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Academic Consultancy

ASSESSMENT REPORT

**Research Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASoS)
Maastricht University - Peer Review 2017 - 2022**

December 2023



Assessment Report

Research Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

2017 - 2022

Maastricht University

Table of contents

Preface	3
1. Introduction.....	4
1.1 The evaluation	4
1.2 The assessment procedure	4
1.3 Quality of the information	5
2 Structure, organization and mission of FASoS.....	6
2.1 Introduction.....	6
2.2 Mission and strategy of FASoS research	6
2.3 Management and organization	7
3 Assessment FASoS research program	8
3.1 Research Quality	8
3.2 Relevance to society	9
3.3 Viability	10
3.4 PhD training and education program	11
3.5 Academic Culture and Human Resources Policy.....	12
3.6 Open Science.....	14
3.7 Conclusions and Recommendations	15
Annex 1 Program Site Visit FASoS	17
Annex 2 Research data	19
Annex 3 Curricula vitae of the Committee members.....	20

Preface

This report presents the findings and recommendations resulting from a peer review of the Research Programme at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASoS) at Maastricht University, conducted in the autumn of 2023.

Our peer review committee was appointed by the Board of Maastricht University. The review is based on a self-assessment report provided by FASoS, additional documentation, and meetings with FASoS staff and PhD candidates during a site visit on October 17-18, 2023. This review report encompasses both a prospective and retrospective outlook and includes several recommendations for FASoS.

As the chair, I extend my gratitude to my fellow evaluators for their expert and candid contributions to the discussions and considerations of the findings. The work was not only intense but also socially pleasant and academically rewarding.

We wish to express our appreciation to all members of FASoS, including the staff, PhD candidates and stakeholders, for their open and constructive participation in the review process.

We hope that this report signals the commencement of another era of highly successful research at FASoS.

December 2023

Prof. Dr. Amy Verdun
Chair of the FASoS Peer Review Committee

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1. Introduction

1.1 The evaluation

All publicly funded university research in the Netherlands undergoes regular evaluation in compliance with the national Strategy Evaluation Protocol (SEP 2021-2027), as agreed upon by the Association of Universities in the Netherlands (UNL, formerly VSNU), the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), and the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW). The evaluation process, conducted at the research unit or institute level, entails a systematic external peer review every six years.

The evaluation system is designed to achieve three primary objectives:

- Enhancing the quality of research through assessments carried out in accordance with international standards of quality and relevance.
- Improving research management and leadership.
- Ensuring accountability to higher management levels of research organizations, funding agencies, the government, and society at large.

1.2 The assessment procedure

The Review Committee followed the evaluation procedures outlined in the NWO/UNL/KNAW "Strategy Evaluation Protocol (SEP 2021-2027) for public research organizations." The committee's task was to report its findings regarding the research institute based on the three primary criteria, which should be considered in the context of the institute's mission, particularly when the mission confines the institute to operate exclusively within a national scientific community.

The committee convened on October 17, 2023, to discuss its initial findings based on FASoS' self-evaluation report and to prepare for the site visit, which occurred on October 18, 2023.

During the site visit (see Annex 2 for the complete programme and a list of participants), the committee held meetings with the following:

- FASoS Management Team
- Research Programme Directors
- Research Centre Directors
- Graduate School Director, Coordinator and Advisory Board
- PhD candidates
- Early Career Staff
- External Stakeholders

The Peer Review Committee was composed of the following members:

- Prof. Dr. Amy Verdun, University of Victoria, Canada (Chair)
- Prof. Dr. Jan Baetens, KU Leuven, Belgium
- Prof. Dr. Sven Dupré, Utrecht University, Netherlands
- Prof. Dr. Malcolm Fairbrother, Umeå University, Sweden
- Dr. Gisela Hirschmann, Leiden University, Netherlands
- Marta Sienkiewicz, PhD candidate, Leiden University, Netherlands

Dr. Frans van Steijn, independent, served as the secretary of the committee.

1.3 Quality of the information

The information provided to the committee included:

- Self-evaluation report 2017-2022 FASoS Research Programme
- Programme Site-visit
- Strategy Evaluation Protocol 2021-2027
- Additional written information was provided during the site visit, such as a list of nationalities at FASoS and the Maastricht Recognition and Rewards policy.

The committee was able to assess FASoS' research based on this information and the information acquired during the site-visit.

