

**THIS
BROCHURE
IS LIKE
YOUR MIND:
ONLY
INTERESTING
WHEN
IT'S OPEN**



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**DARE
TO THINK**

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FOCUS ON GHENT UNIVERSITY

/ Foreword

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In 'Focus on Ghent University' we proudly present our higher education establishment. Ghent University is an enterprising university with an international appeal. Our motto is 'dare to think': we encourage students and staff members to adopt a critical approach. Pluralism and social engagement are the historic cornerstones of our philosophy. Diversity, participation and independence are common denominators in our policies.

This publication describes our key tasks, i.e. education, scientific research and public service delivery. We also focus on the close links between Ghent University and the city and region. Finally, we concentrate on the student facilities and role of our university as the largest employer in East Flanders.





GHENT UNIVERSITY: A 200-YEAR HISTORY AS A STARTING POINT FOR THE FUTURE

/ 9 October 1817

The 'Rijksuniversiteit Gent' (State University of Ghent) is officially opened under the rule of King William I. The first rector is the physician Jean-Charles Van Rotterdam. The official language of tuition is Latin. The first lectures are held on 3 November 1817, in four faculties (Arts, Law, Medicine and Sciences) with 16 professors and 190 students.

/ 1830

After the Belgian revolution the young university in Ghent is subjected to important changes. Not only does it acquire a new head but the official language is also changed from Latin to French. The educational competencies are shifted drastically as well.

/ 1876-1890

The law on higher education entrusts universities with the awarding of academic degrees and the organisation of examinations. In addition to education, universities were now required to concentrate on scientific research. The laws on higher education turned out to be an important stimulus for education and research at Ghent University.

The first lectures are held
in 1817, in four faculties:
Arts, Law, Medicine
and Sciences.

/ 1882

—
The first female student chooses to study sciences in Ghent. In this period, practical sessions and research were introduced at the university, and assistants were hired in each faculty. Many professors from those days are still well-known today: the physicist Jozef Plateau, the historians Henri Pirenne and Paul Fredericq, the physiologist and alienist Jozef Guislain, the zoologist and botanical expert Jules Mac Leod, the chemist Leo Baekeland, ...

/ 1930

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The university in Ghent becomes the first institution in Belgium to teach in Dutch. August Vermeylen is the first rector of the Dutchified university.

