

'Board botched it up'

WUR Council demands investigation
of failed merger with VHL. | **p.4** |

Smart Campus

'Campus is a data
gold mine.' | **p.12** |

Orion is finished

'The entire building feels
spacious.' | **p.20** |

RESOURCE ^[ENG]

For students and employees of Wageningen UR

no 18 – 16 May 2013 – 7th Volume

**INTERNATIONAL
EDITION**

Wageningen teacher training in Afghanistan

Behind the frontline

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>> JOOP + FILM NOIR

Joop Schaminée, professor of Nature Management and Plant Ecology

'I like all that gloom and doom'

Joop Schaminée is not really a gloomy chap at all. But he does love film noir. 'The cynicism and pessimism of the genre. The way it magnifies human failings. The petty crime, the femme fatale, the melancholy. That is interesting.' He has a collection of more than 700 films. Black and white. And just black. With Hitchcock as the absolute master. In his honour, a pastiche of the all-time classic *Rear Window*. **RK / photo: GA**



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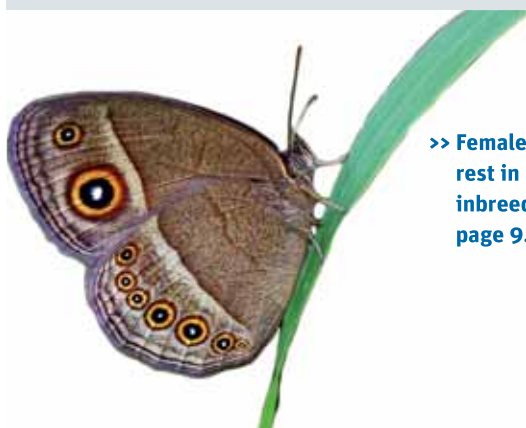
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OLD

As I was walking along the path past Forum, I met a DLO manager from Radix. His son, who is studying here, had been talking about the huge lecture hall and he was curious. He was not the only one. Orion was the hot topic this week: the lift boys, the half-divided lecture hall and the 'largest student bar' in Wageningen.

We would have loved to have moved into Orion as well – a fantastic building and close to students. Instead, we have just moved to Nexus, a renovated low building dating from 1966. It hardly bears comparison with Orion's grandeur... Board member Tijs Breukink opened the building officially last Monday. He said new buildings always get a lot of attention but renovating an old building is often the sustainable option. He's right, of course. A few hundred thousand euros spent on renovation will let 100 people carry on working here for another 15 years. We are giving this old building its final lease of life. And that can be satisfying too.

Gaby van Caulil



>> Female African butterflies show no interest in males that are the product of inbreeding. Find out how they can tell on page 9.

WUR COUNCIL DEMANDS INVESTIGATION INTO FAILED MERGER WITH VHL

- **‘Executive Board neglected university of applied sciences for too long’.**
- **Executive Board will give its response next week.**

The employees’ councils, united in the WUR council, are unusually negative about the role of the Executive Board in the failed partnership with the Van Hall Larenstein university of applied sciences. In a letter sent to the Board on 2 May, the WUR council talks of ‘muddling along’ and ‘a botch-up’. The council ‘demands a thorough, independent external evaluation’.

The council is annoyed that it was only asked for its advice after the decision to split up had been taken. In the letter, it now gives an ‘extremely negative advice’ about the split. It should be said this advice has no consequences as the council only has the right to give its opinion; its consent is not required.

The WUR council puts the blame for the failure of the partnership with VHL on the board. It feels that Wageningen UR focused too much on implementing the financial obligations and procedures at the applied university and neglected substantive collaboration, such as joint education and the possibility

for VHL graduates to transfer to Wageningen university. The board is accused of not doing enough to generate broad support. The council says a crucial factor was that the chairman of the board, Aalt Dijkhuizen, did not act as a leader who could unite people when the problems became clear. Incidentally, the WUR council recognizes that VHL’s employees’ council, which has had a poor relationship with the management since 2010, ‘became increasingly intransigent in defending its own position’.

EXTERNAL INVESTIGATION

Although the partnership has now ended, the WUR council still wants

an external investigation. ‘We want to draw lessons from this,’ explains WUR council secretary Nico Lenis. ‘It’s a pretty big thing: Wageningen UR had three pillars and now one of them has gone. We want to find out what went wrong and what the Executive Board’s role was. We have our own ideas on the matter but it’s good to have an external evaluation check that.’

The Executive Board is not responding publicly to the allegations at present. Spokesman Simon Vink says: ‘The council will receive a reply; we are currently working on a letter.’ The VHL split is an item on the agenda for the next meeting between the council and Executive Board, on Wednesday 22 May.  GvC

THE FIRST

‘You’ll be able to tell your grandchildren later that you were the first students to be taught in Orion,’ jokes ecology lecturer Elmer Veenendaal on Monday morning, 6 May. The large lecture hall is not fully open and that takes some getting used to. The wooden wall, which is intended to enable the hall to be split into two, prevents the students on one side from being able to see or hear the students on the other side.

Underneath the lecture hall is the canteen and the ‘largest student bar in Wageningen’. Orion has its own caterer, OSP. You can also get Chinese take-aways, just like in Forum.

Orion is slightly taller than Forum, 48 metres compared with 44 metres. Orion is the third monolith to appear on campus after Atlas (2006) and Forum (2007). The fourth Helix for food scientists is scheduled for 2015.  GvC



WAGENINGEN A WORLD LEADER IN AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

- **QS: Wageningen in second place.**
- **Environmental sciences ranked tenth in the world.**

QS World Universities Ranking puts Wageningen in second position among agricultural universities. Only UC Davis in the US has a better agricultural faculty. Wageningen's environmental sciences are ranked tenth in the world.

The British company QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) has been ranking the best universities since 2004, initially in partnership with *The Times Higher Education*. This year, QS presented a ranking of universities in the area of agriculture & forestry for the first time. Wageningen ended as number two, before a whole series of American universities including Cornell. QS bases the ranking on scores for reputation given by scien-

tists and employers, the number of citations per article, teaching capacity and the extent to which the university is internationally oriented.

Wageningen was among the top three agricultural universities a few years ago as well in a Taiwanese ranking, but the opinion of QS counts for more in the world of the ranking agencies.

The QS ranking was a good advert for the Wageningen degree programmes Agricultural and Bio-

resource Engineering and Environmental Sciences as *Spits* newspaper mistakenly interpreted the ranking as a list of degrees and other media copied this. 'I haven't found my degree in the ranking,' says course director Jan Willem Hofstee of Agricultural and Bio-resource Engineering. 'The score applies to all agricultural and food science subjects as a whole. But I felt no urgent need to put the media right.' **R AS**

in brief

>> POLLING BOOTH

Voting on campus

A polling booth may be installed on campus. The municipality is discussing this option with Wageningen UR. The next elections are the local elections on 19 March next year. The request for a polling booth comes from the political party D66, which argues that a polling booth at work would make it easier for many Wageningen UR employees to cast their vote. The new polling booth will replace the polling booth at the Dijkgraaf student flats. **R RK**

>> ORION

Wanted: money for roof garden

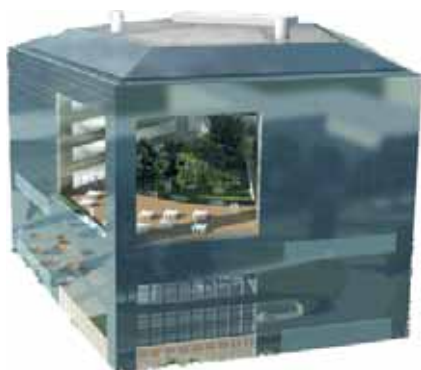
The roof garden with trees on Orion's third floor will have to wait. 'There's no budget for it at the moment,' confirms builder Jan Driesse. The third-floor garden was supposed to be one of the

eye-catching elements in Orion. But Driesse says the available budget was less than the price quoted by the lowest bidder. Now the garden needs sponsors or grants to save it. Study association Sylvatica offered to provide a tree but that offer was rejected as it would be too expensive to maintain. The planned greenery on the ground floor in front of the café will be coming: plant pots will be installed at the back behind the wooden benches on the granulated rubber floor. **R RK**

>> KROPFF AND BREUKINK

Reappointment of board members

In April, the Supervisory Board appointed a selection committee for the reappointment of the board members Martin Kropff (rector) and Tijs Breukink (finance and business). Their terms of office expire on 1 October. The committee consists of Margreeth de Boer, Job Cohen, Harm Evert Waalkens and - for the reappointment of Tijs Breukink - financial expert Berry Marttin. It is officially still possible to replace the two board members but a letter of 26 April to the employees' council makes it clear that the Supervisory Board is assuming they will be reappointed. In January, supervisory board member Margreeth de Boer already stated she saw no reason to look for new candidates. **R GvC**



SCHAMINÉE <<

Ownership

This month the eight polar countries are getting together in the Arctic Council to discuss the future of the North Pole. More and more countries are seeking a say on the region in the hope that they can then share the pickings when it comes to exploitation of its underground resources, for instance. So who has a say and who does the melting icecap belong to, actually?

The subject of ownership and property has occupied great minds over many centuries. Thomas Aquinas stated back in the 13th century that private property comes with responsibilities and unavoidable cares. Common property, on the other hand, can easily lead to misuse and over-exploitation, a process that came to be known as the Tragedy of the Commons. Air pollution and overfishing are two obvious examples. The English philosopher John Locke (1632-1704) linked the concept of property to that of labour. He stated that God gave the world to all humanity in common, but that anything created through your own labour is yours. In other words: a tree belongs to everyone but if you make a table out of it, that is yours. In spite of all these theories, I am continually reminded of the famous 1854 speech of Chief Seattle. What do you mean by ownership and property? His speech was a response to the bid by the American government to buy the land of the Duwamish Indians. Is that possible, Seattle asked his white audience. 'If we do not own the freshness of the air and the sparkle of the water, how can you buy them?'

Haven't we learned anything? **R Joop Schaminée**

DEMONSTRATION AGAINST MONSANTO (AND WAGENINGEN UR)

- Protesters want to draw attention to the 'abuse of power' by the seed giant.
- Fourteen hundred people have already said on Facebook that they will be taking part.

On 25 May, there is going to be a demonstration in Wageningen against the chemicals and seed giant Monsanto and against Wageningen UR. The organizers of the protest include the Independent Critical Student Group from Wageningen. A counter for the participants on Facebook has now reached 1400 and it is still climbing. Throughout the world, some 250 'Marches against Monsanto' will be held.

The protesters say that the marches have been triggered by a co-

lourful array of alleged wrongdoing at Monsanto. The common themes are the supposed abuse of power and harmful policies operated by the multinational. The Critical Student Group also states that academic research – including at Wageningen – has become too closely intertwined with commercial interests. 'We don't feel we're being called to account,' responded Simon Vink, the spokesman for the Executive Board. The university has not been asked for a substantive response, according to Vink, and so it will not respond spontaneously to 'anyone who says something on Facebook.'

Originally, the protest march route was going to go through the campus. 'We discussed it with the university,' said Sacha Steinmetz, spokesperson for the Critical Student Group, 'but the idea wasn't

well received, because there are some buildings with expensive research equipment.' The board did however agree to the march starting at the former head office on Duivendaal. It will go from there to Seminis, a seed company that has been taken over by Monsanto. In the meantime there will be speeches and flowers will be laid 'in remembrance of all the farmers who have escaped from Monsanto's unfairly restrictive contracts by taking their own lives.'

The town council's response is that they are happy to let the demonstration go ahead. 'Appropriate measures' have been taken to ensure it passes off peacefully. The organizers want that as well: 'We want to see what we can do to make it go peacefully,' says Steinmetz, 'so that a few individuals won't ruin it for the whole group.' **RR**

VAN RAVENZWAAY: 'PAN CRITICISMS NOT JUSTIFIED'

- Contentious professor is investigating replacement for animal experiments.

