



Universiteit Utrecht



Dean of the Faculty of Science
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AMERICAS ASIA PACIFIC EMEA

Contents

- 3 Executive summary
- 5 Utrecht University
 - Better Minds, Better Future
 - Mission
 - Core values
 - Interdisciplinary research and education
 - Structure
 - 100 years of female Professors
- 7 Faculty of Science
 - Structure
 - Research
 - Education
 - Strategic Plan 2017-2021
- 11 Dean of the Faculty of Science
 - Candidate profile
 - Duties and responsibilities
 - Terms of employment
- 13 Appointment process and how to apply
- 14 Living and working in Utrecht
 - The Netherlands
 - About Utrecht
 - Taxation
 - More information



Executive summary



Utrecht University is a European research-intensive university that prides itself in providing excellence in teaching and education. The University is a member of the League of European Research Universities, and has achieved the highest position of any Dutch university in the international rankings. The University's teaching and research activities are closely integrated and are rooted in issues relating to science and society.

The Faculty of Science stands for world-class research and innovative education. It enjoys a leading international position in interdisciplinary scientific research in the field of sustainability (water, climate and ecosystems, future food, future energy and resources), life sciences, bioinformatics, complex systems, and gaming within the Departments of Biology, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Computer Science, Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics. The Faculty is the largest science faculty in the Netherlands and is home to over 5,900 students and 1,600 employees, with an annual turnover of €140 million. The Faculty offers a wide variety of educational programs in both the Natural and Life Sciences and challenges students to get the most out of their talents.

The Faculty of Science now seeks to appoint a new Dean. With a proven successful track record as a senior leader and manager, the successful appointee will develop and enhance the Faculty's Strategy 2017-2021 in the field of teaching, research and valorisation. S/he will be a well-regarded figure in the scientific community, with the ability to articulate a compelling vision for the Faculty that will also forge beneficial partnerships across the wider university, and beyond. Reporting directly to the Executive Board of Utrecht University, s/he will have the experience and drive to support the Faculty in its ambition of further strengthening its already world-leading education and research.

Utrecht University



Founded in 1636, Utrecht University is one of the oldest universities in the Netherlands and is amongst the largest in Europe with a leading reputation globally. With over 30,000 students and 6,500 staff, the University is ranked number one in the Netherlands, 13th in Europe and 47th worldwide by Shanghai Rankings. The University is located in the centre of the Netherlands in the attractive and culturally vibrant city of Utrecht. The Utrecht region is among the most economically competitive regions in Europe, and a hub for science, innovation and education.

Bright Minds, Better Future

The University is the alma mater of many leading names, academics and scientists who have made an important contribution to the quality of society. These include Nobel Prize winner Christiaan Eijkman, one of the first to discover vitamins; neuro-pharmacologist David de Wied; and the most recent Nobel Prize winner, theoretical scientist Gerard 't Hooft.

All these scientists and academics, from far in the past up to the present day, are what makes Utrecht University what it is today. Through innovative research and education, they have contributed to the University's mission in society: Bright Minds, Better Future.

Mission

The University's mission is working to contribute to a better world. Our graduates have the knowledge and skills to make a substantial contribution to society. Our research is groundbreaking and focused on solving major global issues. Our collaborative culture fosters innovation, new insights and societal impact. The core values of ambition, inspiration, commitment and independence form the basis of our university community.

Utrecht University

Core values

Inspiration, ambition, independence and commitment are the core values that guide the conduct and attitude of the staff and students at Utrecht University.

