

International Training Centre

Newsletter for alumni



Faculty of Bioscience Engineering – Ghent University

Issue 3 - End 2017



"I chose to study at Ghent University because of the high reputation it holds for academic excellence. My two years studies in Ghent was one of the best times in my life. Apart from the university's location in a lovely city, I was part of an international group with diverse expertise and experience that enriched the programme; we all brought our different perspectives and ideas together during group assignments and presentations and learnt from each other. The perseverance, resilience and tenacity that I developed during my MSc training in Ghent have been the building blocks for my PhD studies at Sheffield University. Ghent University is no doubt among the top universities in the world, and I am proud to be an alumnus of the Ghent University and its Faculty of Bioscience Engineering!" dixit **Hibbah Araba Osel-Kwasi** (née Saeed) (Ghana).

I am **Arifin Dwi Saputro**, a lecturer at Laboratory of Postharvest and Food Engineering, Department of Agriculture and Biosystem Engineering, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia. In 2011, I received VLIR-UOS scholarship to follow "The 1st Edition of Cocoa and Chocolate 14 days' Workshop" organized by Laboratory of Food Technology and Engineering, Ghent University. The reason I attended this workshop was to improve my knowledge on cacao and chocolate processing. Since Indonesia is the third largest cocoa producer in the world, the knowledge about this matter is very crucial for the Indonesian cocoa and chocolate



development. Through this workshop I was able to meet Prof. Koen Dewettinck who later on became my PhD promotor.

In 2013, I received a scholarship from Indonesian Endowment Fund for Education (LPDP) to pursue my PhD in Ghent University. I did my PhD at the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering, Laboratory of Food Technology and Engineering, which works comprehensively on cocoa and chocolate sector. This laboratory has, not only cocoa and chocolate processing machines, but also many types of sophisticated instruments for cocoa and chocolate studies/research. Under supervision of Prof. Koen Dewettinck, since October 2013, I conducted a research entitled "Structure-Function Relations of palm sap sugar in dark chocolate".

At the beginning of December 2017, I officially finished my PhD study. The knowledge that I obtained during my study in Ghent University is very valuable and beneficial for my professional career. In line with the purpose of my PhD study, after returning to Indonesia, I will transfer the knowledge and apply it to develop Indonesian cocoa and chocolate sector.

In the future, I aim to create a research collaboration (related to cocoa and chocolate) between Ghent University and Gadjah Mada University. I hope that the International Alumni Association can also initiate such kind of collaboration among countries, thus, we will have a stronger network and can grow together.

We would highly appreciate some other alumni sending their testimonial (word or video film) for publication to Mie

Remaut-De Winter, alumni.itc@ugent.be

From the Head of the International Training Centre

Dear Alumna/us,

2017 comes to an end. I hope it was a very successful year for you, as well professionally as personally.

2017 showed us – again – that the whole world is facing several challenges. Climate change is affecting a lot of vulnerable people all over the world, refugees were and are –more than ever – leaving their homes to start a dangerous journey to a better life and several geopolitical or religious conflicts popped up again. The answers to these challenges are not so easy to find, but at least one answer is an important one.