Bennard van Ravenzwaay, is not bothered by the criticism in some quarters of his appointment as professor holding an endowed chair in Reproduction and Development Toxicology. 'It's just a pity that PAN didn't take a closer look at the content of my assignment.' PAN is the campaign group Pesticide Action Network. Its European branch used the inauguration of Van Ravenzwaay as an opportunity to condemn Wageningen UR's close relations with industry. PAN's press release received considerable attention in the media.

Van Ravenzwaay's chair is funded by his employer BASF, where Van Ravenzwaay is vice-president of Experimental Toxicology and Ecology. PAN says BASF is buying influence on the university's research. Van Ravenzwaay rejects the accusations. 'It is good to give information on someone's background when they are appointed to an important position. I had to supply a lot of documentation before my appointment could be confirmed. The procedure was followed meticulously.'

Van Ravenzwaay doesn't understand the criticism. 'The aim of my research is to avoid the need for animal testing. How can you call that biased? In my speech, I tried explain the pros and cons of in vitro studies as a replacement for animal testing. The big advantage of in vitro is that you need fewer animal experiments. It also lets you discover key adverse effects of a new substance at an early stage. That saves on money and animal experiments. So it's a win-win situation.'

Van Ravenzwaay actually started at Wageningen over a year ago. His research focuses on establishing the toxicity of substances for prenatal life using methods that do not involve animal testing. **RK**

CHILLY SPORTS DAY



The weather was a let-down, there were fewer activities than in previous years, there was no live music and it was less busy. But that did not mean the new-style WeDay, on Tuesday 14 May, was any less fun. WeDay is back to being a normal sports day, with the It's A Knockout style competition in the middle of the athletics track as the largest, most prominent element. So no being creative with cupcakes, coffee tasting or similar amusements this time. So far, the fear that the new format would mean the end of WeDay seems to be misplaced. Bongerd director Kloosterman says 1740 employees attended. Fewer than in previous years, but not by much. **RK**, foto RG

IDEALIS REVIVES BUILDING PLANS

- Work can start on Nobelweg and Lawickse Hof.
- Student accommodation provider also wants to build on campus.

Student accommodation provider Idealis has dusted off its plans for new buildings. The housing corporation hopes to start work on student accommodation on Nobelweg and Lawickse Hof before the end of the year.

At the end of 2012, Idealis put its investment plans on the back burner because of uncertainty about the government's plans. The accommodation provider said it was concerned that the envisaged method of determining rents in combination with the new landlord levy would eat into its budget. What is more, the social housing guarantee fund WSW was no lon-



Future Campus Plaza

ger providing guarantees; housing corporations need these guarantees in order to be able to take out loans.

When the housing agreement was reached in February this year, that was the end of some of these government plans. And this meant there was room again for new projects. Bart van As, head of Property at Idealis, is pleased the plans for new construction can be revived.

'Wageningen University is expecting further growth in the number of students in the years ahead. We will be drawing up a new building plan jointly with the municipality and Wageningen UR as soon as possible.'

After the summer, Idealis hopes to begin on the construction of around 150 student rooms on Dolderstraat/Nobelweg. The plans for Lawickse Hof are also being resurrected. In addition, Idealis intends to get involved in the plans for Campus Plaza. The idea is for 400 student rooms to be built on what is now the barren site on Bornsesteeg, plus one or two cafes, eateries and shops. The municipal council will be taking a decision next month about the university's plans. As of next week, project developers will be able to register their interest in building the residential and retail accommodation for Campus Plaza. **LR LvdN**

NEW DIRECTOR FOR BREED4FOOD

- De Geus will head consortium.

On 1 June, Bernard de Geus will become the new director of Breed4Food, the research partnership between Wageningen UR and four animal breeding companies. De Geus comes from TTI Green Genetics. Breed4Food was set up last year. In this consortium, the university's Animal Breeding and Genetics group will be collaborating with the breeding companies CRV, Hendrix, Topigs and Cobb. They will be working on genomics for breeding robust livestock animals. The companies want to join forces in applying DNA expertise for breeding. To achieve this, they want to invest jointly with the university in number-crunching capacity and equipment for the analysis of genetic information. De Geus will be responsible for the consortium's research programme. **LR AS**

YOU CAN DO REALLY INTERESTING THINGS WITH INSECTS

Why did you write such a wide-ranging book about entomophagy?

'I got the idea in 2010. Eating insects was only a local, Asian thing then and we wanted to turn it into a global issue. The book covers every aspect: gastronomy, economics, culture.'

Is interest in the consumption of insects increasing?

'Yes, but there are still obstacles preventing the industry taking up insects in a big way. Take legislation for instance. Only in June will it become possible for fisheries to use insects as fish feed. Once such obstacles are eliminated, it could take off fast.'

The biggest problem preventing consumers from eating insects is the disgust factor. Is that a permanent problem?

'Not at all. I was in Denmark two weeks ago at the renowned restaurant Noma and they are already using insects. Everyone who works there is given insects to eat. Bit by bit, the entire catering sector is becoming aware that you can do really interesting things with insects. However, for the time being they will remain a delicacy – it is simply too expensive in comparison with meat.' **LR RR**



Who? Arnold van Huis, professor of Tropical Entomology

What? International press picked up on his book *Edible Insects*, presenting the current state of knowledge about the consumption of insects ('entomophagy')

Why? Entomophagy is a very efficient way of providing the world with more protein

QUOTE

'That's not an accusation, it's the truth. A Zembla TV programme demonstrated the relationship.'

Beekeeper Pim Lemmers is certain that 'Wageningen university' is sponsored by pesticide company Bayer (Haarlems Dagblad, 14 May).

KITO



Orion toilets / Bleep / Wash your hands!

HOW TO SELL SUSTAINABILITY

- Science Cafe about an economy without waste.
- Money not always effective in changing behaviour.

It is not so difficult to think up sustainable alternatives to everyday processes. The technology is not the problem, thinks social psychologist Michel Handgraaf (Economics of Households and Consumers). Getting people to choose the sustainable option is the difficult part. Handgraaf will be putting that proposition during the Science Cafe next Thursday in Loburg. The theme for the evening is what is known as the circular economy. Louise Vet (Netherlands Institute of Ecology director) will be advocating a radical new way of dealing with raw materials. The key is reusing materials and having closed cycles.

Handgraaf knows from studies in his own field how difficult it is to influence human behaviour. Rewards help, as all parents know. But what is the best reward? Does money work better than a (publicized) pat on the back, for instance? Not always, as shown by



A public pat on the back turns out to be the best way of encouraging sustainable behaviour.

ILLUSTRATION: ISTOCK

a study of his published recently in Ecological Economics. Ecofys employees were 'held to account' for their computer's energy consumption. A public pat on the back for energy-efficient behaviour turned out to be by far the most effective measure. A monetary reward actually sometimes had an adverse effect: people were so disgusted they used more energy rather than less.

Grants do not always persuade people to make the switch. 'My

favourite example is always the cyclist who stands at the roadside with a flat tyre,' says Handgraaf. 'If the cyclist asks you for help, it's highly likely you will help him. But if he says "I'll give you one euro" you won't do it. Then you'll say "Just one euro? No way!" The focus has shifted from doing something good for someone else to a financial transaction. People being offered one euro as compensation for dirty hands will say no. Efficient behaviours often only

result in small financial gains.' In contrast, the grants for solar panels have been extremely successful, says Handgraaf, because the returns were sufficiently high.

The appropriate approach depends on the target group. Handgraaf says that is the real challenge. 'The real question is not whether it is technologically possible. Far more thought needs to go into how to persuade people to make the right choice.' **RR**

DISTRACTIONS HINDER HEALTHY CHOICE

- Hedonistic products tie in more with intuitive thinking.

The choice for healthy food is a rational process. If this thought process is disrupted, for example by distractions, a person will be more likely to make an intuitive choice, in other words opt for the unhealthy product. This is the conclusion reached by Gerrit Antonides and Leonie Cramer of the Economics of Consumers and Households group in their research. They published their findings in the journal *Appetite*.

Antonides gave 1614 secondary school students a candy bar (hedonistic/unhealthy) or an apple (beneficial/healthy) at random. The students were then allowed to exchange the snacks with one another. Those who had been given an apple were all too eager to do the exchange: about 50 percent wanted a candy bar instead. On the other hand, only 19 percent of those who were given a candy bar preferred an apple.

A group of these test subjects were then instructed to remember a number with seven digits, which was quite a chore for the memory. The other classes were asked to

remember only two digits. Antonides suspected that thinking about a long number would hinder rational reasoning, and that would make people choose more intuitively.

HOMO ECONOMICUS

The experiment appears to have confirmed this suspicion. The proportion of students who wanted to swap a candy bar for a healthy apple, dropped from 19 to 12 percent in the group who had to remember the difficult number. On the other hand, the percentage of students who wanted to swap their apple remained the same.

Antonides thinks the effect is only seen with hedonistic products because these 'tie in more with intuitive thinking'.

The paper's reviewers proposed two other explanations. First, the products were not of equal value. A real *Homo economicus* would have chosen the more expensive one: the candy bar or a packet of potato chips. Second, social norms could play a part. Do boys choose something unhealthy to look tough? Antonides is not overly bothered by these criticisms, although on hindsight he wishes he had taken the children's eating habits into account as well. **RR**

THE SCENT OF INBREEDING

- **Female butterfly can smell whether the male is a product of inbreeding.**
- **Mechanism revealed by nail varnish on butterfly antennae.**

Men who smell ill will not get much attention from the ladies but at least they have the option of a good wash. But males of the African butterfly species the Squinting Bush Brown are unable to hide their defects. If they are the product of inbreeding, the female butterflies will smell this and give them a wide berth. Rather a neat mechanism given that 50 percent of such males are infertile. A team from Leiden and Wageningen published these results on 2 May in the journal *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*.

The researchers compared the reproductive success of healthy males with males that are the product of one or two generations of inbreeding. The healthy specimens turned out to mate twice as often as butterfly males with mild or serious inbreeding. The underlying mechanism became clear in the second part of the study. The antennae of the females were dabbed with nail varnish so

that they were no longer able to perceive the male pheromones. The result was that the females made no distinction between inbred males and the rest. 'The negative effect of inbreeding on males' mating success is due to their scent. They are literally less likely to score,' says Bas Zwaan, professor of Genetics.

The researchers were able to eliminate another possible explanation, namely that the inbred males were in poorer condition. The males' ability to fly was only affected after two generations of inbreeding but the females were wise to their inbreeding after only one generation.

The males are betrayed by a single chemical compound from their cocktail of three pheromones. Males that are the product of inbreeding produce 17 percent less MSP2. The reduction was already clear following mild inbreeding and did not become significantly worse after further cross-breeding of brothers and sisters. Zwaan regrets not having carried out one particular experiment: sprinkling the males with a mixture of pheromones to see if they turned back into true Don Juans. 'If we'd done that, I reckon we might have got into *Nature* or *Science*.' **RR**



Female Squinting Bush Brown chooses partner by his scent.



VISION <<

'Demand for milk set to grow much faster'

The Chinese are buying up powdered milk in Dutch supermarkets because the people in China no longer trust the domestically produced powdered milk. That is the consequence of the melamine scandal in which children were poisoned by adulterated milk. 'It's not an easy situation to resolve,' says Professor Toon van Hooijdonk, who holds an endowed chair in Dairy Science. 'It will take a few years before China has decent infrastructure and quality control in the dairy market.'

If the entire dairy sector is shaky, why are the Chinese only focusing on powdered milk?