2 Structure, organization and mission of FASoS

2.1 Introduction

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASoS) of Maastricht University is responsible for bachelor and master education in the field of Arts and Culture and carries out research of an interdisciplinary and international nature. This research assessment concerns:

Principal Unit	Maastricht University Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASoS)
Management	Prof. dr. Christine Neuhold (dean) Prof. dr. Sally Wyatt (associate dean for research) Dr. Patrick Bijsmans (associate dean for education) Dr. Cerien Streefland (managing director)
Research input scientific staff 2022	130.6 fte (147 persons)
PhD candidates in 2022	90 (27.4 fte)
Research expenditure in 2022	25.623 K€ / 73.45 fte

FASoS' research portfolio is portrayed as unique in the Netherlands, for its combination of (inter)disciplinary approaches, including anthropology, cultural and literary studies, history, philosophy, sociology, political science, and science and technology studies. Maastricht University offers FASoS research for assessment as one entity.

2.2 Mission and strategy of FASoS research

Under the heading of 'Keep on moving forward together', the faculty focuses on the broad subject of 'Histories, Cultures and Societies in a Changing World'. Plurality and diversity are key features of FASoS research in terms of topics, methods, theoretical frameworks, audiences, and forms of output. FASoS' mission is to provide an intellectual and working environment that enables staff to conduct excellent, curiosity-driven research that is of interest and relevance to its academic peers and/or societal partners. The current strategic plan (2021 – 2025) builds on the previous plan and has three priorities: 1. Providing the resources (time, support and infrastructure) for producing high-quality research output of different forms; 2. Strengthening the communication of the results

with a large range of audiences; and 3. Further stimulating the interdisciplinary collegial environment.

2.3 Management and organization

FASoS research is organized into four research programmes:

1. Arts, Media and Culture (AMC)
2. Globalization, Transnationalism and Development (GTD)
3. Maastricht University Science, Technology and Society Studies (MUSTS)
4. Politics and Culture in Europe (PCE)

FASoS researchers are appointed to one of these four programmes for their research activities. Their results make contributions to one or more of the six research centres that FASoS organizes together with other Maastricht University faculties:

- Centre for European Research in Maastricht (CERiM)
- Centre for Gender and Diversity (CGD)
- Centre for the Social History of Limburg (SHCL)
- Maastricht Centre for Citizenship, Migration and Development (MACIMIDE)
- Maastricht Centre for Arts, Culture, Conservation and Heritage (MACCH)
- Maastricht Centre for the Innovation of Classical Music (MCICM)

Research centres facilitate collaboration across the research programmes and with researchers from other faculties, and enhance the visibility and societal impact of FASoS research. The vice-dean for research and the four programme directors form an advisory team on research policy for the faculty board.

3 Assessment FASoS research program

Our FASoS Review Committee conducted an assessment of the faculty's research, following the general framework provided in Appendix C of the Strategy Evaluation Protocol (2021-2027). The faculty opted not to create more specific or focused terms for this assessment. Consequently, the committee utilized the following assessment criteria: 1. Research Quality, 2. Societal Relevance, and 3. Viability of the research unit.

Three specific aspects warrant special attention: 1. PhD policy and training, 2. Academic culture and human resources policy concerning diversity and talent management, and 3. Open Science. The committee's report below aligns with these criteria and aspects of the faculty's research.

3.1 Research Quality

The committee was highly impressed by the breadth and quality of research areas within FASoS. The faculty's researchers have earned substantial international recognition and have demonstrated remarkable success in securing external grants and funding. The interdisciplinary nature of the research is well in line with the faculty's strategy, bolstering its international profile. The committee commends the faculty for effectively achieving the objective of producing one peer-reviewed publication per researcher annually. The research outputs consistently exhibit high quality.

Upon initial examination, the complex organizational structure of four programmes and six research centres within the faculty may seem intricate for researchers. However, through interviews, the committee found that this arrangement is clear to the FASoS members. Indeed, this structure facilitates interdisciplinarity and the making of cross-cutting linkages within FASoS and Maastricht University, as well as making clear the societal relevance of the research. While the programmes vary in size, they collectively contribute to high-quality academic work, which facilitates achieving research excellence.

The faculty provides support for this research through a Research Support Office (RSO). This office includes a funding support officer and a policy officer who advise the Faculty Board, research programme directors and researchers by providing information about research funding possibilities, open access arrangements, and other research-related information. Research funding allocation is overseen by the faculty board with assistance from an advisory team (OTO), which offers advice on all research-related aspects, including staff recruitment. The committee recognizes that FASoS Research is effectively managed by its management team, programme leaders, and supporting structures, with clear communication and efficient decision-making processes.