More information can be found in Utrecht University's [Strategic Plan 2016-2020](#)

Interdisciplinary research and education

The quality of research at the University is demonstrated by positive research evaluations and a high position in international league tables. Research at Utrecht University is focused and aims to connect scientific excellence and fundamental research with societal change. Utrecht University has a culture of cooperation. Our students are challenged to look beyond their own discipline and to gain experience in interdisciplinary issues. Our researchers collaborate in interdisciplinary contexts, while maintaining a strong base in their own discipline. Interdisciplinary research within the University is focused on four strategic themes which relate to societal challenges:

- **Sustainability** – Utrecht University makes an active contribution to a sustainable society by sharing academic knowledge and by providing an inspirational example for others.
- **Dynamics of Youth** – Dynamics of Youth researches the development of young people in a rapidly changing society. Who is at risk and how can we ensure the optimal conditions for individual and social development?
- **Institutions for Open Societies** – How do institutions – the formal and informal rules of human action – contribute to long-term prosperity, equality and democracy?
- **Life Sciences** – Infectious diseases (including those transmitted from animals to humans) and chronic diseases such as cancer and cardiovascular diseases pose major social problems that demand new medicines and technologies.

Structure

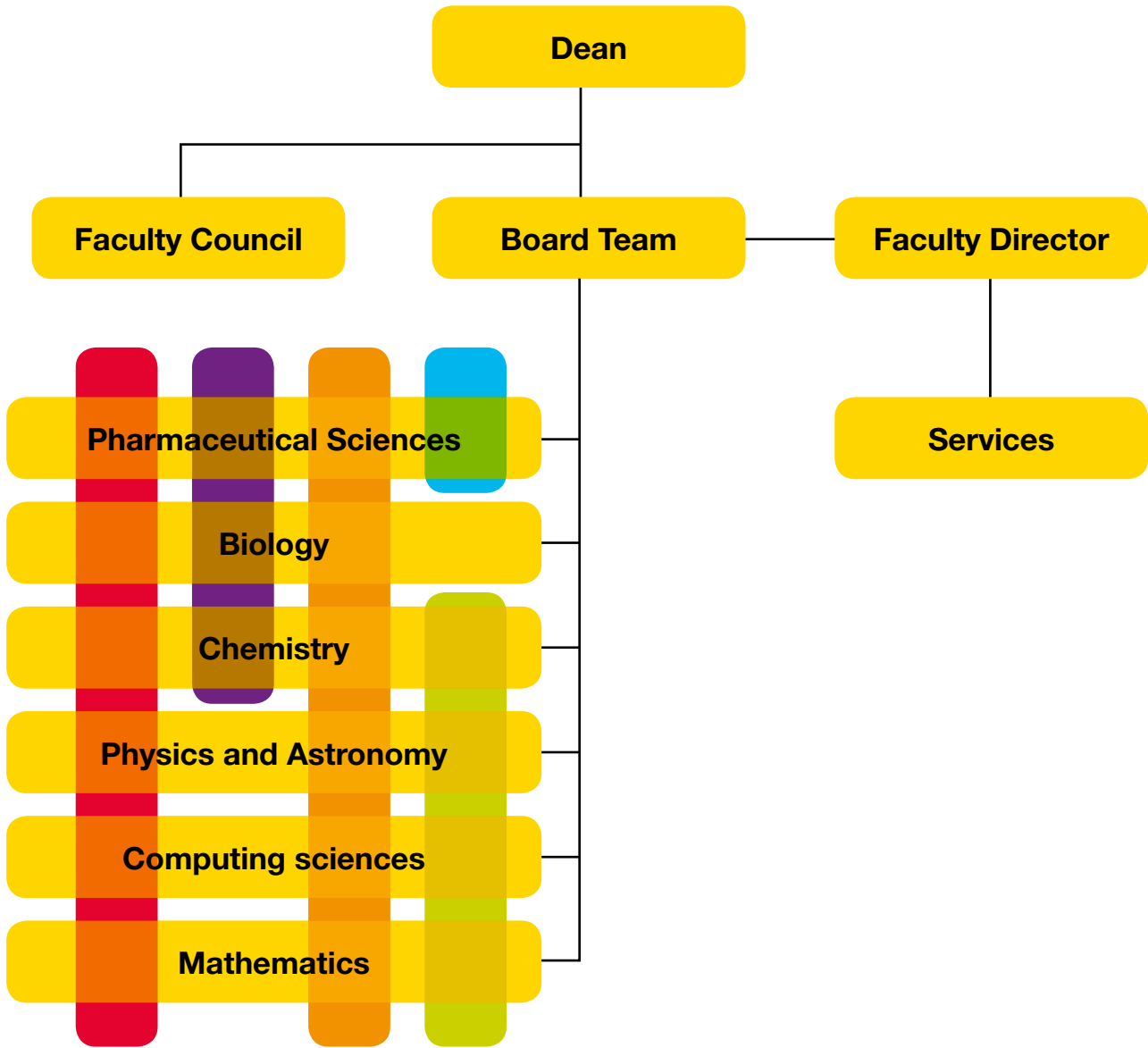
The University comprises seven faculties:

- Faculty of Humanities
 - Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance
 - Faculty of Geosciences
 - Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences
 - Faculty of Science
 - Faculty of Medicine/University Medical Center Utrecht (UMC Utrecht)
 - Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
- and three teaching institutes:
- Centrum voor Onderwijs en Leren (a centre for all divisions of UU which are active in teacher training and developing course material for schools)
 - University College Utrecht
 - University College Roosevelt.

Each of the individual faculties is managed by the Dean of the respective faculty. The University has two university-wide services: the University Library and the University Administration. Employee and student participation are organised at the University level by means of the University Council and the University Labour Representation Board; the Faculty Board and Programme Committees have a role in this at the Faculty level.

100 years of female Professors

10 February 2017 marked 100 years since Johanna Westerdijk held her inaugural address at Utrecht University as the first female professor in the Netherlands. She was a Professor of Phytopathology (Plant Pathology) as well as the Director of the CBS-KNAW Fungal Biodiversity Centre. In 2017, the 'Westerdijk Anniversary' (Johanna Westerdijkjaar), multiple organizations will commemorate her contributions to science and women's position in science.



Graduate School of Natural Sciences/Research institutes

Graduate School of Life Sciences/Research institutes

Undergraduate School of Sciences

School of Pharmacy

Graduate School of Teaching

Faculty of Science



Utrecht University's Faculty of Science stands for world-class research and innovative education. The Faculty is the largest science faculty of the Netherlands and is home to over 5,900 students and 1,600 employees, with an annual turnover of €140 million. The Faculty of Science is globally recognized for its excellent research and faculty members include a Nobel Prize winner, Spinoza winners and multiple ERC grant holders. The Faculty offers a wide variety of educational programs in both the Natural Sciences and the Life Sciences and challenges students to get the most out of their talents.

Structure

The Faculty of Science consists of six departments. Education and research are housed in these departments.

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Information and Computing Sciences
- Mathematics
- Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Physics.

Faculty of Science

Research

The research of the Faculty of Science is clustered in themes and founded on a fundamental basis. This enables researchers to work on solutions to complex social problems, for example, in the area of sustainability and combating diseases. Even the most fundamental research of the Faculty is, either directly or indirectly, the driving force behind the changes in the future. Research focus areas for the Faculty include:

- **Complex Systems Studies** – Complex Systems Studies approaches societal challenges with theories and models from the natural sciences. Many of the societal issues are not yet fully understood because even a small change in one of the variables can have significant impact.
- **Game Research** – Games play an increasingly important role in many societal areas by allowing users to practice, play, experiment, research, and learn in a safe and motivating environment. It is our mission to employ games to help solving large societal challenges.
- **Water, Climate and Ecosystems** – It is clear that the issues impacting water, climate and ecosystems are highly interconnected and water appears the factor connecting everything. Utrecht University scientists are studying the full spectrum of these interconnections.
- **Future Energy and Resources** – Dealing with the challenges of achieving a sustainable future requires not only the development of new and more efficient technologies, but also changes in institutions, behaviour, business models, markets, policies and lifestyles.
- **Science for Life** – Without understanding how things work, we can't fix them when they're broken. In this day of modern diseases, this is critical. Fundamental science – biology, chemistry, physics, math – is our toolbox with which we can make smart solutions for medicine, our environment and technology.
- **Bioinformatics** – Further strengthen and promote bioinformatics research within the Utrecht Life Sciences and Sustainability domains, combining data from various sources and research methods to gain a better insight in to the various cellular processes.
- **Future Food** – We bring together fundamental research of Utrecht University related to health, behaviour, and innovations for future food production. By connecting our knowledge we aim to provide sustainable and healthy food solutions for the next generations.