'It's to do with baby milk powder. It's a standard product but parents are prepared to do anything for their children's health. Plus Chinese manufacturers are reluctant to enter that market. A food company responsible for the food poisoning of babies runs a big risk with its reputation. That can lead to companies going bust - there are several examples of that.'

Can't the international dairy market satisfy the extra demand from China?

'Dairy producers are already finding it difficult to keep up with the growing global demand for dairy products. The FAO is predicting that demand for milk will increase by 50 percent by 2050. Production growth will mainly be in emerging economies such as China, India, Thailand and Brazil. Dutch dairy farmers can produce an extra one to two million tons of milk when the milk quota ends. But the global demand for milk is set to rise by 300 million tons over the coming decades.'

Should Western dairy companies like FrieslandCampina invest in China to satisfy the demand for safe baby milk?

'They already do. They take over local companies or set up partnerships, not just in China but also in countries such as Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and African countries - the places where dairy consumption is rising. They don't just invest in the market but also in quality control and dairy farmers. That is essential; if the dairy companies don't invest in the farmers, in the long run it will be difficult for them to build up a position in the markets of these emerging economies.' **AS**

PROPOSITION

'Due to oral culture, Rwandan people spent a disproportionate amount of their income talking on the cell phone'

Mbarushimana Désiré Kagabo, who graduates with a PhD on 14 May in Wageningen

VACCINE HOODWINKS IMMUNE SYSTEM

- **Chikungunya virus has spread as far as Southern Europe.**
- **Doctoral student develops vaccine using virus-like particles.**

The chikungunya virus may not be deadly but the disease it causes can be pretty miserable for the patient, leading to with painful joints reminiscent of arthritis, for instance, and fever. The virus, which is spread by mosquitos, was discovered 60 years ago in Tanzania but in recent years there have been outbreaks in Asia and it has also been reported in Southern Europe.

It took PhD student Stefan Metz only four years to develop a vaccine for the disease. Usually a live but weakened virus is used for this, but that method is costly and not without risks. Therefore Metz developed a new vaccine on the basis of virus-like particles (VLPs). 'An individual virus consists of a packet of proteins with DNA or RNA at the centre,' he explains. 'The genetic material enables the reproduction of the virus while the proteins on the outside are

recognized by our body and trigger the immune response. A VLP consists of the protein structure without the genetic material. It is recognized as a chikungunya virus but is unable to reproduce and therefore functions as a vaccine.'

The elegant VLPs are already being used to fight other diseases, such as in the vaccines for cervical cancer and 'flu. Tests of the chikungunya vaccine on mice showed that this vaccine offered complete protection from the virus. But years of expensive clinical trials are needed before the vaccine can be approved for use. Virology has now got follow-up funding for this. Metz will defend his thesis on 24 June. After that, he will be working as a postdoc at the University of Amsterdam on the HIV virus. **AS**

On the right the virus. On the left the vaccine developed by Metz; it still contains the surface proteins so that our immune system reacts to it, but it cannot reproduce as it has no DNA or RNA.

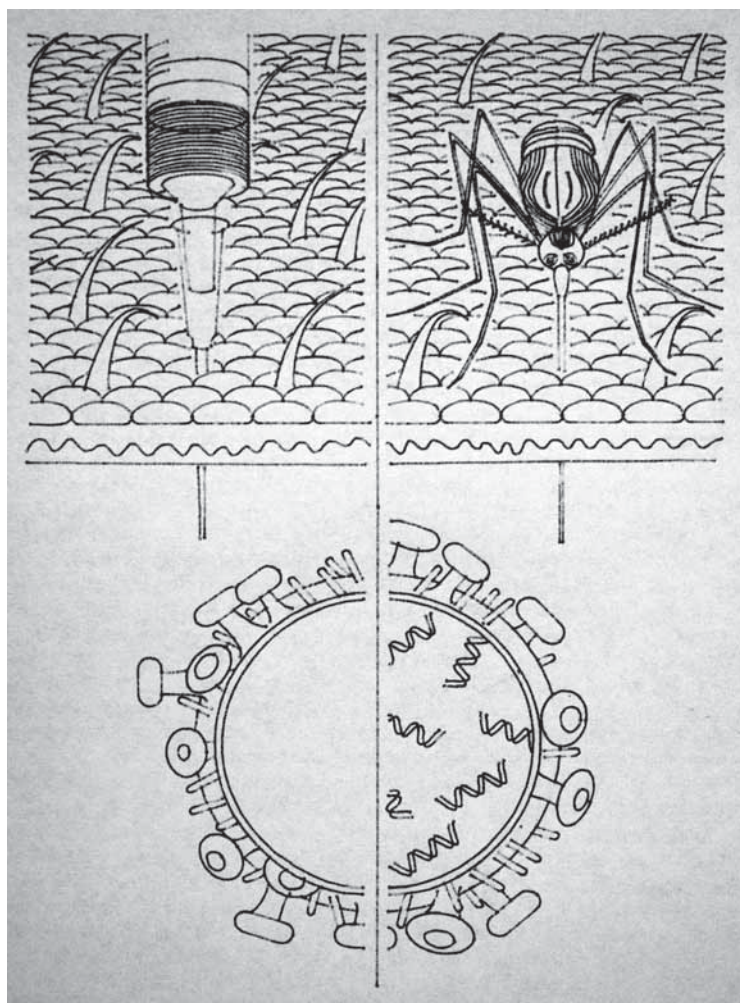


ILLUSTRATION: ROGIER ARENTS

VELUWE ITSELF REASON FOR RAINY VELUWE

- **Altitude and woodland lead to more rain.**
- **Substantial effect especially in winter.**

Forests and mountains can influence the local climate, as everyone knows who has been in the Alps. It can be raining on one side of the mountain while you have bright sunshine on the other side. But those are mountains. What is the effect on rainfall of the Veluwe, for example, where height differences are 100 metres at most? But that matters more than you might think, as a study by meteorologist Herbert ter Maat (Alterra) and

colleagues demonstrates.

Scientists have to rely on models to measure the influence of altitude or land use. After all, you cannot just fell all the trees on the Veluwe or level it out. Ter Maat used a weather model in which he simulated these two extreme situations and compared them to a control set based on real data for an average summer month and winter month in the Netherlands. Ter Maat: 'The difference compared with the control data says something about the contribution woodland or altitude makes to rainfall.'

And that contribution is considerable. Woodland and altitude have a particularly big

effect in winter, leading to a difference in precipitation of nearly 18 percent in some places. The extra rainfall in the summer is less: up to 10 percent due to altitude and up to 6 percent due to woods. It should be said that the average effect for the Veluwe as a whole is rather less, with six millimetres of extra rain.

CLIMATE MODELS

Incidentally, the finding that more rain falls on the Veluwe is not new. Measurements by the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute give an annual rainfall of up to 75-100 millimetres greater (10-15 percent) than in the rest of the country. Ter Maat's simulations

show why that is. Woodland and higher altitude lead to changes in evaporation, vertical wind speeds and turbulence. Those changes affect the formation of clouds and ultimately the rainfall.

So you can influence the weather by planting trees. Ter Maat: 'Woods affect precipitation. Woods are better at holding water than grassland. That means converting grassland into woodland in temperate zones such as here will have an effect.' This knowledge is particularly useful for improving existing climate and weather models. 'You see that you need to include land use and topography properly in your model as they affect the results.' **RK**

>> RESOURCE.WUR.NL

Out of reach, out of sight and out of order: our site went through a bad patch this week. Between the blips there was some chitchat about smart lifts and the new building Orion. But the hottest topic was criticism from Greek students and alumni. Join in!

Got something to say too? Email your views to resource@wur.nl

GREEK RHETORIC

Greek students were offended by a comment in Resource. In a sometimes rather blunt discussion the main issue was 'the tone of the debate'. Luckily there was some substantial discussion as well.

The angry reactions focused mainly on the last edition of In My Opinion. 'I don't see [the royal family] as a waste of money,' said **John Schouten**, canteen manager at De Bongerd. 'Greece and Cyprus: that is a waste of money.' This rubbed Greek students and alumni up the wrong way. **Theodoros Matakidis** sent us a friendly email saying Resource should have emphasized that this was a personal opinion and not that of the magazine. Others went further; 'We feel this comment should NOT have been published,' wrote chair of the federation of Greek communities in the Netherlands **Pavlos Kerasavopoulos**. 'This is a racist comment. A serious magazine should NEVER publish something like this.' We disagree. Admittedly, this was not the most subtle or well-argued political commentary of 2013. But the comment is not racist and shows that some Dutch people have other ideas about policy than the government.

Be that as it may, substantial discussion supported by arguments is so much more constructive than just shouting 'racism!' Not to mention more interesting. So we are pleased that so many Greek and Dutch students came up with arguments in support of their views on Schouten's words. 'We are sick of this situation,' writes **Georgios Mitrakas**, '[some Dutch people] have no idea what is going on in our country. Opinions should be based on facts.' **Kleoniki Kipourou** points out that the causes of the eurocrisis are a lot more complex than 'all Greeks are lazy', as any first-year student of economics can explain. 'Sooner or later everyone will understand that the problem in Europe is not the southern member states but the faulty architecture of

the common currency, and that budget cuts make matters worse.'

Others hint at the fact that the Netherlands has made money from support to Greece. What is more, this country is more deeply in debt than any other member state. The Greek students also stress what their presence here is worth to the Netherlands. 'I don't think we in the Netherlands waste public money,' says **Konstantina Staikou**, 'The Netherlands makes a lot of money out of Greek students, considering they are the third largest student community after the Germans and the Chinese.' **Sofia Arapaki** agrees entirely. 'I am a Greek student who came to Wageningen University about two and a half years ago. I came here on a grant from my country and I have spent almost all my money here.' **Akis** asks Schouten for a little bit of understanding: 'He ought to know that Greeks are now going through hell.' Incidentally, there are plenty of Dutch contributors who think what Schouten said was nonsense. 'Why do you get so worked up about one comment by the canteen man?' asks **AK**, 'which [anyway] wasn't supported by a single argument.' He hopes that a more interesting dialogue will be possible between Europeans, with fewer stereotypes flying around. He does not seem terribly optimistic about the EU: 'During the good times we are all Europeans, but when the going starts getting tougher we are Dutch, Greeks and Germans. Do we want a union on that basis?'

FILM!

The new building Orion has recently been completed and is now in use. Resource editor Rob Goossens made a film about the building of Orion. It is about the shortage of space at the Leeuwenborch and in the Forum, about solar heating, floating rooms and Wageningen's biggest student café. Come and watch it on our site at <http://tinyurl.com/boku3kj>.



ILLUSTRATION: ESTHER BROUWER

colophon

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The smartest

The campus is bursting with information. But what do we do with it all? Not nearly enough, says Matthijs Danes. He dreams of a Smart Campus: Wageningen's shop window and a testing ground for public innovation.

text: Roelof Kleis / **photo:** Apple

Matthijs Danes (Alterra, Spatial Knowledge Systems team) specializes in geographical information and communication. In itself, the subject is not difficult to explain to potential clients. But how do you make it really interesting? In other words, without using the same old PowerPoints and bullet points? His answer to this question is the Smart Campus. But the answer goes beyond an appealing acquisition idea. 'There is more to communication than just imparting information. You need to interest and entertain your audience. And with a bit of luck that starts up a discussion that takes on a life of its own in the crowd. Letting the crowd be part of the process,' explains Danes. 'Let people find out the value of your information for themselves and even enhance it by contributing to it. A sort of public innovation. In the Geo club we are trying to provide the infrastructure for that. We make data available and provide instructions for adding data yourself and interpreting it.'

It all sounds a bit vague still. A nice example of combining information with entertainment – 'experience communication' or immersion in information – is 'augmented reality'. Two years ago, before the foundation stone of the now completed building Orion had been laid, a gadget from the Geolab enabled you to experience the

building virtually. An app on your smartphone enables you to walk around the building and even go inside it, for all the world as if it already existed. A touch of magic.

