

# EBF MAGAZINE

NEW YEAR, NEW START

January Edition

By Barbara Spierings



# COLOPHON

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**Author**

**Barbara Spierings**

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**Ann Regts - [a.regts@ebfgroningen.nl](mailto:a.regts@ebfgroningen.nl)**

**Annick Maas - [a.maas@ebfgroningen.nl](mailto:a.maas@ebfgroningen.nl)**

**Barbara Spierings - [b.spierings@ebfgroningen.nl](mailto:b.spierings@ebfgroningen.nl)**

**Rick Huizenga - [r.huizenga@ebfgroningen.nl](mailto:r.huizenga@ebfgroningen.nl)**

**Imme Roescher - [i.roescher@ebfgroningen.nl](mailto:i.roescher@ebfgroningen.nl)**

**Joost Cromheecke - [j.cromheecke@ebfgroningen.nl](mailto:j.cromheecke@ebfgroningen.nl)**

**Marthe Wiendels - [m.wiendels@ebfgroningen.nl](mailto:m.wiendels@ebfgroningen.nl)**

**Mark den Boer - [m.denboer@ebfgroningen.nl](mailto:m.denboer@ebfgroningen.nl)**

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# PREFACE

SECRETARY & HR OFFICER

Hi everyone,

Welcome to the first EBF magazine of 2026! A new year has begun, bringing fresh opportunities, new resolutions, and, of course, many exciting EBF activities. We hope you all returned from the holidays well-rested and ready to dive into the second half of the academic year.

In this New Year's edition, we'll help you start the year on the right foot. We kick things off with a short Q&A with me, so we can get to know each other a little better. After that, I'll share some behind-the-scenes insights into what a board year at EBF is really like, especially relevant, as we have already started searching for our successors! You'll get a glimpse into a "day in the life," as well as a look back at some of the highlights of 2025, including the highly successful EBF x JFV Christmas Ball.

To round things off, we'll take a look ahead at the upcoming EBF events, giving you plenty to look forward to after your exams.

As we turn the page to this new year together, let's continue building connections and creating lasting memories. We hope this edition inspires and entertains you, and sets the tone for a successful and fulfilling year ahead. Enjoy reading, and cheers to a great 2026!

Lots of love,

Barbara Spierings

Secretary & HR Officer, EBF Board 2025-2026

# GET TO KNOW BARBARA

## Who is Barbara?



### The Secretary & HR Officer

Hi all, I'm Barbara and I am 21 years old and the Secretary & HR Officer of the board.

I grew up in Nijverdal, a town in Overijssel, and moved to Groningen 3,5 years ago. Since then, I have met many wonderful people, made great friends, and I have never regretted the decision to move here. I completed my Bachelor in Business Administration, during which I had the opportunity to do a minor abroad. Last year I went to Taiwan, Kaoshiung, it was a truly rewarding experience where I learned a lot, discovered beautiful places and met great people. In my free time I enjoy spending time with friends and family, do a ACLO-lesje, going for a walk and have a coffee or tea!

My function can be split up into two parts: the Secretary part and the HR Officer. With regards to the Secretary, I manage the EBF mail, send monthly newsletters, am primarily responsible for the board agenda, and handle the membership administration. For the HR part of my role, I am primarily responsible, together with Marthe, the Project & Inclusion Officer, for the recruitment of the EBF (Executive) Board and EBF Committees. This part of the position has been especially valuable to me, as it has taught me a lot about collaborating closely and working with many different types of people. Also, I guide the Active Members Committee, First Year Committee and the ESR Fall Committee with whom I went to Barcelona this year! Thus, my role is very diverse which I think is one of the strengths of this position!



# Why Barbara decided to do a board year

As a Bachelor Student, I was always a member of EBF, used the book discount and went to several activities. During my Bachelor in Business Administration, however, I started to miss practical experience and contact with potential companies and employers. I therefore began looking for opportunities to gain this experience, and found a board year was the perfect fit for this. This way, I was able to explore my interests before starting my Master, expand my network, and strengthen my CV. The social aspect also really appealed to me: working so closely together in a group of eight, where you quickly become like family, and sharing so many fun activities made it the perfect extension of my Bachelor. I would recommend it to everyone!

