

## Contact

De committee Iguazú '09 consists of the following people:

- Tjitske Starkenburg, *Chairman*
- Pjotr Svetachov, *Treasurer*
- Cees Draaier, *Commissioner for business relations*
- Ester van der Pol, *Commissioner for excursion program/  
Commissioner for business relations*
- Samuel Hoekman Turkesteen, *Commissioner for excursion program/  
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## Board of recommendation

Our board of recommendation consists of the following people:

- Mr. O.W.C. Hattinga van 't Sant  
*Dutch Ambassador in Brazil*
- Prof. Dr. F. Zwarts  
*Lord Rector of the University of Groningen*
- Prof. Dr. S. Daan  
*Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the University  
of Groningen*
- Prof. Dr. J. Knoester  
*Director of Zernike Institute for Advanced Materials*
- Prof. Dr. M.N. Harakeh  
*Director of Kernfysisch Versneller Instituut*
- Dhr. P. de Wit  
*President-Director of Shell Nederland B.V.*
- Mr. H.J.W. Soeters  
*Dutch Ambassador in Buenos Aires*



April 2009

Scientific Excursion to Brazil and Argentina

Organized by the foundation GBE-FMF

## *Introduction*

This brochure contains an introduction to the study tour organized by the committee Iguazú '09. In april and may 2009 Brazil and Argentina will be visited during a three week period.

## *The Foundation GBE-FMF*

The foundation Grote Buitenlandse Excursie(s) – Fysisch Mathematische Faculteitsvereniging ('Great Foreign Excursion –Student Association of the Faculty of Physics and Mathematics'), pursues an educational goal: to organize a tour with both scientific and cultural aspects to a destination outside of Europe. For each tour a committee is commissioned.

These study tours are organized for members of the FMF. They are students in Computer Science, (Applied) Mathematics, (Applied) Physics, Biomedical Technology or Astronomy at the University of Groningen.

In past years, the foundation organized study tours to the United States and Mexico (committee ManeaX '03), to China and Malaysia (committee STARS '05) and to South Korea and Taiwan (committee Orange Tigers '07).

## *The Study Association FMF*

The FMF is an association for students, by students. It frequently organizes activities contributing to the students' scientific education, such as symposia and excursions to companies or research institutes. Furthermore, all kinds of social activities keep the FMF members acquainted, like parties and sporting events. The association has over 500 members, it is the most important technical student association of the University of Groningen.

## *Study tour Iguazú '09*

This scientific excursion will take participants to Brazil and Argentina. Informs them of the scientific activities and gives them a notion of culture and every day life in both countries. Water passing through the great Iguazú falls on the border of Brazil and Argentina forms the natural connection of Brazil and Argentina

The trip will extend over three weeks. Approximately two thirds of the program is planned to consist of visits to interesting scientific institutes and companies. About one third of the time will be spent on visits to cultural and natural hotspots.

## *Science and Technology*

Around São Paulo, in Brazil, a large variety of prominent universities, research institutes and companies is settled, for example: The Brazilian Synchrotron Light Laboratory, the National Institute for Space Research, Universidade de São Paulo and Universidade Estadual de Campinas. Rio de Janeiro hosts the Brazilian Centre for Physics Research and three major universities.

Around Buenos Aires, in Argentina, there are also many interesting companies and research institutes, for example: the nuclear reactor Atucha I, the astronomical observatory La Plata, La Fundación Argentina de Nanotecnología, and the Instituto de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas de las Fuerzas Armadas (CITEFA). Interesting universities are for example the Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA) and the Universidad Tecnológica Nacional (UTN).

## *The Latin-American Culture*

The culture of Brazil and Argentina is worldfamous. The exotic Latin-American attraction comes for a major part from these two countries. After the Spanish and Portuguese arrived, European and indian culture contacted and evolved together into a unique mix.

Brazil is known for its carnival, soccer, music and beautiful nature. The Brazilian people think that God favoured them and express this with the saying "Deus é Brasileiro". We expect to find numerous interesting cultural and natural highlights.

In Argentina nothing seems more holy than Maradona, Evita and the tango. Buenos Aires is known as the "Paris of South-America". Of the Argentines about eighty percent has European roots, which makes Argentina a unique cultural environment. The Netherlands has a special bond with Argentina: our princess Máxima. Thanks to, but also despite, the European influences, the Argentine culture has much to explore.