DYNAMIC INFORMATION

But even this was not yet really 'smart'. It was actually just static information packaged in an appealing format. Nice, but not smart enough, says head of Education Facilities Joris Fortuin. 'In my view, smart means delivering dynamic information: what I see today is different again tomorrow, because the information has changed.' Together with Danes and Marc Lamers (director of Corporate Communication and Marketing), Fortuin is in a working party being formed to work out the details of the smart campus.

'We take a lot of measurements on the campus,' explains Fortuin. 'The number of people in buildings, the energy and water consumption et cetera. But could we pass on that dynamic information to particular target groups? We are now developing an app which will help you find your way around the campus. That is static information. By linking it to we@wur, you could make it possible to find people of campus too. That is still not truly 'smart'. But if you extended the app with the menu of the restaurants on campus, it would become quite a bit

campus

more dynamic. And that is when the fun starts. That is when it gets really smart. Combining information smartly, that is what a Smart Campus means to me.'

Fortuin looks at the concept from the operational angle. How do I make the new technique useful and usable in daily life on campus? 'I am regularly asked by students whether it is possible to get an idea of the number of available work stations. In theory it's possible. Through our network we can see which computers are available. Students can also work in the computer rooms when they are free. That is dynamic information that you can turn into usable information for students using an app.' The question is of course, who is going to pay for this? It costs money to creating an app.

OPEN HOUSE

'The Smart Campus is a concept designed to make what goes on at the campus visible,' says Lamers from his perspective. 'Visibility is what it's all about. The Smart Campus is a way of presenting yourself. We have here a very extraordinary organization and you can show that in innovative and surprising ways using the Smart Campus concept.' The question is of course, how? Lamers admits that he does not have a ready answer to that. 'I do not yet have a full picture of the possibilities. But with the Smart Campus you can make every day an open day, for example. Now we do that twice a year for prospective students. But we could do it 365 days a year.'

'We recently had the 'drop in on the neighbours' project. That is something you could do virtually of course. Hang up a couple of webcams in the greenhouses, for instance. The aim is to get in touch with each other. It's all about interconnection, a sense of community, and of taking a pride in that. You could make Impulse an international center of debate, so that you don't have to be


physically present on the campus to join in the debate. The 'smart' part of it is the interaction with people: with colleagues, students and external parties. If you enter into exchange of ideas and opinions, you show your social engagement. You become an open house instead of an ivory tower.'

IDEAS

For initiator Danes the main aim is experimentation. 'There is a gold mine of data available on campus. In our buildings we have about 1800 sensors that provide information about our environment every few minutes. What can we do with it? We want to open up the information to students. Show things that usually stay invisible, using apps, routes or interactive maps. Go on, get started. We also want to make a simple kit for this with its own sensor for measuring time, movement, images and other things. For no more than 50 euros' worth of material, and just

'In our buildings we have about 1800 sensors that provide information about our environment every few minutes'

start measuring. Perfect for giving you the scope to come up with all sorts of crazy ideas.'

The point is that for Danes the real innovation does not lie in the hardware. 'It's about the creativity, the cross-connections you can make between disciplines. My big dream is to organize a big event for students on campus. They would create a working app in one day. An event with prizes and everything. The stimulus of the interaction between them will boost innovation.' 

Teacher training on scorched

The Dutch military are withdrawing from Afghanistan but Wageningen UR is still active there. In a green enclave in Kabul, a new agricultural teacher training college is setting up. Without armed guards. 'We are assuming that we are not a target for the Taliban.'

text: Albert Sikkema / **photo:** Hans van Otterloo

Out on the edge of the dusty grey metropolis of Kabul there is a little patch of green. It is the practice plot at Wageningen UR's teacher training college in Afghanistan. This two-year applied sciences programme prepares teachers to work at agricultural secondary schools in Afghanistan. Interest in the programme is growing fast. Last year about 100 students started at the National Agriculture Education College (NAEC) in Kabul. This year – the school year has just begun – numbers have more than tripled to 325. The school is managed by Hans van Otterloo of the Centre for Development Innovation. He was back in Wageningen briefly at the beginning of April.

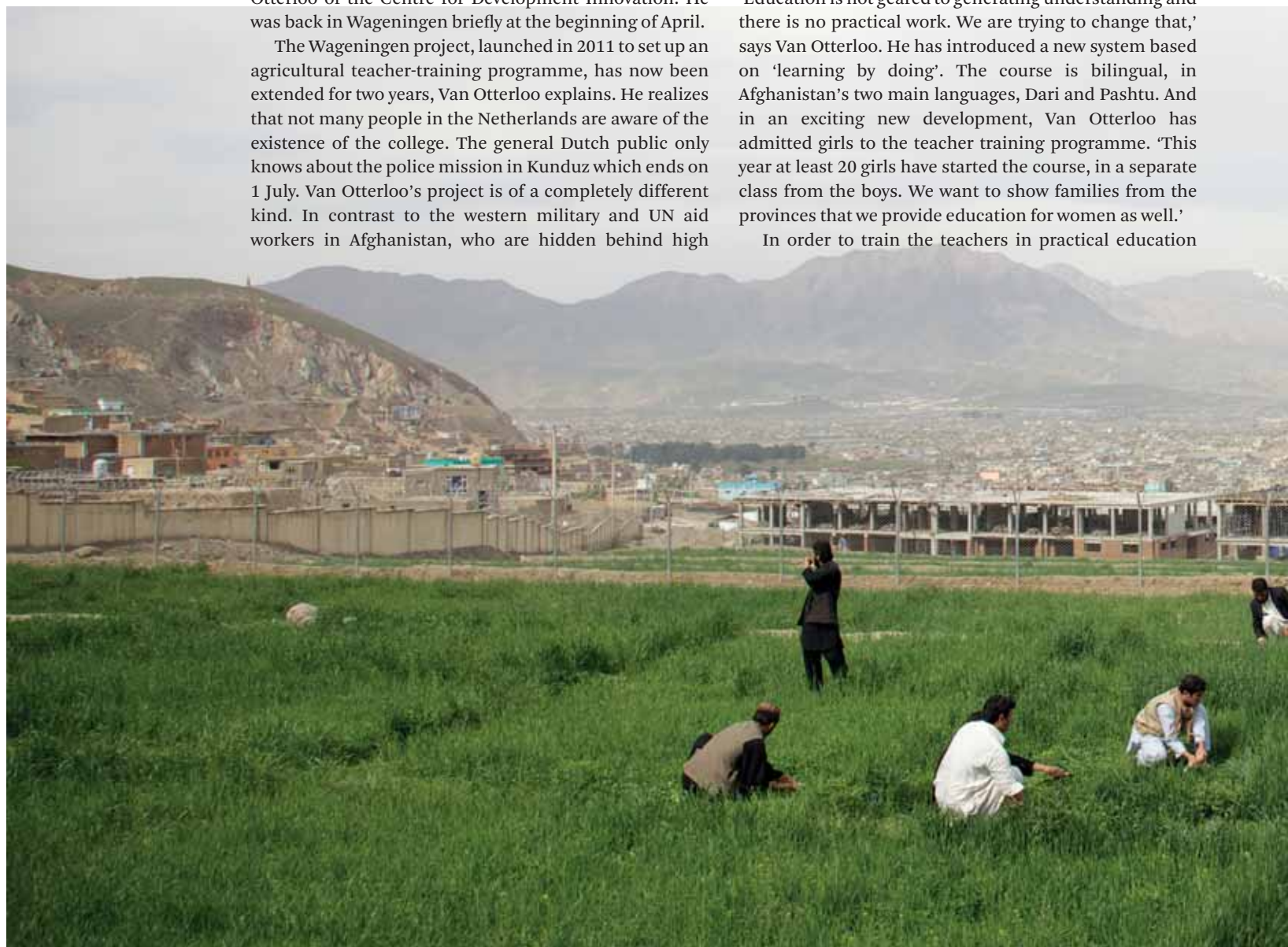
The Wageningen project, launched in 2011 to set up an agricultural teacher-training programme, has now been extended for two years, Van Otterloo explains. He realizes that not many people in the Netherlands are aware of the existence of the college. The general Dutch public only knows about the police mission in Kunduz which ends on 1 July. Van Otterloo's project is of a completely different kind. In contrast to the western military and UN aid workers in Afghanistan, who are hidden behind high

reinforced concrete walls, the school compound is fairly open. 'We are an educational institution; there are no armed guards walking around,' says Van Otterloo. 'We are supported by the Afghanistan government. Anyway, agricultural education is not one of the Taliban's targets. We are assuming we are not a target. And if they really mean business, there is no holding them back.' You cannot exclude all risks in Afghanistan, says Van Otterloo. 'If Geert Wilders comes up with another strange film, we might have to stay at home for a week. Whenever there is a public outcry we are cautious.' By 'we' he means the four westerners on the staff of the agricultural teachers' college, as well as their German neighbours who are setting up a technical college.

LEARNING BY DOING

The Wageningen Afghanistan team has already drawn up a new curriculum for the agricultural college. It requires quite a change of mentality among the teachers-to-be. Rote learning is standard practice in Afghanistan, with the pupils repeating their lessons after the teacher. 'Education is not geared to generating understanding and there is no practical work. We are trying to change that,' says Van Otterloo. He has introduced a new system based on 'learning by doing'. The course is bilingual, in Afghanistan's two main languages, Dari and Pashtu. And in an exciting new development, Van Otterloo has admitted girls to the teacher training programme. 'This year at least 20 girls have started the course, in a separate class from the boys. We want to show families from the provinces that we provide education for women as well.'

In order to train the teachers in practical education



earth

methods, the college has a greenhouse and a practice plot. The teacher training college is expected to grow until it takes 400 students per year but in the current building there is not enough sleeping accommodation. New accommodation is therefore due to be built shortly. 'The students come from all over the place,' says Van Otterloo. 'We have students from 23 of the 35 provinces.' The standard of its facilities make the Wageningen school exceptional in Afghanistan. At the vocational schools where Van Otterloo's students will soon be teaching, conditions are often primitive. 'There may be more than 100 schools but the pupils at them often do not even have a roof over their heads.'

In a situation like this, agricultural education has to be developed from scratch. Wageningen delivers basic knowledge about water, livestock and arable farming. As an example: what is soil, what different the compositions and layers are there in soils, what minerals do they contain and why are some soils are red and others brown? 'The teaching material is meant for students of between 15 and 18 who have a basic knowledge of biology and maths but do not know anything about agriculture yet,' says curriculum developer Matilda Rizopulos in Wageningen. Only in the last year of the course do the students get classes in irrigation, plant breeding, animal management and business economics.

HARD TIMES


Agricultural knowledge is desperately needed in Afghanistan. After years of war, the production chains between farmers and consumers have been broken, says Van Otterloo. Most farmers are hard-pressed to feed

themselves and only in the vicinity of a few cities is farming relatively modernized. Only one percent of the farmers are visited by an agricultural extension worker every year. The country is far from being self-sufficient in grain, vegetables and meat. Thirty percent of the population is said to be dependent on food aid.

So what future does Van Otterloo see for the teacher training college? The crucial factor will be whether the different factions in Afghanistan can see eye to eye after the Americans leave. 'If Afghanistan doesn't collapse, this project stands a good chance.' But there are hard times

'If Afghanistan doesn't collapse, this project stands a good chance'


ahead. The Afghan government is 80 to 90 percent dependent on foreign aid funding and with the approaching departure of western troops this support will fall off rapidly, observes Van Otterloo. In 2015 the Afghan government will have to decide for itself how much money to spend on education. 'The agricultural schools in the provinces are already behind with paying teachers' salaries now.'

