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**National
Research
Foundation**

NRF-Nuffic Doctoral Funding Framework

**Directorate: Human and Infrastructure Capacity
Development (HICD)**

Date: April 2020

Table of Contents

1. Background.....	3
2. Objectives	4
3. Doctoral Training Modalities.....	5
4. Areas of Support.....	5
5. Eligibility.....	5
5.1. Institution and Supervisor Eligibility.....	5
5.2. Applicant Eligibility	6
6. Students not Eligible for NRF-Nuffic Doctoral Funding.....	7
7. Financial Means Test.....	7
8. Applicable Allowances	8
9. Application Process	9
10. Attachments.....	9
11. Review of Applications and Selection Criteria	10
11.1. Applications for Single Site doctoral studies.....	10
11.2. Applications for Split Site Doctoral Studies	10
11.3. Transparency and Accountability	11
11.4. Selection of Successful Candidates	11
11.5. Standardised Scorecard for Reviewing Applications	11
12. Funding Details.....	12
13. Award Principles	14
14. Conditions of Award.....	14
15. Reporting	15
16. Financial Control	15
17. Contact Details	15
Annexure 1: Participating Dutch Higher Education Institutions	17

1. Background

South Africa aspires to produce more doctoral graduates as a means of increasing its global competitiveness, high-level research skills and knowledge production. One way to achieve this is by creating international partnerships and networks between scientists and research institutions, with a focus on training doctoral students. The National Research Foundation (NRF) of South Africa has a mandate to promote and support research through funding, human capacity development and the provision of the necessary research infrastructure. In order to realise this mandate, the NRF has made a substantial commitment and investment towards supporting the next generation of researchers to intensify and strengthen African and global networks.

In recognition of the long standing collaboration between South Africa and The Netherlands in education and research, and with the ambition to strengthen postgraduate training while enhancing sustainable collaboration between South African and Dutch higher education institutions (HEIs), an agreement was signed in 2017 between the NRF and Nuffic (Netherlands organisation for internationalisation in education represented locally in South Africa by Nuffic's Netherlands Education Support Office). This agreement is an *implementing arrangement* under the *Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the fields of science and technology* between the governments of South Africa and The Netherlands (2015).

Some of the relevant highlights of the cooperation between South Africa and The Netherlands include the South Africa Netherlands Research Programme on Alternatives in Development (SANPAD), that ran from 1997 to 2013 and the Desmond Tutu Training Programme (DTTP) that commenced in 2009. The DTTP was jointly established by the NRF and Vrije University Amsterdam (VUA) to enable the training of doctoral candidates under the supervision of the VUA researchers and their South African counterparts. Following the signing of individual agreements between VUA and several South African universities, the awarding of joint doctoral degrees in South Africa was made possible. Eleven South African universities namely, Stellenbosch University; North-West University; and the Universities of the Western Cape; Cape Town; Pretoria; South Africa; Witwatersrand, Free State; KwaZulu-Natal; and Johannesburg have collaborative agreements with VUA for postgraduate training in place.

Through this partnership between the NRF and Nuffic, doctoral funding will be provided for South African citizens and permanent residents to study full-time in The Netherlands (i.e. single site mode). Institutional level agreements between Dutch HEIs and Partner Institutions

in South Africa to enable full-time joint doctoral degrees will also be supported (i.e. split site mode).

The roles of the NRF and Nuffic are described in detail in the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA). Briefly, the NRF bears responsibility for the implementation of the scholarship programme, through *inter alia* publishing the call and managing the application and selection processes. Nuffic will act as the coordinator between the Dutch HEIs¹ and the NRF, to promote the programmes among various stakeholders and facilitate links between researchers in the two countries. This framework document may be amended periodically to ensure synergy with the NRF and Nuffic postgraduate funding policies.

The NRF is implementing a new Postgraduate Funding Policy in 2020 wherein postgraduate funding allocations will be underpinned by the principles of equity of opportunity; representivity; prioritisation; and enhanced access, success and throughput. This Postgraduate Funding Policy gives effect to the Ministerial guidelines for improving equity in the distribution of DSI/NRF Bursaries and Fellowships (2013). Citizenship, age, gender and disability will be considered in the allocation of funding, with transformation of the postgraduate cohort as the core objective. Financial need, is for the first time, included as a criterion for determining the level of funding. To attract and retain a diverse range of students, funding levels will be increased to cover the full cost of study for students who meet required criteria.

2. Objectives

The objectives of this funding instrument are to:

- Strengthen cooperation and internationalisation between Dutch HEIs and Partner Institutions in South Africa through joint supervision of doctoral candidates;
- Foster sustainable institutional collaboration between South African and Dutch HEIs, contributing to the bilateral research agendas;
- Promote and advance science, research and innovation;
- Support the development of a critical mass of globally competitive knowledge-workers in South Africa in prioritised areas;
- Contribute towards increasing the number and quality of South African postgraduate students in all areas of Science, Engineering, Technology, the Social Sciences and Humanities; and

¹ See Annexure 1 for a list of participating Dutch Higher Education Institutions.

