

Ice Breaker: Sietse de Vries



In September of this year, I started the master track of Building Physics and Services, and by doing so, I became the only one from my bachelor year (2015-2016) that chose this specialization, as far as I know.

I grew up in a small village in the beautiful province of Fryslân, in the north of the Netherlands. Three years ago, when I was eighteen years old, I moved to Eindhoven to study the bachelor Architecture, Urbanism and Building Sciences at the TU/e. While the transition from the quiet countryside to the lively Eindhoven seemed harsh, I felt a good bond with the city, its people and the university. Like many other bachelor students, I chose this bachelor due to a fascination with the built environment. During the study, I spent a lot of time contemplating which specialization I wanted to focus on. As was already somewhat clear before I started the program, my main interest lay within the technical aspects of the built environment. However, after following a lot of Structural Design courses in my second year, the specialization did not seem like the perfect fit. In my third year of my bachelor, I decided to switch completely to the underdog within the study program, Building Physics and Services.

Within Building Physics and Services, my biggest interest is in Building Lighting, which is also what I would like to focus on during my masters. In line with this specialization, I also have an interest in lighting technology in a broader context.

During my bachelor, and currently still am, I have been a fairly active member of CHEOPS, the study association of the built environment. Apart from organizing the ski trip and being a member of some small committees, I also designed and made the LED wall elements of the Skybar! Underground Lounge. In December 2017, I got the opportunity to lead team IGNITE, a student team formed as a collaboration between CHEOPS and Lucid, the study association of Industrial Design. As a team, we want to design one of the main light installations for

Eindhoven's annual GLOW festival. We want to create a unique visitor experience which combines interesting architecture and interaction with a sculpture. For GLOW 2018, we are creating a relatively small installation for research purposes. For the next edition of GLOW 2019, we hope to execute our main installation, which we have been designing for the past year.



Figure 1. First construction test of Team IGNITE's GLOW 2018 installation

Apart from academics, I enjoy spending time outdoors, having a beer with friends, working part time as a student assistant, and cooking. For someone coming from the flattest country on earth, it may sound a bit unnatural, but I really enjoy being in the mountains, hiking with amazing views during the summer and skiing in the winters. If there ever is a dedicated Mollier ski trip, I would totally be in for it.



Figure 2. Hiking near Wapta Falls, Canada

Furthermore, I play tennis, squash and recently ran two half marathons, with Eindhoven's being the latest, would like to run the marathon of Rotterdam next year.

In the past year, managing Team IGNITE took up a considerable amount of my time. However, I personally think that experiences gained by expanding are much more valuable than just theoretical studying. Hence, I am not particularly keen on completing my master track in a hurry. In the upcoming years, I would like to broaden my knowledge and experiences by doing more than just academic courses. Moreover, I would like to do an internship abroad in two years and possibly be in the next board of Mollier!

I would like to thank Mollier and its members for giving me a very warm welcome and I do really look forward to meeting more of its members! ■



Figure 3. Completed GLOW 2018 Installation