The reported research output over the review period from 2017 to 2022 includes 2305 publications, of which 1292 were intended for an academic audience. A significant portion of these publications are peer-reviewed, and nearly 90% of them have been cited. The committee is highly impressed by these figures, as well as the numerous awards received by FASoS researchers during the review period.

Through interviews, the committee verified that, on the whole, FASoS researchers spend 40% of their time on research in practice, demonstrating that this is not merely an aspirational goal. The allocation of time for teaching and administrative/management tasks is carefully limited to 60%. In some cases, staff members are even granted additional research time from a dedicated budget of 1.5 FTE/year.

The committee reaffirmed its very positive impression of FASoS research during the site visit.

3.2 Relevance to society

FASoS is actively engaged in making its research and expertise accessible to those who can benefit from it. The primary objectives of the six research centres are to coordinate the faculty's outreach initiatives and foster collaborations between FASoS researchers and their counterparts in other UM faculties. While other UM faculties also participate in the research centres, FASoS takes the lead in initiating and facilitating their activities. Not only the research centres, but also the programmes, have been successful in their outreach efforts. Some of the achievements include collaboration with external partners that encompass a wide range of diverse stakeholders, including local and regional ones, as well as national and European governmental and non-governmental entities.

The self-evaluation report provides a variety of examples of these successful collaborations with external partners and the recognition that FASoS has garnered from them. The committee had the opportunity to interview several regional stakeholders who attested to the value of collaborating with the faculty's researchers. In some instances, genuine co-creation of results has been achieved through collaboration between stakeholders and the faculty. The committee learned that successful collaborations, such as those with the regional orchestra and conservatory, are primarily the result of individual initiatives and networks. The faculty could offer more structural support and a more explicit outreach strategy in order to succeed more often and establish more non-academic networks.

In the regional context, a concern was raised regarding the necessity to communicate primarily in English, as many students and researchers do not

have proficiency in Dutch. While the region is gradually becoming more proficient in English, the faculty could take proactive steps to connect with the local community by considering a language policy. Dedicating more attention to outreach in the Dutch language (and signaling an understanding of the role and cultural heritage of local dialects) would further enhance awareness of and support for the university in Maastricht and the Limburg region.

The Valorisation Stimulation Fund, although small, plays a constructive role in supporting researchers with funding for various methods of disseminating their findings. The committee commends FASoS for its ability to encourage and facilitate a wide range of outreach activities, all while maintaining high academic standards and an academic profile for its researchers. The financial support provided by the faculty serves as a strong motivator for researchers to achieve these goals.

3.3 Viability

With regard to FASoS' future prospects, the committee assessed the faculty's funding position, personnel outlook, and the sustainability of its mission and strategic positioning.

It is a common challenge that the faculty's direct funding does not fully cover the goal of providing 40% research time for all academic staff. In recent years, research grants have accounted for 14-20% of research full-time equivalents (FTEs) and for 36-50% of contract research from national or European organizations. The faculty's success in attracting external funding has been fluctuating over the years, but overall, it has been impressive. For the future, the faculty has not set specific targets for external funding, as the success of applications is often unpredictable. For the future, the committee suggests that the faculty might consider developing contingency plans to address less successful periods in external funding.

FASoS personnel now comprises a highly talented, diverse, and international group of researchers who consistently produce high-quality output. The faculty's commitment to diversity in the past has yielded positive outcomes and this success is on track to continue. FASoS offers promising career prospects for its early career researchers and graduates of its PhD programmes. FASoS is exploring ways to reward achievements and career prospects of its diverse staff and seems to be on the right track to keep researchers motivated. In the future, replacing retiring staff members will provide opportunities to maintain the well-balanced composition of the faculty's workforce. The faculty acknowledges the significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on its academic community and its members. In the period under review some early career researchers had difficulties in their early years (corresponding to the years of the COVID-19

pandemic) to secure the necessary time for research but more recent policy changes have provided more time for early-career scholars. The committee advises reviewing the onboarding for new colleagues and PhD candidates to ensure there is good support for new colleagues.

FASoS maintains a robust mission and research strategy. The programmes and centres, while not rigidly fixed, are well-defined and strategically positioned, forming a stable foundation for the future. The Strategic Plan for 2021-2025 is effectively implemented by the management team and enjoys the support of the faculty.

The committee learned that the Campus Brussels is undergoing a transformation into a networking facility. The committee supports the idea of bringing together PhD candidates from both Brussels and Maastricht, fostering stronger collaboration and cohesion, but also the benefit of using this Campus more effectively for outreach to Brussels-based institutions. It is also a good hub for conferences and events.

