



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Van negen tot Vijf: even voorstellen: Anne Rasmussen

Roos, A. de

Citation

Roos, A. de. (2008). Van negen tot Vijf: even voorstellen: Anne Rasmussen. *Bestuurskundige Berichten*, 23(4), 26-28. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3211759>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

License: [Creative Commons CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 license](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3211759>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Van negen tot Vijf Even voorstellen: Anne Rasmussen

By Stephanie Tang

Een vertrouwde rubriek onder een nieuwe naam want in deze rubriek, voorheen onder de naam 'Intussen op de Vijfde', gaan wij op zoek naar wat onze docenten en overige medewerkers meer doen dan wat wij ervan zien. Is het alleen colleges gegeven, opdrachten maken en tentamens nakijken? Uiteraard gebeurt er veel meer op de vijfde verdieping zoals administratie bijhouden en onderzoeken uitvoeren. In de rubriek 'Van negen tot Vijf' stelt zich iedere keer een medewerker voor en vertelt waar hij of zij allemaal mee bezig is.

Deze keer is het de beurt aan de nieuwe docent Anne Rasmussen. Sinds september is zij werkzaam voor de universiteit Leiden en heeft een aanstelling voor vijf jaar bij het departement Bestuurskunde. Ze doceert aan zowel bachelor- als masterstudenten in onder meer de disciplines economie en de Europese Unie (EU). Anne is Deense en daarom wordt het interview hieronder in het Engels weergegeven.

Personalia

Name: Doctor Anne Rasmussen
Year of Birth: 1974
Education:
PhD (Political Science) Copenhagen University, Denmark
Msc (Political Economy), University of Essex, Great Britain

What is your background?

I started my studies in political science at the University of Aarhus in parallel to which I studied business economics at the Copenhagen and Aarhus Business Schools. Afterwards I earned a MA in Political Economy at the University of Essex and completed a Danish MSc at the University of Copenhagen. During my postgraduate studies in Copenhagen I worked for the Danish Ministry of Finance. This was a very busy period because I had to combine my study with a thirty hour job. Later I worked for two years for RAMBOLL Management on projects for Danish Public clients and the EU Institutions. I specialized in social, labour market and education policies.

After two years of working experience, I started my PhD in Political Science. The PhD dissertation examined bicameral bargaining. It compared the bargaining between the EU Parliament and the EU Council of Ministers with the bargaining between the American Congress and the House of Representatives. Specifically I was interested in the power implication of using a special type of joint legislative committee between the two chambers to reconcile differences between them. I spend a substantial share of my PhD in the United States at George Washington University in order to complete some course work there with the Americanists and to do fieldwork for my dissertation.

After her PhD, Anne Rasmussen was in the post-doc programme of the European University Institute in Florence. It is meant as an interim step between PhD and a first academic job. Ann about this period: I participated in the Max Weber fellowship programme where there are forty fellows from four different academic disciplines. I spend my time conducting research and plus participated in the program, which aimed at improving the general academic skills of the participants plus at improving understanding of interdisciplinary research. During this period I also served as an Assistant Professor at the Copenhagen Business School where I taught courses on the Economics of the European Union and Interest representation. In Florence, I also had the opportunity to teach in a postgraduate program in European Studies organized by James Madison University in Virginia.

What are your responsibilities at the University of Leiden?

I have a five year position here at the department of Public Administration at the University of Leiden. Officially, I spend forty percent of my time on lecturing. I lecture in the bachelor- and in the masters programme of Public Administration. The Bachelor courses which I lecture at the moment are Introduction in Economics, EU Institutions and Policy at the Faculty of Art and the Pre-Master European Governance. In the Master I am responsible for the courses EU Policy and Policy Making and Research Design.

The rest of my time is to be spent on research. This also entails two capstone projects in which I am enrolled. The capstone projects contain an EU Legislative Politics project with professor Steunenberg and a project about Interest Representation with professor Lowery. Within these capstones I work together with master students. They contribute to the capstone by writing their thesis. Both of these capstones are closely linked to my own research interests.

Where lays your focus at the moment?

Arriving here has been tough. I literally moved into an unfurnished apartment and started teaching a few days later in parallel to trying to establish my new life here in the Netherlands. Preparation of the courses takes a lot of time at the moment, because it's my first year lecturing in the Netherlands. Therefore, I'm very busy with developing a good format for the new courses. It is necessary to think of different ways of teaching my courses, which cover very different material, have very different numbers of students and take place at different levels of the studies here in Leiden. In general, I think it's very important that students participate. During the master course EU Policies, I experienced the students were very active and motivated, which contributed to a positive result for both the students and myself. -That in her view student participation is very important is directly proven as she asks us advice about the format she uses for the several courses. She is really interested in what students think about the format of her courses-

What is your impression about the department and the student so far?

