

Official Transcript
Boston College's Global Proficiency Program

Ruben D. Elsinga

I. International Experience

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA Exchange program with University of Amsterdam *September 2005 - May 2006*

- Attended courses at the advanced undergraduate and graduate level
- Traveled extensively in the United States and Canada
- Participated in extra-curricular activities including the Middle Eastern & Islamic Studies Student Association and the delegation of Boston College at the Model United Nations Conference in Montreal

II. Academic Component: Exchange Student studying International Relation and Islamic Studies

Languages: Fluent in Dutch & English (not native)
Intermediate level in French & German

Social Science, Business, Education Courses at B.C.:

Humanities Courses at B.C.:

- Travel & Espionage in the East
- Tolstoj & Doestovsky

- Causes of War
- Security Studies
- Cooperation in World Politics (Grad. Seminar)
- Rise & Rule of Islamic States
- Politics & Society in Central Eurasia

III. Co-curricular Activities during college both at Boston College and at the University of Amsterdam

Activity 1: International Assistant, International Students Network, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

September 2004 - June 2005

- Description: Served as a peer contact/orientation leader for incoming international students. Helped students acclimate to the climate of the University of Amsterdam as well the city as that of Amsterdam. Served as editor for the International Student Network newsletter.
- Skills: Utilized intercultural communication skills and knowledge of the University of Amsterdam and the city of Amsterdam, demonstrated leadership, social, organizational and publishing skills.
- Time Commitment: 2-3 hours per week for 9 months; 7-day intensive training/orientation each year

Activity 2: Chairman / Initiator Delegation University of Amsterdam, Harvard National Model United Nations (HNMUN), Boston, United States

June 2005 - February 2006

- Description: Initiated a new delegation from University of Amsterdam at the Harvard National MUN; Managed and presided over a ten-person international delegation; Organised travel and other practical arrangements; Communicated with the organisation of HNMUN; Helped to organise visits for the Permanent Representatives of the Netherlands and Nepal at the United Nations in New York; Took the role of head-delegate and participant during the conference.
- Skills: Utilized strong intercultural skills, demonstrated strong supervisory and organizational skills, initiated a large delegation at a major conference, deepened appreciation for the inclusion of all cultures, gained political experience in participating in a United Nations conference.
- Time commitment: 2 hours per week for 9 months, 1 week full-time preparation and intensive conference

Activity 3: Participant, McGill Model United Nations, Montreal, Canada

January 2006

- Description: Participated as the Lebanese Prime Minister Siniora in the Middle East Peace Summit at the McGill Model United Nations, a one-week conference simulating the United Nations.
- Skills: Improved understanding of the Middle East conflict and deepened understanding and knowledge of international relations and peace summits.
- Time Commitment: 5-day intensive conference

Service Project: Volunteer, Birzeit Summer Work Camp, Birzeit, Palestinian Territories

July - August 2005

- Description: Helped Palestinian refugees in their daily work; Participated in field research on the Israeli-Palestinian question in Ramallah, Nablus, Bethlehem, Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, among other places; Formed a multifaceted understanding of the problems in Israel and Palestine by witnessing the problems of both parties; Communicated with Palestinian politicians.
- Skills: Enhanced intercultural understanding and communicated with people and politicians in high-tension situations.
- Time Commitment: 10-day intensive work camp

Cheryl Presley,
Vice President for Student Affairs, Boston College

Cutberto Garza,
Academic Vice President, Boston College