The committee concluded that FASoS' future prospects with respect to its funding position, personnel outlook, and mission and strategy positioning, are bright.

3.4 PhD training and education program

The FASoS Graduate School (GS) is responsible for the training of FASoS PhD candidates. It organizes activities for PhD candidates twice a month, covering a wide range of topics, including data management, writing, planning, integrity, and presentation skills. The GS confirms that it receives adequate funding for this comprehensive training programme. Additionally, supervisors receive training from the GS on various aspects of guiding their PhD candidates, including improving analytical skills, as one example.

In addition to the training provided by the GS, PhD candidates also receive education in their academic disciplines through the 12 national research schools in which FASoS participates. The GS conducts regular evaluations to ensure that the training offered by both the GS and the research schools meets the needs of the PhD candidates. The committee appreciates that the PhDs are given structured opportunities to grow within specific disciplines, especially as the focus on the interdisciplinary character of work at FASoS may otherwise provide some challenges to their career trajectories.

In 2022, the last year of this review, there were 90 PhD students in FASoS working on their thesis research, including both employed and non-employed candidates. The employment of these students amounted to 27.4 full-time

equivalents (fte). The faculty reports that 59 PhD candidates graduated during the review period, with 7 of them earning a 'cum laude' distinction.

The committee encountered some challenges when assessing completion rates because only 19 out of 44 candidates from the cohorts 2014-2018 graduated within six years after enrollment. However, interpreting these statistics can be complex, particularly when comparing FASoS-employed and scholarship funded PhDs with external PhDs. Despite these complexities, the committee concurs with the faculty's assessment that the success rate of the PhD candidates is broadly comparable to the national average. The average completion time of 5.8 years in the reviewed period is on a downward trend in the last years; for the internal candidates in 2022 the average completion time was recorded to be only 4.9 years.

During the site visit, the PhDs interviewed expressed their satisfaction with the funding arrangements and the support provided by FASoS. While some problems did arise, efforts were made to resolve them. In the future attention could be paid to developing a structured onboarding programme to ensure integration of all new PhDs (and possibly other staff). A clearer workflow for crisis and conflict situations could also be considered to ensure PhDs are effectively supported when a problem arises.

FASoS' graduated PhDs have been successful in pursuing careers as researchers, teachers, and professionals both within and outside academia. The significant number of successful academic careers reflects the high level of FASoS PhD graduates. However, the committee identified that there are different models used for PhDs in terms of the package or written work that they prepare for their PhD. Some PhD dissertations took on the form of a monograph, whereas others write papers and have one or more papers submitted to journals or published before obtaining their PhD thesis. The committee wanted to encourage supervisors to ensure that where possible a PhD candidate has at least one signature publication by the time they complete their PhD or to encourage PhD candidates who do not aim at landing an academic position, to develop relevant transferable skills and related experiences.

The committee found the PhD training and programme to be well-structured and well-developed and was overall impressed with the efforts made by FASoS.

3.5 Academic Culture and Human Resources Policy

The faculty's human resources policy is grounded in three core principles: first, recognizing and rewarding members' achievements in the areas of education, research, impact, and leadership in line with the university's well-implemented

policy of the national 'recognition and rewards' programme; second, following the career principle, which entails promoting individuals based on their achievements rather than formal vacancies; and third, upholding the principles of diversity and inclusivity. The committee has determined that the faculty is in the process of applying these principles. FASoS actively fosters an academic culture that benefits both its members and the institute's overall academic performance.

Over the past five years, the faculty found it necessary to establish new guidelines regarding research output expectations for all members. Given the diverse nationalities and disciplines represented among the faculty's personnel, such transparent guidelines are helpful. The committee is unsure if the faculty's personnel have a good understanding on desired time allocation and trade-offs between academic publications and societal engagement in a given year. The committee recommends to try and formulate expectations in balancing academic research and outreach activities.

The faculty has now established clear communication channels from the management down to the heads of research programmes and centres, the PhD programme, and incoming colleagues. The committee observed that everyone appears to take responsibility for both formal and informal information sharing on what works. Nevertheless, the committee recommends that ongoing efforts be made to strengthen the faculty's academic culture and internal communication so that everyone knows how to use their time effectively and what can be achieved as a result.

FASoS' diversity policy aligns well with the international and interdisciplinary nature of its research in arts and social sciences. A positive example is the existence of the Centre for Gender and Diversity (CGD), one of the six research centres. CGD now comprises 40 faculty staff from all four research programmes. The committee received a list of nationalities represented in each personnel category, revealing international – but mostly Western – diversity across all ranks. In comparison with the national average, women are well-represented in the positions of professor, UHD, and UD, and three out of four members of FASoS' Management Team are women.

