



*'To explore the potential of nature
to improve the quality of life'*

Invitation

The digitalisation of nature

98th Dies Natalis 9 March 2016



**Please register online: www.wageningenur.nl/dies
before Friday 4 March 2016**



The digitalisation of nature

Digital technologies and infrastructures and big data offer new opportunities to investigate and resolve difficult issues in society and economy. The digital era develops new frontiers in exploring the potential of nature and in designing new practices and technologies for a better quality of life. These digital innovations relate for instance to precision farming with highly efficient water and fertilizer use; food safety management through tracking, tracing and transparency; personalized health and nutrition advices; genome sequencing and designing biological systems; global environmental surveying of resources and polluters; and monitoring and conserving endangered species. By the same token the digital age raises new questions: on the possibility to involve citizens in science; on privacy and the surveillance of people; on the power balance between big institutions and individuals; and on whether digitalised nature can fully capture nature experiences in parks and forests. These fascinating developments and questions are addressed by key-note speaker dr Laxmi Parida of the IBM T. J. Watson research center at the 98th Dies Natalis of Wageningen University, and some of our leading young scientists. We look forward to welcoming you on 9 March in our Orion building on Wageningen Campus.

Prof. dr ir Louise O. Fresco | *President*

Prof. dr ir Arthur P.J. Mol | *Rector Magnificus and Vice-President*

Dr Tijs Breukink | *Board Member*

Programme official celebration

14.30 **Welcoming reception and registration**

15.30 **The digitalisation of nature**

Arthur P.J. Mol – Rector Magnificus Wageningen University

Laxmi Parida – Computational Biology Center at IBM T. J. Watson

Reflections by three Wageningen UR scientists: **Heidy den Besten, Gert-Jan Steeneveld** and **Arjen Daane**

Presentation of the University Fund Wageningen Outstanding Alumnus Award

17.00 **Reception**

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Programme symposium

11.30 **Registration and lunch**

12.15 **Symposium – The digitalisation of nature**

Richard Visser – Dean of Research Wageningen University

WUF-KLV Thesis Award ceremony

Pitch sessions – A global one health | Resource use efficiency | Resilience | Metropolitan solutions | Synthetic biology

Guided tours – Rikilt laboratories | Unifarm green house | Food & biobased research | Restaurant of the future | Wageningen soil museum

14.30 **End of programme** – Coffee break

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