

Alumni News | March 2020

WUR cares about alumni in difficult times



Dear alumnus/alumna,

Worldwide, the coronavirus has disrupted our daily lives. We would like to express our support to all our alumni around the world, also on behalf of the executive board of Wageningen University & Research (WUR). As a community, it is now more important than ever to assist and help each other and to offer extra attention to those who need it.

Everyone's health and safety is paramount, which is why all our alumni events have been postponed or cancelled. The online platform [WUR Connect](#) offers a good way for alumni to find each other (again), to keep in touch and to show compassion. You can also contact us by emailing alumni@wur.nl.

Via this newsletter we will keep you informed of the latest news and developments at WUR and we hope to be able to welcome you back to one of our alumni events in good health as soon as possible.

We wish everyone strength in these difficult times.

With kind regards,

Denise Spiekerman en Eline Nell
Alumni Relations, [University Fund Wageningen](#) (UFW)



Coronavirus

The effect of the coronavirus can now be noticed all over the world. It is also quiet on Wageningen Campus; education has gone online and employees are now working from home. Watch the encouraging videos of WUR president [prof. Louise O. Fresco](#) and vice president [prof. Arthur Mol](#). WUR offers an overview of specific corona news and facilitates Science Talks, a new series of short videos in which scientists from all disciplines focus on corona related topics.

[WUR corona news](#)



Dies Natalis 'Illuminating science for transitions'

The ceremony of the 102nd Dies Natalis of WUR put the Sustainable Development Goals central stage and highlighted the importance of basic science in the WUR domain. During the official celebration, the [UFW Research Award](#) was presented to bioinformatician Jorge Navarro-Muñoz, a former postdoc researcher at WUR. You can find the after movie and the lecture on the website.

[Dies Natalis 9 March 2020](#)





Take A Free Online Course

WUR offers a wide range of online academic courses. Everyone can enroll in a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) at home. Consider, for example, the new course *Circular Fashion* and the *Nutrition, Exercise & Sports* course, which was chosen by participants as the best MOOC of 2019. MOOCs are open to anyone and easily accessible from all over the world. They are completely online, participation is free and you can start anytime.

Expand your knowledge



Three Million Euros For Wageningen Scientists

Leading Wageningen scientists prof. Thijs Ettema, biologist and prof. Christa Testerink, plant physiologist, each receive € 1.5 million from the Dutch Research Council. With this Vici grant, they will spend the next five years researching how complex life-forms evolved out of primitive cells, and how plants keep in shape under stress. Vici is one of the most significant scientific grants in the Netherlands.

News article





Coral Reefs | Social-Ecological Systems

Coral reefs in West Papua are a paradise on earth and home to nearly 600 species of coral and 15,000 species of fish. But Wageningen marine biologist Lisa Beckings wonders how long these reefs will withstand the consequences of warming seawater and a growing tourism industry. Read this and more in the newest edition of the alumni magazine Wageningen World. Don't want to miss a single issue? [Subscribe](#) to the digital edition.

Wageningen World #1 2020



Successful International Alumni Networks

Last year WUR representative Francisco Martinez attended meet-ups of alumni in Ecuador, Peru, Colombia and Mexico. A perfect occasion to connect alumni together again, to exchange information and look back at the great times in Wageningen. WUR alumni are encouraged to partake in alumni networks worldwide because they are essential to engage alumni with each other and with WUR, especially now in these complicated times.

Alumni Chapters & Networks





Stay connected
via WUR
Connect



WUR is best
agricultural
university!



Join & benefit
from Summer
School



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