## Which events does Barbara look forward to the most:



1. SKI TRIP

I'm looking forward to many events, but if I had to make a top three, Ski Trip would definitely be at the top. In just two weeks, we're leaving for Risoul! I've never skied before, so I'll be taking lessons and doing plenty of après-ski, but it's promising to be an amazing week with the board, the sports committee, and of course the EBF members.

I'm also really excited about Women in Business. As a woman myself, I think it's incredibly important to support other women, inspire one another, share our stories, and dare to step outside our comfort zones. It promises to be a great event with inspiring speakers and companies.

Lastly, from the 6th to the 8th of February, I'll be going to Antwerp with my First Year Committee and a group of first-year students. Seeing them bond, build connections, and form lifelong friendships is something I truly enjoy.

2. WOMEN IN BUSINESS



3. FIRST YEAR TRIP



Go-to shot: Salmari



## Barbara's highlights of this year so far:



So far, I have already made many great memories, with so many amazing activities taking place. One of my first highlights was ESR Fall, where we traveled with the entire group to Barcelona to visit companies and clubs. It was an unforgettable week. Another highlight was the EBF x JFV Christmas Ball, which turned out to be a fantastic evening. It was great to see so many of you there, and the dinner beforehand was especially cozy. Of course, the Active Members Weekend on Ameland was also a wonderful experience, where the committees truly bonded and made lasting memories together.



For what can we wake you up in the middle of the night?

You could wake me up in the middle of the night for bolletje hagelsgag with tea. Normally I hate being woken up, but for this snack, my absolute favourite, I'd happily make an exception.

Favorite food: Nacho's



# MONTH SPECIAL: IS A BOARD YEAR SOMETHING FOR ME?

Do you want to gain more practical experience during your student time, and do you want to spend a year managing the largest study association of Groningen? Are you enthusiastic, driven and are you ready for a new challenge? Then apply for the EBF Board 2026-2027!

During a board year at the EBF, you will be offered a unique chance to gain a lot of experience in working with a motivated team of students, making strategic decisions, managing projects, guiding committees and contacting different external parties. You will work together intensively with your fellow board members, build an extensive network and you will get the opportunity to develop yourself in many different aspects! Besides that, you and your board will organise and attend many interesting activities like board days at companies, constitutional drinks of other associations, policy days and other activities.



# MANAGE THE LARGEST STUDY ASSOCIATION OF GRONINGEN



## BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ORGANISATION OF



**CAREER EVENTS**

**INTERNATIONAL TRIPS**

**STUDY SUPPORT**

**RECREATIONAL EVENTS**



**COME ON BOARD!**

**COMBINE..**

**PRACTICAL  
EXPERIENCE**

**PERSONAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

**STUDENT LIFE**



# FIRST YEAR TRIP: ANTWERP

- 6TH - 8TH OF FEBRUARY 2026
- EXCLUSIVELY FOR FIRST YEAR STUDENTS OF THE FEB
- €70, INCLUDING ACCOMMODATION, TRANSPORTATION, A FUN ACTIVITY AND A DINNER
- BOND WITH YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS
- EXPLORE A VIBRANT CITY
- CREATE UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES
- EXPERIENCE ANTWERP'S NIGHTLIFE



**SIGN UP NOW,  
VIA THE WEBSITE!**

# MICHELLE & ANNE



LOGISTICS DUO OF THE ACTIVE MEMBERS COMMITTEE

# ANNE'S NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS



## COULD YOU INTRODUCE YOURSELF?

Hi, I am Anne. I am 19 years old and currently in my third and final year of the Bachelor of Business Administration. I am born and raised in Groningen! Together with Michelle, I am responsible for logistics in the Active Members Committee this year.

## WHAT WERE YOUR PLANS AT NEW YEARS EVE?

Of course, listening to the Top 2000 all day (big fan). In the evening, I was with some friends and our parents in the street where my parents live for the countdown to the new year. My friends had spent a lot of money on some nice fireworks, so we had quite a show in our street. After that, I spontaneously went into the city to meet some other friends, and we went out.

