European Honors Council

The European Honors Council (EHC) is a new European network around the subject of talent development in European higher education.

Now open for individual membership!

Become a member of the EHC

Are you involved in talent development in higher education in Europe? You can now become an individual member of the European Honors Council and be kept up-to-date and involved in all this is happening in this field throughout Europe.

Membership is open to higher education staff, students, policy makers and other involved in honors education.

To join the EHC, you fill out a short questionnaire about yourself, your interests and honors programs you are connected to. The questionnaire will guide you to the form of membership that best suits your situation.

Until further notice membership will be free.

The membership questionnaire can be found at: www.honorscouncil.eu

or directly by scanning the QR code below:

www.honorscouncil.eu

Goals

1. Supporting and stimulating development of honors education and its structural embeddedness in the education system
2. Creating a common language
3. Supporting teacher professionalization (within honors)
4. Creation and exchange of knowledge about honors programs
5. Stimulating and facilitating research about honors
6. Enabling networking for people involved in honors
7. Stimulating spin-off of successful honors practices to regular education
8. Promoting an easier flow of talented students from secondary to higher education
9. Stimulating professional development of honors students and connection to working life / research career
10. Stimulating collaboration and inspiring student exchange at honors level
Definition

Honors programs are selective study programs linked to higher education institutions. They are designed for motivated and/or gifted students who want to do more than the regular program offers. These programs have clear admission criteria and clear goals and offer educational opportunities that are more challenging and demanding than regular programs.

Origination

The EHC was formed after publication of the book Talent Development in European Higher Education: Honors Programs in the Benelux, Nordic and German-speaking countries by Marca Wolfensberger, published in open access at Springer in early 2015.

In the research for this book, it turned out that there is a great demand for exchange of knowledge about this subject at a European level. However, there was no structure to support this. An international steering group was formed to tackle these issues. This steering group has worked to establish the organization and now forms the acting board.

Download the book from:

http://www.honorsineurope.com

What we offer

The European Honors Council offers opportunities for exchange of knowledge and good practices, possibilities for student and teacher exchange at honors level, joint research projects and a platform to support the development of (structural embeddedness of) honors programs in national education systems.

Added value

Compared to existing networks, the EHC offers:
- Focus on talent development and honors in higher education
- Focus on programs that are designed for students who can and want to do more than the regular program offers

Organization

The EHC has four committees, focused on:
- education
- research
- student affairs
- international affairs

EHC board

President: Dr. Marca Wolfensberger
lector (professor) Talent Development in Higher Education and Society at Hanze University of Applied Sciences, honors coordinator at Utrecht University (NL)

Membership affairs: Dr. Marleen Eyckmans
honors program coordinator, University of Antwerp (Belgium)

Commissioners education: Prof. Christian Fischer with MArch. Ron Weerheijm
Fischer is at Internationales Centrum für Bega-bungsforschung (ICBF), Münster (Germany). Weerheijm is program manager Honours, Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences (NL)

Commissioner research: Dr. Astrid Fritz
Researcher at Austrian Research and Support Centre for the Gifted and Talented (ÖZBF) (Austria)

Commissioners student affairs: Drs. Pieter Veenstra with Vivian van Gerven
Veenstra is Program manager Hanze Honours College, Hanze University of Applied Sciences (NL); Van Gerven is at ICBF, Münster (Germany)

Commissioners international affairs: Prof. Nils O. Andersen with Dr. Astrid Fritz
Andersen is at University of Copenhagen (Denmark), in connection with the Nordic Talent Network

Financial affairs: MArch. Ron Weerheijm

Secretary: Dr. Maarten Hogenstijn
Project leader Honors In Europe at Hanze University of Applied Sciences (NL)