

Interview topics Teacher of the Year 2018

### **Introduction**

In the introduction the jury tries to get an overview of what the teacher teaches exactly, why the teacher started teaching in the first place and what his/her career on Wageningen University has looked like so far.

*Example questions:*

- *Why did you start teaching?*
- *How long have you been teaching at Wageningen?*
- *How many courses do you teach each year?*
- *Approximately how many students do you teach?*
- *How did you develop your teaching skills (did you take special courses)?*

### **Personal vision on excellent teaching**

In this section the jury gets an idea of what the teacher thinks about teaching at Wageningen University specifically: the challenges of teaching, but also their favourite aspects, special moments etc. The focus also lies on their greatest strengths and improvements as a teacher at WUR.

*Example questions:*

- *What do you like about teaching at Wageningen University?*
- *What do you consider the challenge of teaching?*
- *To which moment in teaching do you hold the best memories?*
- *What is the most important thing your students have taught you on lectureship?*
- *What is your greatest strength as a lecturer?*
- *Do you think you could improve yourself as a teacher? How do you aim to do so?*

### **Evaluation criterion 1: encouraging/enthusing students**

The first evaluation criterion is about the way the teacher communicates with students and encourages/enthuses them. It is also important how teachers communicate with students (social media/online lectures) and how they develop course material. Lastly, it is about how they make sure students stay engaged and motivated.

*Example questions:*

- *What characterises your teaching method? Do you use Social Media? Are you in favour of online lectures?*
- *How do you develop course material? Do you make sure it will be interesting to students?*
- *How do you make sure students work actively and stay motivated?*
- *What are the effects of your way of interacting?*
- *How would you wish to contribute to the (academic) identity of students?*

### **Evaluation criterion 2: accessibility for students**

The second evaluation criterion focuses on accessibility for students: is the teacher easily approachable, and how does he/she give students the feeling that they are welcome to ask questions anytime.

*Example questions:*

- *How do you respond if a student does not understand the course material?*
- *Would you consider yourself easy to approach by students?*
- *How do you stay approachable during lectures? And at other times?*

### **Evaluation criterion 3: critical/innovative**

This criterion tries to get insights in the way teachers stimulate critical and innovative students. The jury tries to find out whether the teacher is involved with educational innovation, how he/she makes sure students are up-to-date on current affairs, and what the teacher does to make students stay critical.

*Example questions:*

- *Are you involved with educational innovation?*
- *Do you stimulate innovative ideas by students?*
- *Do you stimulate students to also look outside boundaries of their own studies/areas of expertise?*
- *Do you encourage students to look critically at the course material?*

### **Evaluation criterion 4: involvement in extra activities**

In the last topic is about whether the teacher is involved in extra activities next to teaching.

*Example question:*

- *Are you committed to extra activities besides your normal teaching duties, such as information days/study associations/programme committees/joint representative advisory bodies?*

### **In closing**

- *You made the longlist! What is so special/effective about your way of teaching?*
- *What motivates you to continue teaching?*