As a consequence, Van Otterloo predicts, the National Agriculture Education College, currently funded entirely by the Netherlands, may become a semi-commercial institution from 2015 to avoid being solely dependent on the government for its funding. In that case he will have to require the students to pay tuition fees. 'Whichever approach is taken, for me the most important thing is to significantly raise the standard of education in Afghanistan.' 





SAUSAGE

Joeri Messelink checks whether the charcoal is still glowing. It is Wednesday 8 May and despite the threat of rain, the meteorology student has invited a flatmate and three Ethiopian friends for a barbecue next to the Forum. The photographer was invited to have a bite too: he says the sausage was very tasty. As of 6 May, a permanent barbecue and fire bowl are available on campus. Just make a reservation via servicedesk.facilities@wur.nl to use them. You can get a grill and barbecue set from Reception.  GvC Foto: Lennart Verhoeven



‘Science needs conflict’

When it comes to complex social issues, Wageningen UR does not always succeed in making clear what the role of the independent researcher is. This can create the impression that scientists are at the beck and call of their clients. The case of the Alterra whistle-blower ‘X’ is a textbook example of this, says Professor Johan Bouma.

text: Albert Sikkema / **photo:** Guy Ackermans

Was Wageningen UR guilty of doing ‘research to order’ when it withheld a critical report on the measurement of groundwater levels by whistle-blower X two and a half years ago? The national ombudsman suggested as much in a recently published report, but according to Johan Bouma there was no question of it. And he should know, since he both reviewed X’s offending report and assessed the latter’s objection. ‘X published eight articles about the measurement of groundwater levels, so he was not banned from publishing,’ recalls Bouma. ‘Nor is it the case that his superiors misled the public by withholding his publication. It was more a question of confusion and things beyond anyone’s control, because publications with different findings came from the same research group.’

Bouma is emeritus professor of Soil Science, a member of Dutch academy of science KNAW, a former member of the WRR and a reviewer of several research programmes. He made his name with a publication on ‘wicked problems’, or highly complex social issues that lack a straightforward problem and solution, and involve many

stakeholders have much idea how to tackle these sorts of issues,’ says Bouma. ‘Researchers like to solve problems and clients want a clear answer. And if one thing is clear, it is that there isn’t one. There are only options, and each of the options involves weighing up the interests involved.’

POLDER MODEL

Water management in relation to nature and agriculture is another complex problem of this kind. Farmers want to keep groundwater levels low because that is better for the crop and for the soil’s carrying capacity; nature managers, on the other hand, aim at high groundwater levels to avoid desiccation. There is no such thing as ‘the’ best groundwater level. The water level in an area is a compromise reached after consultations between all the stakeholders. In the end the solution emerges thanks to the Dutch polder model of consultation (named for its use to reach agreement on land reclamation projects). In this process the measurements of the groundwater level are just one of the contributions made by research.

This role can be difficult for researchers who take measurements in order to contribute the facts. This was the case with X, who discovered that in some sandy soils the measuring tubes used in the Netherlands are good for measuring deep groundwater levels but not for shallow ones. ‘That was not just X’s opinion, that was a fact,’ says Bouma. A knowledge institution should applaud a ground-breaking discovery like this, says the professor. ‘Critical research means undermining existing insights. Science needs conflict in order to make progress. But after that you have to get the scientists together and say: interesting discovery, but what does it mean for the

‘Neither the research world nor public stakeholders have much idea how to tackle these sorts of issues’

parties with very different opinions and points of view. Wicked problems include those of the intensive livestock sector, climate change, sustainable agriculture and bee deaths. ‘Neither the research world nor public

wicked problem at stake here?’ So the more conflicts there are behind closed doors, the better. But in public, close ranks and present a consistent story. That requires active research management.’

In X’s case that discussion was not conducted properly, believes Bouma. Colleagues leveled the criticism that X generalized his conclusions baselessly to all sandy soils in the Netherlands. And for political reasons the client was reluctant to adjust existing ideas about the role of groundwater levels. But the client also posed a knowledge-related question: what is the advice of Wageningen experts now? Because at the time Alterra, X included, was producing contradictory information. ‘There was a lack of a knowledge broker,’ says Bouma. ‘That is someone who is able to present the right knowledge at the right time to the right person in the right way. In short, someone who has a good grasp of the issues and a high social IQ.’


KNOWLEDGE BROKER

Researchers are not very interested in the knowledge broker’s role, Bouma notices. They want to get on with research, measurements and publishing – understandably, since that is what they are judged by. It all has to happen fast, whereas it can often take decades to solve wicked problems. The standard response by universities – put another PhD student on the job – just does not work in such cases. There is too little time for serious consultations with civil servants, companies and campaigners to find out what their insights and scientific questions are. This leads to a declining role for the research world in the modern knowledge society, claims Bouma. Gone are the days of the old model, in which the ignorant knowledge seeker comes to the omniscient researcher for advice. In the current knowledge society, everyone is a knowledge holder.

A recent example of poor knowledge management is the research on the consequences for the ammonia policy of spraying fields with manure. ‘That is a technical matter, as part of the wicked problem of creating sustainable agriculture. Injecting manure into the soil leads to relatively low ammonia emissions but under certain conditions, spraying can deliver the same low emissions, says Bouma. However, many years of research produced neither a consensus among Wageningen researchers, nor a coherent message for farmers and policymakers. ‘And I



blame myself as well for that, as I was one of the researchers.’ A knowledge broker could have helped here too, says Bouma. Farmers’ organizations recently sought direct contact with the lower house of the Dutch parliament, without involving researchers.

But there are also successful Wageningen projects in which researchers consult campaigners, farmers and policymakers from the start. From his own experience in the Transforum innovation programme, Bouma cites the Rondeel project in which researchers worked with partners to design a new barn for laying hens. That demands more than just getting together around the table, says Bouma. ‘The research community has to find new ways to integrate the insights of other knowledge holders into research questions.’ 

'ORION IS THE FINISHING TOUCH'

The new star in the Wageningen firmament is called Orion. The brand new building went into business on 6 May and student now have lectures there and can study at the work stations or take a coffee break in the luxurious grand café. Does the building live up to their expectations? We got some first reactions.

text: Kees van der Ark / **photo:** John Wiltink

Suzanne de Bruijn



student and bartender at the student café

'A beautiful building, and impressive that it was finished so quickly. Everything at our bar works fine, although we still have to get used to it and where to find things. We have only just opened but I reckon the people who have dropped in for a beer liked it. I had a lecture this morning in the big hall, too. It is good that there are screens halfway down the room, otherwise it would have been hard to follow everything.

Stef van der Krieken



student of Molecular Life Sciences

When you step out of the lift on the eighth floor, the view is fantastic. Impressive. The whole building has a pleasant, spacious feel to it. It is good that daylight comes in everywhere. A bit of decoration would be nice, too. We just went into a lecture room to test everything; there was no lecture going on. The teacher has just one screen with cool functions, and you can do everything from it, so it was fun to play a bit with that.

Stefan Hutten



student of Molecular Life Sciences

The lifts are better: I don't think there will be queues in the morning. The screens in the lecture rooms are very high, which I don't think is very handy for the teacher. It is a nice place to have lunch, although it still looks a bit bare at the moment. The roof terrace isn't finished either. It's going to have trees on it, isn't it?

Alexandra Ginja



student of Food Technology

The door in the lecture room was directly in our line of sight during the lecture. It was distracting to see people walking by and looking inside, for the professor as well. Part of the big lecture hall is also split in two parts by a wall. The lecturer has to divide her attention between two groups at the same time and the students can't see each other, a bit weird. Everything is a bit grey. It looks great now, but I wonder what will happen when it's rainy.



Hein Heuver



student of Environmental Sciences

There is a secret floor, the ninth. You can get to it in the lift. The café is an improvement on the Grand Café in the Forum, which is cheap and industrial. This is Starbucks. A lot better! And it has beer, so we stick around. It is a long walk to the bike racks, so the terrace here is already full of bikes. Orion is the finishing touch to the campus, a link between the Forum and Atlas.

Ivonne van Avermaete



student of Food Technology

The seats in the lecture rooms are really comfortable. The screen should be lower though: the first rows were empty. The walls in the corridors need some posters, it looks very empty now. Or some plants maybe. The elevators are way better, they select the best option. I believe that the behaviour of students was taken into account in the design of the building.

Stella Gunawan



student of Food Technology

Orion is cool, very spacious. Compared to the Forum, Orion has more light coming in. I have the feeling that it is not completely finished. The stairs and some walls don't look like they are a part of the building (yet). The building has a modern and relaxed atmosphere; I like it. There was no blackboard in the lecture room, very inconvenient for the professor, but that will be OK as well.

Jhonathan Versteeg



Student of nutrition and health

'A very illogical building. I can't even see where which lecture room is if I go up the stairs. It all looks very beautiful but it isn't practical. Luckily there is a different coffee machine. I hope this one is better than the Douwe Egberts one in the Forum. The space is really lovely, but they could have done more with it. ③

Student council elections 2013

AND THE CANDIDATES ARE...

One talks about her deceased doggy Beibei, another takes up the cudgels for sports facilities on the campus. Our editorial team subjects all the listed candidates to a round of roulette-style interviewing. What questions did they pick and how did they answer them?

text: Linda van der Nat en Nicolette Meerstadt / **Photographs:** Nicolette Meerstadt, Rob Goossens en Hans Weggen

Voting for student council members takes place from 13 to 22 May. You may know something about the student party Veste, which is fervently distributing flyers. But who are its candidates? And who

are the five independent international candidates on the digital polling cards?

Since democracy revolves around having confidence in the person you vote for, these pages

aim to sketch a portrait of each of the candidates, 15 in all. The rules of the game? Our editorial team composed 15 questions, varying from very personal to very political. These were dropped into the hat,

from which each candidate randomly picked out two. In this way, all the candidates have a chance to reveal a bit of their personality, depending on the luck of the draw. ①

SIMONE RITZER

Management and Consumer Sciences

**Why should students vote for you?**

My experience in different fields shows that anything is possible if you put your mind to it. I have been president of the Mercurius study association, I studied in Finland last semester and I am an active member of Ceres. The pressure to study hard has increased with new regulations from the government and the university. But it is certainly possible to combine an active student life with getting all your study credits. I am determined to enable everyone to have an active student life, which is a Veste priority.

What is the most important lesson your parents have taught you?

You will only have regrets about the things you did not get to do. Therefore, I seize every chance that comes my way. Some experiences can lead

to disappointments, but these enable you to do things differently the next time, or not to do them again. You can only truly enjoy life if you really know what life is all about, and it is only by doing everything you possibly can that you find out what life's all about.

XANTHE VAN DIERENDONCK

Nutrition and Health

**What important lesson did your parents teach you?**

My parents have always drummed it into me that I should be myself, to use a cliché. I tend to compare myself to others a lot; I did this in the past with my brothers. I wanted to do whatever they did, and I was so competitive that I also wanted to

be better than them. Gradually, I've become better at making my own choices, but my parents' words remain in the back of my mind all the time.

Who is your favourite lecturer?

My chemistry teacher in secondary school, Mr Van Veen. He showed me that chemistry can be fun. He was very patient and kept on explaining things until everyone understood. I still contact him now and then and I tell him about the practical lessons I have been getting.

FACTS ABOUT THE STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

- Voting takes place from 13 to 22 May.
- Fifteen candidates are vying for twelve seats.
- Ten candidates are standing for the Veste party; the others are independents.
- All the independent candidates are international students.
- There were no elections last year because the number of candidates equalled the number of seats.

ANNELOES REINDERS

International Development Studies



What is the highlight of your student years?

I am a member of Ceres and I have a very close-knit year group. We can approach one another anytime. Everything that we have done together is a highlight for me – from club weekends to the joint vacation in Budapest and Prague. I would encourage everyone to join a society; you could strike up lifelong friendships. And committee work also teaches you very useful things.