The faculty places value on linguistic diversity, as not all publications are exclusively in English or Dutch. Nevertheless, English appears to be the primary means of communication within the academic community. In light of changing national attitudes towards the use of English in academia, the committee has raised concerns regarding potential (career) disadvantages for non-Dutch speakers within the faculty and their limited opportunities for outreach in the region. Currently, although there are opportunities that FASoS offers, it is nevertheless left to the individual's private motivation to learn Dutch, even if

the university can help or can facilitate outside training. The committee recognizes the challenges posed by FASoS' international character in this regard and recommends considering the development of a policy and/or enhance resources to promote the learning and use of the Dutch language.

The faculty emphasizes the core value of conducting research with integrity and ethical standards. It organizes dedicated meetings to establish a shared understanding of what ethical research entails for researchers and respondents. Research plans are submitted to the UM Ethics Review Committee for Inner City faculties. The committee noted that not all plans are discussed by this committee, and it was unclear why this discrepancy exists. The committee suggests it may be advisable to review the FASoS Human Ethics policy with a view to ensuring that there is systematic consideration of whether ethical standards have been adhered to.

Since 2022, potential issues related to integrity in research or conduct are addressed by a confidential advisor for all research staff. No problems in this regard were reported in the self-evaluation report or to the committee during the site-visit.

3.6 Open Science

One of the faculty's strategic priorities is to enhance communication both within the academic community and with the outside world regarding its expertise and research outcomes. The faculty rightly recognizes Open Science as the means to achieve this objective. As is the case in other UM faculties, FASoS has developed an Open Science action plan in alignment with the university-wide Open Access policy and following the recommendations of previous review committees.

The committee found that FASoS has successfully increased its gold Open Access (OA) publications to 55% (and gold+green OA to 68%) during the recent review period; 76% of 2022 publications are open access. While these figures are slightly below national and UM achievements, the committee acknowledges the faculty's consistent efforts ultimately to make all publications openly accessible. Practical and financial constraints have somewhat limited the faculty's pace, but the committee appreciates the practical approach that has been taken. The committee acknowledges the faculty's effort to also publish books in open access and to push the university for additional financial support.

Research data and materials are shared following Open Science objectives, with the assistance of a data steward in collaboration with the University Library. The committee is convinced that openness is one of FASoS' core values.

3.7 Conclusions and Recommendations

In the assessment above, the committee arrived at the following conclusions and recommendations:

1. FASoS research programmes exhibit variation in size. They collectively contribute to high-quality academic work, thereby facilitating the achievement of research excellence. The committee reaffirmed its very positive impression of FASoS research during the site visit.
2. The committee has concluded that FASoS has a promising future with respect to its funding position, personnel outlook, and mission and strategic positioning. The committee suggests that the faculty might consider developing contingency plans to address less successful periods in external funding.
3. The committee recommends extending the lessons learned from the challenging Covid-19 period and applying them during the onboarding of new colleagues and PhD candidates.
4. FASoS has started exploring ways to reward achievements and career prospects of its diverse staff and it seems to be on the right track to keep researchers motivated. Replacing retiring staff members will provide opportunities to maintain the well-balanced composition of the faculty's workforce. FASoS would be well-advised to continue reviewing its career principle policy, to ensure that its diverse faculty are rewarded based on their achievements and that the policy works to achieve its goals.
5. The committee has determined that FASoS consistently applies human resources principles and actively fosters an academic culture that benefits both its members and the institute's overall academic performance. The committee recommends ongoing efforts to strengthen the faculty's academic culture and internal communication.
6. The committee commends FASoS for its ability to encourage and facilitate a wide range of outreach activities while maintaining high academic standards and an academic profile for its researchers. But the faculty could do more to offer structural support and employ an explicit outreach strategy in order to succeed more and establish more non-academic networks.

