain available to Vesalius College students. Well done, Luc!
- Vesalius College professors are continuously active in their fields of research. A sample of recent activities include:
  - Prof Dr William L. Chew III (with Misalah Radaideh, U Antwerp) presented a paper entitled "'Utopian' Industrial Revolution in America? Not Quite – The Case of the Lowell Mill Girls Revisited," at the annual conference of the Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, 1750–1850, held at Georgia Southern U in Savannah. The paper focused on the "myth" of this "utopian" experiment, whose origins can be traced to the highly effective publicity of foreign travellers' accounts such as Charles Dickens's "American Notes for General Circulation," and Michel Chevalier's "Society, Manners and Politics in the United States."
  - Prof Dr Alea Fairchild and Prof Dr Bruno De Vuyst presented two papers and chaired sessions at the 9th European Conference

on Electronic Government (ECEG) at the U of Westminster, London. The first paper, entitled "Privacy, Transparency and Identity: the Implementation of the e-ID card in Belgium," concerned the issues of the title and its impact, as well as the Belgian role in the Stork Consortium of countries working on interoperable e-ID throughout Europe. The second paper, entitled "IT Governance and EuroSOX: Compliance or Confusion?" dealt with the implementation of the European version of the Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) legislation in the European Union's IT sector and operations.

- Prof Dr De Vuyst is drafting the "Commentary on the Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits" for Kluwer publishers. The UCP 600 is the latest (2007) version of the International Chamber of Commerce issued regulations for commercial letters of credit, the most common financial instrument used in international trade.
- Prof Dr George Terzis delivered a presentation entitled "'Mess' Media, Civil Society Institutions and the E-Peace Actions" at the Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum, in Bonn, Germany. His talk focussed on the role of the new media in ethno-political conflict prevention, discussing their pros and cons compared to traditional media and how civil society organisations can take advantage of these when working in conflict zones.

(WLC)

## Summer 2009 in Brussels – a Resounding Success

This summer, Vesalius College offered local and study abroad students alike another stimulating programme filled with rich course material, top professors and the opportunity for students to explore Brussels' exciting summer attractions.

The theme for this year's summer school was "Focus on Europe." During the six-week programme, students were able to take up to two courses, each worth 6 ECTS credits (3 US credits) in the fields of communications, business, history, politics, art history, and statistics. With the exception of statistics, all courses highlighted European issues in their subject material and offered topics such as: "Marketing Research in Europe", "European Business Law", "Nations and Ethnicity: Political Conflicts in Europe", "Politics and

Policies of the European Information Society", and many others.

Two courses this summer were taught by visiting professors from partner universities. Professor Marvin Overby from the University of Missouri offered a course on the "Developing Dynamics of Democracy." Professors Maria Stolikova and Sinan Ciddi of the University of Florida offered a course on "Difference, Diversity and Migration in the New Europe".

Students also had the opportunity to apply for a credit-earning internship with one of our prestigious international partners. This summer, 25 students participated in the internship programme, gaining valuable experience in such organisations as NATO, General Electric Security, the European

Journalism Centre, the European Youth Forum, UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organisation), Laffineur Law firm and many others.

Outside of the classroom, students got together to explore Brussels' social and cultural scene – always alive and vibrant during the summer months! The Vesalius Student Government regularly organized parties in some of Brussels' most famous clubs. Many students also took advantage of Brussels' central location to travel around Europe on the weekends, especially when there was no big assignment to hand in...

For more information on Vesalius College's Summer 2009 programme, please visit the following web address:

[www.vesalius.edu/academics/summer09](http://www.vesalius.edu/academics/summer09)  
(VG)

## Alumni News: Life after VeCo

Every student's dream is to complete their College studies and find a great job. I came to VeCo believing it would help me realize mine, and because Brussels was an inspiring international community. If anything, my expectations were exceeded. Not only did I land a fantastic job right after graduation, but I also laid a solid base to continue my studies later on, and gained much valuable experience as a student involved in various VeCo activities.

I chose VeCo to follow the path of international education I started when I moved to Trieste, Italy, from my native Montenegro. After graduating from the Trieste International School, Vesalius College's small classes and American teaching style appeared the right choice for me – and the choice paid off. As a business major, I signed up for an internship at the European headquarters of United Parcel Service (UPS). My UPS internship supervisor was so happy with my high level of business knowledge and other relevant skills, that he recommended me for an opening in the Region Marketing Department. I actually had an offer in hand for a full-time job at UPS two weeks before I was supposed to graduate from VeCo! So now I am working as a Pricing Analyst for UPS's strategically important European customers. One of my main tasks is closely related to the Managerial Accounting course I took at VeCo (a part called: "special price offers") – proof positive that classes really do teach you things you'll need in your future employment. Thank you, VeCo!

