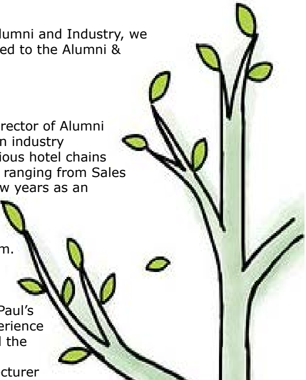
HOTELSCHOOL
THE HAGUE
Hospitality Business School

Alumni Newsletter April 2018

The Season Of Growth

Dear Alumni,

In our continuous efforts to strengthen the relationship with our Alumni and Industry, we would hereby like to share with you some new developments related to the Alumni & Industry Relations: The Industry & Alumni Relations Department.



Paul Griep

It is our pleasure to announce the appointment of Paul Griep as Director of Alumni & Industry Relations. Paul is not only an Alumnus ('94), but also an industry veteran; having more than 15 years of experience working for various hotel chains such as Marriott, IHG, Hilton and Rezidor, in a variety of positions, ranging from Sales and Marketing to Operations Management. After having spent a few years as an entrepreneur in the US, Paul returned to the Netherlands and started working for Hotelschool The Hague. Besides being a lecturer in Revenue Management and Sales, he also served the HTH community as the General Manager of Campus Amsterdam.

Fabian Fagel

We are also happy to share that as of 1 April, Fabian Fagel joined Paul's team on a part-time basis. Fabian has more than 20 years of experience managing hospitality companies in the United States, Canada and the Netherlands. His management experience includes hotels, leisure parks and fine dining. Fabian joined Hotelschool The Hague as a lecturer in Operations Management and Strategic Management. He has been a Study Progress Coordinator for the last 5 years, and is, since the start of Strategy Development (SDV) abroad, a part of the organising team.

We invited Paul to share his remarks: Throughout my career I've enjoyed and appreciated the values that Hotelschool The Hague has given me. As an Alumnus, HTH opened doors to many exciting opportunities that had significant meanings in my life, both personally and professionally. Hence, I feel honored to fulfill this position whereby I connect and relate directly with the Alumni community and industry that I've always been a part of.

Paul Griep

Hotelschool The Hague was founded by the industry and for the industry, hence, a significant part of our industry consists of and is led by HTH Alumni. The involvement of our "Alumni & Industry" in our strategy and our curriculum is one of the focus points of our Institutional Plan. I strongly believe this is of great importance not only to remain relevant as a leading hospitality business school, but also to continue our endeavours to develop our students into sought-after graduates for our industry partners. Activities that support the above include, but are not limited to: Alumni Chapter events in various places of the world; facilitation of diverse Industry Advisory Boards; participation as well as organisation of Student Challenges in cooperation with our industry partners; research initiatives; guest lectures; development of Industry Exchange and Placement events and proactive visits and interactions to strengthen industry partnerships.

As an Alumnus myself, I consider the opinions and suggestions from YOU particularly important and valuable to further strengthen Alumni & Industry Relations. So, please feel free to contact me directly via email or LinkedIn as stated below. I look forward to working closely with our valuable Alumni community and industry partners and contributing to the bright future of our great HTH community.

Thank you very much for your continuous support.

Warm Regards,

Paul Griep
Director of Alumni & Industry Relations
Email: p.griep@hotelschool.nl

Paul's Linkedin >

Hello
Spring!

Accomplishements

Hospitality Award - Elly Van De Wouw

We are proud to announce that, during the official opening of 'Hotelnacht Amsterdam', the 5th Henk de Lugt Award was given to Elly van de Wouw (Alumna), Director of Human Resources Starwood Hotels Amsterdam. The Henk de Lugt Award is a prize for hoteliers with character; special individuals who breathe Hospitality! Congratulations Elly, on this great achievement. Read the full story (in Dutch):

Read more >

Hospitality Awards - Sam Holtus

Congratulations to our Alumnus Sam Holtus from Happy Tosti for winning the Hotello of the Year 2018 Award. Read the full story (in Dutch):

Read more >

Events

New Year Reception Retrospect

On the 19 January, we welcomed our Alumni to our The Hague campus for a "Bubbles & Bites" reception, reinstating the tradition of the new year reception for Alumni and friends of the Hotelschool. The evening was full of catching up, mingling and networking, once more showcasing our tight HTH community. We were delighted that many of you could join us and are looking forward to seeing even more of you next year!