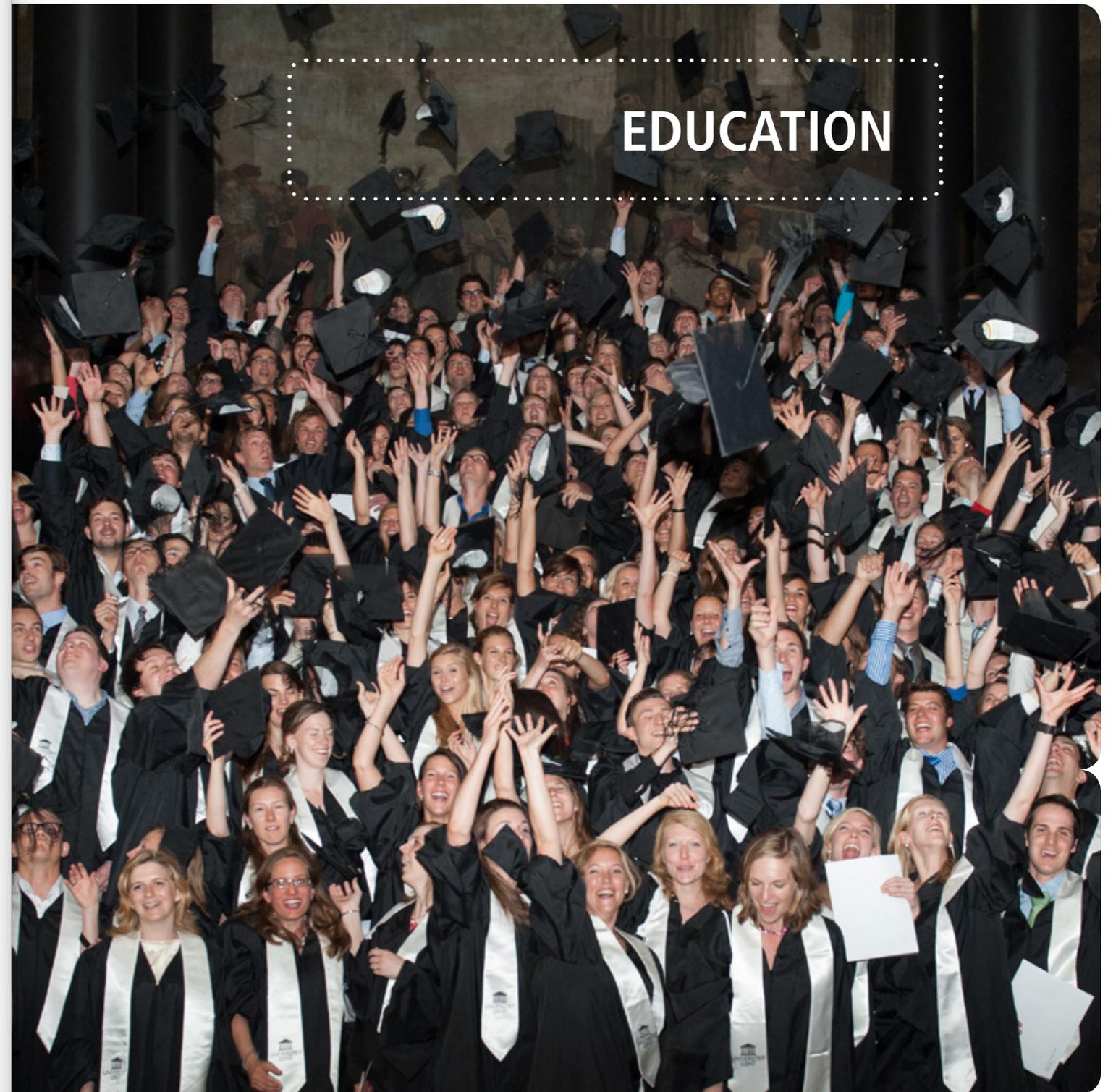
/ 1991

—
The 'Rijksuniversiteit Gent' becomes Ghent University and is given a considerable autonomy. More than 130 academic departments, spread over eleven faculties offer high quality and research-based educational programmes in almost each scientific discipline.

/ 2003

—
The Ghent University Association (AUGent) is a collaboration effort involving Ghent University, University College Ghent (Hogeschool Gent), Artevelde University College Ghent (Arteveldehogeschool) and the University College West Flanders (Hogeschool West-Vlaanderen). On an international level Ghent University Association defines itself as a dynamic network aiming at top-quality results. Ghent University Association numbers 56,500 students and 12,000 members of staff.

.....
In 1930, the university in Ghent becomes the first institution in Belgium to teach in Dutch.
.....



Ghent University has about 120 departments across 11 faculties, offering high-quality research-based educational programmes in virtually every scientific discipline. The appeal of Ghent University as an institute of higher education is growing every year. As a result, the number of students choosing to attend the university has more than doubled in twenty years.

The educational offer at Ghent University encompasses virtually all academic fields in Flanders. From Eastern Languages and Cultures to Pharmaceutical Sciences, from Criminology to Business Engineering. Ghent University is the only university in Belgium who has the competency of organising the study programmes Veterinary Medicine, African Languages and Cultures and Engineering Sciences – Applied Physics. The options Geometrics and Surveyance and Maritime technology are also unique at Ghent University. Specific international programmes such as Erasmus Mundus have also contributed to Ghent University's international reputation.