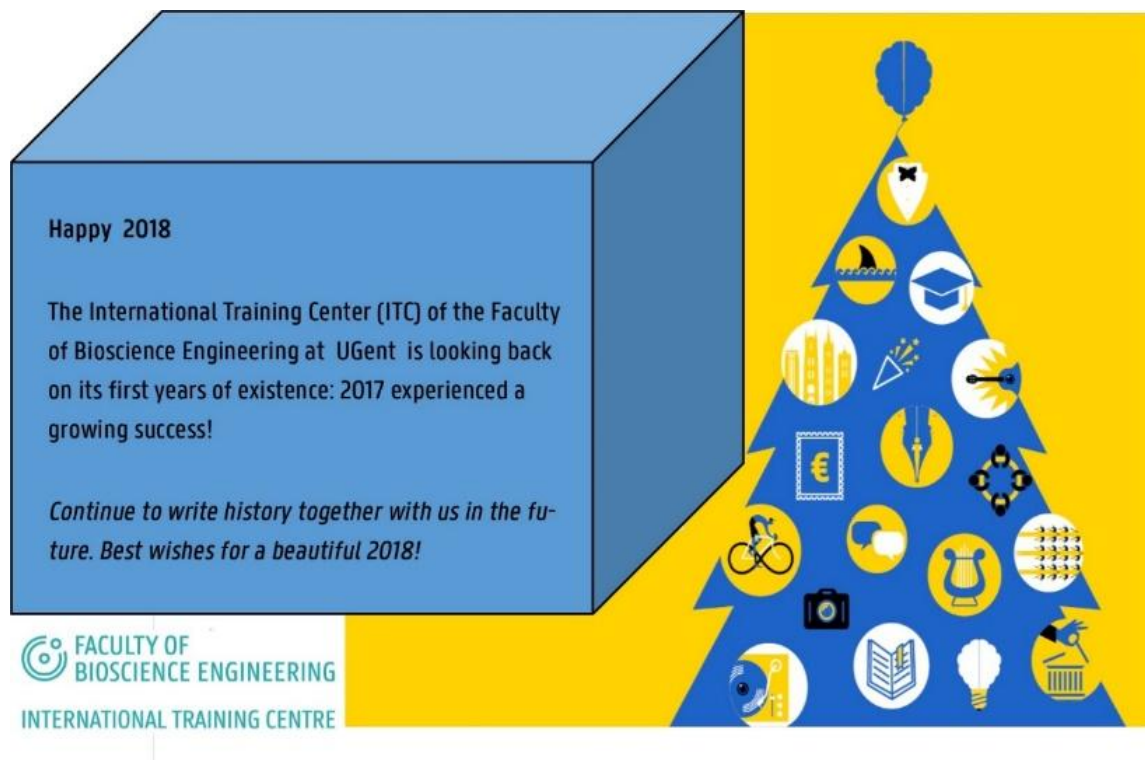
“ If we want to be able to understand nature, other people, politics, etc. , we need to educate people: boys, girls, young people but also older people that never had the opportunity to go to school. Education is the strongest medicine against violence, misunderstandings, manipulation, oppression “.

And that's what we, ITC, do day by day, giving people from all over the world the unique opportunity to gain knowledge and to achieve skills in order to improve their own and others life. Let's continue the good work in 2018! Let's continue to educate youngsters in order to face the challenges that are threatening our world.

I wish you, your family and friends a very successful 2018!

Enjoy our Alumni Newsletter!

Wim Hoste



ITC news



We recently (01/01/2017) welcomed **Leen De Wispelaere** as a new colleague at ITC. She will be mainly responsible for the daily administrative and support of academic matters of the IMRD programme.



Marian Mareen left our group by the 1st of December 2017 for a job at the Department of Food Safety and Food Quality at our FBE. We wish her all the best with her future professional career!

Passed events

Incheon Academy of Science and Arts' visit to Ghent University

On the 23rd and 24th of October, 2017, the International Training Centre welcomed a group of 78 students and 9 coaches (teachers, supervisors, vice-principal) from the Incheon Academy of Science and Arts (IASA). This elite South Korean high school organized a study tour in Europe and Ghent University had the honour of welcoming them first.

At Ghent University the students could participate in one of our four custom built modules: chemistry, ecology, computer programming and biotechnology. Each model consisted of two days of lectures and workshops. At the end of both days students received a certificate of participation. The coordination and organisation was done by the ITC. Lecturers from different UGent faculties participated in the visit. From the science faculty we could count on the assistance of Prof. dr. Bart Braeckman, dr. Liliana D'Alba and dr. Christophe Vieira. They gave tours of their respective labs and organised workshops for the module Biotechnology and Ecology. Prof. dr. Sandra Van Vlierberghe and Prof. dr. Filip Du Prez's teams created the entire Chemistry module, including lectures and integrated practical exercises. Additionally Prof. **dr. ir.** Joris Thybaut and Leen Brouns from the **faculty** of Engineering and Architecture provided their expertise respectively during the modules Biotechnology and Programming. Finally Prof. **dr. ir.** Jan Baetens represented the faculty of Bioscience Engineering during the **Computer** Programming module. The students of IASA enjoyed the experience and were thrilled by the demonstration given by several lecturers. In turn lecturers found it an interesting experience to present their research to a young enthusiastic public. In short it was an educational venture for all parties involved and we hope to see these students at one of the Ghent University faculties in a couple of years.