Velibor Kastratovic, Class of 2008, Business major



## New Partnership with ISEP Opens Doors to Study Abroad in the U.S.

In June of 2009, Vesalius College became an official member of International Student Exchange Programs (ISEP), a global university network. As the only Belgian member in ISEP's consortium, Vesalius will be receiving study abroad students from all over the United States and across the globe.

Our partnership with ISEP also gives Vesalius students the opportunity to study as exchange students in one of the hundreds of U.S. partner universities. With this type of exchange, Vesalius students will be able to study for one semester at the partner university by paying Vesalius College tuition plus a supplement for food and lodging.

ISEP's motto is "One Door, Many Windows." Imagine earning credits towards your Vesalius degree at some of the U.S.'s top academic institutions while experiencing the best that local culture has to offer: whale-watching in Alaska; eating lobster in Maine; or going to a rodeo in Texas.

For more information on ISEP and available programs, please visit their web page at [www.isep.org](http://www.isep.org). For more information on this and other study abroad programs across the globe, please contact Dr. Virginie Goffaux of the Study Abroad Office at [virginie.goffaux@vub.ac.be](mailto:virginie.goffaux@vub.ac.be). (VG)



# Internship News

Scott Moore, Finance Programme & Administration Manager, Europe, Middle East, and Africa office of General Electrics (GE) Security answers some of our questions on his experience of the Vesalius College Internship Programme (VIP).

**VeCo:** Why did you join the VIP, and how did you hear about it?

**Moore:** GE Security joined the VIP to more rapidly implement the most important projects for 2009. We heard about the programme through a former Vesalius student who interned at GE Security after graduation. This person was promoted to the Financial Management Program, GE's premier finance training programme, after her internship and is now working for GE in Hungary.

**VeCo:** How would you characterise your VIP experience so far?

**Moore:** We have now had two Vesalius interns and are very satisfied with their background and energy level.

**VeCo:** In which capacity did Vesalius College interns serve your organisation?

**Moore:** The two interns have contributed to the key process improvement project for 2009, aimed at standardising accounting across 20+ sites in Europe. The interns have helped us identify differences across sites and have also proposed changes to harmonise the sites. In addition, one intern worked on another project to provide budget owners with monthly invoice level detail, to enhance spending visibility.

**VeCo:** What, in your view, is the distinctive advantage Vesalius College students have in comparison with others students?

**Moore:** Vesalius college students will graduate with practical work experience that makes them much more attractive as candidates for future professional roles.

**VeCo:** Will you consider hosting more interns from Vesalius College in the future?

**Moore:** Absolutely. We are already looking forward to having our third intern (and maybe fourth!) for the fall semester.

## Upcoming events:

29 September Workshop: 'New Opportunities for Services and Businesses', jointly organised by the American Chamber of Commerce and Vesalius College.

10 October Vesalius College Open Day

21 November Vesalius College Alumni Gala dinner.

### Vesalius College will participate in the following recruitment events:

5 September VUB information Day on the Etterbeek Campus, 10.00 – 16.00

21 – 25 September Vesalius College will participate in a recruitment tour in Spain and will visit international schools in Madrid, Barcelona, Zaragoza, Valencia and Palma de Mallorca

4 – 5 October Paris and Brussels College Night

6 – 7 October Geneva and Zurich College Night

8 October Kaiserslautern College Fair

14 – 15 October Berlin and Munich International College Day

17 October ISS International College Fair Stuttgart

12 – 13 November CEDIES Education Fair, Luxemburg

17 – 19 November CIS Conference, Munich

Details about the various events are available on our <http://www.vesalius.edu/newsevents>, or upon request at [vesalius@vub.ac.be](mailto:vesalius@vub.ac.be)



Vesalius College  
Brussels

### Editorial Team:

- Juan Cabrera Clerget; External Relations Officer (JCC)
- William Chew III; Associate Dean for External Affairs (WLC)
- Virginie Goffaux; Study Abroad Director (VG)
- Chris Janssens; Webmaster (CJ)
- Willemijn Nieuwenhuys; Recruitment & External Relations Director (WN)

### Contributions:

- Scott Moore, General Electrics Security, Brussels
- Velibor Kastratovic, VeCo Alumnus

### Layout:

Gekko publiciteit

### Vesalius College

Visitor's Address:  
Vrijwilligerslaan 2, 1040 Brussels, Belgium  
Mailing address:  
Pleinlaan 2, 1050 Brussels, Belgium  
Telephone number: +32-2-629-2821  
Fax number: +32-2-629-3637  
[vesalius@vub.ac.be](mailto:vesalius@vub.ac.be)  
[www.vesalius.edu](http://www.vesalius.edu)

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