

**ENGLISH VERSION**

# NFK

[Nieuwe Filosofische Kring]

Praesidium



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**DES IDEES CLAIRES ET DISTINCTES!**



This booklet serves as brochure for the NFK praesidium 2015-2016

Election team 'Hèdonè'

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### /// WHAT IS NFK?

NFK is a **student association organized by philosophy students for philosophy students**, in connection with the Institute of Philosophy at KU Leuven. The main goal of a student association is to connect, entertain and help their members, but NFK is so much more. The NFK praesidium members will give their heart and soul to organize debates, **reading groups, parties** and more. NFK will also be your **educational representative** among the faculty and university. We'll see to it that the "party people" as well as the "I-prefer-a-good-book people" feel at home among us.

We'll organize about 3 activities a week, with weekly recurring activities like the fakbar on Tuesdays, which means NFK takes over the bar of the M museum — to be filled with philosophical (and less philosophical) chatter — the bread meal on Friday (bread, spread and coziness for €1,50) and reading groups. There are some big annual events like the formal Christmas dinner, the cultural weekend trip and the 'open expo' where philosophy students can exhibit their arts. Last but not least there are the smaller events like a movie night, a casino night, a cantus, a mafia game night and more!

#### Good to know

- **Every philosophy student is automatically a member of NFK.** We choose not to ask a membership fee.

This means you can join any NFK activity at any time, buy your readers at discount prices at our 'cudi' and contact us with any academic question or remark you have.

-Also good to know: we do **not have 'student baptism' or 'hazing' rituals.** We don't feel like you have to prove anything, your choice for philosophy already makes you one of us.

-Since every philosopher needs fuel; NFK offers **coffee and tea with free contribution** in our **students lounge**. Our lounge is in the basement of the Institute, and is open whenever the Institute is open. Feel free to nestle yourself in one of our couches or heat your pick-nick in our microwave. As a plus, you'll always find someone there for a nice little talk or a big discussion in our lounge.

-A last important thing to know: as a service to our members we have a 'cudi'. This means we sell **printed course readers at discount prices.** We do not sell any books, and we can only sell the readers professors send us. The readers we print will be sold in the basement, next to our student kitchenette, and in the concerning classes the first week after printing is done. Opening hours of the cudi are on the website [www.nfk.be](http://www.nfk.be) and on Facebook. The cudi is open from the second week on.

#### How to contact us

To stay informed about our activities please subscribe to our weekly **newsletter: NFKalender** (fill in your name and email address on [www.nfk.be](http://www.nfk.be) in the box beneath the pictures, Google calendar en Twitter) and join the Facebook group '**NFK Social group**'. We also have a **NFK Facebook page**.

If you have **education** related remarks or questions you can e-mail the education team: **education@nfk.be**

To reach **cudi**: [cudi@nfk.be](mailto:cudi@nfk.be)

For general remarks or questions [preses@nfk.be](mailto:preses@nfk.be) & [vice@nfk.be](mailto:vice@nfk.be), send us a Facebook message or just ask a praesidium member. You'll be sure to bump in to one of us at the Institute at any time!

## /// TRIUMVIRATE



*Three* 'Moirae' make decisions next year. One to spin your thread of life, one to measure it and one to the cut it irreversibly. We asked future praeses **Marie** and vice-praesides **Charlotte** and **Ellen** their plans.

### **Three women in a triumvirate. Things are going to change?**

Already during our first year it became obvious we are motherly types. During our first praesidium-weekend we were making breakfast while the others were still asleep.

### **Gentlemen under pressure?**

No panic: we have a masculin side too. Marie loves cars. She dreams of a ride in the yellow Land Rover with camping materials in it, stationed in the *Blijde Inkomststraat*. If she fails in philosophy she will try her chances with an ambulance. Fast driving heroes!

Ellen is a *Top Gear* fan and has a real 'boyfriend jeans'. Charlotte loves tree climbing and is even more heroic than her boyfriend.

Besides, they are used to carrying around heavy boxes for the praesidium.

### **Not first year with NFK. What did you do before?**

Ellen and Charlotte did PR and Book Service, while Marie served as Education Representative and Vice-praesides.

### **Are there any weak points we must know?**

Ellen forgets.  
Charlotte loses things.  
Marie is a control freak.

## /// FRESHMAN WEEKEND

Dear new philosophers,

To start our new year with a bang, NFK organizes a weekend for the new philosophy students. It's the perfect way to get to know your fellow students and make a bunch of new friends. We have a lot of activities planned and will make sure you will have enough to eat and drink. You'll have a great start of your first year with lots of fun and hopefully a close bond with your fellow students. You can sign up by writing an e-mail to: [sociaal@nfk.be](mailto:sociaal@nfk.be). Don't hesitate to contact us at this address with any questions.