Iarre Lafort, International relation Officer at ITC

Visit of the Tajik delegation to Ghent University

The international Training Centre was selected to do a consultancy project from the Worldbank in Tajikistan. For two years, the staff will give advice and will train teachers and students from Tajikistan in order to improve the agricultural higher education at their respective institutions.

The government of Tajikistan is currently implementing a World Bank funded project to increase the commercialization of farms and agri-business in selected areas of Tajikistan. In the context of the Agriculture Commercialization Project (ACP), the ITC is consulting on the curriculum modernization at the Tajik Agrarian University and two vocational training colleges for agriculture. From the 19th until the 25th of November, 2017, we welcomed the Tajik delegation to Ghent University. The Tajik delegation consisted of members of the Tajik ministry of education, ministry of agriculture and representatives of all three higher education institutes. The purpose of this visit was to give the delegation a view of the infrastructure and campuses related to agriculture education. This included a tour of different campuses belonging to the faculty of Bioscience Engineering such as the Coupure, Schoonmeersen and Gontrode campuses and the experimental farm in Bottelare. Additionally the faculty of Veterinary Sciences in Merelbeke and the Flemish research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (ILVO) were visited.

On Thursday, November 23rd a formal signing ceremony took place at the Coupure campus of the faculty of Bioscience Engineering. At this ceremony the project contract and support letters were both signed by all partners involved. We were honoured to welcome the Tajik ambassador, his Excellency Dr. Rahmatullozoda Erkinxon, the Pro-Vice Rector of Ghent University Prof. dr. Freddy Mortier and the Dean of the faculty of Bioscience Engineering Prof. dr. ir. Marc Van Meirvenne.

The entire delegation enjoyed the visit. They learned much of the way we conduct research and provide education and services at Ghent University. Their eagerness to implement the techniques and ideas acquired at Ghent University was apparent. In the coming months there will be more contact moments with our Tajik partners, including a visit of a multidisciplinary UGent delegation to Tajikistan at the start of 2018.

Iarre Lafort, International relation Officer at ITC

Exchange students at ITC/FBE in 2017-2018

Country	1 academic year	First semester	Second semester	N° universities represented
Africa				
Algeria		1		1
Tunisia		1		1
South-Africa		2		2
Asia				
China	5		2	2
Iran	1		1	1
Mongolia	1			1
Pakistan		1		1
Thailand	1	1		1
South Korea			1	1
Europe				
Austria		1	2	1
Belgium		3	1	3
Czech Republic	1	5	2	1
Denmark		2	1	2
Germany		5	4	3
Finland		4	1	1
France	3	23	5	7
Greece		1		1
Italy	1	6	6	6
Lithuania		2		2
Netherlands		2		2
Norway			1	1
Poland		2	1	2
Portugal		2		2
Rumania		1		1
Slovenia		2	1	1
Spain	3	10	2	9
Sweden		2		1
Switzerland		1		1
Turkey	1	2	2	4
Latin America				
Brazil		1	1	1
Ecuador		1	1	1
North America				
USA			1	1

Upcoming ITC activities

IAES Africa Student Recruitment tour

All alumni staying in the countries below will be invited to participate to the fair and for a local alumni event. Further information will be send by email.

9/02/2018	Kenya	Nairobi
12/02/2018	Tanzania	Dar es Salaam
15/02/2018	Uganda	Kampala

Visit to South Africa - strengthening academic partnershipS for our International Master Programs – February/March 2018

Reinforcing and extending the existing partnerships with the university of Pretoria and the university of South Africa (UNISA) – Gauteng region (Johannesburg)and Stellenbosch university .

For more ITC news, follow our [website](#) and our [Facebook page](#)!