Faculty of Science

Each research institute within the Faculty of Science contributes to research in one of Utrecht University's chosen focus areas. Each institute also offers at least one Masters programme and one PhD programme.

The Faculty houses 11 Research Institutes:

- **Bijvoet Center for Biomolecular Research –**
The Bijvoet Center studies life on the molecular scale. The focus is on the biomolecules that make up all living organisms, including humans. Research at the Institute concentrates on elucidating the structure of these biomolecules, such as proteins, at the atomic level and on determining the relation between their structure and function in living cells and tissues. By working on healthy cells and those affected by disease, the Institute aims to unravel the basic mechanisms of disease origin.
- **Debye Institute for Nanomaterials Science –** At the Debye Institute for Nanomaterials Science, chemistry and physics meet to study the properties of materials at the nanoscale. Research specifically focuses on three themes: Catalysis, Colloid Science and Nanophotonics.
- **Freudenthal Institute for Science and Mathematics Education –** The mission of FI is to contribute to high-quality education in science and mathematics through education research and valorisation. Successful innovation of science education depends on cooperation and sharing of knowledge between teachers, developers, support staff and other stakeholders along the developmental chain at both national and regional levels.
- **Institute of Biodynamics and Biocomplexity (IBB)**
– IBB studies life at different organizational levels, from individual molecules, such as DNA, lipids and proteins, to cells and model organisms. By combining wet-lab experiments with theory and simulation, researchers aim to achieve a systems-level understanding of complex dynamic processes and their evolution.
- **Institute of Environmental Biology –** The Institute's interdisciplinary research programme is focused on the biological mechanisms that determine how plants, microbes and animals interact with each other and how they are able to adapt to their constantly changing and often harmful environment. Inspired by nature, the Institute of Environmental Biology aims to contribute to the development of sustainable solutions for urgent societal problems such as future food security, ecological consequences of climate change, and protection of our natural resources.
- **Institute of Information and Computing Science –**
In our constantly changing (digital) society, the Utrecht research Institute for Information and Computing Sciences researches both novel and feasible ways to push the frontiers in science and applications.
- **Institute of Marine and Atmospheric Research –**
The mission of the Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Research is to contribute to the basic science of the oceans, atmosphere and cryosphere. This knowledge is used in studies on climate change and the possible implications for mankind.
- **Institute of Subatomic Physics –** The Institute for Subatomic Physics (SAP) conducts fundamental experimental research into the building blocks of matter and the various forces acting on them.
- **Institute for Theoretical Physics –** The Institute for Theoretical Physics studies physical systems on every scale, ranging from the very small – quantum correction to gravity – to the largest possible scale – the universe. In between these extremes lie quantum and soft-condensed matter, which study the emergent properties of many-body systems. The Institute aims to find answers to some of the most fundamental questions about our world and our existence.
- **Mathematical Institute –** The Mathematical Institute covers a broad range of active areas of research. It aims for a stimulating research environment with ample opportunity for interaction between different fields. This interaction is not restricted to areas within mathematics; contacts with physics, biology and technological applications play an equally important role in several of the research activities.
- **Utrecht Institute for Pharmaceutical Sciences –** UIPS focuses on processes around discovery, development, and use of drugs and medical nutrition using molecular and technological principles from the Natural and Life Sciences. This research is ideally positioned in the Faculty of Science to work on basic scientific problems and to translate new findings into potential solutions to urgent societal medical needs, which are addressed in the Faculties of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

Faculty of Science

Education

The Faculty of Science challenges its students to bring out their best and develop into knowledgeable and committed academics. The Faculty offers nine Bachelor and 18 Masters Programs that are each closely linked to topical issues in society. In addition to the regular curriculum, the Faculty also offers an exclusive honours track for excellent and highly motivated students. The College of Pharmaceutical Sciences is one of three honours tracks at Utrecht University in which the entire curriculum is offered on an honours level. Education is focused on acquiring scientific knowledge and skills and are prepared for the changing demand on the labour market.