7. FASoS is advised to engage proactively with local communities, including considering the implementation of a language policy. Facilitating outreach in the Dutch language would further enhance awareness of and support for the university in Maastricht and the Limburg region.
8. The committee supports the idea of bringing together PhD candidates from both Brussels and Maastricht to foster stronger collaboration and cohesion. More generally, there appears room for further integration of internal and external PhDs.
9. Observing a positive downward trend in average PhD completion times in recent years, the committee advises FASoS to continue providing assistance to internal and external PhDs and supervisors in achieving timely completion.
10. The committee found the PhD training and programme to be well-structured and well-developed and was overall impressed with the efforts in this area. In the future attention could be paid on developing a structured onboarding programme to ensure integration of all new PhDs (and possibly other staff). A clearer workflow for crisis and conflict situations could also be considered to ensure PhDs are effectively supported when a problem arises.
11. The committee advises supervisors to ensure that, where possible, a PhD candidate has at least one signature publication by the time they complete their PhD or to encourage PhD candidates who do not aim at landing an academic position, to make a PhD that has a direct importance for (local) outreach.
12. The committee noted that not all research plans are discussed by UM Ethics Review Committee for Inner City faculties. The committee suggests it may be advisable to review the FASoS Human Ethics policy with a view to ensuring that there is systematic consideration of whether ethical standards have been adhered to.
13. The committee acknowledges the faculty's consistent efforts to ultimately make all publications openly accessible. Practical and financial constraints have somewhat limited the faculty's pace, but the committee appreciates the pragmatic approach being taken and the efforts by the faculty management to voice concerns about the constraints given the specificity of publication and research outputs in the humanities and social sciences. The committee is convinced that openness is one of FASoS' core values.

Annex 1 Program Site Visit FASoS

- 9.00 – 9.30 **Welcome and presentation of FASoS Research**
- 9.30 – 10.30 **Interview with management team** (Faculty Board, faculty director) and research policy officer (Kim van Honk)
- FASoS management team**
Prof. Christine Neuhold (Dean)
Prof. Sally Wyatt (Associate Dean for Research)
Dr. Patrick Bijsmans (Associate Dean for Education) (UHD)
Dr. Cerien Streefland (Managing Director)
- 10.30 – 10.45 Coffee and tea break
- 10.45 – 11.45 **Interview with research programme directors**
- Research Programme Directors**
Prof. Hylke Dijkstra
Prof. Cyrus Mody
Dr. Brigitte Le Normand (UHD)
Prof. Susan Schreibman
- 11.45 – 12.15 **Interview research centre directors**
- Research Centre Directors**
Dr. Karlijn Haagsman (UD) (MACIMIDE)
Dr. Peter Peters (UHD & bijzonder hoogleraar) (MCICM)
Dr. Claartje Rasterhoff (UD) (MACCH)
Dr. Eliza Steinbock (UHD) (CGD)
Dr. Giselle Bosse (UHD) – tbc (CERiM)
Dr. Nico Randerad (UHD & bijzonder hoogleraar) (SHCL)
- 12.15 – 13.15 Lunch and tour of the Plant
- 13.15 – 13.45 **Interview Graduate School director and advisory board**
- Graduate School**
Prof. Thomas Conzelmann (director)
Prof. Karin Bijsterveld
Prof. Susan Schreibman
Dr. Aneta Spendzharova (UHD)
Dr. Lauren Wagner (UHD)
Dr. Joeri Bruyninckx (UD) (coordinator of GS training)

13.45 – 14.15	<p>Interview PhD candidates</p> <p>PhD candidates Maud Oostindie Marie Rickert Joma Edward Ronden Daphné Charlotte</p>
14.15 – 14.45	<p>Interview early career staff</p> <p>Early career staff Dr. Tullio Viola (UD) Dr. Iskander de Bruycker (UD) Dr. Simone Schleper (UD) Dr. Katleen Gabriels (UD)</p>
14.45 – 15.00	Coffee and tea break
15.00 – 15.30	<p>Interview external stakeholders</p> <p>External stakeholders Ilse van Lieshout – Marres, Huis voor Hedendaagse Cultuur Eric Wetzels – Gemeente Maastricht Mette Laugs – Conservatorium Maastricht</p>
15.30 – 16.45	Concluding meeting committee
16.45 – 17.15	Short meeting committee and management team to clear up last issues
17.30	Presentation to the (entire) institute of the committee's provisional findings by the chair

Annex 2 Research data

a. Personnel (# / FTE)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Full professors	20/15.9	19/14.5	23/17.2	24/17.3	21/17.1	18/15.8
Associate Profs.	17/16.2	19/18.4	23/21.0	25/21.2	26/23.0	29/25.3
Assistant Profs.	57/52.0	57/51.4	55/49.6	60/52.4	58/52.0	57/51.0
Post-docs	6/5.7	11/10.6	17/15.7	18/13.6	11/9.0	15/12.3
PhD candidates	84/28	92/31	86/30	95/34	96/29.4	90/27.4
Total research staff	128 / 116.5	137 / 124.8	147 / 132.3	163 / 137.8	148 / 131.4	147 / 130.6

b. Funding

Funding (FTE):	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Direct funding	26,87	34,64	29,54	28,85	28,32	31,83
Research grants	12,95	10,29	11,68	12,35	15,02	15,05
Contract research	25,14	27,52	34,14	40,81	33,03	26,66
Total funding	64,97	72,46	75,36	82,01	76,37	73,54
Costs (k€)						
Personnel costs	14.649	14.979	16.258	17.396	18.609	20.119
Other costs	4.674	4.748	4.839	4.171	4.063	5.504