The 21st International Hotel Investment Forum

Hotelschool The Hague was invited to participate in the student challenge of the 21st International Hotel Investment Forum in Berlin together with the École Hôtelière de Lausanne and Cornell University. The IHIF is the world's largest hotel investment forum and the most influential and globally diverse meeting place for the hotel industry, hosted at the InterContinental in Berlin on March 4th-6th. Welcoming over 2,300 delegates from over 80 countries and 800 companies, the main theme of the conference was "Reaching new heights", reflecting the positive outlook of the hotel investment market. Over 200 speakers shared their insights on hospitality investment and management. The students worked on an investment case in Budapest, Hungary, where they analysed a hotel property with adjacent office building and developed a creative plan in order to create maximised returns. The team, composed of Adèle Verré (Phase 3), Bertille Pommier (Phase 3), Stijn Boogaarts (Phase 3) and Felix Nees (Phase 2/IFT), recounts:

From left to right: Felix, Bertille, Adèle and Stijn

"The case concerned the sale of a 350-key luxury hotel, with adjacent office building in Budapest, Hungary. The assignment included the preparation of a market study, long-term projections and full property valuation, to in turn ensure the highest returns for an opportunistic investment fund. Opting for the conversion to Renaissance for the hotel, and to Zoku for the office building, we were congratulated on the creativity of our concept and presentation. All being very passionate about the field of real estate, this case forced us to engage in an intense process of entrepreneurial learning. Our aim was to learn as much as possible about the field and, thanks to the additional support of faculty, our learning curve was very steep. Although we did not make it to the finals, we learned a lot from the others, and were very impressed by the quality of their presentations. Cornell ultimately won the competition. However, this did not prevent us from enjoying the entire conference. The keynotes and panel discussions were enlightening, and the networking opportunities endless. It was great meeting so many of our alumni there and seeing how our community works beyond our studies. This was even further enhanced when meeting some of you at the Grand Hyatt at the annual ITB reunion! We are all extremely thankful for this experience."

ITB Berlin (Internationale Tourismus-Börse) 7-11 March, 2018

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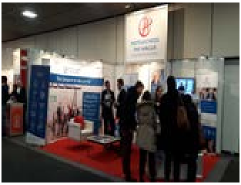

Daniela Almgard, project manager of the ITB visit of Hotelschool The Hague, recounts:

"The ITB is the worldwide biggest tourism fair of Europe in Berlin, Germany. Next to Hotelschool The Hague, other international Hospitality Universities like Stenden Hogeschool, Emirates Academy, Hotelleriesuisse (EHL, Luzern&Chur Hotelfachschulen etc.), Swiss Education Group, Internationale Hochschule Bad Honnef, Haga Helia Univeristy were also present.

HTH was represented at the ITB to create brand awareness, sharing knowledge, placement account management, generate business for the Hotelschool and the possibility to recruit bachelor, IFT and master students. Most importantly, HTH was at the ITB to be represented at the Heart of Hospitality.

During the ITB the Hotelschool The Hague Stand (#305) was located in Hall 11.1 which is the Training & Employment in Tourism section. The target group for this section during the trade visitor's days were mostly young professionals looking for job opportunities in the tourism and hospitality industry. Students who do their bachelor were looking for master opportunities and companies were looking for cooperating partners from the science (tourism and hospitality industry). During the ITB Weekend the trade show was open for the public and attracted a completely different clientele."

Next year, if, by any chance, you visit the ITB yourself, come and see us there to enjoy a cup of coffee and have a chat!

Graduations

Congratulations to our new Bachelor and Master graduates from our The Hague and Amsterdam campus. We wish you all the very best in your future careers!

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Photographer - Marco Kleÿn

Alumni Chapters

Berlin Reunion – 7 March 2018

Hotelschool The Hague's traditional ITB cocktail party for alumni & friends.

