

The Governance E-Gazette



Maastricht Graduate School of Governance

24 January 2006

Same programme, new structure

In our previous Gazettes we have informed you that the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance submitted the Public Policy and Human Development programme to the national accreditation board. In March 2005 the good news came that the board accredited the programme and the next step was to submit the programme to the Ministry of Education for approval. Last October this approval was endorsed. This news implies that the Ministry is financing the programme as an initial master programme. As the content of our other programmes, Social Protection Policy and Social Protection Financing both have an overlap of more than 60% with the new Master of Science programme in Public Policy and Human Development, this implies that these 2 programmes are now officially accredited and accepted by the Ministry as well. The same can be added for our newly developed programme in Economic Policy Research which will start this September. For those of you who are at a complete loss, this new structure holds that all students will receive an accredited Master of Science diploma in Public Policy and Human Development on which the specialization in Social Protection Policy, Social Protection Finance or Economic Policy Research will be specified when relevant.

Maastricht Graduate School of Governance goes 'Out of Africa'

It is not too bold a statement if we say that our School is truly international; not only in terms of our student population which encompasses about different 40 nationalities but also in the numerous worldwide endeavours undertaken by several Governance staff members visiting fairs, international meetings and conferences. This time, we have two different reports with two different objectives from the vast African continent:



Keetie Roelen in Ghana

In December 2005, Keetie Roelen flew to the warm and sunny country of Ghana to visit the University of Cape Coast. This trip was part of a project which is financed by Mundo (Maastricht University centre for international cooperation in academic development) and aims to explore interests at universities in developing countries to jointly develop a Master programme or cooperate in other areas of research or education. Cape Coast is approximately 140 kilometers west of the capital of Ghana, Accra. And as the name implies, it is situated along the coast. Despite the relatively short distance, it is still a three-hour bumpy and dusty drive. Nevertheless, the beautiful location with rocky

as well as sandy beaches lined with palm trees makes it all worth the effort. Close to Cape Coast is the pretty village of Elmina with the Elmina Castle, one of the many European forts scattered along the coast of Ghana and West Africa. The forts were used for slave trade and still have an atmosphere of fear and cruelty, almost tangible. But the fishing harbour, markets and streetlife are sparkling and full of life and colour. The university itself is based on a very spacious campus that houses all the different faculties, accommodation for teachers and students and primary as well as secondary schools. Keetie had meetings at the Faculty of Social Sciences with the Dean and Heads of the various departments. The welcome was very warm and discussions were pleasant and constructive. The Faculty and in specific the School of Business and Department of Economics have many new plans and aims for the future, presenting ample opportunity for MGSOG to find one or more areas of cooperation. Let's hope that another visit can be planned in the new year!



Robert Bauchmüller in Mozambique

Robert's Mozambique endeavour started on a regular Thursday in the middle of December when our Academic director Chris de Neubourg asked him whether he could take over his MUNDO assignment to go to Beira, Mozambique's second biggest city. MUNDO Beira needed support in the development of a new PBL course manual of public economics and some feedback and training for its PBL staff.

A few lines from our travelling teacher correspondent: "The PBL tutors and me started our work with some brainstorming on public sector activities in Mozambique. It was very interesting to see how big the public sector still is, the impact of socialist times is still visible and the same party, FRELIMO, is still in office. Together we made a list of interesting topics on the public sector, from the huge impact of international development aid on the public budget to negative externalities of construction companies that harvest sand from Beira's beaches on the protection of the coast line, from the public infrastructure programs as new bridges across the Zambezi river to the energy provisions of the Cahora Bassa dam, from HIV/Aids campaigns to hospital provisions of public health programs.

The health sector of Mozambique needs improvement. At independence in 1975 more than 80% of Portuguese doctors left abruptly to Portugal. In the last years some new provisions were made, e.g. the installation of regional health centers, but in general, there is only one doctor per 15.500 citizens. The whole country is still affected by the cruel civil war that ended in 1992. In short, a lot of work still needs to be done in many sectors and it is interesting for the School to help in rebuilding and improving the educational sector.

**Nice to meet you..Renée Speijcken
(Associate Academic Director - Non Degree
programmes)**



It is already one and a half year ago that Chris (de Neubourg, edit.) and I, with the support of many faculty colleagues and the university Board started, almost from scratch, the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance. Although our official opening has been last October, a great team has already been in place since October 2004, running two existing master programmes in SPF and SPP and preparing the new Master of Science in Public Policy and Human Development and the PhD programme in Social Protection Policy.

My name is Renée Speijcken and I am the associate academic director for non-degree programmes. Before explaining what this actually means, I will shortly tell you something about my background. I was trained in European Studies and Development Studies at the University of Amsterdam. After graduation (1994) I have been working extensively as a program officer, researcher, consultant and policy analyst on issues of EU development policy with a special focus on Latin American, African Caribbean and Pacific Countries. Before joining Maastricht University, I worked for a Local Mexican Non Governmental Organization; the Dutch non governmental development and campaigning organization INZET; a Member of the European Parliament and for the European Centre for Development Policy Management. The areas on which I concentrated were: the policy debate on aid and trade; the impact of development cooperation on the social and economic conditions of families; higher education in development countries; the political dimensions of development cooperation (including donor coordination), decentralized cooperation and relations with Civil Society Organizations. In 1999, I started working for Maastricht University, first at the Faculty of Economics and from 2000 onwards, as a policy advisor on higher education and internationalization to the University Board. Major focus areas were the introduction of the bachelor/ master structure and new programmes like European Studies and the University College. At the end of 2003, ideas on the establishment of 'a School of Governance' started and in September 2004, the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance became a reality. By this time, you must be at least a little bit curious of what we mean by 'non- degree programmes'? [Click here to read more>>](#)

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