



VU UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FELLOW 2016-2017

VU University Amsterdam has high ambitions in scientific research. The university recognizes that top researchers define the quality and reputation of the university. As a gesture of its appreciation, VU University Amsterdam would like to honour a select group of senior and internationally recognized academics by introducing the VU University Research Fellow programme.

This programme will enable a number of the university's leading academics to annually appoint a Fellow of their choice. The talented students awarded the personal VU Fellowship will hold the title of Fellow for one year, and will carry the name of the scientist with whom they are affiliated. By launching this programme, VU University Amsterdam aims to provide recognition to excellent scientists as well as talented students and to forge a stronger link between research and teaching activities.

1 WHICH SENIOR ACADEMICS ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPOINT A FELLOW?

The university will designate a number of outstanding academics, actively involved in teaching, to award a VU Fellowship. These academics must distinguish themselves by holding an exceptional record of performance and by making a significant contribution to their discipline. Any of the following will be viewed as evidence of this:

- an NWO Spinoza prize;
- a KNAW Academy professorship;
- an ERC Advanced Grant;
- a University Professorship at VU University.

Scientists with any of these achievements to their name will, each year for the duration of their special award, be entitled to appoint a VU Fellow for a maximum of 12 months.

2 HOW DOES THE SELECTION PROCESS LOOK LIKE?

Each year, senior academics will be entitled to award a VU Fellowship to a student who has demonstrated exceptional academic excellence. The academics must select a student from either the Bachelor's or Master's programme for which they are responsible, or in which they play an important role. This will enable the Fellows to develop a better understanding of the academic organization and to further expand their knowledge in their own field of study.

During spring, thirteen senior academic will nominate a Fellow and provide supporting arguments for his choice; this nomination will then be submitted to the rector for approval. The nominee must have been a student at VU University Amsterdam in the year prior to the Fellowship and must be a student or PhD candidate at VU University Amsterdam during

the year of the Fellowship. The Fellows will be announced at the beginning of the academic year and start their Fellowship in September.

3 WHAT ARE THE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES?

Each fellowship will be allocated a sum of €10,000 to be spent by the senior academics and their Fellows. After consulting with the rector, they may choose from one of the four spending objectives:

1. To appoint the Fellow as a student assistant to carry out teaching and / or research activities.
2. To fund a Master's study programme or Research Master's programme (if the Fellow is a Bachelor's student).
3. To contribute towards the funding of a one-year PhD

programme (if the Fellow is a Master's student and wishes to gain a PhD). The Faculty will meet the costs of the remaining period of the PhD programme.

4. To appoint the Fellow as personal assistant, enabling him to take on some of the duties of the senior academic.

Throughout the year, the senior academic and the Fellow are expected to work together in teaching and research activities. The Fellow may also join the senior academic when attending various conferences and meetings. The senior academic and his Fellow are expected to promote the visibility and overall reputation of VU University Amsterdam. The University will accordingly make this one of its key areas of focus and will draft a communication plan to enhance the profiles of the senior academic, the Fellow, and the university as a whole.

4 WHICH SENIOR ACADEMICS ARE ENTITLED TO BESTOW A VU FELLOWSHIP IN 2016?

VU University Amsterdam is proud to announce the thirteen leading academics who will be entitled to appoint a Fellow.

The academics will be assigned their fellowships in the spring, at which point they may proceed with the selection process for a VU Fellow. The Fellows will be announced at the start of the academic year.



YVETTE VAN KOOYK
ERC Advanced Grant laureate
VU - Van Kooyk - Fellow



JELLE JOLLES
VU University Professor
VU - Jolles - Fellow



DORRET BOOMSMA
Winner Spinoza prize and
ERC Advanced Grant laureate
VU - Boomsma - Fellow



KJELD EIKEMA
ERC Advanced Grant laureate
VU - Eikema - Fellow



JAAP SEIDELL
VU University Professor
VU - Seidell - Fellow



PIEK VOSSSEN
Winner Spinoza prize
VU - Vossen - Fellow



EUS VAN SOMEREN
ERC Advanced Grant laureate
VU - van Someren - Fellow



WIM UBACHS
ERC Advanced Grant laureate
VU - Ubachs - Fellow



JAN THEEUWES
ERC Advanced Grant laureate
VU - Theeuwes - Fellow



MATTHIJS VERHAGE
ERC Advanced Grant laureate
VU - Verhage - Fellow



PIET MULDER
ERC Advanced Grant laureate
VU - Mulders - Fellow



GERT KWAKKEL
ERC Advanced Grant laureate
VU - Kwakkel - Fellow



BERT KLANDERMANS
ERC Advanced Grant laureate
VU - Klandermans - Fellow