Date: October 9-10-11

Address: Schanker 70, Essen, Antwerpen

Aimed price: 30 euros



To be expected 2015-2016:

# “DeWijzer”

Your loyal magazine for philosophical, literary, political or other businesses.

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As words fade, DeWijzer  
will always be there!

In case of emergency: [dewijzer@nfk.be](mailto:dewijzer@nfk.be)



**S**PORTS: Aaron Soens, Alex Doumen and Pieter Vandemoortele. Swimmers in competition, runners and mountainclimbers on to players and referees at the Royal Belgian Football Association: the sportive philosophy student can sleep like a baby, because Pieter, Aaron and Alex lead the way. An ideal geographical spread: the Ken-dolls from Kortrijk, Limburg and Kessel-Lo descended to Leuven with a single purpose: Nfk-sports to be put on the map once and for all. No need to go around it, our heroes know what they're doing. Inspired by *preferably commercial music* they plan to expand the offer to everyone's desire and to lead us to unprecedented results at the 24 hour run. What drives them? Well, every athlete knows that with both feet on the ground, you won't move a step. Furthermore, they will also astonish you apart from the world of sports. Alex – friends call him Alberto – can draw and cook terrificly and made his name as the one and only 'Yes-man' of the HIW (he once went bald for a bet!). Aaron is determined to become the greatest Pokémon-master West-Flanders has ever known and enjoys the good-life of sun and hating out every chance he gets. Pieter is an adventurer in the richest sense of the word and like a true *Rescue Ranger* he spares time nor effort to be there for everyone. As a volunteer at summer school he lays the foundations of a better world. You sure can count on it: with these folks we will meet a golden age.



**C**ULTURE: Willem Kloos wrote "Art is the most individual expression of the most individual emotion" and he was spot on. Sharon, Abel, Ellen D and Valerie are intimately engaged in the function of "Culture". In Lloret de Mar, Costa Brava, Sharon sought out cultured and visited the church (which was pretty beautiful btw ;)). Abel also likes the taste of some culture as a real chess hero and he absolutely appreciates the esthetic functionality of the Belgian bread cutting machines. After an excellent exhibition of her own artwork, nobody can even doubt on Valerie's appropriateness. Eternally inspired by *the Uncanny*: it is said that surrealism hasn't taken a step back or forth since. Ask Ellen something about calligraphy, cranes (origami), strumming piano or harp! The expectations are high, even though she doesn't comb her hair (Merida from the

movie Brave has plagiarized her and to make matters worse, the trend has caught on: even James May has joined in).

**I**NTERNATIONAL: Zoë Claesen, Esther Mulders, Leigh Karras, Elske Kronemeijer - NFK sometimes seemed a bit of a Dutch-speaking philosophy bubble. But our philosophy is that NFK should be the favorite student association for all philosophy students, including the internationals! They are happy to announce a new function in NFK: function international! They want to represent the international philosophy students i NFK and hope to establish more intercultural contacts in that way. Because studying philosophy in a foreign country isn't only about sitting lonely in your 'kot' reading about Descartes. A quote that is often used to explain African ethics can



make this clear: Cognatus sum, ergo sumus (“I am related, therefore we are”). Their theory is that philosophy and intercultural international contacts are interwoven. That’s of course the reason that the Erasmus-exchange programme is named after a philosopher!

**PARTY:** Lien and Annalise will be responsible for the Party function, which means one thing: we are going to have a lot of parties! These ladies dissociate themselves completely from the, in their opinion, sadly overrepresented stupid parties with awful music. Under their rule, “party” will mean creativity, supply and demand, and alternative hipster things. The coming year will be one with big accomplishments. They are already talking about cheese-wine-music-tapas-and poetry evenings. And just wait until you see these girls dance! So hurry up and practice your tap dance moves, because this generation of Party representatives will definitely cause some fireworks!



**SOCIAL:** This year, Wouter and Sharon will be in charge of the warm welcome and adoption of our freshman students. Wouter de Hoog is widely known as an ever-smiling optimist who’s goal it is to greet everyone in positive way, to make sure they will confidently take on the future. On the last trip to London, he was the only one to cheer up the people who were suffering from sore feet and an empty stomach. No one knows what we would’ve done without him. If you take into consideration that this overly sociable guy is accompanied by Sharon, you’ll know for sure that the freshmen will have the time of their lives at NFK. Every time Sharon laughs, it sounds like elves are dancing, angels are singing, in such a delightful way you can’t do anything but laugh along, louder and louder, in a crescendo that wipes away the world. You know you’re alive because living is all about being sociable. Happiness suits you well!