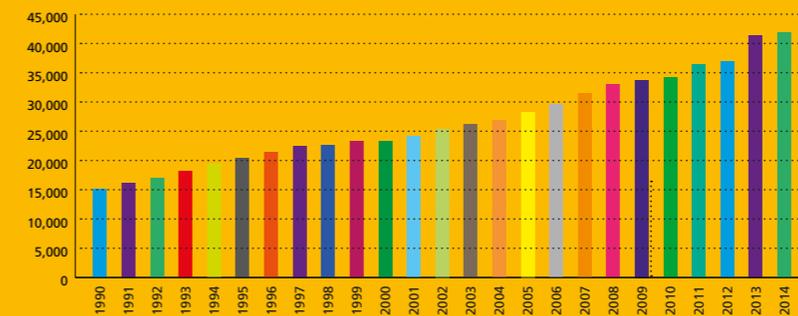
Ghent University aims to provide top level education. By introducing the bachelor/master structure the university has focused specifically on flexibility within the training programmes. In addition to well defined fixed courses more and more links are being forged between courses to facilitate seamless switches or ensure that additional training dovetails with previous training programmes. The available options are also being extended as a result of our cooperation within the Ghent University Association. The integration of academic higher education programmes at Ghent University in 2013-2014 also increases the education on offer.

Ghent University is continuously evolving in its role as an international partner. Every year about 1,100 students study abroad in the frame of an exchange programme and UGent itself welcomes about 4,400 foreign students (regular and exchange students).

FACTS AND FIGURES

Student number development

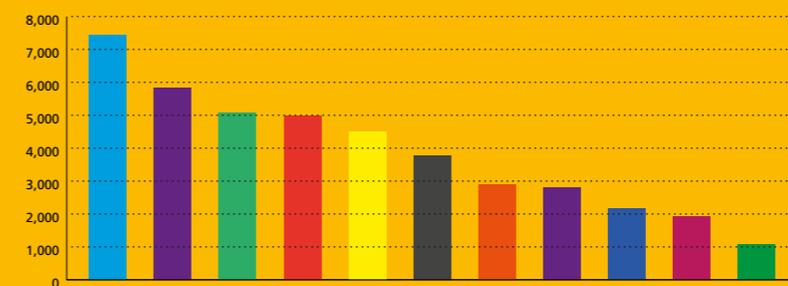
(2014 data)



Unique student numbers per academic year (unique student numbers)

Number of students in each faculty

(2014 data)



The total number of students per faculty is higher than the total number of students registered at Ghent University, due to some extent because some students are registered at several faculties.

- Medicine and Health Sciences
- Economics and Business Administration
- Arts and Philosophy
- Engineering and Architecture
- Psychology and Educational Sciences
- Law
- Sciences
- Bioscience Engineering
- Political and Social Sciences
- Veterinary Medicine
- Pharmaceutical Sciences



SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

During its two hundred years of history, Ghent University has built up a firm scientific reputation. The university can present an extensive record of internationally recognised research work. The Ghent professor Corneille Heymans, for instance, was the only person from Flanders who ever received the Nobel prize for Medicine and Friedrich August Kekulé was the founder of modern organic and analytical chemistry. The prominent physicist Joseph Plateau is still famous for his cinematographic work and Leo Baekeland lent his name to the synthetic material 'Bakelite'. A lot of prominent law specialists also come from Ghent University.

Today biotechnology at Ghent University enjoys an international reputation with (founding) professors and pioneers such as Jozef Schell, Marc Van Montagu and Walter Fiers. Numerous Third World projects originate in research work at the Ghent faculties of Bioscience Engineering, Sciences and Medicine and Health Sciences.

At Ghent University an important number of research centres and laboratories are operational, spread over all scientific domains. Projects in different disciplines enjoy an international reputation and are renowned world-wide. Various innovating companies have their roots in research work at Ghent University.

In its research policy Ghent University emphasizes fundamental and independent high-quality research. Investing in the training of young researchers is a priority for the university board. In the frame of the spearhead research policy five multidisciplinary research partnerships are active at Ghent University: Nano- and biophotonics, Biotechnology for a sustainable economy, Inflammation and immunity, Neurosciences and Bioinformatics.

