

XAVIER BOONMAN

Country of origin: The Netherlands
Programme: Master of Transportation Sciences,
specialization Mobility Management
Graduated: 2016



With a master's degree in Transportation Sciences under his arm, Xavier Boonman proudly closed the university doors behind him in 2016. After graduation, he worked in Belgium, Ireland, and the Netherlands. We asked Xavier some questions about his life as a student and his current professional career.

Work experience

Xavier worked for the Chamber of Commerce in Belgium, with his company being responsible for the Flemish and Brussels area. He was responsible for consulting companies that want to undertake a project within this jurisdiction and to help companies improve transportation options for their employees.

He also worked for a consultancy in Belgium, that studied mobility effects with a focus on bicycle infrastructure and feasibility studies. He later moved to Ireland where he worked as a consultant for the National Transport Authority. He currently works in the Netherlands as a transport planning consultant for local governments and project developers.

What is the nature of your job as a transport planner?

In a nutshell, I develop solutions to transportation issues, propose designs for projects, plan and implement projects, advise clients on how to improve transportation, assess the impact of projects before their execution, analyze policies and guidelines for projects.

So what made you choose Transportation Sciences at Hasselt University?

I always liked solving problems. I see transportation sciences as a means for me to do that. I would say that I am a practical person and the course is very practical-oriented. I was always fascinated about what happens on streets.

Did you hold any leadership role at university?

I was part of the Erasmus Student Network (ESN) where I was financial manager for the group and I was also the president of the Student Association, where we welcome international students to the campus and organize events to make international students have a nice time on campus. Basically, it is students helping students.

Lastly, do you have any advice for future students?

Prioritize your studies, start assignments on time, socialize and network with other fellow-minded students. You will acquire knowledge from these newly-formed friendships too.