



GROENEWOUT

Groenewout is active in guest lectures for Warehouses and Hinterland Distribution Management programme in Antwerp

An interview with Dr. Wout Dullaert, Associate Professor at the ITMMA at the University of Antwerp by Tjaart Theron.

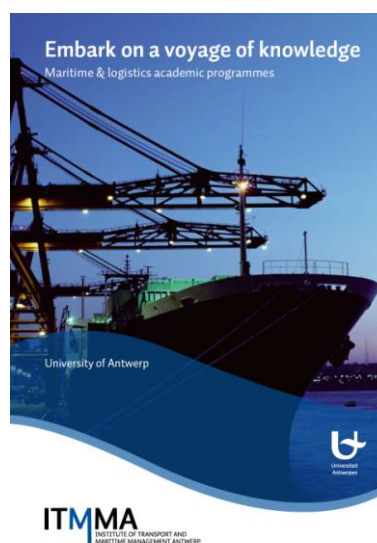


In 2006, the Institute of Transport and Maritime Management Antwerp (ITMMA) invited Groenewout to participate as guest lecture for solving practical handling issues (for example, in warehouse design). Since then, Groenewout has been involved in the Warehouse and Hinterland Distribution Management course. This is part of the Post-graduate Diploma in Transport and Logistics Management (Pg.Dip.TLM). Because of Groenewout's consistent positive evaluation by students and the extensive cooperation between ITMMA and Groenewout – also beyond the lecture rooms – Groenewout is now also involved in lecturing to students at the Masters level.

Introduction ITMMA

"We have the second largest European seaport in our backyard and the University of Antwerp has developed much expertise in the fields of maritime and transport management," says Wout Dullaert, Associate Professor at ITMMA. "We want to make this expertise widely available. This is why the University established the ITMMA in 1996." He continues: "ITMMA has access to a global academic and industrial network and has acquired a leading position in the fields of transport economics, including maritime transport economics, port economics and logistics. Our educational activities include M.Sc. programs, a Ph.D. program, short-term courses and tailor-made post-experience programs."

According to Dullaert, ITMMA wants to maintain and build on its excellent reputation among key players in the maritime, port and transport industries. "So, in addition to the team of permanent ITMMA staff and a specialist group of course coordinators, the Institute also welcomes a large number of guest lecturers from the academic world and the maritime and logistics industry in its courses every year," says Dullaert. "Students who join ITMMA's interactive programs benefit from highly specialized instruction and intercultural training as well as from opportunities for international networking."



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Ongoing and expanding cooperation between Groenewout and ITMMA

Dullaert says that Groenewout has been involved as guest lecturer at the ITMMA since 2006. Groenewout has been committed to instruct a number of lessons for the Warehouse and Hinterland Distribution Management course, which is part of the Postgraduate Diploma in Transport and Logistics Management (Pg.Dip.TLM) - one of the academic programmes of ITMMA. According to Dullaert: "We decided to invite a guest lecturer for the approach of solving practical handling issues (e.g. warehouse design) - and we knew that Groenewout has a broad range of experience in warehouse operations within all kind of industries and already has relationships to other European Universities.

Groenewout meets the highest academic standards

Wouter Speelman and Mo Lasgaa, both working since several years as highly qualified consultants with Groenewout, generously share their expertise for ITMMA. According to Dullaert, ITMMA is extremely satisfied with the contribution of Groenewout. "We aim for the highest standards and best possible quality because our training is accredited and we attach great importance to this fact. We are very happy to say that the courses of Groenewout have been positively evaluated by the students over and over again during the past three years." He explains that Groenewout provides 4 blocks of lectures of 2 hours each. And each block is evaluated in terms of the course material, the content and the way this is conveyed by the lecturer. "Groenewout always scores very positively", says Dullaert. He continues: "Because their contribution has received such a positive evaluation and because the course is so strongly appreciated by the students, it has now also been opened up for Master of Science students. For the 2009/2010 programme, Groenewout's course will also be offered as an optional course for the Master of Science in Transport and Maritime Management."

Groenewout teaches students how to solve real-life problems

"The cooperation with Groenewout has always been extremely pleasant", says Dullaert. "There is much mutual respect and we have many professional exchanges that extend beyond the lecturing rooms." With regard to the students, he says: "The key contribution of Groenewout is that students gain experience in how they should approach problems in practice." He adds: "Groenewout can mix theory and practice. Many findings and experiences from past projects are discussed. It is able to share much practical expertise

Page: 3/3
Our ref.: 9024D243/IS/ld | September 2009

and the students get to work on and gain experience in real-life practical case studies." Dullaert concludes: "Groenewout proves that collaboration between an academic institute and a going concern generates synergy and high performance – at both the academic institution and at the consulting firm."



Dr. Wout Dullaert is Associate Professor of Operations and Logistics Management at the Institute of Transport and Maritime Management Antwerp, a research institute on maritime and logistics management of the University of Antwerp. He lectures in logistics and supply chain management, production and operations management, and transport and logistics modelling. He is widely published in leading international peer-reviewed academic journals. He has served as principal investigator for government funded research projects and has served as consultant to companies and government agencies.

By Tjaart Theron

Tjaart Theron was born in South Africa and has lived in the Netherlands since 1985. He completed a Masters in Economics at the Institute of Social Sciences in The Hague and his experience includes filmmaking and consultancy work in the NGO sector. He has worked as English native speaker copywriter for large international companies such as Shell, Canon and Philips and provides media and PR training to higher-level executives of multinational companies

More information

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