A number of research groups at Ghent University have created cross-departmental consortiums and partnerships in order to improve the level and focus of communication and cooperation with the business world. The knowledge centres bring together the expertise of individual faculties.

Since the 2007-2008 academic year new candidates for a doctor's degree at Ghent University automatically become members of one of the Doctoral Schools. Together with the research groups and faculties, the Doctoral Schools provide a structured framework throughout the doctorate programme for researchers with various previously gained qualifications and different career ambitions. The Doctoral Schools organise specialist seminars and skills training courses that provide additional input for doctorate students during their research and help them prepare for the labour market. Ghent University has five Doctoral Schools: Arts, Humanities and Law; Social and Behavioural Sciences; Natural Sciences; Life Sciences and Medicine; (Bioscience) Engineering.

Two science parks and two incubators are connected to Ghent University. The science parks house knowledge-intensive companies that work together with laboratories of Ghent University. The incubators make the required infrastructure and services available to young high-technological starting companies, including spin-off companies from Ghent University Association.

Ghent University emphasizes fundamental and independent high-quality research.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Doctoral degrees

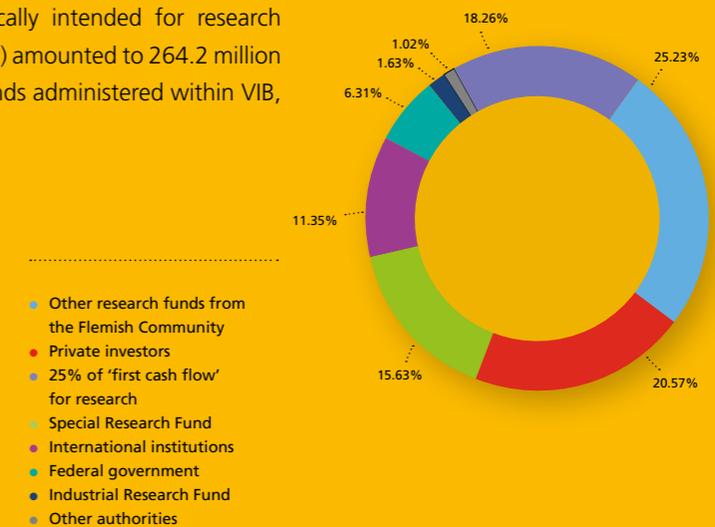
Doctor diplomas based on dissertation awarded during 2013 calendar year

Arts and Philosophy	58
Law	14
Sciences	95
Medicine and Health Sciences	71
Engineering and Architecture	91
Economics and Business Administration	26
Veterinary Medicine	37
Psychology and Educational sciences	33
Bioscience Engineering	88
Pharmaceutical sciences	16
Political and social sciences	24
TOTAL	553

The classification is based on the main promoter's faculty, which does not always correspond with the faculty that has awarded the diploma.

Research expenditures

Each year the results required to validate scientific research are obvious. For example, the total expenditure specifically intended for research (so-called 'second, third and fourth cash flow') amounted to 264.2 million euro in 2013. These amounts include the funds administered within VIB, imec and iMinds.





GHENT UNIVERSITY IN THE GHENT REGION

Ghent University is not a campus university. Over the years, the university's sites and buildings were set up scattered across the city, and today the university has seamlessly fused with the city.

Geographically speaking, the university is spread out over and around the city centre. Most of the university buildings are located on the north-south axis, stretching from the historical city centre (including the 'Aula' and 'Het Pand') to the buildings on the Sterre and the Ghent University Hospital. In terms of origin and style, the university's patrimony is also characterised by its enormous diversity: from the thirteenth century monastery 'Het Pand', to the classical façades of the Aula Academica, the Plateastraat and the Rommelaere Institute, and the world famous Book Tower of Henry van de Velde, or, more recently, the faculty of Veterinary Medicine by bOb Van Reeth. Each building houses a unique piece of history.