**EDUCATION:** This year’s Education Team has quite a lot of girl power! They will use that power to fight for your educational rights. They will inform themselves about new regulations and upcoming changes, so they can inform you the best way possible. Whether you have questions about your exams or an opinion about educational topics - Sophie, Nynke, Zoë and Emma look forward to hearing from you! Nynke is ready to make your life better by means of a critic reflection. She knows all about politics, so be aware if you want to discuss with her. Emma has real education-skills after a year of experience. She has a love-hate relationship with spelling mistakes. Apparently, meerkats are amazing. We saw Sophie dangling on a climbing wall, skating like a hurricane and playing soccer like a real Messi in the function of Sports. She will show just as much or even more enthusiasm defending your educational rights. Much speculations go round about Zoë, but after a lot of research we can tell you that she will support the right direction (our reliable reporters base their information on a certain love for the pointer of the library). If the shot is fired you can be sure that these four goddesses will go





straight line to reach their goal. Be warned, the front line of the female gender is arriving.

**TREASURER & WEBMASTER:** Holding the numbers in check, in the bank account as well as somewhere deep in the computer, is the heavy task laying on the shoulders of our informatician-philosopher-wine-devotee **Wouter Termont**. And you know as well as I that Atlas doesn't take vacation. You can always count on Wouter, and he will count the bills.

**FAKBAR:** Two women. One is punk and one is alternative. **Anke and Annalise**. Together with **Dickran, Felix and Laurens** they will organise our beloved weekly Faknights. Ask your girls to play piano or guitar. Looking for experience ask Dickran. Looking for childishness ask Felix. Looking for Laurens: check the lounge. Please pay them a visit next year at the M-cafe. They'll pull your glass out of the air, before it hits the ground. Hawk eye bartenders!



**DEWIJZER:** There we are, writing about ourselves. People will think us arrogant when we admit that **Ana and Patrisia** during Gods Creation queued three times (unfairly) and were so gifted with beauty, smartness and writing talent. As for **Vinsent and Vincent**, game was over, God knew what happened, so beauty didn't work out. Therefore they threw themselves on democracy, where content wins from beauty. The People will be safe! They'll try desperately keeping this years standards. He who shall live, shall see!



**CUDI:** Your readers will be provided by **Sien, Els, Leen, Stef and Dickran**. With care they will copy and share the *epistèmè* your professors put on paper. Els panics with music, but CUDI is no disco. Sien doesn't like pink, and Leen loves blue. What will the front page colour be like? As five vestal virgins they will sit vigil, with a hundred open eyes over the letters in black on the white paper. Stef doesn't like raw tomatoes and Leen doesn't like pineapples, but really, with love they'll care for your readers. Dickran lives, takes tomatoes and pineapples for granted. Maybe Scouting experience will be of aid. With this people, the Kantian question of what you may hope will be answered like this: you'll get more beautiful readers, than they ever were before!.



**P**R: Ann's choice to study philosophy is the result of an existential choice between a really terribly ugly black-and-white piano chair which you have to integrate into your design and an unfamiliar chocolate with a liqueur which has a long aftertaste that can either be pretty good or horrifically disgusting. She will be in charge of amusing you with the most awful puns. Alexandra has a special admiration for space. She has a love for petting strange animals (she appears to be a magnet for squirrels and moles). When you run into her in

Leuven, you can have the feeling she is just wandering about without any direction. Don't worry, she does this quite often: just capturing the beauty of this world wherever she is, by driftlessly strolling through the streets. Patrisia: do not fear perfection! She is art, reading and daydreaming, all on a purple, smiling background. These three girls will make you know, see and hear everything you need to. Fireworks included.

**T**HEATRE: NFK's long theatre tradition will, depending on us, be continued next year. Asking Nelis, it's all about the story. A tragedy is never abstract, however this mistake has been made in philosophy. Real human tragedy is about blood and flesh. Nelis looks at a tragedy positively and wants to make something, aided by a group dynamic and a play someone else wrote. Redaction orders four seats already. Tragedies make us happy!





**Monday 21/09**

11:00-13:00: Welcome session for International Program students by the Institute (HIW room B)

14:00-16:00: Examination Information meeting for all International Program students by the institute (HIW room B)

(for more info sessions see <http://hiw.kuleuven.be/eng/students/orientation-infomeetings/infosessions1516>)

16:00 Tour around Leuven with NFK

17:00 Aperitif in the lounge, followed by dining at Alma together

22:00 Pub crawl. Meeting point at the gate of the Institute

**Tuesday 22/09**

22:00 Friendship "Speed Date" at our fakbar (Savoyestraat 10, 3000 Leuven)

**Wednesday 23/09**

13:00-16:00 NFK and other students will help you fill in your ISP and IER in the lounge

22:00 Meet us at the gate of the HIW to go to the opening party of the STUK music center

**Friday 25/09**

12:00-14:00 Bread meal (lunch) in the lounge for €1,50!

