

Prof. Dr. René H. Wijffels

PERSONAL DETAILS

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EDUCATION

1987 -1994 PhD in Environmental and Agricultural Sciences, specialty Bioprocess Engineering, Wageningen University, Wageningen
1982 -1987 MSc in Environmental Engineering, Wageningen University, Wageningen
1977-1982 BSc in Food Engineering at the Den Bosch Polytechnic Agricultural School

SCIENTIFIC & PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Since 2007 Professor and chairholder at Wageningen University, Bioprocess Engineering
Since 2013 Professor at Nord university, Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture, Bodø, Norway
2012-2016 Director of the Wageningen UR strategic program on biorefinery
2012-2014 Director of Centre for Biobased Economy ; The Centre of Biobased Economy is an education innovation program. The Centre of Biobased Economy is a collaboration of a Centre of Excellence (Wageningen UR) and 6 Centres of Expertise (Universities of Applied Science)
2010- Scientific director of AlgaePARC
2005-2007 Professor Marine Biotechnology at Wageningen University, personal chair
2005 VICI laureate on the project 'Photosynthetic Cell Factories' STW)
2001-2004 Ad-interim chairman Bioprocess Engineering, Wageningen University
2001-2005 Associate professor Wageningen University, Food and Bioprocess Engineering
1999-2000 Study coordinator Wageningen University of the study programs Bioprocess Engineering and Biotechnology
1990-2001 Assistant professor Wageningen University, Food and Bioprocess Engineering
1987-1990 PhD in Environmental and Agricultural Sciences, Wageningen University

RESEARCH

Involved in more than 50 projects in the last 10 years; 5 key projects are given below:

1. Photosynthetic Cell Factories. VICI grant, Photosynthetic Cell Factories, 2005-2010
2. Wetsus-algae. Wetsus is a collaboration of the universities of Delft, Groningen, Twente and Wageningen in the field of water technology. In this program there is a theme on microalgae with support from 15 companies 8 PhD projects ran under this umbrella
3. AlgaePARC pilot plant. Project for infrastructure and research for a pilot facility. Funding of the infrastructure was from the Ministry of Economic Affairs in the Netherlands and the Province of Gelderland. The research program is a public private partnership with 40% support of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and 60% from companies under the umbrella of the Biosolar Cells program.
4. AlgaePARC Biorefinery: a public private partnership program on the biorefinery of microalgae. For this program production of microalgae takes place at pilot scale.
5. EU projects. Presently we are involved in 4 EU projects of which Wageningen UR is co-ordinator of 3 (SPLASH, FUEL4ME and MIRACLES)

PUBLICATIONS

231 publications in peer reviewed journals (H-factor 42)