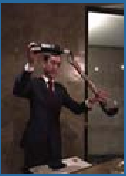
The venue this year was the Grand Hyatt Berlin, one of the best business hotels in Germany and managed by our Alumnus Jan-Peter van der Ree, GM and Area Vice President. The party was co-hosted by Mrs. Regine Von Stieglitz, our new President of the Board of Directors, and Mr. Van der Ree (who was present together with his wife, Alumna Marcelline van der Ree). Also first-time guest at the party was our new President of the Board of Trustees (Raad Van Toezicht), Mr. Wolfgang Neumann, a gentleman who lives and breathes hospitality – having spent his whole working life in the sector! His last position was until recently President and CEO of Rezidor Hotels (now Radisson). Mr. Neumann is not an alumnus (he graduated from an Austrian Hotel Management School) but has been a great friend of the Hotelschool for the last twenty-five years. For myself, the night's location was extra special: together with alumna and former colleague Susanne Reimering, we did our very first Berlin presentation for the HTH here, in a ballroom full with 160 interested guests, more than ten years ago, and several of the party guests even had their selection day here, years ago! During the evening, we could introduce the new board members of the Berlin Alumni Chapter: Lara Baeckers (2014), Conference & Event Coordinator, AMANO Hotel Group (lara.baeckers@hotmail.com) and Alexandra Klevers (2017), Junior Manager RFP Programmes, Design Hotels (a.klevers@designhotels.com). We are very glad that Mr. Jan-Peter van der Ree agreed to act as "Schirmherr" of the board. Surely his rich experience will be valuable for the board members.

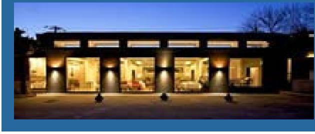
Anyway, back to the party! We had a super evening, with more guests (74) than ever before, with a very international atmosphere (Berlin and ITB guests): great fun and great networking (and of course the special HTH "one-big-family-feeling!")! Please make a note already for 2019: keep the Wednesday evening free in the ITB week.

Arnoud van Delft

A Little Piece of Holland in Beijing

In Beijing, HTH alumni and Stenden (Leeuwarden) alumni already a while ago decided to jointly organise their get-togethers – and this fun-filled Sinterklaas "Pakjesavond" was a recent example of how well this works. Of course, the location, the newly opened "Umami by Han" (Han has a Michelin star for his well-known restaurant in Holland) restaurant in the centre of Beijing, also contributed considerably. The multicultural Umami team really pulled out all the stops!





After this Sinterklaas experience, it was (time flies), on 14 Mach time for the next meeting. The get-together was graciously hosted by Ignace Lecleir, founder and owner of Temple Restaurant Beijing Hutong; also known as TRB Hutong - and already for many years known as the best fine dining experience in Beijing (not an easy feat in this city).

Hotelschool The Hague - and Stenden Hotel Management School Leeuwarden Alumni enjoyed a memorable 4-course French-inspired menu with plenty of memorable Champagne and Signature wines to accompany this feast and as in previous events this was with a lot of laughter exchanging fun Hotelschool memories. Ignace's outstandingly well-trained team provided service truly from the heart.

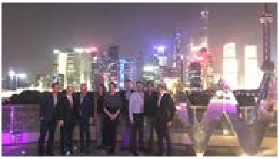
The Beijing HTH chapter was originally set up by Willem Pentermann in 2015 and is currently overseen by Hans Hordijk to connect the HTH Alumni in Beijing, blow off some steam and to 'escape' from this hectic city - on this occasion deep in the charming Beijing 'Hutongs'.

Alumni Willem Pentermann (1985), now GM in Bangkokg, Thailand, and Hans Hordijk (1989) usually hosted these events often in places that are meant to impress and inspire We are looking forward to the next fun filled future Beijing alumni dinner. We are looking forward to the next fun filled Beijing Alumni dinner.

Shanghai Reunion – 12 March 2018

On the 12 March, we were welcomed by our very own alumnus, Hotel Manager Mr. Jacob de Boer-Dorrego in the recently opened W Hotel in Shanghai. Jacob organised a corner with city view in the Liquid Bar, a beautiful location with stunning views and, even more important, fabulous staff.