She has experienced her colleagues as friendly and receptive to new ideas. It is her impression that there is a lot changing at the moment at the Public Administration department. More and more students are enrolling, especially in the master program, and it's becoming a very international program. Anne is very happy that she can be part of this process.

What do you think about the Netherlands so far?

Rasmussen answers honestly when she says her feelings are mixed: On the hand, I have met wonderful helpful people and I have had a great time her so far. On the other hand, there many administrative hurdles which made me feeling at home in the Netherlands hard. For instance, it took me very very long to get a BurgerServiceNumber (BSN) which led to difficult situations, because I needed this number for a bank account, insurance etc. However, I admit that I came in a very busy period (September) to the Netherlands and I live in a very international city (the Hague) and this might be the reason that the work load was too high for the local staff.



I also think the Netherlands is quiet rule-bound. The liberal impression of the Dutch that exists in the outside world does not always hold true. Another thing to get used to is the Dutch directness. People often stand up for their opinion and rights. As an example, when I'm driving in the Netherlands, if Dutch people have a certain traffic right they typically make use of it. Usually, they wouldn't wait and let somebody out from a side street, let somebody cross the road etc. if they are not obliged to and they would not think that not doing so is wrong at all. Dutch men also do not necessarily wait for women to exit the elevator before them, open the door for women or pour them wine. The good thing is that this demonstrates that they regard women as equals but it sometimes creates some funny incidents when I as a foreigner expect things to be a little different. Also in communication Dutch people are straightforward and direct. The advantage is unquestionably that this leads to fewer surprises afterwards. It is nice not constantly to have to make qualified guesses of what people's real intentions are!

Sometimes, I expected more flexibility in the society than I have experienced so far. In many of the countries I have lived in people have had a much more critical stance towards different types of societal rules. Such a critical stance can be good but also result in some rather chaotic situations of course. Good examples of Dutch rules, with which I have had to familiarize myself, have been rules about bike parking. One of my first days in Leiden, I borrowed a university bike to go to the Faculty of Arts to lecture. There was no space left to park my bike. When I came back my bike was gone. What had happened? I appeared to have parked my bike illegally and therefore it was removed. BUT, there was no place left for my bike, what would they expect me to do? While laughing about this example we ensure Anne she is not the only person with this problem in the Netherlands.

Talking to a new enthusiastic lecturer as Anne Rasmussen was inspiring for us. According to our opinion, the Public Administration department has a very enthusiastic lecturer and researcher for the next coming years. Hopefully, she can make not everybody's favourite courses like Economics more attractive. During the interview we got the impression that Anne is very open to suggestions of students. Therefore, don't hesitate to ask any question or make a suggestion to her!


Bestuurskunde
Bestuurskunde Wetenschap
Wetenschap

Word nu lid van de Vereniging voor Bestuurskunde voor het Speciale studententarief van € 16,80 per jaar.

Beleid
Beleid
Gemeente
Gemeente
Theorie
Theorie
Bestuur
Bestuur
Parlement
Parlement
Europa
Europa
Rijk
Praktijk
Praktijk

Je ontvangt dan gelijk vier keer per jaar het tijdschrift Bestuurskunde.

Meer informatie? Surf naar www.bestuurskunde.nl



Vereniging voor Bestuurskunde

DE BRUG TUSSEN THEORIE EN PRAKTIJK



Wist u dat

- ▶ Prijs drie gangen menu € 19,95.
- ▶ Wij op zondag en maandag heerlijke Thaise gerechten serveren.
- ▶ Wij een nieuwe à la carte kaart tegen zeer aantrekkelijke prijzen hebben.
- ▶ Wij hebben een dagschotel voor slechts € 7,95.
- ▶ Wij een sfeervolle bovenzaal hebben die uitermate geschikt is voor het houden van borrels en diners.
- ▶ Wij iedere 6 weken een nieuwe menukaart hebben.
- ▶ Wanneer u drie gangen van de kaart neemt betaalt u slechts € 19,95. Ongeacht uw keuze.




DAGELIJKS GEOPEND
VANAF 10.00 UUR

tot ziens,
tot EINSTEIN

NIEUWE RIJN 19 LEIDEN • TEL: 071 - 5125370 • E-MAIL: mail@einstein.nu