

Hi all,

My name is Ivar and I am 22 years of age. This year, I have the function of External Relations and Vice Chairman within the MARUG Board. Additionally, I am presently engaged in the completion of my Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, and next year, I am most likely to commence my Msc in Change Management or Strategic Innovation Management. Originally I come from Zwolle, in my younger years I have always played football in Zwolle. Nowadays, I play football here in Groningen, and I also enjoy the occasional game of squash, tennis, or padel. Furthermore, I am always open to the prospect of socializing and enjoying a drink or two.

As External Relations, my primary duty entails securing acquisitions. This involves conversing and negotiating with various types of businesses. Furthermore, I am the point of contact for those within MARUG who hold the same position within committees. What I find most enjoyable about my role is the continuous interaction with individuals from the business world, which enables me to develop professionally. Additionally, this position allows me to utilize my social and commercial capabilities fully. Looking back on the past year, I have learned the proper demeanor to adopt during commercial conversations, the art of relationship management, and how to work intensively with your fellow board members

The prospect of working in a highly motivated group is truly fascinating to me. Every member of the MARUG governing body is driven and operates on a certain level, which makes collaborating intensive but also amazing. As a group, we grow both professionally and socially, which fosters an incredibly strong bond.

One of the highlights of my experience was certainly the MARUG/EBF Recruitment Days. For three days, the entire organization gathered at Van der Valk and received forty businesses and approximately 400 students. Along with two EBF members, I was responsible for the Board of Trustees for the Recruitment Days, and we look back on it as a highly successful event. On the other hand, we also worked on small-scale but focused events such as the Data Science Event. This meant that within MARUG, we had a diverse portfolio of responsibilities and events.

During the year, you spend a great deal of time with your own governing body, which forges deep friendships due to seeing each other almost every day. You get to know each other inside and out, but sometimes, there can be a downside to this level of familiarity, such as when you are feeling down, grumpy, or just fed up with each other haha. However, this pales in comparison to the amazing