We enjoyed super cocktails and finger food while catching up with about the latest trends and developments in the hospitality industry in China. Of course everyone was very curious about the latest developments within our beloved Hotelschool The Hague.I would like to thank Jacob for his hospitality and hope to visit this beautiful hotel again in the (near) future!



From left to right: Jurrien B, Frank S, Jacob de B, Sophie K, Henri B, Eric Jan van H, Onno S, Jeroen V.

Hong Kong Reunion – 17 March 2018

In This Picture: Peter P, Joosje H, Rosien G, Ricco de B, Robert Jan G, Milou Verbeek, Richard van W, Nils M, Emilie O, Antoine F, Daan K, Sebastiaan K, Sohpie.

Hong Kong Selection Day Team

And the story continues… after two events in mainland China, we continue to Hong Kong. After organizing a very successful selection day on Saturday 17 March, where we welcomed a nice group of potential HTH students, we organized alumni drinks. Mr Peter Pottinga, GM of Harbour Grand Kowloon, offered to organize both events in his hotel overlooking the harbour and Hong Kong island.

"The alumni drink in Hong Kong on 17 March was held at a very special location, the presidential suite of the Harbour Grand Kowloon. And we felt even more presidential because of the fantastic service, food (bitterballen!) and the magnificent view over the HK harbour. Great to see a lot of new faces, alumni from just over the border, alumni that have been in HK for decades and our special guest Sophie Kuijper from HTH. We won't wait another two years for our next alumni gathering!" - Joosje Hardus.

Career Path

Caro Van Eekelen

According to Caro van Eekelen, it all has to do with passion. If your employees are happy, your guests are happy as well. You have to do everything as a leader or manager to make the working conditions right for your staff, so they can serve the guests properly. Our student Andreas Krausz interviewed the Senior Vice President transformation OneBrand at Accor hotels, to find out more about her leadership style. Read the full story in our Alumni Magazine:

Read more >

Promotions

Breaking News - *Edward Leenders*

Finally, after a "break" of a number of years, an alumnus is again managing the top hotel in the Netherlands! Edward Leenders (1998) will be, as from 1 May, the new General Manager of Hotel de l'Europe in Amsterdam, the legendary hotel privately owned by the Heineken family and one of the "oldest" Leading Hotels of the World. Edward comes well prepares, he has been, for the last four years, GM of the 5-star Hotel Amigo in Brussels, one of the Leading Hotels of the World. His operational experience includes a few years as GM of the 5-star Savoy in Florence, EAM of the 5-star Brown's Hotel in London, but also corporate experience at the head office of RoccoForte Hotels. Edward, we are proud of you and with you successful years at the helm of this Amsterdam gem.

Florian Winkler

Florian Winkler (2012) is the new Director of Sales for Marriott in Frankfurt. Florian started his career in Sales during his HTH management internship at the Park Inn (Rezidor) in Southend-on-Sea, where he was subsequently offered a job in Sales and worked for another year. Next stops were the Radisson Blu in London, and later Frankfurt, where he was Senior Sales Manager. After a year as D.O.S. for Hilton, he started his present job in December 2017.

Nina Bormann

Nina Bormann (2012) is the new Senior Banquet Sales Manager at the 5-star Superior Dolder Grand Hotel Zurich, one of Zurich's legendary "palace" hotels. Nina started her career also in (convention-) sales, directly after the school, at the 5-star Schlosshotel Kronberg, near Frankfurt.

Helen Schoeps

Helen Schoeps (2011) is the new Area Talent Manager – Germany for the Hyatt Hotels Corporation. Helen started her Hyatt HR career during her management internship at the Grand Hyatt in Melbourne, Australia. Her career brought her to the Hyatt Regency in Dubai, the Grand Hyatt in Dubai, the Park Hyatt in Zurich (promotion to HR Manager), the Hyatt Regency in Cologne and the Grand Hyatt in Berlin.

Michiel van Holthe tot Echten

Michiel van Holthe tot Echten (2012, and MBA Edinburgh Business School 2017) is Senior Account Manager Berlin for Booking.com since January 2018. What Michiel learned about Revenue & Distribution during his internship with Yeeld Solutions in Berlin allowed him to apply for his first job, Revenue for the area office of PPHE Hotels in Berlin, switching to Booking.com after two and a half years. Several promotions with Booking led to his present position.