Strategic Plan 2017-2021

The Faculty of Science is internationally recognised for its excellent academic staff and their scientific publications. It is the Faculty's ambition to attain and further extend its leading position in an internationally competitive academic community. Action points within the Strategy relate to Quality and Connection, Education, Research and Impact, and Committed and Responsible Organisation.

The Strategic Plan 2017-2021 can be accessed here:
www.uu.nl/en/organisation/faculty-of-science/about-us



Appointment of the Dean of the Faculty of Science



The Dean has ultimate responsibility for the Faculty's teaching and research activities as well as for its operational management. As overall leader of the Faculty, s/he reports directly to the Executive Board of Utrecht University. The appointee will be part of the College of Deans who, together with the Executive Board, make up the University's Operational Committee. The Dean chairs the Faculty Board, which includes the six Heads of Department, the Faculty Director, and the Vice-Deans of Research and Education. The Dean actively cooperates with student and the workers' council.

Given the current composition of the Faculty Board, of the Executive Board, and the other Deans, a female is preferred for this position.

Candidate profile

The successful appointee will:

- be a connector and team player who makes use of the Faculty Board and delegates management tasks to colleagues (vice-deans, faculty director and heads of departments) as appropriate;
- be an authoritative scientist in one of the Faculty's sciences;
- have proven management skills, with experience in administration and management;
- have knowledge of and experience with the Dutch Higher Education system and awareness of the Dutch culture;
- operate at a strategic level; have a long-term vision; be outward-facing;
- engage and inspire others, especially within the Faculty and the strategic research themes, and organise on the basis of shared values;
- have a clear vision of, and be open to, the positioning and development of the full range of the sciences, including links to other disciplines;
- have a clear vision of and affinity with teaching and research;
- have (inter-)national experience, experience of working with The Hague, the EU/Brussels, and have a relevant network;
- be able to maintain constructive relations with the staff and student participative bodies;
- ensure that there are connections between operational management and teaching and research activities;
- be receptive; seek consensus; resolve issues conclusively where necessary and stand behind decisions taken;
- communicate clearly and effectively.

Appointment of the Dean of the Faculty of Science

Duties and responsibilities

To develop and enhance the Faculty's strategy in the field of teaching, research and valorisation, in accordance with the University's strategy, the successful appointee will:

- continue to promote excellence in research, in accordance with the research strategy of the University and the Faculty and the multidisciplinary priorities identified, as well as the relevant partnerships (national and international, public and private);
- continue to strengthen the range of Master's level education associated with the research priorities of the Faculty and the University's ambitions in the field of the graduate phase; continue to enhance the quality of Bachelor's level education;
- enhance the Faculty's international profile in teaching and research;
- take responsibility for the design and realisation of impact and valorisation in teaching and research;
- continue to consolidate the Faculty's financial position, in particular by ensuring the continued enhancement of earning capacity;
- contribute to and implement university-wide programmes and projects.

To create momentum and internal cohesion the successful appointee will:

- ensure cooperation and liaison within and between the various departments;
- ensure good relations with the Faculty's employee and student participation bodies;
- encourage and facilitate new, ambitious initiatives in the Faculty;
- develop and utilise existing potential, and attract new potential;
- embark on innovative partnerships with internal and external parties, with due consideration of the changing ways in which research is funded.

Terms of employment

The position offered is on a fulltime basis for a period of four years, with the possibility of one extension.

