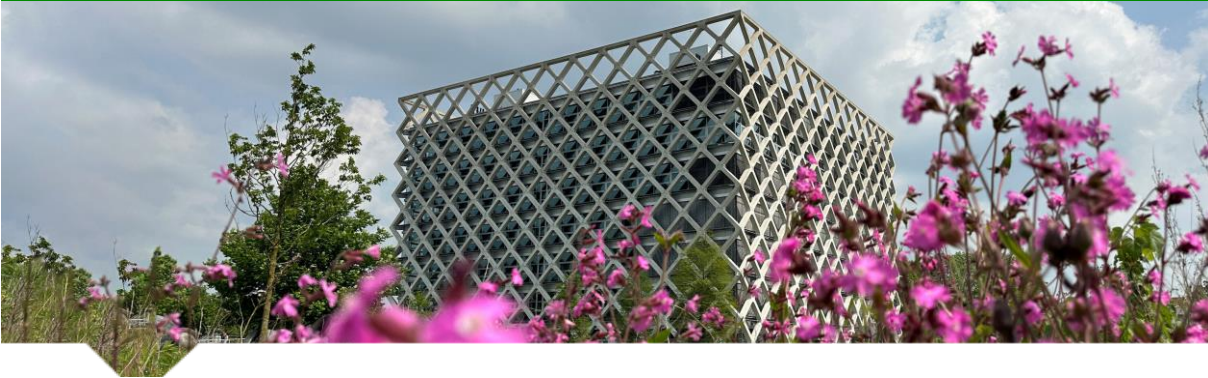


Alumni News July 2023



Dear alumna, alumnus,

With the summer weather, it is the time of year when our always beautiful campus comes into its own. The liveliness is at its maximum and I enjoy walking from an appointment in Atlas to the next one in, for example, Axis or Actio, or further down the alphabet.

Our campus has a great biodiversity. Every year we therefore set out to count the number of species of animals, plants and insects together. In 2022 we found more than 800! This year we are even competing against 16 other universities with our [Wageningen Biodiversity Challenge](#).

There are other challenges within the buildings. The future of the working environment is different from what we know from the past, and at the same time we must provide space for the more than 600 new colleagues who have joined WUR in recent years. We are now elaborating the Strategic Housing Plan into concrete construction and especially renovation plans. A large new “Research Building” on the corner of the Bornse- and Droevendaalsesteeg is one of the eye-catchers of these plans.

A theme that is top of mind, and certainly also for the Executive Board, is the cooperation with the fossil industry. Should WUR apply stricter requirements? Or should the ties be cut altogether? These were some of the questions that were discussed during the last (of a series of three) Let's Explore session on June 6, 2023. The Executive Board will take the contributions from this session into account in a decision on cooperation with the fossil industry; we want to do that before the

summer holidays.

Kind regards,
Rens Buchwaldt, member of the Executive Board of Wageningen University & Research

Furthermore, in this newsletter you will read about:

- ☀ Changes in African Food System
 - ☀ Goodbye Wageningen World?
 - ☀ Foreign students welcome at WUR
 - ☀ New partnership in Canada
 - ☀ Special offer for alumni
 - ☀ Leaving your inheritance to the university
 - ☀ Human activity impacts wildlife in protected areas
 - ☀ Wageningen Experience Day for all alumni
 - ☀ Keep on learning, Executive MBA programme Food & Agribusiness
 - ☀ Honors and awards
 - ☀ Alumni meetings all over the world
 - ☀ Summer season tips
-



Changes Food System Africa

Increasing food security in Africa will require far-reaching changes. The African Food Fellowship brings together frontrunners from the African food sector so they can join forces and learn about food systems. Suleiman Kweya, Valentine Uwase and Brian Neza tell us about small-scale farmers, analyses, and involving more young people.

[Knowledge of new generation](#)



Goodbye Wageningen World

Transformed from 'coffee-table magazine' and Wageningen Update to a bilingual alumni magazine published both on paper and as a browsable pdf. But times are changing, does this format still suit WUR? That is why a reader survey is needed, read more in [Wageningen World](#). Fill out the survey and let us know what is important for you and how you prefer to receive WUR news.

[To the survey](#)



Foreign students stay very welcome at WUR

Rector magnificus Prof Dr. Arthur Mol gave an interview published in the Financieel Dagblad: "The world is facing major challenges around climate, biodiversity, and food production. Exactly the international themes that WUR is working on and where we need international students and staff to apply that knowledge worldwide. They are and will continue to be welcome at WUR."

[International nature](#)



New partnership in Canada

Plant-based foods offer a solution to pressing issues facing humanity: climate change and human health. Protein Industries in Canada and WUR agree the protein transition is an indispensable step toward a sustainable future. They agreed to collaborate on the exchange of knowledge to accelerate the transition on both sides of the Atlantic.