Catrin Hoffmann

Catrin Hoffmann (2012) also graduated from Rheinische Fachhochschule in Cologne with an MBA. Shortly after leaving The Hague, she started working for REWE Digital GmbH, a daughter company of REWE Group, the famous German retailer. A steady career at REWE with several promotions brought her to her present position, Interim Manager Customer Support/ Business Development Manager.

Jurrien Bongers

Congratulations to Jurrien Bongers (2005) on his first General Manager position. Jurrien will be pre-opening the 276-room JW Marriott Yinchuan and 234-room Courtyard by Marriott, Yinchuan as from January 2018. The two hotels will be the first Marriott brands in China's Ningxia province (Yinchuan is the capital). Jurrien's most world-famous hotel was his first one in

Dennis de Winter

In January 2018, Double Tree by Hilton Al Marjan Island, Ras-al-Khaimah, UAE, promoted Dennis (IFT 2014) to Sales Manager MICE. Before that, Dennis was Assistant Sales Manager for Hilton in the Ras-al-Khaimah Emirate. In his present position, Dennis works for the 725-room, 5-star beach resort and conference centre as well as the 154-room city centre property both Double Tree by Hilton. An important part of his job is positioning the beach property also as a key destination for MICE groups and weddings (yes, both…).

Jasmin Bren

Jasmin Bren (IFT 2015) grew up in the hotel industry in Austria and came to us after graduating as "Tourismuskauffrau" from the Tourismusschule Klessheim in Salzburg. Since January 2018, she is Analyst-Europe (Development & Feasibility) at the Corporate Office of Penta Hotels in Frankfurt, Germany. Jasmin started her career at Design Hotels, Berlin as management trainee Revenue & Distribution, before starting at Penta (also in Revenue) in 2016.

Nils Jansen

Nils Jansen (IFT 2016) was in January promoted to Senior Portfolio Trader at Hotel Partner Yield Management in Barcelona, Spain. Nils came to Hotelschool after the famous "Ausbilding" for two and a half years at the Atlantic Kempinski in Hamburg. During his internship in Commercial and Business Planning for Norwegian Cruise Lines, he developed a taste for Revenue, Yield and Business Analysis. He started working for his present employer in January 2017.

Christina Eckhardt

Christina came to us from Germany in 2006, graduated in 2010, and subsequently starter her HR career in London, where her last position was HR advisor with the legendary Dorchester Collection. Moving back to Germany, she became HR manager for Penta Hotels at the corporate office in Frankfurt. Since a few months, her new job (congratulations, Christina!) is regional HR manager for Europe Hotels Private Collection, who operate the "Sir" and "Max Brown" hotels in Germany, Holland and Spain.

Nicola Vincent Meckl

Nicola Vincent Meckl (2012) is the new Operations Manager of Das Faerber in Munich. In their own words: an Urban Chill-Out Place with good drinks, good food and with "your kind of people" around. Before, he was General Manager of the L'Osteria in Munich, a property of Germany's most successful Italian restaurant chain.

his second HTH year- The Gleneagles in Auchterarder, as a Hotelschool trainee. After the school, an impressive career in China followed: Tianjin, Beijing, Chongging, Guangzhou and in Hangzhou as Director of Operations of the Marriott Hangzhou Quianjiang as a last step before being promoted to GM in Yinchuan. Not job-hopping also works well: Jurrien made his complete career with Marriott brands.

Jean-Pierre Thomassen

Jean-Pierre Thomassen (1987) defended on 22 February 2018 at the University of Groningen (NL) his PhD thesis on service guarantees. It is the first scientific research of conditions for a successful implementation of service guarantees in organisations. Jean-Pierre has, over the years, developed into one of the top-level authorities on customer service. Keep up the good work, Dr. Thomassen!

Nikita Kapustkin

Nikita Kapustkin (2012), as management placement trainee, joined Starwood Hotels in 2012 as Global Sales Trainee at the EAME Head Office in Brussels. After a steady Sales & Marketing career with Starwood with a last position of Account Manager Europe, W Maldives for W Hotels based in London. He left Starwood (-Marriott) this March, and joined Hyatt Hotels Corporation as their new Sales Manager, Global Luxury, Leisure and Lifestyle. Congratulations, Nikita, Luxury, Leisure and Lifestyle surely sounds attractive.