The maximum monthly salary will be €9,375 on the basis of full-time work, with a further supplement of maximum 15 per cent. Additionally, Utrecht University offers an attractive package of secondary employment benefits. The salary and benefits are based on the collective labour agreement for Dutch universities and the Dutch law: WNT.



Appointment process and how to apply



An executive search exercise is being undertaken by Perrett Laver to assist the recruitment committee. Applications should consist of a covering letter explaining motivation and qualifications for the position and full curriculum vitae. Perrett Laver may be contacted for informal enquiries and questions about the post on +31 20 2404 374 or lisbeth.vancouwenberghe@perrettlaver.com. Applications can be uploaded at <https://candidates.perrettlaver.com/vacancies/>, quoting reference number **3130**. The deadline for applications for this position is **12 noon on Monday 23rd October 2017**.

Applications will be considered by the selection committee in early November. Perrett Laver will conduct preliminary discussions with longlisted candidates and the selection committee will then meet to decide on a shortlist of candidates in early December. These individuals will subsequently be invited for informal sessions and for formal interview in early January. Selection of and negotiations with the preferred candidate will take place thereafter.

Living and working in Utrecht



The Netherlands

The Kingdom of the Netherlands consists of 12 provinces in Western Europe (commonly known as the Netherlands) and three islands in the Caribbean. The Netherlands, (also known informally as Holland), with a population of over 16 million, is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system.

It is a geographically low-lying country, with about 20 per cent of its area and 21 per cent of its population located below sea level, and 50 per cent of its land lying less than one metre above sea level. This small nation boasts a wealth of cultural heritage and is famous for its painters, windmills, tulips, clogs and notoriously flat lands.

Today, international trade is still the main driver of economic growth. Holland is the 16th largest economy in the world and one of the ten leading exporting nations. As a modern European country, it preserves its highly international character and is known for its liberal mentality.

As a founding member of the EU and NATO, and host to the International Court of Justice in The Hague, the Netherlands is at the heart of international cooperation. Its small size, welcoming attitude to travellers and many sights make it a unique and fairly easy to discover destination.

About Utrecht

Utrecht is located in the eastern corner of the Randstad conurbation, and is the fourth largest city in the Netherlands with a population of over 330,000. Utrecht's ancient city centre features many buildings and structures several dating as far back as the Early Middle Ages. Utrecht boasts beautiful canals with extraordinary wharf cellars housing cafés and terraces by the water. As well as the famous Dom tower, the city has hundreds of other monuments that each contribute to the special atmosphere in this centuries-old university town.

There are also a broad variety of shops and boutiques which line the canals and streets in the inner city. Utrecht Central Station forms the hub of the Dutch rail network, and is easily accessible directly, or with one change of train, from almost every station in the Netherlands.

There are direct connections from Amsterdam and Schiphol Airport (even at night), both taking 30 minutes. The high-speed train ICE to Cologne, Frankfurt and Basel stops in Utrecht and there are also daily night train (Euronight/ CityNightline) connections to Berlin, Copenhagen, Prague, Warsaw, Zurich, Munich and Innsbruck (seasonal).

Utrecht has its own International school – the International School Utrecht (ISU). ISU provides a high quality and accessible international learning environment for children from diverse backgrounds.

For more information please visit: www.uu.nl/en/organisation/international-staff-and-guests/visiting-utrecht-university

Taxation

Certain categories of international staff (e.g. Researchers) can receive tax exemption on approximately 30 per cent of their gross salary. This is to compensate for the extra costs they incur in living abroad, such as having to rent temporary accommodation, etc. In principle, the 30 per cent rule applies to staff who have been expressly recruited from another country and who have a formal contract of employment in the Netherlands.

More information

For more information on terms of employment at Utrecht University please see: www.uu.nl/EN/informationfor/jobseekers/Working-for-Utrecht-University/terms-of-employment/Pages/default.aspx

Bright minds, better future



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