Annex 3 Curricula vitae of the Committee members

Prof. dr. Amy Verdun (chair)

Amy Verdun is full professor in the Department of Political Science of the University of Victoria (UVic), BC Canada. She has been elected to serve on the European Consortium of Political Research (ECPR) Executive Committee from 1 May 2021 to 30 April 2027. She is currently visiting Professor in European Politics and Political Economy at the Institute Political Science, Leiden University. She was full time employed at the Institute from 2018-2020.

At UVic she served as Founder and Director of the European Studies Program (1997-2005); Graduate Advisor (2007-2009); and as Chair (Head) of the Department (2010-2013). Her research deals with European integration, governance and policy-making, political economy, as well as comparisons between the EU and Canada. She was the recipient of the 2009 Craigdarroch Silver Medal for Excellence in Research of the University of Victoria and in 2017 the prestigious Lansdowne Distinguished Fellow award and the European Community Studies-Association Canada teaching award, 2018.

From 2010-2017 she was co-editor (with Michelle Cini) of the JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies. To date has published 22 books, more than 120 peer-reviewed articles and chapters. Her most recent book is a co-edited student textbook (with Achim Hurrelmann and Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly): *European Union Governance and Policy Making: A Canadian Perspective* 2nd edition (University of Toronto Press, 2023).

Prof.dr Jan Baetens

Jan Baetens is professor of literary and cultural studies at KU Leuven (Belgium). In the field of literary studies, he has widely published on poetry and narrative, yet always with a strong emphasis on the broader cultural background.

Some recent publications are:

- *Correspondance. The Birth of Belgian Surrealism*, by Jan Baetens and Michael Kasper, New York, Peter Lang, 2015
- *À Voix haute. Poésie et lecture publique*, Bruxelles : Les Impressions Nouvelles, 2016.
- *Novelization: From Film to Novel* (transl. Mary Feeney), Columbus, OH: Ohio State University Press, 2018.
- Réinventer le vers. Philippe Beck en conversation avec Jan Baetens, Bruxelles/Amay : Midis de la Poésie/L'Arbre à paroles, 2018
- *Écrire après le cinéma*, Montréal: PUM, special issue of *Etudes françaises* 55-2, (eds Jan Baetens and Nadja Cohen)

- *Digital Reason* with Ortwin de Graef and Silvana Mandolessi, Leuven University Press 2020
- “European Crime Fiction”, eds Jan Baetens & Fred Truyen, *European Review*, 2021-4

In the field of cultural studies, he has worked on various forms of visual narrative (comics and graphic novels as well as photonovels).

Some recent publications are:

- *The Cambridge History of the Graphic Novel*, eds. Jan Baetens, Hugo Frey, Stephen E. Tabachnick, New York: Cambridge UP, 2018
- *Pour le roman-photo*, Bruxelles, Les Impressions Nouvelles, 2017
- *Le roman-photo*, bande dessinée réalisée en collaboration avec Clémentine Mélois, Bruxelles, Le Lombard, 2019
- *The Film Photonovel, A Cultural History of Forgotten Adaptations*, Austin: Texas University Press, 2019
- *Rebuilding Storyworlds*, Rutgers University Press The Drawing (on) Experience books series, 2020
- *Adaptation et bande dessinée*, Bruxelles: Les Impressions Nouvelles, 2020
- *Intermediality in French-Language Comics and Graphic Novels*, eds Jan Baetens, Hugo Frey and Fabrice Leroy, Louisiana University at Lafayette Press), 2022

Jan Baetens is also a published poet and novelist, with more than twenty collections of poetry and various other books, among which a photo novel. Much of his work is made in collaboration with the woodcut artist Olivier Deprez.