Camilla Carozzi

Camilla Carozzi (2016) came to HTH from Germany in 2012. Since her graduation in 2016, she embarked on a solid, one-step-at-a-time career path in the finance field, working for Finastra in London. Since March 2018 she is Customer Premium Support Consultant – Europe. Finastra works with financial institutions in the capital market sector to help them optimize, simplify, and innovate their business.

Fleur Van Velthoven

Fleur Van Velthoven (2011) is the new Groups Conference & Events Sales Manager at the Hilton Diagonal Mar in Barcelona (433 rooms, 14 function rooms). Fleur also participates in the 2018 repositioning of the hotel, and also has responsibility for meeting departmental revenue targets, profit margin evaluation, etc (probably her history as a treasurer of the “Societeitsbestuur” and of sorority “Amaranthus” served her well…). Fleur came from Vienna, where she was Cluster Director of Convention & Event Sales for the three Hiltons in Vienna.

Benjamin White

Benjamin (2009) is now CBRE’s director of Advisory Services, EMEA. He manages feasibility and advisory studies, commercial due diligence exercises, and strategic business reviews for a wide array of hotel projects across the EMEA region. After HTH, Ben completed Cornell’s Certificate Programme in Hotel Real Estate Investments and Asset Management. Before joining CBRE in 2013, Ben had various management positions in Operations in 5-star hotels.

Kim Balt

Kim (1996), who has been with ING Bank for 18 years, is now Managing Director/Senior Advisor Equity Capital Markets, based in Amsterdam. Kim entered the world of banking straight after Hotelschool (not for a lack of hospitality takent – he was one of the best Christmas coordinators the London hotel scene ever saw…). After gaining experience with Rabo and ABN-AMRO Rothschild, he joined ING.

Giogos Zachariades

Giorgos (2018) is now F&B Assistant Manager at the legendary 5-star sup. Belmond Reid’s Palace, Madeira – one of the late Winston Churchill’s favourite hotels! All the best, Giorgos, for a great career in luxury hotels, and thanks for all your good work at the school, as a student assistant and RAC member.

We wish all our Alumni who recently changed function or got promoted all the best in their new jobs! Please keep us updated and send your updates to alumni@hotelschool.nl

Where Are They Now?

Interview with Ilona Vijn

“What is the most vivid memory you have of your time at school?”

“My most vivid memory is the outdoor week in January; the nights were so cold which made sleeping outside almost impossible. The nights were short, the days were long, and the memories and friendships are still strong.”

"Who were your biggest idols when you went to school?"

"Walt Disney; he was an intelligent man who accomplished so many things in life. He took common things to a next level; by adding sound and colour to cartoons and opening a theme park when everyone said it was going to be a failure. During my internship in Disneyland Paris, I experienced the legacy and imagination of Walt Disney. If more people took risks and listened to their hearts, more would work with their strengths and achieve what they really want in life."

"How did your career develop after you finished Hotelschool?"

"After the Hotelschool, I started the two-year management traineeship program of Facilicom Services Group. The first year, I started as an area manager for the cleaning company, and I had to manage 120 FTEs. The second year, I acted as a junior sales manager with a new business revenue target. The fifth day of the week was usually spent on my own development through training, coaching, inter-vision and consultancy assignments throughout the organisation. I conducted some special projects for the Facility & HR management were on the Esa Estec Space Agency and the Vodafone account. After the graduation of the program I continued as a sales manager with specific focus on the outsourcing hospitality and reception services. Two years after the program I grew into the consultant position which is advising locations on their security and hospitality execution and management. Since six months I have the opportunity to start, with a partner, our own start-up company within Facilicom named 'Embrace'. Within our business we help enterprises with the right suitable form off 'welcome experience' at their location with humans, software or even robots! With a view towards 2030 data, technique and robots will be a big part of our services and incorporated with a human touch."

"Are you still in contact with former classmates?"

"Yes; a very close group of girlfriends are still in my life on a weekly base since the Skotel."

"What advice would you like to give today's students?"