ITC-Alumni who recently obtained their PhD degree at our Faculty

1. Mr. Le, Van Bao Duy Former MSc. student in Aquaculture

Title thesis: [Life food and use of probiotics in rabbit fish \(*Siganus guttatus*, Bloch 1787\) larviculture](#) -

Promoters Prof. dr. ir. Peter Bossier (BW13)-dr. Nguyen Ngoc Phuoc (Hue University of Agriculture and Forestry)

2.Mr. Saputro, Arifin Dwi, Former trainee in KOI Cacao

Title thesis [Structure-function relations of palm sap sugar in dark chocolate.](#)

Promoter Prof. dr. ir. Koen Dewettinck (BW07)

3.Yengwe, Jones – Former MSc. student Physical Land Resources

Title thesis: [Soil carbon and nitrogen dynamics, soil quality and crop yield levels in Faidherbia-maize agroforestry systems in Zambia](#)

Promoter: Prof. dr. ir. Stefaan De Neve (BW12)-Prof. dr. Obed Isaac Lungu (University of Zambia)

4.Peñafiel Anchundia, Dolores Daniela – Former MSc. student Nutrition and Rural Development – Human Nutrition

Title thesis: [Traditional food consumption and its nutritional contribution in Guasaganda, Central Ecuador](#)

Promoters: Prof. dr. ir. Patrick Van Damme UGent and Prof. dr. Ramon Espinel

5.Viet Dung Nguyen – new alumnus

Title thesis: RNA interference in *Artemia franciscana* applied to sex determining genes

Promoters: Prof. dr. ir. Peter Bossier – Prof. dr. ir. Guy Smagghe and Dr. Olivier Christiaens

UGent news in the picture



(29-11-2017) Rector Rik Van de Walle and vice rector Mieke Van Herreweghe have been heading up our university for some time now. Time for a first look and to discover more about their plans: read about it in [the new edition of Dare to Think](#).

17 'highly cited researchers' in various life science domains at Ghent University

(28-11-2017) Thomson Reuters (now called Clarivate Analytics) launched this exclusive list in 2001, which is based on the highest amount of leading publications. To be recognised as a 'highly cited researcher', a scientist must have had a significant impact on the work of fellow scientists.

Ghent University has no less than 17 researchers with the Highly Cited status this year. This is a remarkably high number considering that there is a total of 40 Highly Cited researchers in Belgium.

For the **Agricultural Sciences** field, Wim Verbeke (agri-food market and consumer behaviour) was once again recognised as a Highly Cited researcher; his fellow bioengineers, Korneel Rabaey and Willy Verstraete, were recognised in the Environment/Ecology category.

Ghent University scores highly in US News ranking of global universities

(07-11-2017) Ghent University ranks 5th for the subject area Plant and Animal Sciences in the US News ranking of global universities. For **Agricultural Sciences** Ghent University ranked 6th. In both rankings Ghent University is the second European University.

The ranking of US News contains 1,250 top universities from the U.S. and 60 other countries.

The universities are ranked based on 13 indicators that measure their academic research performance and their global and regional reputations.

Indicators are among others the number of publications and international collaboration.



City and University since 1817



Visit also [Out of the Box](#) and www.ugent.be/200

Exhibition from 06.10.2017 until 27.03.2018 at STAM

Organize your visit

Hall texts: [NL](#) - [FR](#) - [EN](#)

[Guided tours for individuals](#): third Sunday of the month

Edge Programme in the expo: www.destadacademie.be

CITY AND since 1817 UNIVERSITY

October 9th 1817 saw the ceremonious opening of the university in Ghent. Since that day back in 1817 the university has become firmly embedded in the city and is now an unmissable part of the streetscape. Students live here, hurry by bicycle from one building to another and also take advantage of the university city's vibrant nightlife. Campuses are expanding and a fourth tower has appeared on the skyline, the Book Tower.

The exhibition looks back at the interaction between city and university over the last 200 years. It also looks to the future. 'City and University. Since 1817' is a STAM exhibition about the university, the city and above all about their coexistence — yesterday, today and tomorrow.

CESAM (Central and Southern America) Platform at Ghent University

New calls:

- Grant for visiting staff from Latin America: [More info](#)
- Special Research Fund: [More info](#)
- Print-Brazil: International Research projects with Brazilian partners: [More info](#)
- Call for papers for the International Conference on Agriculture and Food in an Urbanized Society: [More info](#)



The Afstudeerbeurs (the Graduation Fair) 2018



The graduation fair 2018 takes place on 27 March 2018, 12:00 – 18:00 in the ICC Ghent.

<http://afstudeerbeurs.gent/en>

About to graduate and looking for a challenging first job or suitable further study options that may enhance your career prospects?

In 1 afternoon and on 1 location you will become better acquainted with the current job market as well as a wide range of further educational opportunities. HR professionals from over 200 companies and organisations, and staff of the partner institutions of Ghent University Association will happily answer all of your questions and give you practical career advice.