That was a little too much fun, because I got home at 6:30 a.m.....

## WHICH EVENT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT UPCOMING YEAR?

I think the EBF Festival. I have been there the past two years, and it was always a great party with lots of fun people.

## WHAT ARE YOUR BEST QUALITYS?

I think one of my best qualities is that I am very organized and good at planning. I am almost never stressed because I always plan things well and on time (which might be one of the reasons I am responsible for logistics in my committee). I am also very social and can easily start a conversation with anyone. I really enjoy meeting new people, which I have already done a lot by joining the EBF!

## WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEARS RESOLUTION FOR 2026?

First of all, of course, finishing my bachelor's degree. I also want to start working on getting my driver's license. I have been postponing this, but I feel like it is finally time to get started.

# MICHELLE'S NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS



## COULD YOU INTRODUCE YOURSELF?

Hi! I'm Michelle, and I'm one of the people responsible for logistics for the Active Members Committee. I'm 19 years old, born in Eemnes (Utrecht), and currently in my second year of Business Administration.

## WHAT WERE YOUR PLANS AT NEW YEARS EVE?

I started the evening by counting down with my family and a few friends, because at midnight we celebrated my aunt's 60th birthday! After that, I went outside to watch the fireworks and wish our neighbors a happy New Year. When my family went home, I went to my friends' place for 'a few' drinks, but honestly, I don't really remember much of that part anymore.

## WHICH EVENT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT UPCOMING YEAR?

I'm really looking forward to the Active Members Day! (which we organize ourselves, so of course that will be great). But I'm also really excited for the EBF festival.

## WHAT ARE YOUR BEST QUALITIES?

One of my best qualities is that I like to have as much as possible planned, which helps me maintain a clear overview. I also have a strong eye for detail, allowing me to prepare for even the smallest potential problems. I always enjoy meeting new people! which makes it easy for me to connect with others and work well in a team.

## WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEARS RESOLUTION FOR 2026?

First of all, I would like to pass all my exams this year. But I also want to make a bit more time to do fun things with my friends (and my committee of course!)

# RECAP DECEMBER

Before the holidays and your well deserved break, EBF organised a lot of events



On the 2nd and 3rd of December, the EBF x MARUG Recruitment Days took place. We welcomed many students and companies these days at Van der Valk to connect with each other. With Business Lunches, Presentations, Cases and Individual talks, these two days were filled with networking.



On the 8th of December we organised the EBF Fundraiser and Sint Drinks. The Fundraiser had many different prices to sell and the money raised was for the Johan Cruijff Foundation. During the EBF Sint Drinks, the EBF Active Members could roast the EBF Board or other committees.

We even had Sinterklaas visit us!



The First Year Committee organised a night of Jeu de Boules at Boul on the 11th of December.

The highlight of this month was the EBF x JFV Christmas Ball on the 15th. This amazing event was organised at the Palace and included unlimited drinks! Before the ball, EBF's Active Members were invited to a Christmas Dinner where we enjoyed a 3-course dinner together before going to the ball. All together, this was a great evening

RECRUITMENT DAYS



SINT DRINKS AND FUNDRAISER



CHRISTMAS BALL & DINNER



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**5 JANUARY: NEW YEARS RECEPTION**



**8 JANUARY: GET TO KNOW SKI-TRIP**



**23 JANUARY - 1 FEBRUARY: SKITRIP**



**2 FEBRUARY: RUNNING DINNER**



**3 FEBRUARY: SKILLS DAY**



**6-8 FEBRUARY: FIRST YEAR TRIP**



**9 FEBRUARY: FEBRUARY SOCIAL**



**10 FEBRUARY: BOARD INFO MEETING**



**16 FEBRUARY: HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING**



**18 FEBRUARY: WOMEN IN BUSINESS**

# CLOSING WORDS

Thank you for reading this edition of the magazine. I'm really looking forward to the new year, with its fresh resolutions, renewed energy, and of course all the upcoming EBF events. I can't wait to see you at the rest of the events, enjoy the snow while it lasts, and I hope to see you back at the February socials after the exams!

Greetings from the Seccie!