"It is exciting but enjoy every minute, even 10 years later you can laugh with fellow former students about certain programs!"

"Can we find you on LinkedIn?"

Yes! Ilona Vijn LinkedIn >

Stephen De Man, 'At the heart of hospitality'

Having worked as HR/Finance Manager and HR Advisor at large (International) firms I came to the conclusion that the importance of quality staff is underestimated heavily. Thereby there is a big gap between the needs of an organization on one side and the offer from the market on the other side (Recruitment agencies). It shocked me to see which candidates where offered for certain positions.

The lack of empathy and knowledge by agencies towards clients made me realize something was going terrible wrong here. Paying premium fees for a candidate that simply ticks the boxes on his/her resume without looking into the soft-skills of this person or not looking into the needs of the client, is like offering a ticking time bomb.

This made me realize that some work could be done here. I always had my own firm in Hospitality Advisory aside my various jobs. Last year I started my own firm in Recruitment and I had the opportunity to expand the advisory company with some interesting projects. I have the strong believe that the combination of organizational advisory, (hospitality) skills and HR experience can make the difference for any organization. By looking at the organization on one side and the hard- and soft-skills of the candidate on the other side will provide great benefits on the mid- and long-term. I see increased commitment, higher productivity, ambassadorship and a longer lasting relationship between clients and candidates or as I call them talents. This is precisely what I wanted to achieve.

I hope that DEMAND Recruitment and Demand (Hospitality) Advisory Services can conquer within the market by offering a high-quality service for a competitive fee. The future will tell me if this is the case but if not, I at least made some people aware of the pitfalls in the market.

Stephen De Man Website >

Tjalling Van Den Burger, 'At the heart of hospitality'

I have always had a passion for food (and drinks). From a young age I travelled with my parents to our house in the Dordogne, France, home of the foie gras, black Perigord truffle and "magret de canard". At the age of 15, during one of our holidays, I decided to apply for a part-time job at Michelin-starred restaurant Calla's in The Hague. It is there where I first encountered the beauty of the hospitality industry and where I decided to apply for Hotelschool The Hague.

After graduating from HTH, I started working for HelloFresh, a food-tech startup where I was responsible for product development. Having been through the amazing growth of HelloFresh, I was offered the opportunity to work for Apple in London. At Apple, I was part of the graduate scheme in retail development, responsible for the improvement of the customer experience.

Having worked for 1,5 years at Apple, I decided I wanted to return to working with my passion for food, that is why I joined a tech startup called Winnow in Business Development for the MENA region, based in Dubai.

As you might know, 1/3 of all food that is being produced in the world never ends up on a customer's plate and is wasted. This accounts for $1 trillion a year, this is one of the biggest issues of our time!

Measuring food waste is a challenge for all commercial kitchens with up to 20% of all food purchased going to waste. Our mission is to connect the commercial kitchen, create a movement of chefs, and inspire others to see that food is too valuable to waste.

Winnow connects commercial kitchens to the cloud allowing them to record and analyse exactly what is put in the bin. Working with thousands of chefs all over the world, we consistently cut food costs by 3%-8% while doing the right thing for the environment at the same time.

Simple and intuitive to use, the Winnow Waste Monitor comprises a digital scale and a connected tablet. Using any bin, team members throw food away in the usual way. The weight is recorded automatically and then the user selects the reason and identifies the item/dish using the tablet. Winnow's daily reporting then gives chefs total control over their kitchen by pinpointing which items are being wasted.

This gives chefs the information necessary to drive improvements in their production processes to cut food waste in half, saving money and reducing their environmental footprint at the same time. The data helps chefs make better decisions, engage staff and give them a clear focus by setting targets.

We are currently working with Compass Catering, Carnival Cruises, Accor, Hilton, IKEA, IHG and many more where we have seen amazing results. For Contact information: tjalling.vandenburger@winnowsolutions.com.

Condolences

HENRI THIJS (1925-2018)

Not in the least because of 'Monsieur` Henri Thijs, the most famous tutor 'Keukenpraktijk en Keukentheorie' at Hotelschool The Hague, many alumni are looking back with great pleasure to the years they were studying at the Brusselselaan.