Movies, theatre, opera, exhibitions, ... The students leave their mark on various aspects of cultural life in Ghent. Ghent University itself is a major contributor to Ghent's cultural scene. The university has for instance its own film club: Film-Plateau. Ghent University is also a structural partner of various cultural organisations including the Flanders Festival, Flanders International Film Festival and Ghent Jazz Festival.

The cooperation between the university and the city of Ghent has become more intensive in the last few years. Ghent University regularly meets the city council for informative discussions on themes and problems with respect to the relation and interaction between the city, the university and the students, such as environmental and waste disposal policies.

The university is also keen to make a contribution to strengthening the innovative capacity and economic revival in Flanders. In this context, the Gent Big in Creativity (Gent BC) knowledge platform was launched in 2008.



Ghent University operates ten homes with a total capacity of 2,345 furnished rooms, studios and apartments for (international) students, visitors and staff. Ghent University also manages eight student restaurants and eleven cafeterias.

Ghent University has its own job service. Students who are responsible for their own living and study expenses get priority for certain jobs at the university in order to offer them security in terms of income.

At Ghent University a yearly budget is distributed over the various student conventions and student initiatives. The conventions pay out the allotments to the various accredited student organisations which they represent. The Faculty Convention for instance serves as an umbrella organisation for 28 accredited student organisations. Almost each study programme at Ghent University has its own faculty circle. It takes care of the introduction of new students and organises all kind of activities. The official student magazine of Ghent University is called 'Schamper'. The university also finances the student radio Urgent.fm (105.3 fm).

Students and staff of Ghent University can practise their favourite sports at reasonable prices at the university's sports complex (GUSB). GUSB provides, among other things, large sports halls, a swimming pool and instruction pool, a fighting sports facility, meeting rooms, a cafeteria and two football pitches.

Students with top-class sporting abilities are given a particular statute. In 2015, 243 students appeal to certain study and examination arrangements, which allows them to participate in Flemish, Belgian and international championships.



WORKING AT GHENT UNIVERSITY

In the Province of East Flanders, Ghent University is by far the biggest employer with more than 8,600 employees. An additional 6,000 people work in the Ghent University Hospital.

With its academic and service activities, Ghent University has helped set up the Ardoyen and Greenbridge business and science parks in Zwijnaarde and Ostend respectively.

Diversity, participation and a focus on competency are key elements in the personnel policy of Ghent University. An open business culture is considered a priority, as is the evaluation of, and support for, its workforce. Permanent training is encouraged and support for new employees is considered of the utmost importance.

FACTS AND FIGURES

(2015 data)

Professorial staff	1,279
Assistant academic staff	1,357
Other research staff	791
Administrative and technical staff	2,564
FWO- and IWT-Flanders, VIB, imec and iMinds	1,091
Doctoral and post-doctoral fellow	1,563
TOTAL	8,645

GHENT UNIVERSITY IDENTITY KIT

/ Faculty of Arts and Philosophy

Blandijnberg 2
5,000 students, 770 staff members

/ Faculty of Law

Universiteitstraat 4
3,800 students, 300 staff members

/ Faculty of Sciences

K.L. Ledeganckstraat 35
2,900 students, 1.420 staff members

/ Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

Campus Heymans (Ghent University Hospital), De Pintelaan 185
7,400 students, 1.330 staff members

/ Faculty of Engineering and Architecture

Jozef Plateaustraat 22
5,000 students, 1.375 staff members

/ Faculty of Economics and Business Administration

Tweekerkenstraat 2
5,800 students, 280 staff members

/ Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

Salisburylaan 133 (Merelbeke)
1,900 students, 460 staff members

/ Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences

Henri Dunantlaan 2
4,500 students, 470 staff members

/ Faculty of Bioscience Engineering

Coupure Links 653
2,800 students, 810 staff members

/ Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Ottergemsesteenweg 460
1,100 students, 210 staff members

/ Faculty of Political and Social Sciences

Universiteitstraat 8
2,200 students, 260 staff members

/ Rector's Office- central administration

Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 25
970 staff members

*2014 and 2015 data; the student
and personnel data in this illustration
have been rounded off.*



GHENT UNIVERSITY

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