What is the best thing about Wageningen UR?

The way of teaching. The teaching methods in Wageningen – with discussion groups and a lot of supervision – require lecturers to put in much more effort than conventional teaching methods. Sometimes, you get two lecturers to fifteen students. This involvement should be maintained, even as the university grows bigger.

ARVID DE RIJCK

Soil, Water and Atmosphere



My ideal night out...

Tuesdays and Thursdays are my fixed sports evenings, after which I go to drink a beer with my hockey team. On Tuesdays, we go to De Bunker, and on Thursdays, De Woeste Hoeve. On Mondays and Wednesdays, I go to KSV. I like to just chat with people, whether I know them or not. On Friday evenings, I often go to the International Club; I live next-door. After watching a film at home, it's just so easy to check on the neighbours at

one in the morning to find out what's going on.

Where do you want to be in 15 years' time?

I live from one term to the next so I don't really have an idea. But since I'm interested in problems related to the climate, I could be working for a consultancy firm in fifteen years' time, advising local people in affected areas on how to deal with climate change.

LARA MINNAARD

Animal Sciences



What is the first thing you would change if you were in the student council?

I would focus more on students' skills. Students are very strong content-wise, but I notice that they are not always as good at getting their knowledge across. If I have to give a presentation with a group of five students, three of them say straightaway: not me. I would like to see more attention paid to verbal presentations in all the study programmes.

was 19. Galloping bareback across the Mongolian steppes is a unique experience, isn't it?

My motto is...

... A day without laughter is a day wasted. If something does not interest you, you shouldn't be doing it. You don't have to make rational choices all the time, but just do the things you like. So I went to Mongolia on my own for four weeks when I

JAAP LÖWENTHAL

Biology



After lectures, you can often find me...

... In the sports centre. I am a pretty fanatical volleyball player, and I've been on the committee and been a trainer. I also work in the canteen in De Bongerd. You could almost call that my second home. Sport is very important for me; it has priority over my studies. If I had to choose between studying for an exam and a competition, I would go for the competition. That's what a team sport is about.

JILDou KOOIMAN

Public Health and Society



Which study course has taught you the most?

I took a biomedical science minor in

Amsterdam, about the brain. Everything about neurons, the anatomy, diseases, brain development in children. I did not know much about this beforehand, so I had to work hard. But I felt so inspired by each new lecture. So many things can go wrong in the brain, and I realize now how wonderful it is that children are being born healthy and intelligent.

Name a low point during your academic pursuits in Wageningen.

I haven't had a low, but I'm annoyed at the large amount of repetition in my courses. The theory of planned behaviour comes up in every second-year course. Lecturers sometimes underestimate the students. Come on, you shouldn't think I'm stupid. There's a reason I got into university. I feel that the quality of education is very important.

JEROEN ROEST

Plant Sciences



What do you miss most in Wageningen?

Wageningen is the only university town without a train station - that's pretty unique. I think all the students would like it if they didn't have to travel to Ede to catch a train. I also miss having a McDonald's in Wageningen. A fast food restaurant may not really fit the sustainable image of the town but I think it would do well. Food doesn't have to be healthy all the time.

What is the highlight of your student years?

I'm currently involved in organizing a career day for students in Wageningen. We've taken a different approach to previous years and there is now much more interest; the registrations have doubled. I am very encouraged by the way things are turning out in return for all the effort and fervour we've put in.

EMMA DIEDERIKS

Biotechnology



What do you like best about Wageningen UR?

The course supervisors. They show a lot of commitment here, they keep track of progress in your studies, they inquire about your extra-curricular activities, they examine which subjects are most suitable for you... When I talk to friends who are studying in Utrecht, they complain about how little their course supervisors are doing. Even as the universi-

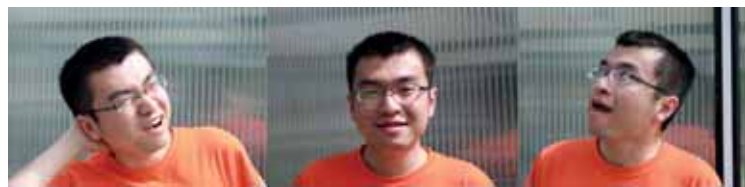
ty grows, course supervision should remain like it is now.

What do you miss most from home?

In Amsterdam, where I'm from, I would go to the film or the theatre twice a week. There aren't really many films in Wageningen and there are also very few plays. In addition, I also miss the ease of being able to buy something from the stores at 10 pm.

BOWEN TIAN

Management, Economics and Consumer Studies



Where will you be in 15 years' time?

I would very much like to be a consultant working in an international company or a joint venture. I will be better by then in making use of my ability to manage and coordinate. I will be a good team player because I really like working in a team. I see it as a platform to share knowledge and experiences. If you strike out on your own, that may mean you are ambitious but you will not reach the ideal result. Everyone needs teamwork to achieve difficult objectives.

My motto is...

... After the rain comes the sun. I know that things get better after a difficult and trying period. The education system in Wageningen is very different from what I had during my Bachelor's in China. This sometimes frustrates me a lot. I'm lucky to have support from my family and fellow

students who keep motivating me to continue to work hard. The lecturers, too, have helped me and encouraged me to persevere.

YANG JIANG

Environmental Sciences



What is the first thing you would change if you were in the student council?

When I first arrived in Wageningen, I didn't know how to take the train. I missed the train and the bus and ended up in Arnhem. I had no idea where I should go because information was only given in Dutch. It would be fine if someone could be in Schiphol to meet students when they arrive.

GILBERT ATUGA

Biotechnology



I don't leave home without...

... My wallet. Almost all my documents are in it, such as my student pass and my residence permit. I

need them if I want to get to know the Netherlands. I try to get out and about as much as possible. I like to meet new people and learn about different cultures. It's refreshing to just cycle around and talk to people from countries you don't know where to find on a map. This takes me out of my own small world and gives me a broader perspective on life.

Why should people vote for you?

Wageningen is a very international city but certain study programmes only have students from one nationality. I think that puts up barriers. More should be done to make such programmes attractive to all nationalities. I want to work hard to create a platform to deal with this imbalance and promote internationalization in all study programmes.



WANJUN ZHAO
Climate Studies



DAOHONG YANG
Nutrition and Health



Do you have a pet?

I used to have a very sweet doggy with short white hair. Her name was Beibei, which means darling or little child. When she died, I was very sad because my mother did not allow me to have another. I like dogs very much because they are clever and loyal. You don't have to make them happy; they make you happy instead.

What's the first thing you would change if you were in the student council?

The Chinese say that food is the most important thing in life, the basis for everything else. You need to have good food if you want to work well. You can't really find this principle reflected in the canteen in the Forum. It doesn't score well in terms of variety or prices. Vegetarians do not have much to choose from and there's hardly anything for Muslim students. What's more, you have to

queue up for 20 minutes. We need our one-hour break to relax, talk to friends and rest.

YU HUANG
Plant Sciences



What do you like best about Wageningen UR?

The open atmosphere. In the university in China where I was previously, you were not allowed to talk about sex or drugs in public. Some study topics were also taboo. In Wageningen, you are free to speak out and people really listen when you talk about your problems. I also like being able to put together my own course package. You can plan your own education in this way.



What experience is a must for a student in Wageningen?

An important aspect of student life is

the integration of various cultures. It is really great to live with students from other countries. The television can present a very lopsided view of foreign countries. We should not be put off by culture barriers; these are not real barriers. All of us are human beings.

What do you miss most in Wageningen?

I find this little town rather perfect, actually. It is cosy and small and the student community is close knit. It does strike me, though, that it's difficult to carry on an open conversation about religion. People turn away very quickly. I am a Christian and I don't see any conflict between religion and science. I see the Lord and how much love he has. But religion is a complex subject for such a short interview, so I'll mention something else here: I miss spicy Chinese food.

I don't leave home without...

My diary. Everything is in it, otherwise I forget things. There are many nice activities in Wageningen, such as the Studium Generale lectures. I write all these down in my diary but I may not be able to find time to attend all of them. So I only go to those I find most useful. Thanks to my diary, I can allocate my time better.

PAST IT

The male *Micaria sociabilis* spider is choosy about his mates. If he meets an old female he eats her, only mating with spiders his own age. This has been discovered by Czech researchers. The spider's cannibalism is the reverse of that of the black widow, which eats the male after mating. Risky for a *Micaria* female to be past her sell-by date.

DANGEROUS

The antibiotic minocycline protects men against 'dangerous women'. Japanese research shows that men who take this drug are less easily seduced by pretty women. It enhances their powers of judgement. A kind of anti-femme fatale drug then. Ban it, I say. Life is dull enough already.

NAP

Asian students like to take a nap. In the university library, for instance. The facebook page on this subject quickly had 5000 likes. The UK, Groningen university's newspaper, asked Chinese students for a response. Alice said, 'We study really hard and it would be a waste of time to go home, sleep there and then go back to the UB to study. Besides, when you sleep, you don't bother anyone, so why not take a nap in the library?'

ICE AGE

Twenty three Dutch words go back to the Ice Age, say British scientists in the PNAS. The words are still used with their original meanings in modern language families, including the Indo-German one. If that is the case the following sentences should be decipherable to speakers of Spanish, English, Russian and Hindi: *ik spuug niet, moeder. Oude man, geef dit vuur. Ik hoor de zwarte worm spugen.* [Just in case: I spit not, mother. Old man, give this fire. I hear the black worm spit. Not far off, is it?]

The hot Spot: a new student hangout

The first lectures have been delivered and the lifts have been checked out. The next thing on the agenda is to make the student café in the new teaching building Orion the place to be. A special Orion committee consisting of four enthusiastic students is hard at work to put the café on the map.

Since the café was opened officially on 15 May it has had a name: The Spot. 'Because it is the place to be,' explains committee member Kim Dieleman. But it also refers to a gimmick: there is going to be a spotlight in the large space of the café, which can be directed at anything that deserves extra attention. 'A nice beer that's on offer, or a beautiful artwork,' says Jiska van der Reest. The student café will be run by the students themselves as far as possible. The



The special Orioncommission, with from left on: Kim Dieleman, Jiska vander Deest, Ceren Yücecam and Jenno Ringersma.

committee members run the bar themselves, discuss the menu with the caterer OSP and deal with requests for drinks dos and parties. They have already had requests for drinks parties from several student societies. The students want to organize activities themselves. Jiska: 'We want to get bands to play here, run speed-dating sessions and for major sports competitions we want a beamer so that students can watch together.'

Jiska and Kim hope The Spot

will become the place to meet after lectures for a beer or a coffee. Kim: 'From the start we lobbied like mad for a good coffee machine. That really was our main demand.' The good coffee has come; the job now is to create a bit of atmosphere in the café. Jiska: 'It is not ready yet, that is why it still looks a bit bare. But there are going to be LCD screens and an indoor garden with plants and I think a fountain. There will be more tables and chairs on the terrace too.' **LN** LvdN



LIBERATION DAY The Wheel was the opening act on the podium in the Heerenstraat on 5 May in Wageningen. This was the biggest show yet for the band, made up of (ex-) Wageningen students Rachel, Tim, Stijn, Robert and Jornt. 'To begin with we were very nervous, which caused us to make a few mistakes,' says lead singer Rachel. 'But once

you accept that you can just carry on and enjoy it.' In her own words Rachel was walking around 'on a pink cloud' for the rest of the day. Over the past year The Wheel has been working hard on a first EP. The four numbers can be ordered at thewheelmusic.com for five euros. **NM** / foto Bart de Gouw

EPISODE 9 - MORTIERSTRAAT 14B <<

Television

‘**S**hit, the eggs are weeks past their use-by date,’ said Willem-Jan. It was just after one on the morning and he and his fraternity mate Roy had just got back from the Liberation Day festival. They were ransacking the kitchen in an eager search for something to eat. ‘I told you we should get a kebab,’ said Roy, ‘but you were set on having fried egg on bread. Do you really have nothing else in the house?’ Grumbling, Willem-Jan went on looking. ‘I’ve got chocolate sprinkles and some crackers.’ ‘Christ! Why don’t we just fry those eggs?’ ‘They are weeks past their date. Even I have my limits.’ ‘Too bad, then.’ ‘Fry them yourself then.’ Willem-Jan threw the box on the table in irritation. ‘I’ve got a better idea,’ said Roy. ‘Let’s not fry them after all.’