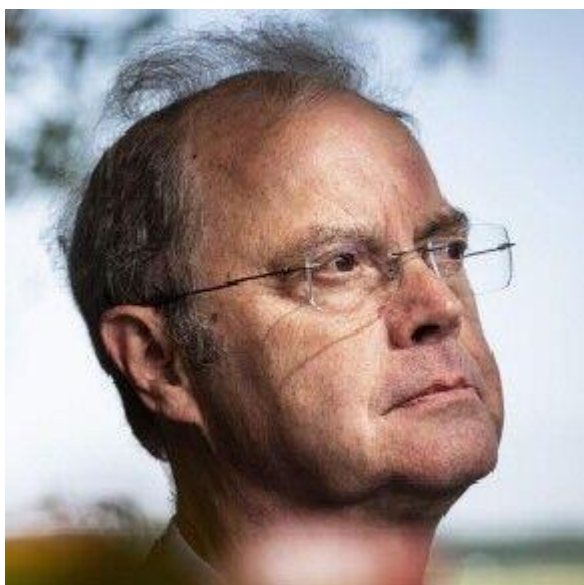
[Formalisation relationship](#)



Special offer for alumni

In Wageningen and want to meet up with a former classmate? Come visit the new Omnia building on campus this summer. Take a seat, inside or outside on the spacious terrace and choose something tasty from the menu. You will receive a **free** glass of organic apple cider if you mention you're a former student. Booking is possible but not necessary. Closed: 17 July-20 August.

[Valid until 30 Sept.](#)



Leaving estate to university

"I always had the idea of leaving part of my inheritance to charity", says Ton van der Heijden. But he thinks the money should be used for the great challenges in this world. Read the motivation of Ton, who is not a Wageningen alumnus by the way. Would you like to discuss leaving your legacy? [University Fund Wageningen](#) will gladly help you explore the possibilities.

[Story of the bequest](#)



Human activity impacts wildlife in protected areas

159 Tropical mammals living inside protected areas are affected by human activity, even when this activity occurs outside of the protected range. That is the conclusion of a new, international study across 16 tropical forests. Using camera traps, researchers assessed how species are affected, based on their habitat needs and human-caused impacts.

[To article and video](#)

Wageningen Experience Day



Save the date Saturday 7 October! That day the [Wageningen Experience Day](#) will be celebrated big due to WUR's 105th anniversary. The programme is taking shape and registration will open soon.

All alumni are welcome to come and take a look at the Campus. Not only alumni are invited but also their families. All WUR employees and their families are welcome too this year. Our alumni abroad won't be forgotten either! Keep an eye on your inbox for the official invitation!



Curious about what type of events we organize for our alumni abroad? Read on below and hopefully we can welcome you during one of our future events!

Germany - 7 February 2023

The 4TU Alumni Event took place in the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Berlin with a full house of nearly 90 local alumni. They had the opportunity to get a glimpse into areas like the future of 'giga' manufacturing, CO₂ capturing, and AI-powered farming from local TU alumni.

Japan - 10 March 2023

Alumni living and working in Japan were welcome to join this event organised in Tokyo by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for Japanese students that are soon traveling to the Netherlands to study there.

Singapore - 4 April 2023

Alumni who live and work in Singapore met up with a WUR delegation. They ate together and visited local education institutions, science institutes, and companies. "Singapore holds a significant position as a key market for WUR", said Kaylan Guntuboyina, Account Manager Asia.

USA - 19-25 April 2023

With a combined network of over 8,000 '4TU' graduates in the US, our alumni are valuable contacts for each other and unique access points to exciting companies and organizations! The 4TU Alumni Events were held in: Boston at Motional, Chicago at Adyen's North America Tech Hub, San Francisco for a casual meetup reception, and San José at the R&D facility of ASML.

China - 3 June 2023

Alumni in China joined a successful trip to Sanyuan Wellhope / De Heus. This animal feed company is located on the outskirts of Beijing in the Changping district. The participants learned how animal feed is produced, did a fun game to recognize raw materials, and visited the factory. In the end, they enjoyed the

informal gathering.

England - 13 June 2023

Are our startups on their way to changing the world? Alumni attended in London a special 4TU Alumni Event celebrating the entrepreneurial spirit and impact of the 4 technical universities of the Netherlands. Our audience included both local alumni and alumni entrepreneurs visiting the city as part of the London Tech Week.

Belgium - 15 June 2023

The Alumni Chapter in Belgium organised an alumni meeting in Bruxelles. WUR alumna Marion Bloemendal, Farmer Relationship Manager at Danone was the host of the evening and shared her experience of working at Danone.

