



Press Release Summer School Rural Development

From 3 July till 11 July the third edition of the Summer School for Rural Development was held in Wageningen. The Summer School was organized by Euroleague for Life Sciences (ELLS) in cooperation with the department of Social Sciences, chair of Regional Economics. Euroleague is a network of leading European universities cooperating in the fields of Natural Resource Management, Agricultural and Forestry Sciences, Life Sciences, Veterinary Sciences, Food Sciences, and Environmental Sciences. Within Euroleague, students get the opportunity to jointly learn and share their expertise within a network of partner universities.

The third edition of the Summer School on Rural Development was such kind of learning experience. Twelve students from Europe and beyond visited Wageningen to present their papers, share their thoughts and listen to expert presentations. As a preparation for the summer school, the students wrote a paper on rural development as part of their MSc or PhD work, which was peer reviewed by two fellow students. During the sessions, the students got the opportunity to discuss the strong and weak points of their papers and improve it by new thoughts and considerations. The expert presentations were of various disciplines. European rural development policies, rural dynamics, landscape planning and modeling were examples of subjects that were dealt with during the summer school.

The common thread throughout the week was the case study Tweekelo. The rural area Tweekelo is situated in the east of the Netherlands near the two large cities of Enschede and Hengelo. The area has a magnificent scenery, and has high historical and cultural values, which should be preserved for future generations. During the week an excursion was organized to the area, in which the students visited different farms, listened to presentations of the conservation association Tweekelo and the municipalities of Enschede and Hengelo. On Friday, the students presented their ideas on the sustainable development and conservation of the area. Representatives from the area were present at the presentation sessions.

For more information on Euroleague activities, please visit: www.euroleague-study.org

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