

SIJME ZEILEMAKER, A BIOMEDICAL MASTER STUDENT

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"My first encounter with Science Based Business was during the third year of my study Biomedical Sciences. As in most science-oriented studies, the business field is often ignored during the first few years. The possibility to come in contact with the business side of science was presented as part of the Master Management of Biomedical Sciences."

"This Master included the SBB Fundamentals course, the SBB internship and the elective courses Orientation on Technopreneurship: Entrepreneurial Management and Business Planning." (OoT will merge into Research Based Business per September 2010, red.)

AN EYE-OPENER FOR SCIENTIFIC STUDENTS WITH AN INTEREST FOR BUSINESS

"I regard SBB Fundamentals essential for every student with a scientific study. The course gives insight into the business environment, covering most of the basic business topics such as marketing, financing and management.

The course lasts for 12 weeks in which all students acquire knowledge and experience in the business field. Students are expected to work together extensively, forming groups with student from different studies for almost every topic during the course.

Combined with the different formats of teaching, this course is an eye-opener for scientific students with an interest for business. Even for students sure of a scientific career this course will prove to be valuable, as it will broaden their view and understand the business environment, an environment they are likely to encounter again and again during their career.

The elective courses from Orientation on Technopreneurship expand the knowledge gained from SBB Fundamentals and give the student the possibility to get a first-row view into the business. Established and starting entrepreneurs are invited to talk about their experience in the science-based business field, and students are able to ask any question they like. These interviews are part of the course Entrepreneurial Management, a very inspiring and motivating course for future entrepreneurs.

The second part of Orientation on Technopreneurship gives the students the opportunity to build a Business Plan from a University-originated idea. This puts the students under pressure to think about every problem of a new business venture and creating a realistic but ambitious Business Plan, in a chance to win the nationwide New Venture Competition.

In a few months, I will start my SBB Internship at to-BBB, a Dutch biotechnology company in the field of drug delivery to the brain and will help them in their business development, studying potential target markets and medicines to acquire into their pipeline. I am currently aiming at a future in the biotechnology field, combining the commercial side of business with my biomedical background. And, who knows, one day I might even try to start up my own business!

In summary, SBB is an essential part of the education of every scientific student, and an experience that will ensure the career of your dreams.”

By Sijme Zeilemaker, participant of SBB Fundamentals Fall 2009, OoT EM/BP Spring 2010 and SBB internship Fall 2010.