Cool air flowed in when he opened the window. The Mortierstraat was dead quiet, strewn with squashed drinking cups and rubbish. ‘First one to hit the dustbin.’ Roy’s first egg went much too far and splattered against a shop window. The second one was closer.

‘Hey, take it in turns,’ said Willem-Jan, only to curse a moment later at his useless first throw. ‘What are you doing?’ Willem-Jan looked down in amazement at Bianca, placing her bike against the wall of the house.

‘Ten points for hitting Bianca!’ She managed to dodge the first egg but was hit on the back by the next two as she fiddled with her lock.

‘You are an idiot,’ said Bianca once she was ups-



ILLUSTRATIE: MEREL DE GRAAF

tairs. She grinned. ‘What are you doing?’

‘We are trying to hit the dustbin but the eggs are finished.’

‘I’ve got all sorts of junk,’ say Bianca and brought ugly cups, shrivelled apples and a pot of mayonnaise out of the kitchen.

These projectiles seemed to reach their target better; Willem-Jan even scored two out of two. Bianca hurled the mayonnaise out of the window. The pot hit the dustbin and exploded, leaving a huge white stripe on the pavement.

‘Wow, beautiful!’

As Willem-Jan rushed around the room looking for more junk, Bianca started tugging at the TV.

‘Roy, help a moment. The TV is bust anyway and

I want to see it really fly.’ Giggling they shuffled towards the window. All at once the living room door opened and a bleary-eyed Elise came in.

‘What on earth are you doing? You are making an awful noise,’ she groaned groggily. When she saw the television on the windowsill her eyes widened: ‘No, don’t!’

A moment later the television crashed onto the street.

‘Brilliant,’ Bianca laughed, ‘that was hilarious, wasn’t it?’ Elise was dumbstruck.

‘That was the new TV,’ she said. ‘I got rid of the old one this afternoon.’

‘Oh,’ said Bianca, trying in vain to keep a straight face. ‘Oops.’

Resource volgt de belevenissen in de Mortierstraat 14B

Wageningen third in Batavieren race

Wageningen’s fastest students did not manage to defend their title in the 41st Batavieren race. The university team came third after Nijmegen and Eindhoven.

The university’s runners were disappointed, says Remi van Balen, student of International Development Studies and one of the team leaders. ‘We did hope to win and we did our best but the

competition was too stiff.’

Nevertheless, the Wageningen team have every reason to be satisfied. Under the circumstances (in the weeks preceding the race runners dropped out due to illness and injury), their result was a great achievement, says Remi. ‘One of the students, Arend Mulder, ran the last lap of 10 kilometres in 31.39. Even under normal conditions that is superfast, but he

hadn’t slept all night.’ With this time, Mulder was the fastest runner in the race. Mischa Petie, Joep Kluwen and Ruben de Vries won their laps too. Among the women, Esther Swart was the first over the finish line. ‘Wageningen is only a small town, so finishing in the first three is definitely a really good achievement.’

The Batavieren race is the biggest relay race in the world,

with 8500 students taking part. The course goes from the University Sports Centre in Nijmegen, into Germany, through the Achterhoek region of eastern Netherlands and ends at the University of Twente campus. A distance of about 175 kilometres.

R LvdN

>> CULT

What? Series of debates and exhibition called (Re)Source: on authenticity and manipulation **Where?** Debates at Impulse, building number 115 on campus **When?** 15, 22 and 29 May, 17.00 - 20.00 **Sign up?** Via beeldenopdeberg@gmail.com **More information?** beeldenopdeberg.nl



3D printed chair made of fungal threads – Erik Klarenbeek's studio.

Genuine fakes

Judging by the amount of reality TV the Dutch watch, they are looking for authenticity: for real people. Instead of which what they get is magnified false-ness. In order to make 'reality' entertaining, it is orchestrated on TV, and sometimes even scripted. These kinds of tensions between authenticity and manipulation are the subject of the tenth edition of art event Beelden op de Berg, kicked off this year with three debates between visual artists, poets and Wageningen scientists. Matthijs Schouten, special professor of Nature Management and Ecology will talk about the extent to which Dutch nature is still in its original state, while professor of Bioprocess Engineering Hans Tramper will discuss whether authenticity is possible in biotechnology. There will also be food, discussion and films.

But the main act is the exhibition between 14 June and 15 September at the Belmonte Arboretum. Before they set to work, the artists collaborated with scientists – with diverse and surprising results. Examples: Belgian artist Koen Vanmechelen's 'cosmopolitan chicken project', in which a chicken is crossed with its wild ancestor; designer Christien Meinderstma's cultivation of historic flax varieties; and Eric Klarenbeek's use of threads from a fungal network (mycelium) as the basis for a 3D printer. Genuinely fake or not, at least it is a lot more interesting than Dutch reality TV. **RR**

Tips on films, books, events, exhibitions and other cultural happenings : redactie@wur.nl.

>> THE WORKS

FARMERS IN A FIX

Who? Ramona Langanki, MSc student of International Development Studies

What? Research on production chains for beans and maize

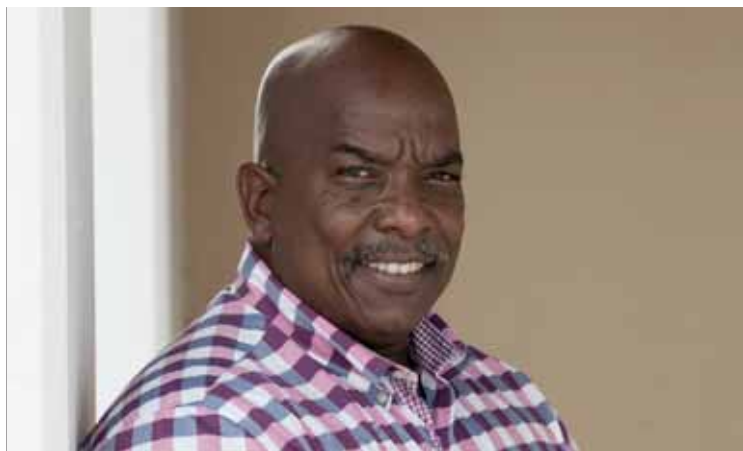
Where? South-east Nicaragua

'At last I could do some research. I had been looking for the ideal topic for a long time and at last I had found it, in south-east Nicaragua. Fifty years ago the area where I did my research was still tropical rainforest. It was chopped down to make way for monoculture, mainly of rice, beans and maize – even though the soil is not really suitable for crop farming. Now the soil is completely exhausted and the farmers are affected by pests that reduce their already meagre harvests even more. The level of expertise is very low and there is hardly any formal education. This means they are not quick to find solutions to problems brought about by things like the changing climate. Farmers soon end up in a fix: their costs soar whereas the production price is low and it fluctuates as well. For my research I looked into the chain for beans and maize: from farmer to middleman to distributor, and so on. Before my Master's research I spent two and a half months in Nicaragua with a friend, doing another study on a development project. That was very useful. I was an informant and I formed lots of contacts which came in handy for my Master's research. I also got to know key players in the area. In Nicaragua many things are tinged with politics so that it

can be difficult to figure out the real message behind what someone is saying.

In my spare time I often went to women's fitness. Because of the nice atmosphere I did more sports there than I do in the Netherlands. And I gained a great respect for Nicaraguan women. A lot of men desert their wives, leaving them with their children and the need to earn a living. In the family I was staying with it was the other way round, though: the mother had left and an aunt was looking after the children. The father went looking for casual work and the aunt had a job. The social safety net is strong and that is lovely to see.' **RR MvdH**





MEANWHILE IN... <<

Meanwhile in... Curaçao

In the news: On May 5 the island of Curaçao was shocked by the murder of a politician. Helmin Wiels, leader of government party Pueblo Soberano, was shot dead while having a beer with some friends on the beach.

Commenting on the news: Nathania Engelhardt, second year Applied Communication Science and Kevin Tromp, third year Animal Sciences, both from Curaçao

Nathania: 'The murder really came as shock for both me and my family. Not necessarily because of the person Herman Wiels, but rather because a politician was murdered. I wouldn't have imagined that something like this could happen on such a small island.'

Kevin: 'Helmin Wiels was a controversial politician, with pretty extreme ideas, when it comes to foreigners and the influence of the Netherlands. I didn't always agree with him, but I admired that he was an idealist. He was the only one not only talking about economics and money, but also about the development of Curaçao. It gets you thinking: why did he get shot? Was the murderer just a random person who didn't like Wiels? Or is there more to it; was the assassination organized by some opposing organization?'

Nathania: 'In the week after his death he would have sent a letter to the Parliament, with questions about a telecom company and the lottery of Curaçao supposedly being involved in corruption. Wiels was the one starting a big campaign against corruption, which still is a problem on Curaçao. I don't know what will happen now. Maybe things will change when the letter has been considered by the Parliament. Helmin Wiels himself said that if he wouldn't be around anymore, there will be other people to continue his work.'

Kevin: 'It can go two ways now. People could say: we don't take this anymore, and together take a stand against corruption. Or people could lose faith, and resist in a negative way, for example by turning to crime. I'm afraid that the whole situation will generate mistrust among the people of Curaçao. Especially when the perpetrator doesn't get caught, different groups might start accusing each other.'

Nathania: 'Eventually Helmin Wiels' plans for an independent Curaçao will be realized, I think. There a lot of successful examples in the Caribbean. Curaçao is a small island, but we have a lot to offer. At the moment we're not ready yet, there needs to be a change in mentality, but it can be done. I think that in the end every country wants independency.' ®

in memoriam



Veronica van der Aa

Our colleague Veronica van der Aa-de Roos passed away on Saturday 27 April. Veronica was only 54. Although we knew this would happen, we were still deeply shocked by her death and we will miss her. Veronica was diagnosed with cancer at the end of July 2012. As she had already conquered this disease before, she was in fighting spirits and determined to recover this time too. However, after six months of struggle the inevitable happened. She kept a positive attitude throughout and spent a lot of time with her family. She was even able to enjoy a holiday in England with her husband in mid April. She also kept in close contact with the Front Office ladies and in mid March, Veronica actually joined the Front Office for its meal out. That was a special occasion. Veronica began her career with PSG exactly 12.5 years ago. Before that, she worked for the Rabobank, Timmer & Timmer estate agents and Kruiswerk West-Veluwe over a 20-year period. At PSG, she worked in the Facility Services Plant department, first in Reception and later for the FacilityDeskPlant. So she was key to the impression PSG made on customers. Veronica was very helpful, friendly and customer-oriented. She was well-informed about everything within PSG and knew how to run the FacilityDeskPlant. She was an enthusiastic employee who put the customer's interests first. As a result, she helped many people within the organization. Our sincerest thoughts are with her husband Ron, the children Tessa and Romee and other family members as they deal with this great loss.

Dolf Straathof en Ingrid Plender
Facility Services Plant

in memoriam



Paul Rooijakkers

We were sad and most distressed to hear that our student Paul Rooijakkers passed away on 18 April. Paul had been studying for his Bachelor's in Tourism since September 2012 and was known to be a sociable, intelligent student. He had just moved into lodgings and was exploring student life in Breda. We are most sorry to have to say goodbye to such a friendly young man. His cheerful laugh will be sorely missed. Sad to say, Paul was only 19.

