

Press Release

Brussels, 18 January 2016

First long-term bond issue completed successfully for Mons University

Mons University (“UMONS”) has conducted its first bond issue in the form of a series of Medium-Term Notes through Belfius Bank.

This inaugural bond issue has enabled Mons University to raise 10 million EUR on the capital markets, with a spread of maturity terms ranging between 5 years and 10 years. As part of its efforts to raise funds, the University asked Belfius Bank to act as intermediary in establishing a programme of multi-term treasury notes, with a ceiling set at 20 million EUR.

These bonds have been placed successfully with institutional investors in Belgium. The interest rates of 1.00% and 1.85% respectively, obtained for terms of 5 and 10 years, demonstrate the financial attractiveness of Mons University and the confidence that investors have in its projects.

This approach to investors is designed to support the dynamic growth of UMONS. The 10 million EUR loan will be used to put a significant development project into effect: the construction of a new 5,000 m² building at the University’s Plaine de Nimy campus. The new facility will open at the end of 2017/beginning of 2018 and will accommodate students, teachers and researchers in the Science Faculty and the Translating and Interpreting Faculty – International Interpreters’ School. It will also feature the first crèche intended for the children of UMONS staff.

A remarkable track record for Belfius in Debt Capital Markets

As the ultimate financial partner, Belfius Bank has been helping and guiding bond issuers in the public and semi-public sector for more than 10 years in their quest for funding on the financial markets, whether in the short term or long term. Of all the (semi-)public organisations operating in these markets, more than 80% call on the services provided by Belfius.

Since the beginning of 2013, six Universities and Colleges have issued bonds, five of which acted through Belfius Bank. A total of 10 issuers in the education sector have put a programme of treasury notes in place at Belfius Bank aimed at creating a context that enables them to issue both short-term and long-term treasury notes.

At the present time, 11 issuers in the education sector have programmes of treasury notes and these issues represent outstanding funds of 161 million EUR. More than 85% of this amount, or 138 million EUR, has been placed in the market by Belfius Bank.

Press Contacts

Mons University : Valéry Saintghislain, +32 65 37 30 81 / +32 475 528 646
valery.saintghislain@umons.ac.be

Belfius Bank : Ulrike Pommée, + 32 2 222 02 57 / +32 495 18 35 17,
press@belfius.be