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MANAGEMENT BIOGRAPHIES



Charlie MacGregor, founder and CEO (centre)

Charlie MacGregor is the CEO and founder of The Student Hotel, a company with strong core values reflecting inclusiveness, unity and social responsibility. Born and raised in Edinburgh, he moved to Amsterdam, via a 10-year stopover in London, to establish a company focused on the needs of the Millennial generation.

Charlie started working on building sites at the age of 16. By 25 he had bought a small student housing company in the UK. He redeveloped the assets and eventually sold the company 10 years later.

In 2005 he moved to Amsterdam and, together with the Carlyle Group, created The Student Hotel. Their mission was to develop and operate 5,000 student beds within Benelux. Today this

mission has been increased to 17,550 rooms by 2021, working with PW Real Estate and APG Asset Management.

The Student Hotel's first project opened as student accommodation in Liege, Belgium in 2008 and, despite the global economic crisis and his banks going bankrupt, Charlie acquired new projects in Amsterdam, The Hague & Rotterdam.

In 2012 he opened the first Dutch project in Rotterdam followed by further projects in Amsterdam, the largest hotel in Benelux, The Hague and a second in Rotterdam. In 2015 The Student Hotel acquired Melon District expanding the group's portfolio with two locations in Barcelona and one in Paris. The Student Hotel will add eight properties to its current eight-strong portfolio by 2019. In March 2017 it announced new acquisitions in Rome, Madrid, Eindhoven and Delft. They join Florence, Maastricht, Bologna and Berlin as properties that will open between 2017 and 2019 to bring the total number of Student Hotels in operation or in development to 16.

Charlie has supported many humanitarian efforts and was moved to act when the images from Lesvos flooded the news and couldn't be ignored anymore. He, together with some friends, started a foundation 'Movement on the Ground' in autumn 2015 and has committed himself and his network to helping the current crisis. Charlie visits Lesvos every six weeks and is a vital part of the vision for Movement on the Ground as it moves forward.

He lives in Amsterdam and is married with two sons and two labradors.

Felix Hillen, managing director (right)

Felix Hillen is partner and managing director of The Student Hotel. Felix joined Charlie in 2011, before the first Dutch property opened in Rotterdam.

Felix was instrumental in securing bank financing and new investment partners. In 2014 The Student Hotel formed a partnership with Perella Weinberg, joined by APG Asset Management, the investment arm of ABP Pension Fund, in 2015. With €375million of equity currently committed by these partners to the growth of the company, The Student Hotel is actively acquiring and developing new sites across Europe.

Felix studied Business Economics at the University of Amsterdam, followed by a Diplomatic Service Traineeship for the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A diverse career in marketing (Financieele Dagblad), business development and investment (Twinning) was followed by a partnership in corporate finance boutique First Dutch and asset management for the Dutch Eden Hotel Group. He helped the group expand and grow to 17 hotels and 2,000 rooms before joining The Student Hotel.

Felix has always sought to contribute in a powerful way to a better world. With his organizational talent, energy and creativity, he is committed to The Student Hotel's mission to help join people connect and to discover themselves.

Felix lives with his partner in Amsterdam and has two sons.

Frank Uffen, director of partnerships (left)

Frank Uffen is partner at The Student Hotel and responsible for partnerships.

The Student Hotel is a community driven brand for students and the young at heart. This unique international community drives the partnerships that The Student Hotel develops with international and local education, government and business organisations.

Seeing a need for networking, innovation and exchange of best practices in the student accommodation community in Europe, Frank cofounded The Class of 2020 Foundation in 2011. Within five years this nonprofit think tank became the leading European student housing network with members and partners representing more than 250,000 student units in Europe and beyond. The think tank hosts conferences and issues research and trend reports.

Frank has firsthand experience of international student life. He lived in Montreal, New York, Madrid and London before resettling in Amsterdam. He studied Urban Studies at Concordia University, Montreal, has an MA in City Planning from the University of Amsterdam and an MBA in Marketing and Entrepreneurship from the Instituto de Empresa, Madrid.

Frank is the chair of the 3D Print Canal House Foundation, occasionally organises yoga retreats in France and once interviewed Joan Collins for Vogue.

He lives with his partner in Amsterdam.

Click here for company profile or here for profile video.

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About The Student Hotel

The Student Hotel co-living, co-working business model provides a unique hybrid destination for a fast-growing international community. Current locations include: Rotterdam, Amsterdam (City and West), The Hague, Groningen, and Eindhoven. In 2017 the Melon District properties in Barcelona and Paris will be upgraded with new facilities and services further integrating them into The Student Hotel group. The Student Hotel Florence and Maastricht and will open in 2017, Bologna in 2018 and Madrid, Berlin, Rome and Delft in 2019. The group plans to have 41 properties in European cities by 2021.

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