During this 2018 edition, enterprising alumni are put in the spotlight!

The organization is still looking for UGent alumni who have set up a start-up or company.

advantages:

-) meet interesting companies and organisations from multiple sectors, including telecommunication, banking, accountancy, construction, ...
-) profile yourself as a high potential and take an active attitude towards potential future employers
-) expand your network
-) participate in engaging, interactive and informative workshops in which HR professionals explain recruitment and selection procedures, help you to write the perfect CV, ...

set up an appointment for a free CV analysis (please keep in mind that preregistration is required)

FBE news in the picture

Our efforts bear fruit

The Faculty of Bioscience Engineering at Ghent University is a leading faculty in Europe in agricultural and life sciences. Our Faculty welcomes 2,800 students each year. Four hundred of these are international master students and 300 are international doctoral students. Ghent is a dazzlingly authentic, multicultural and open-minded city with 300,000 inhabitants of more than 150 nationalities, of which 20% are students.

We are happy to see that the high quality education we offer is reflected in international university rankings. In all rankings below, we take the first place of all Belgian universities.

- Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities (Life and agriculture sciences): place 37
- Times Higher Education World University Rankings (Life sciences): place 45
- National Taiwan University Ranking (Agriculture): place 6
- Global University Employability Ranking: place 58

Professor Bernard De Baets receives honorary title 'Profesor Invitado' from the Cuban Minister of higher education



On 27 October, 2017, professor Bernard De Baets (Department of Mathematical Modelling, Statistics and Bioinformatics, faculty of Bioscience Engineering) received the honorary title of 'Profesor Invitado' at the Universidad Central "Marta Abreu" de las Villas (UCLV) in Cuba.

He received the title for his personal accomplishments, his renowned scientific and academic career and his active collaboration with the UCLV.

ERC Consolidator Grants: €630 million from the EU to 329 top researchers

The [ERC](#) has evaluated 2,538 research proposals this time, out of which 13% will be funded. Thirty-two percent of grants were awarded to female applicants. Two of those prestigious grants (of around 2 million Euro per person) have been awarded to 2 staff members of the Ghent University.

- **Prof. Thomas VAN LEEUWEN**, department of crop protection at the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering for his work Molecular-Genetic mechanisms of extreme adaptation in a polyphagous agricultural pest
- Prof. Frederick VERBRUGGEN, department of experimental Psychology at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences for his work: control of impulsive action.



European Research Council

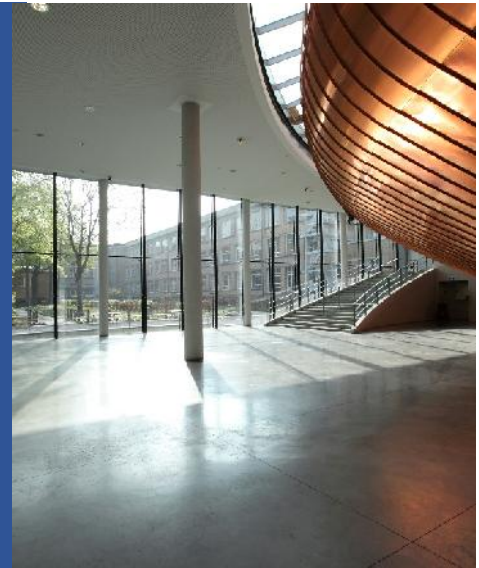
Established by the European Commission

From 1 January 2018

Reform of our faculty

8 new departments:

-) BW20: Department of Environment
-) BW21: Department of Plants and Crops
-) BW22: Department of Animal Sciences and Aquatic Ecology
-) BW23: Department of Food Technology, Safety and Health
-) BW24: Department of Green Chemistry and Technology
-) BW25: Department of Biotechnology
-) BW26: Department of Data analysis and mathematical modelling
-) BW27: Department of Agricultural Economics



The **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** funds the **Department of Food Safety and Food Quality's research** on the effects of nutrition supplements during pregnancy in Burkina Faso,

EOS - The excellence of science - List of laureates 2017: [prof. Guy Smagghe](#), [prof. Monica Höfte](#) and [prof. Tom Van de Wiele](#).