Kenya - 23 June 2023

This alumni gathering in Nairobi was organized on the occasion of the visit of a WUR delegation to Kenya where they visited e.g. the [REFOOTURE project](#) in Nakuru and the [REEFolution project](#) in Shimoni. During the evening the alumni were updated on recent developments of their alma mater and the local community of WUR alumni. It was a great opportunity to meet fellow alumni and inspiring partners.

Want to organise a gathering in your home country and facilitate a business or university visit? Send an email to alumni@wur.nl.



Keep on learning, enroll in the Executive MBA programme Food & Agribusiness

“A fundamental paradigm shift for agriculture and food systems has emerged. That raises questions like: how are we really going to address sustainability? What do the new customer segments need from us and how can we enable sustainable food

production? The Executive MBA in Food & Agriculture helps me to find the answers,” says Dr. Anoma Lokossou, a molecular geneticist. She grew up in Togo, graduated from the University of Toulouse, and did a Ph.D. in plant breeding at WUR. She has been working at Syngenta for 12 years. As a Genetic Project Lead, she felt the need for more insight into the business aspects of the seed sector. That's why she enrolled in the Executive MBA programme Food & Agribusiness of TIAS School for Business and Society and WUR.

Looking for a broader appreciation for today's challenges and want to have a broader impact with simplified solutions, like Anoma? [Find out more here](#).

Honors & awards 🌱

[WUR Impact Award](#) | Team NL2120
[WUR Teacher of the Year](#) | Ignas Heitkonig
[ReThink Waste Challenge](#) | Student Team Afterlife
[SETAC Capacity Building Award](#) | Paul van den Brink
[Feike Sijbesma Sustainable Innovation Award](#) | Orbisk
[Honorary Doctorate University Pretoria](#) | Louise Fresco
[Teacher of the Year of the Netherlands](#) | Birgit Boogaard
[WUR Excellent Education Prizes](#) | Coordinators of four courses
[WUR Thesis Awards](#) | 4 Students have written an excellent MSc thesis
[Sport Grant for students](#) | Wheelchair basketball player and softball player
[Hugo de Vries Award for best dissertation in the field of botany](#) | Eline Ampt
[L'Oréal-Unesco Women in Science-Programme Price](#) | Marieke van de Loosdrecht
[Marina van Damme Award for female WUR alumni](#) | Adita de Haan-Fuentes
Usquiano en Martyna Hogendorf



Summer season tips

Love solving puzzles? 🧩

Online puzzle | [Lilium Bulbiferum, 120 pieces](#)

Online puzzle | [Senecio Jacobaea, 108 pieces](#)

Books written by alumni 📖

Book | [Annals of Tourism Research](#), Bas Verschuuren co-author

Poetry | [How persistent that tropical blue sky](#), Carin Vijfhuizen

Book club | [Reading together for Planet Earth](#), a book club with a mission

Written literature yourself? Submit it to this section via alumni@wur.nl

Keep up to date 💡

Blog | [Series about Responsible Research and Innovation 4TU](#)

Film | [Paved Paradise](#) (in Dutch)

Video | [Bringing society into science](#), with Jessica Duncan

Podcast | [Meat: the four futures](#)

Podcast | [VeeteeltGRAS](#)

DocuScience | [Holy Shit](#), the potential of human poop and urine (in Dutch)

DocuScience | [Discover inspiring works at WUR Campus](#)

DocuScience | [NextGen: changing the food system](#)

WUR Library collection | [Flowers of the Brazilian Forest](#)

WUR Library collection | [Stories Plants Tell: Flora Batava 1800-1934](#)

WUR Facts & Figures | [New Corporate Brochure](#)

Wageningen World | [Magazine for alumni](#)

4TU Career Special | [Publication of the four Dutch technical universities](#)

Continue learning 🎓

WUR Course | Making academic education available and accessible to everyone: [MOOC Agricultural Water Management](#)

Upcoming alumni activities

[To the calendar](#)

14
JUL

4TU Alumni Event Japan

Tokyo Dutch Embassy: business and networking, with alumni meeting

04
SEP

Opening Academic Year WUR

Save the date: 105th Opening Academic Year '23-'24 'Shaping Sustainable Futures'

12
SEP

USA DEAN alumni tour

Part two of the USA tour: Washington DC, New York, and Houston from 12-14 September

20
SEP

Mansholt Lecture Belgium

Bruxelles, Nature-based approach for Europe, with alumni meeting

07
OCT

Wageningen Experience Day

For all alumni and staff members of WUR with their families

09
APR

Food Conference Belgium

Leuven, 5th Global Food Security Conference 9-12 April 2024

Published by the WUR Alumni Office

www.wur.eu/alumni
alumni@wur.nl

| [Contact](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Edit your data](#) |