

Report WUR Council 2015 – 2017

This report is about the activities of the WUR Council in the past three years, from 2015 to 2017. If you don't know what the WUR Council is or does, you can find some answers in the list of [FAQ's](#). You can also find the WUR Council on [internet](#) and watch the videos.

In 2015 the WUR Council started with a new type of [newsletter](#), to explain what we are doing and why. Since then we have a new intranet, so several links are lost or corrupted. The good news is this report contains new links, so you can (re)read what you've missed (or forgotten;).

Since 2018 we have again restyled our [newsletter](#), and increased its frequency. If you want to keep up to date, don't forget to [register](#).



Logo of the WUR Council

Register for the newsletter



2015

In the first [newsletter](#) in 2015 the WUR Council reported about its own [spearheads](#): Corporate Social Responsibility ([CSR](#)), Innovation, Special rewards and Work pressure. A series of (free) lunch meetings was organized to involve the WUR community. Because the Executive Board also used the term "spearheads" for the important points of the [Strategic Plan](#), endless confusion resulted. In the end the WUR Council switched to "initiatives". Please use both words with caution when speaking to WUR Council members.

The session year 2014-2015 was the first for the WUR Council to see representatives of [PhD-candidates](#). Iris de Winter and Tessa Brinker were succeeded by Linda Veldhuizen and Ali Ammari. Later they were succeeded by Tjitske Geertsema and Guido Camps. They contributed very much to the WUR Council, Guido even made it to chair.



Initiatives of the WUR Council



A room without a view ...

It was also the first year in which the WUR Council had to approve the main lines of the university [budget](#). Because the budget discussion runs almost a full calendar year, some improvisation was necessary, not only about the budget [discussion](#) itself, but also on the timing, with a new student delegation joining the WUR Council in [September](#).

Another major [topic](#) that is still high on the to do list of the WUR Council is the [growth of the university](#). The more the merrier is the motto, but how can we facilitate all students who come to Wageningen?

2016

In the first [newsletter](#) in 2016 you could read about (surprise!) the [budget](#), but also about the lack of [female](#) professors at Wageningen University, the (nonetheless) high [quality](#) of our education (and what dangers to it are lurking in the shadows), and an item on [company cars](#) (and how they make miserable the lives of the people who need to drive them). In hindsight the WUR Council should have started a glossy then!



For quality of life indeed!

Other [topics](#) that year were the [Work to Work](#) regulations in the collective labour agreement of Wageningen Research, for which the WUR Council set up a special working group with representatives from all local works councils. Also a regulation was passed about network behaviour of employees. The golden rules of [netetiquette](#), n'oubliez jamais, never forget!

Emotions ran high when the [evening courses](#) were discussed, but strangely enough little attention was given to the demise of [WISE](#), the student information system to be that never was. The WUR Council devoted a special committee to it, to find out what went wrong and why, and how this can be avoided in the future. Dire lessons, let them be lessons learned. There were more [topics](#).



(not so) wise

The final [newsletter](#) in 2016 deals with (no surprise) the [budget](#), reorganisations at Corporate Staff ([CS+](#)) and Wageningen [Marine](#) Research (WMR is now part of the Animal Sciences Group), and an item about the Employee [Monitor](#), which is organized biannually jointly by the participation structure and the management. Can you calculate when to expect the next one?

2017

After a pilot for evening classes turned out not to provide the effect needed to give enough rooms for courses, the plan for a so called Extended Daytime Schedule ([EDS](#)) was introduced. Another item in the [newsletter](#) was about the [evaluation](#) of WISE, mentioned above. There also was an item about [work pressure](#), one of the spearheads of the WUR Council, :o:o:p:s that should be initiatives!



pressure cooker

The second [letter](#) in 2017 again had an item on [WMR](#) and on the [EDS](#); the more heavy topics often have to be discussed repeatedly before a proper agreement is reached. Other topics were the merger of part of the food department of [TNO](#) with Wageningen Food and Biobased Research, and the introduction of [Bachelor](#) programmes fully in English.

In 2017 there were [elections](#), not only for the students and PhD candidates, but also for the employees. In practice there were only elections for the students and a few of the local councils, because there were not enough candidates. Many participatory councils have difficulties in finding candidates, and many seats stay unoccupied. Hint, hint!

The logo on the poster is designed by Michiel van Noppen, winner of the WUR Council Poster design contest.

WUR Council FAQ's

For the answer to a question, click the triangle to the left of it. Click again to close.

What is the WUR Council?

What does the WUR Council do?

What kind of topics are involved?

What does the WUR Council do for me?

How do I know what issues are being handled?

Can I join the WUR Council?

How can I reach the WUR Council?