Henri was a very popular and gifted teacher and therefore played a significant role within the Hotelschool. Henri himself was also an alumnus of the School of 1949/1950. Hotelschool

The Hague and its students played an important role in his life.

Many alumni of started their successful career during the courses of Henri. He taught them how to cook of course, but not only that, he also made them love their future in the hospitality industry.

No wonder that he became one of the first honorary members of La Confrérie, Student Association of Hotelschool The Hague. Not many were given the same tribute - an honorary title given by his own students.

For many years Henri was known as THE face of Hotelschool The Hague. Not in the least because of his obvious and cheerful presence and personality: Henri, the guy everyone recognised immediately thanks to his famous self-knotted bow tie - every inch a gentleman.

Henri, born in and grown up in the city of Tilburg and therefore proud representative of the province of North-Brabant, never lost his typical 'Brabants' way of expression.

All of us remember him singing, whilst pouring in a good glass of French red wine, 'il faut toujour arroser la vie' the famous Burgundy chanson. We only needed his suggestion once!

Many of his students will tell their own versions of stories about Henri. But all of them will remember his course 'Politesse' which was held immediately after their first arrival at the school during the introduction period.

"Politesse – wellevendheid - was and will be the starting point for success in the hospitality industry." That was the most important lesson we learned from Monsieur Henri.

Although Henri and his amiable wife Barbara lived their reclusive life in the Zeeland village of Sint Jansteen, in the past 20 years, all of his former students did, do and will remember him with respect and love.
I join them thereby.

Dear Henri, à Dieu and thank you for being part of our lives…

Erik Muller
1972/1977
Member of Merit La Confrérie

Research Centre

Hotelschool The Hague & Colliers latest report on Airbnb Dutch Cities, 2017

The number of overnight stays booked in the Netherlands via the Airbnb booking platform is continuing to rise. Nearly 2.1 million overnight stays were booked in Amsterdam in 2017. An increase of more than 25% compared to 2016. Airbnb also experienced strong growth in three other major cities. The number of overnight stays in Utrecht doubled to 156,000, in Rotterdam the number increased by 32% to 154,000 and the growth was 46% in The Hague, with 184,000 booked overnight stays, according to the findings of the Airbnb report produced by property advisors Colliers International and Hotelschool The Hague and which was published on 15 March. To read more, see link below:

See More >

Blog

Niki Kervezee, HTH Alumna Helped Establish Hotel School in Bhutan

What an inspiration! Niki Kervezee and Floris Pocerattu, HTH Alumni helped establish a hotel school in Bhutan to give young adults a career opportunity. Are you interested in her story? Then read our latest HTH Blog post:

Read more >

MBA programme’s intake September 2018

“Are you a future leader in service innovation looking for an MBA programme that fully applies HTH’s reputation and hospitality expertise? Or do you know anyone who is? HTH proudly presents a fully accredited, and internationally recognised Master of Business Administration (MBA) in International Hospitality Management!

For any inquiries or to join us on an MBA Open Day, please contact Mr. Diego Salvatierra via master@hotelschool.nl. Don’t forget to mention you are an HTH alumn or tell your referral to mention that he/she has been recommended by you, so we can serve you or your contact with a personalised attention!”

Please update your contact details!

Hotelschool The Hague would like to stay in touch with you with your most updated contact details.

- Name (graduation year)
- Email address
- Telephone number
- Country/city of residence
- Company/organisation
- Job title

Please send your updates to alumni@hotelschool.nl!

Reaching Out

As a proud alumnus of Hotelschool The Hague, I am pleased to share that we are highlighting “People at the Heart of Hospitality”. Recently we have run a series of successful Young HR Professional Network to celebrate HTH’s young HR talents as well as endorse our HR learning community. This initiative is a collaboration between our students, industry partners, faculty and the Hospitality Research Centre who share a rich passion for developing and improving the Sustainable HRM. If you believe you and/or your organization would add value to and could benefit from participating in these events and/or our exciting Sustainable HR research; please feel free to let me know (d.brannon@hotelschool.nl). Our next event will be on Tuesday 5 June in The Hague!

Dr. David Brannon (graduated in 2002)
Lecturer of Human Resource Management, Hotelschool The Hague