

## **WELCOME TO ARTEVELDE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

Dear participant of the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of ENOTHE,

Dear colleague,

Artevelde University College Ghent and the colleagues of the Occupational Therapy department are very proud to welcome you to the 17<sup>th</sup> Enothe conference.

Welcome to Ghent, often described as Belgium and Flanders' genuine diamond. Its preserved medieval beauty exists in harmony with a city firmly planted in the 21st century. Thanks to its 65,000 students, its unique combination of first-class education and many leisure activities, Ghent represents the beating heart of Belgium's student community. Take the opportunity to explore this hub of knowledge, culture and entertainment, to admire the city's splendid architecture and cultural riches.

You can find our newly built campus with welcoming state of the art conference facilities in the centre of town. Our Occupational Therapy department, consists of a team of over 40 staff members and more than 500 Occupational Therapy-students with the common goal to strive for excellence in their field.

The innovative curriculum is structured around the professional role of the Occupational Therapist, taking the rapidly changing health paradigm thoroughly into consideration. Consequently, employment opportunities for Occupational therapists are continuously expanding.

In the next three days we will be exploring the central theme of 'Occupational Therapy and the Added Value of Voluntary Work', in line with the European Year of Volunteering in 2011. Volunteers embody the solidarity and human capital needed in a caring society. This theme will be discussed at length in 7 exceptional keynote speeches, 15 workshops, 30 presentations, numerous poster sessions and conference stands.

Take the opportunity to reunite or make friends and meet other OT-driven colleagues like you. Welcome to Artevelde University College. Have a pleasant stay in Ghent!

Karen Van de Putte

Coordinator Bachelor Occupational Therapy

In behalf of all the OT-colleagues of the Artevelde University College