We offer his parents, brothers, relatives and friends our deepest sympathy as they cope with this sudden loss. On behalf of the BSc Tourism teaching staff.

Michael Marchman
Jan Philipsen
Sebastiaan Straatman

announcements

Announcements for and by students and staff. Send no more than 75 words to resource@wur.nl, with 'Announcement' as subject, on the Thursday before publication.

WSTV is putting on Het Misverstandt

The Wageningen student theatrical society WSTV will be putting on Het Misverstandt (the misunderstanding) by Peer Wittenbols from 22 May to mid June. It promises to be an extravagant performance with music, songs and theatre, all taking place in Arboretum Belmonte, Generaal Foulkesweg. If this has made you curious, take a look at www.wstv.nl or e-mail info@wstv.nl for more information and reservations.

WWW.WSTV.NL / INFO@WSTV.NL

Continued on page 30

announcements (cont.)

Award for student entrepreneurs

Student entrepreneurs have until 1 July 2013 to register for the 2013 Student Entrepreneurs Award. The best student entrepreneur, who will get the title '2013 Student Entrepreneur', will be announced on Thursday, 5 September 2013.

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION:

WWW.STUDENTENONDERNEMERSPRIJS.NL

Postcode Lottery Green Challenge

Once again, sustainable entrepreneurs just starting up will have the opportunity to take part in the annual international competition for green business plans. The winner will get €500,000 to put their plan into practice.

There will also be €200,000 for one (or possibly two) other promising green invention(s).

Business plans can be submitted to www.greenchallenge.info up to 17 July. The final is in Amsterdam on 16 September, when a jury chaired by Richard Branson will announce the winner.

WWW.GREENCHALLENGE.INFO

Secure Your Future

KIVI NIRIA, the Royal Institute of Engineers in the Netherlands, is organizing a competition in partnership with The Hague Security Delta (HSD) and technology journal De Ingenieur for the best multimedia application in the area of security. That can be an app, but it could also be a game or interactive website. Submit your multimedia solution, idea or concept before 13 September to info@thehaguesecuritydelta.com.

INFO WWW.SECUREYOURFUTURE.EU

Waste Paper in Orion

Green Office invited Emmy Chau and Sjoerd Schwibettus, two artists from Arnhem, to create an art installation in Orion. The installation is made of waste paper collected in the Forum and old books from the library. With this project, we want to draw attention to the amount of paper wasted every day at the university. The installation is on show until the end of May.

INFO: WWW.GREENOFFICEWAGENINGEN.NL

BCF Career Event

Thinking about the next step in your career? Visit the largest career fair for highly educated graduates and professionals in the Life Sciences, 30 May, RAI Amsterdam. Participate in the programme with presentations and workshops and visit the Career Corner for a talk with a career coach.

30 May, RAI Amsterdam

INFO: WWW.KLV.NL

Green City - Envisioning Environmental Aspects in the City

The Environmental Studies group will organize an interactive symposium about the green aspects of a city. There will be 4 lectures of 20 minutes and a discussion with the audience. There will be drinks afterwards. Date: 21 May, 19.30-22.30. Venue: Forum

Host: Martijn Duineveld.

parties

The best parties according to Wageningen Uitgaans Promotie. Check www.wageningenup.nl for all parties.

Thursday 16 May, 20.45

WAGENINGEN UR CAMPUS – CERES: NEONSPLASH-PAINT-PARTY

Now Wageningen too can experience what is by now the well-known phenomenon of 'Neon Splash'. These special paint parties are being held all over Europe. In Wageningen, this is part of the Ceres anniversary celebrations. A party full of neon paint and electronic music. A special, unique experience taking place outside on campus. Admission: €15

Thursday 23 May, 23.00–4.00

FORUM – CERES: NIGHT OF LIGHT SCIENCES

WSV Ceres is celebrating its 135th anniversary this year. The anniversary week will close with a fantastic party in the Forum. This evening will be all about the 'Night of Light Sciences', with an exclusive party in the Forum on the ground floor. Shurendi, Ferre Santos and Funk D will be providing the music. PIN card payments only will be accepted at the party. Admission: €6

Thursday 30 May, 22.00–4.00

DE WILDE WERELD – SHOUT: G41D: ANYTHING BUT CLOTHES

It is time again for SHOUT's Gay For One Day party. The theme this time is 'Anything But Clothes'. So leave behind your boring old clothes behind and get creative with an outfit made of boxes, balloons, gloves, plastic bags, duct tape ... anything is possible! Have a look around for inspiration and make your own get-up for this fun party. Admission: €1

agenda

Thursday 16 May, 20.45

LIVE STAGE MARNIX PRESENTS...

Cara Luft is a Canadian singer-songwriter-guitarist who has a solid reputation as one of Canada's finest live performers. Her sense of honesty, integrity, personality and spontaneity permeates both her music and her live shows. Venue: Cultura Café, Ede.

RESERVING@LIVESTAGEMARNIX.COM

Wednesday 22 May, 19.30-22.00

VAN UVEN FESTIVAL 2013

Acoustic ensembles will be performing during the Van Uven Festival in Impulse on campus (building 115). The festival is open to everyone and free.

22 to 25 May

URINETOWN, A LIVELY MUSICAL PARODY

Musical society Sempre Sereno will be coming to Junushoff theatre in Wageningen with the musical Urinetown, a comic battle between a group of rebels and the toilet or-

ganization Piss in Harmony. It is a show with send-ups and a satirical take on the great Broadway shows. It is as if Les Misérables and West Side Story have landed in Urinetown.

WWW.SEMPRESERENO.NL OR CALL 0317 420460 FOR TIMES, TICKET PRICES AND RESERVATIONS.

Sunday 26 May, 11.00 - 18.00

LOCAL BEAUTY FESTIVAL

Experience the fun of sustainability at Wallepad, Boterstraat and Bowlespark. Some of the activities: bake organic pancakes on reused fire extinguishers, dance with nature, dialogue for sustainability, playback theatre, sustainable fashion show, inspiration warehouse, cycle your own fruit juice, mindfulness & beauty, yoga, barefoot path, catwalk coaching, hang-around-piano stage, intuitive gardening and lots more. The festival is an initiative of Stichting Lokale Schoonheid, which aims to bring together and increase the impact of initiatives that make the world a bit more beautiful by co-creation.



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Knoet in de kroeg

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H41

www.h41.nl
0317 421715

RESOURCE seeks critical minds

Resource is looking for a student and a member of staff to serve on the editorial board. This board consists of students, staff and two professional journalists. Its job is to monitor editorial policy as laid down in the editorial statutes. The board meets for two hours at least three times a year.

We expect you to read Resource thoroughly and give the editors feedback and tips. In exchange you get a look behind the journalism scenes and an insight into how a magazine of this kind is put together. It is also a chance to expand your network. Students get an allowance.

The editorial board is appointed by the executive board; the candidate is proposed by a committee consisting of a representative of the employees' council the director of Corporate Communications and the editor-in-chief of Resource.

Interested? Email a short description of yourself to the editor-in-chief, gaby.vancaulil@wur.nl

Subscription?

Would you like to continue reading Resource after graduating, retiring or leaving your job at Wageningen UR? For 58 euros you can have 22 issues per year delivered to your door. See resource.wur.nl/en/page/colophon.



Vacancies student members Board OWI (Educational Institute)

The Board of the Educational Institute manages the BSc and MSc programmes of WU:

- programmes and budgets, courses, schedules
- quality assurance
- study advising

Student Vacancies

The Board consists of 8 members: 4 professors, 4 students. Four student places are to be filled between now and August 2013.

Duration and investment

Appointment is for one year. The Board activities require about one day a week.

What can you expect from a one-year board membership?

You represent students from WU in a high level governmental body of WU. You will work on a rather varied range of subjects, related to the WU education system. Your voice counts on various subjects like new programmes, quality and internationalization. You will have the opportunity to take an exhaustive look in the management of your university. Your resume will be enriched with education management experience. Students are compensated with three months FOS (financial compensation for board activities).

More information:

Prof. dr. ir. Tiny van Boekel, Director OWI, 0317-484281, tiny.vanboekel@wur.nl
Petra Naber, secretary OWI Board, 0317-485075/83348 petra.naber@wur.nl
See for more information about the OWI Board: www.owi.wur.nl

Reactions, preferably by e-mail, before June 1, 2013 to Tiny van Boekel or Petra Naber

Ex-student members of programme committees and Student Council are especially invited to respond.

Working on the quality of life

Wageningen UR zoekt:

Onderzoeker Gezondheidseffecten van voedsel

AFSG Food & Biobased Research, Wageningen
Vacaturenummer: AFSG-FFC-0030

Business Developer

ASG Central Veterinary Institute, Lelystad
Vacaturenummer: ASG-CVI-ONDZ-0027

PhD "Function, activity and interactors of GPCR-PIPKs, 7-TM receptors in the plant pathogen *Phytophthora infestans*"

PSG Laboratorium voor Fytopathologie, Wageningen
Vacaturenummer: PSG-FYT0-0024

Groepshoofd Consument & Gedrag en Ketenprestaties

SSG Landbouw Economisch Instituut, Den Haag
Vacaturenummer: SSG-LEI-0000

Groepshoofd Internationale Handel en Landbouwbeleid

SSG Landbouw Economisch Instituut, Den Haag
Vacaturenummer: SSG-LEI-0001

Business Unit Manager Markt & Acquisitie

SSG Landbouw Economisch Instituut, Den Haag
Vacaturenummer: SSG-LEI-0002

Business Unit Manager Bedrijfsvoering

SSG Landbouw Economisch Instituut, Den Haag
Vacaturenummer: SSG-LEI-0003



www.wageningenur.nl/werkenbij

>>TYPICAL DUTCH



ILLUSTRATION: HENK VAN RUITENBEEK

Flower power

I knew Dutch people liked flowers because the Netherlands is really famous for its tulip industry: the Keukenhof is an icon of Holland for good reason. But now I have learned the true reason.

After enduring an autumn and a very long winter, at last the weather forecast shows around 15 and sometimes even 20 degrees Celsius, and I am incredibly happy that spring is finally here. But it's not only me, a student from a tropical country who is really longing to see the sun. Dutch people are too. They enjoy the sun like crazy when the spring comes – and especially the flowers. It is amazing how the strong flowers survive the harsh winter, and when they start to come out in spring the Dutch rejoice. There are flower parades to make the spring merrier. Amazingly big cars and figures are created from flowers one day before the parade. My friend and I visited just at the right time, just before the cars were brought back to their own cities. The owners then give away some flowers and huge crowds of people gather in line to get free flowers. Some people took a lot of flowers in pots or in their bicycle baskets, and also packets of tulip bulbs in their bags. They really came prepared for the event. Meanwhile I just got some tulips to brighten up my house. And that is the other crazy thing Dutch people do: they buy a lot of flowers and put them beautifully in their windows sill. In Indonesia, flower are rarely put inside a house, because we usually only give them during special ceremonies. A bouquet of fresh flowers is amazingly expensive in my country so I usually only see artificial flowers in houses. It is also nice to see wild flowers in the streets here, but in my country flowers don't grow near the street because there is so much traffic and pollution. So I really enjoy it when I'm out cycling and see a lot of colour from flowers along the street. 🌷 **Astrisia Artanti, Indonesia, first year student of Master of Food Safety**

After a very long winter, Dutch people enjoy the sun like crazy – and especially the flowers

Do you have a nice anecdote about your experience of going Dutch? Send it in! Describe an encounter with Dutch culture in detail and comment on it briefly. 300 words max. Send it to resource@wur.nl and earn fifty euro and Dutch candy.