Prof.dr. Sven Dupré

Sven Dupré is Director of the Research Institute for History and Art History of History of Art, and Professor of History of Art, Science and Technology at Utrecht University (History & Art History) and the University of Amsterdam (Conservation & Restoration). He was the PI of the ARTECHNE project ‘Technique in the Arts: Concepts, Practices, Expertise, 1500-1950’, supported by a European Research Council (ERC) Consolidator Grant, and he is the PI of the NWO Smart Culture Art DATIS project on the history of the post-WWII Studio Glass Movement. Previously he was Professor of History of Knowledge at the Freie Universität and Director of the Research Group ‘Art and Knowledge in Premodern Europe’ at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, and Robert H. Smith Scholar in Residence for Renaissance Sculpture in Context at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Dupré is a founding editor of the open-access Journal for the History of Knowledge and the Routledge book series Knowledge Societies in History, originating in the NWO (Dutch Research Council) project “Creating a Knowledge Society in a Globalizing World”, at the

Descartes Centre for the History and Philosophy of the Sciences and the Humanities at Utrecht University.

Prof. dr. Malcolm Fairbrother

Malcolm Fairbrother is a professor of sociology at Umeå University and Uppsala University (in Sweden) and the University of Graz (Austria), and a researcher at the Institute for Futures Studies (in Stockholm). He holds a PhD in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley, and has been a visiting researcher at the University of Trento (Italy), University of British Columbia (Canada), and Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Catalonia). His research focuses on climate and environmental policy and politics, social and political trust, globalization, and social science research methods. His current projects investigate the decoupling of greenhouse gas emissions from economic growth, and public attitudes towards policies for environmental protection.

Dr. Gisela Hirschmann

Gisela Hirschmann is currently Senior Assistant Professor of International Relations at the Institute of Political Science, Leiden University. Previous positions include a visiting fellowship at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University, a Max Weber post-doctoral fellowship at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, and Junior Professorship at the University of Bochum. She holds a PhD from Free University Berlin, Germany.

Her research interests focus on international organisations, multilateralism and institutional change. She has published a monograph on Accountability in Global Governance with Oxford University Press. Her work on international organizations has been published by international peer-reviewed journals, such as the Cambridge Journal of International Affairs, Cooperation & Conflict, the European Journal of International Relations, International Affairs and the Review of International Studies. Her research has been funded by the Dutch Research Council (NWO), the Gratama Foundation and the Fritz Thyssen Foundation. She is also actively involved in interdisciplinary collaboration, with a publication in the Journal of Peace Psychology and an ongoing project on Music and Peacebuilding.

In recognition of her work on the United Nations, she has been appointed member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the United Nations Association of Germany. In 2020, she co-founded the sub-section "International Organization" within the German Political Science Association and currently serves as a co-speaker. In 2024, she also serves as a jury member for the Els Witte PhD prize of the Dutch Association for Political Science and the Flemish Political Science Association.

Marta Sienkiewicz

Since September 2021, Marta Sienkiewicz is a PhD candidate at the Centre for Science and Technology Studies (CWTS) at Leiden University. Her research focuses on reforms of research assessment, particularly the 'Recognition & Rewards' initiative in the Netherlands. She studies how new approaches to evaluations in academia are developed, and with what effects, as well as what happens when established quantitative indicators used in research evaluations are problematised. Marta holds a Master of Science degree (cum laude) in sociology from the University of Amsterdam (2015) and a Bachelor of Science degree in applied social sciences from the University of Warsaw (2013). She also spent a year as an exchange student at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada.

Before her appointment at CWTS, she worked at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission in Brussels, where she focused on strengthening connections between science and policy towards evidence-informed policymaking inside the Commission and across the European Union. She co-edited the Science for Policy Handbook (2020). Beforehand – during and in-between her studies – she worked as researcher and research assistant at University of Amsterdam, University of Oxford, and several Polish NGOs dealing with cultural policies, citizen participation, urban change and ageing society. As a student, she received several scholarships and awards for outstanding academic merit.

Dr. Frans van Steijn (secretary)

Dr. Frans van Steijn holds a Bachelor's degree in Physics from Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and a Master's degree in Philosophy from the University of Amsterdam. He completed his Ph.D. in 1990 at the University of Amsterdam, focusing on the topic of "The Universities in Society: A Study of Part-time Professors in the Netherlands".

From 1996 onwards, Frans served as a Senior Advisor at the Vereniging van Universiteiten VSNU, now known as Universiteiten van Nederland UNL, which is the Association of Universities in the Netherlands. During his tenure, he held key roles as Secretary to the Board and Secretary to the Rector's Conference. His areas of expertise encompass quality assurance, research policy, and research integrity.

In September 2014, Frans retired from VSNU and founded an independent consultancy and project management firm specializing in quality assurance within universities and research organizations. In this new capacity, Frans van Steijn provided support to various research review committees and served as a secretary during institutional audits.



December 2023
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