

International alumni travel to Groningen for the Alumni Weekend

Thousands of alumni traveled back to Groningen to celebrate the 400 year anniversary of the University of Groningen. Among them were Charles Drapers (Hong Kong), Agniete Venchiené (Vilnius) and Changhong Liu (Shanghai). Newspaper “Dagblad van het Noorden” (June 13th, 2014) interviewed them about their motivation to come back to Groningen. Please find a free translation of the article [here](#).

Changhong Liu (34) from Shanghai had the opportunity to combine her trip to Groningen with a business trip to Sweden. She spent two fantastic years in Groningen as an International Business and Economy student and came to love the Netherlands a lot. She especially loved the fact that nature is always close. Changhong Liu feels that the Netherlands has a lot in common with China, more than any other European country. She still profits from all that she learnt during her time in Groningen. Not only because of the education, but also because of the ease of contact between people. She is meeting several former classmates during the weekend and is sure to have a great time.



Agniete Venchiené (28) travels from Vilnius to Groningen because of nostalgic reasons. Her time at the University as a Law student exceeded all of her expectations. She especially appreciated the good contact between teachers and students and the many options for study programs. Comparing to Vilnius, she found Groningen to be a lot more international. Her former classmates have spread out over the world, but they are still in touch through Facebook. She is really excited about running into them in Groningen.

Charles Drapers (50) has fond memories of his exciting times as a student International Organizations in Groningen. Even though he lives in Hong Kong, he is still in touch with former classmates. That is why the anniversary is so important to him: it is a time to strengthen the ties again. He is part of the RUG Alumni Chapter in Hong Kong: a network of about twenty people alumni that meet from time to time.