Applications for academic year 2018-2019 at FBE/ITC are still open – Be our ambassador!

The Faculty of Bioscience Engineering of Ghent University opens applications for 2018-2019 for its highly prestigious English-taught programmes. We offer three bachelor programmes, eight 2-year English-taught master programmes and one 1-year advanced master programme.

Click here for a [A4-sized poster](#) (also available in [Chinese](#), [French](#), [Indonesian](#), [Portuguese](#), [Spanish](#) and [Vietnamese](#)) that you can print, distribute or forward by mail.

We are currently accepting applications for the following programmes:

2-year master degree programmes in Ghent

- [Master of Science in Nutrition and Rural Development](#)
- [Master of Science in Environmental Sanitation](#)
- Master of Science in Physical Land Resources - main subjects [Soil Science](#) and [Land Resources Engineering](#) (with VUB Brussel, Belgium)

with the support of

- [Master of Science in Aquaculture](#)
- [Master of Science in Food Technology](#) (with KU Leuven, Belgium)
- [Master of Science in Nutrition and Rural Development](#)
- [Erasmus Mundus International Master of Science in Rural Development/Agricultural Engineering \(IMRD with partners in Europe, the US and South Korea\)](#)



International 2-year master degree programmes



- [Erasmus Mundus International Master of Science in Environmental Technology and Engineering \(IMETE with partners in Europe\)](#)
- [Erasmus Mundus International Master of Science in Rural Development/Agricultural Engineering \(IMRD with partners in Europe, the US and South Korea\)](#)
- [International Master of Science in Sustainable and Innovative Natural Resource Management \(SINReM with partners in Europe\)](#)

Advanced 1-year master programme in Ghent

- [Master of Science in Technology for Integrated Water Management](#) (with University of Antwerp and Antwerp Maritime Academy)

4-year bachelor degree programmes our Ghent University [Global Campus in Seoul - South Korea](#)

- Bachelor of Science in Environmental Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Food Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biotechnology

We are looking for top students and can offer VLIR-UOS and Erasmus Mundus scholarships. We have also established preferential partnerships with Indonesian, Ecuadorian, Mexican and a wide variety of other (non-) governmental funding agencies (extensive list on our [scholarship website](#)).

All information on our admission and language requirements, application procedure and tuition fees can be found on our [website](#). Do not hesitate to contact us in case of further questions via applications.itc@ugent.be.

Please share this information with friends and colleagues. Thank you for your most valuable cooperation.



ITC alumni can make a difference!

- **Call for fellowship sponsors**

We are continuously searching for new sponsors for fellowships to guarantee our top prospect Master students coming to study at our Faculty (partial sponsorship is also possible). Your help/support in finding sponsors is most welcome. If you want to contact a possible sponsor, you can use [our sponsor letter](#). If extra information is requested, contact itc@ugent.be.

- **Local and regional networks**

Are you member or are you aware of UGent alumni networks in your region or country? Then [send us](#) the following information: who is the person (responsible for the specific network, please specify the name of the network and channel) to contact (name, address, email address)?

- **Looking for short trainings for your university, organisation or company?**

Are there special needs for short-term trainings for you or your colleagues? If yes, for what, when and where? [Let us know!](#)

- **Cooperation with the International Training Centre**

Does your university, organisation or company want to cooperate with the ITC? Read about the many possibilities in the [ITC portfolio](#).

- **Cooperation with the International Training Centre and its MSc. students –
Call for job, MD and internship offers**

Do you have the possibility for offering one of our students an internship place (max. 2 months) or can you give some field assistance in a Master Dissertation Research or can you offer a Master Dissertation Research topic and guidance or are you aware of an interesting job offer, please [let us know](#). Your fruitful cooperation in this search for different types of academic or professional offers will be highly appreciated by our MSc. students.



Have your contact data changed? Please notify us via alumni.itc@ugent.be.

If you know other alumni or friends that might be interested in receiving this newsletter, feel free to forward it and send us the email addresses of the interested persons.

Do you want to subscribe for the ITC newsletter (3 editions a year)? Mail to alumni.itc@ugent.be.

We have a lot of email addresses of alumni which are not anymore in use. Feel free to browse [the list](#) for who you could send us the actual in use email address. Thanks for your help.

Become and stay involved!