

## Alumni News | July 2022 | Farewell Fresco & holiday tips



Dear alumni,

During the last eight years, I have had the privilege to meet many of you - at conferences, on campus, while planting our centennial tree or creating alumni chapters all over the world. I have witnessed your sincere commitment to contributing to more sustainable, safe, affordable, and nutritious food for all, to a more circular economy, to mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change, to protecting nature on land and in the oceans, to formulating policies and implementing them to make the world a better place.

Your contributions to pathbreaking research, to world-class education and creating economic and social value are outstanding. We now have over 60,000 alumni, and I am grateful to each of you for the way you proudly continue the Wageningen tradition of excellence and our belief that only a science-based approach can create welfare for all.

Working with you, and receiving your messages and comments have been tremendously important in my years as President of the Executive Board. As I step down after completing my two terms I would like to express my gratitude for your support. I wish you all the best, personally and professionally.

Kind regards,  
Louise O. Fresco

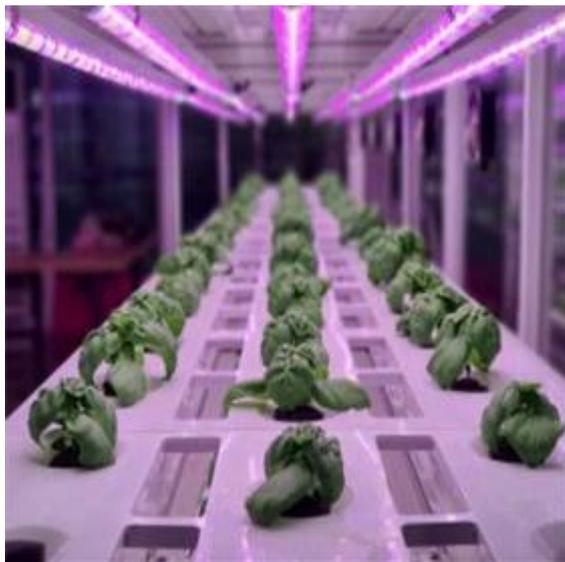
You can watch here the [video compilation of the Farewell celebration](#).  
And as a parting gift, a new fund has been established within the University Fund Wageningen (UFW): the Louise O. Fresco Fund. This fund supports students in situations of force majeure to enable them to complete their studies. [Contribute too to the Louise O. Fresco Fund!](#)



## Challenges in the Sahel

The Sahel is a region of extremes. It spans 15 countries in Africa with major differences in climate, but there is also a stark contrast between wealth and poverty. All these factors lead to immense challenges. WUR, therefore, is seeking to cooperate with regional partners and aims to offer research associates in the Sahel region a single location for knowledge and expertise from Wageningen. With this, WUR hopes to have an even greater impact on solving the Sahel crisis.

Dialogue is key 



## New global trend: growing vegetables without daylight

Did you know there is a new trend: growing vegetables stacked in multiple layers without daylight and without soil. This vertical farming takes up little space, saves water and can be done in places like disused factories. WUR explores the future of these systems. Read more in Wageningen World, the magazine for alumni & relations. Want to stay informed? Sign up for a [free subscription](#) or change your subscription from a paper to a digital edition.

Vertical horticulture is booming 



## Crossing borders to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals

Lessons from ten years of the Wageningen University Interdisciplinary Research & Education Fund (INREF)

## WUR Interdisciplinary Research & Education Fund shares lessons learned

In a recent publication, Wageningen University & Research Interdisciplinary Research & Education Fund (INREF) shares lessons learned from inter and transdisciplinary research, and education over the last decade. What can researchers achieve when looking beyond the limitations of their own domain and collaborating with stakeholders in the field?

Publication 'Crossing borders'



## WUR actively committed to inclusion

The university actively promotes inclusion, diversity, and equal opportunities because this contributes to better research and education. Reason enough to make talent feel welcome, safe, and at home. In the story series 'Inspiring people @WUR' you can read personal reactions of employees and alumni with different backgrounds and qualities to statements and questions about diversity and inclusion at WUR.

Inspiring stories





## Corentin Bisot overall winner Thesis Award 2021

Four WUR students won the Thesis Award, a prize for excellent master's theses. Bisot won in the field of environmental sciences with his thesis on the growth behavior of soil fungi and was honored as the overall winner. The other prize winners were Selena Koene, Carolina Sarzana, and Sanne Put. The prize was donated through the generosity of the Friends of UFW. Do you also want to support students and young alumni? [Become a Friend](#) too.

His thesis reads like a novel [➤](#)



## WUR starts engineering doctorate

WUR is introducing a new kind of degree programme: a two-year postgraduate qualification in technological design. The programme is called Designs for Agrifood & Ecological Systems and leads to an Engineering Doctorate. WUR has funding for at least six positions in 2022. Have you finished your Master's and are you interested in (technological) designs? Do you want to continue studying and get paid while doing so?

Website EngD programme [➤](#)



## Influence of WUR rankings

WUR is ranked as one of the best universities in the world. For international and Dutch prospective students, university rankings have a considerable influence on choosing their studies. That is why we made an overview of the most important rankings, what they measure and how the university scores in these rankings. [Watch the video](#) in which students of all nationalities explain why they have chosen WUR and what WUR means to them.

WUR Rankings 



Stay connected! | Saturday 8 October 2022 | Save the date 

Get inspired, join thematic events for alumni

Summertips

Digital puzzle 

Puzzle | [click on the picture of the Coral Garden](#) and focus on 88 digital pieces

### For readers 📖

Book | [Journey into the world's food systems](#) losses and waste, WUR researchers

Book | [Technology Meets Flowers](#), Unlocking the Circular and Digital Economy, Eric van Heck

Book | [The symbiotic city](#), voices of nature in urban transformations, co-author Marian Stuiver

WUR Library collection | [Books on inclusion and diversity](#)

Entrepreneurship stories | [4TU Spin-Off stories](#), read the stories behind the spin-offs

Got reading tips yourself? Let us know via [alumni@wur.nl](mailto:alumni@wur.nl)

### Continue learning this summer 📅

Free lecture | [Will insects be the new sushi?](#) by best scientists from Dutch universities

Free courses | [WUR MOOCs](#), develop yourself in your own time, where and whenever you want

Summer Schools | [Get inspired and join our WUR Summer Schools](#)

### Anything & everything 😊

Film | [Trailer Black-tailed godwit](#) by Ruben Smit. In Dutch but with amazing moving pictures

Video | [4TU-Energy](#), about accelerating towards a carbon-neutral society

Annual Report | [University Fund Wageningen](#), impact stories made possible by donations

Farewell exhibition | [A tribute to Louise O. Fresco](#) by the WUR library

Are you in Wageningen? | [Plan a WUR GO tour](#), a discovery journey into the future food system

Plans to move to Wageningen? | [Helpful information](#) for ex-pats & new international staff

*Published by the WUR Alumni Office*

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