- Effect transformation in the percentage representation of postgraduate students from designated groups, namely black, female and persons with disabilities.

3. Doctoral Training Modalities

The two modalities of doctoral training that will be funded are (i) full-time doctoral studies at a Dutch HEI, referred to as the single site mode, and (ii) full-time doctoral studies jointly developed and implemented by a Dutch HEI and a Partner University in South Africa, referred to as the split site mode and resulting in a joint degree² from the partner institutions. The funding is designed for students enrolled in a full-time, four (4)-year doctoral degree in either the single- or split site mode. Due to financial constraints and a revised approach to the international placement of doctoral students by the NRF, only a limited number of students will be funded for single site doctoral studies.

4. Areas of Support

The funding is intended to support doctoral candidates to pursue research studies in all areas of Science, Engineering Technology, the Social Sciences and Humanities, including Priority Research Areas, at participating universities. The percentage of supported students will be 80% from the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines and 20% from the Social Sciences and Humanities, in line with South Africa's National Development Plan. Preference will also be given to applications to obtain a doctoral degree in a vulnerable discipline such as Statistics, Mathematics and Nursing, emerging research areas or where there exists a paucity of research infrastructure and/or suitably qualified supervisors in South Africa.

5. Eligibility

5.1. Institution and Supervisor Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in this doctoral training initiative, participating institutions and supervisors must meet the following requirements:

² A joint degree in this context refers to a single doctoral degree awarded by joint decision of the Dutch HEI and Partner University in South Africa at the successful completion of a jointly defined and entirely shared doctoral study programme. This means that all Participating Institutions are responsible for the entire programme and not just their own separate parts. The offering of joint degrees is limited to institutions with existing Memoranda of Agreement for joint degrees.

- Dutch HEIs will waive tuition fees or in the case that a tuition fee applies, this will not be charged to the NRF or the individual scholarship awardee;
- Dutch HEIs will provide research running costs (i.e. costs that can reasonably be expected to accrue during the course of the doctoral research period) and access to research infrastructure;
- Doctoral supervisory capacity must be in place at both the Dutch HEIs and the South African Partner Institution, in the case of joint degrees;
- Supervisors must commit to evaluate the academic suitability of the applicant and endorse the research proposal (including timeframes) **before** the application is submitted for merit review. Supervisors may do this through email correspondence with the applicant and *via* other electronic media such as Skype or video conferencing;
- Supervisors must submit a letter of support indicating that the necessary research infrastructure, resources and funds for undertaking the research and supporting the doctoral student exists within their faculty/school/department. **Supervisors may only support one (1) applicant per project each year;**
- In the case of a joint doctoral degree, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Dutch HEI and the Partner University in South Africa in respect of awarding joint degrees must be in place. Where such an agreement does not exist, a template for a generic MoU may be requested from the NRF. Both institutions will still need to develop a detailed agreement for specific programmes undertaken under this MoU; and
- Supervisors must also provide confirmation of a collaborative research project including a plan for co-supervision and mobility visits for the duration of the four (4)-year doctoral study.

5.2. Applicant Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be South African citizens or permanent residents with a South African ID number, although South African citizens will be prioritised;
- Be thirty-two **(32) years of age or younger on 31 December** of the year of application for the doctoral funding.
- Be intending to pursue full-time doctoral studies in the 2021 academic year;
- Be resident in South Africa at the time of approval of the funding, and
- Meet the academic requirement for doctoral studies which is a minimum of 65% at the master's level.

Where universities classify masters' students' results in the categories of "Pass" or "Pass with distinction", the university must disclose to the NRF the numerical mark for making such classification. A student with a classification of "Pass" or "Pass with distinction" will be allowed to apply for the current call, however this student will be allocated a default score of 1. For the call that will be open in April 2021, student without a numerical pass mark will not be eligible for NRF funding.

6. Students not Eligible for NRF-Nuffic Doctoral Funding

The following categories of individuals are not eligible to apply for funding under this initiative.

- Students who are currently registered for doctoral studies in The Netherlands.
- Students who are already in the 3rd year of doctoral study in 2020 at the South African institution
- Individuals who have previously received NRF funding for a doctoral study.
- Individuals that already hold a doctoral degree.
- Students who will be in their pre-proposal year in 2021.
- Individuals who will be in a salaried (contractual or permanent) employment that exceeds 12 hours of work per week, while pursuing doctoral studies may not hold NRF-Nuffic doctoral funding for full-time studies.
- Individuals that are on sabbatical leave from their current employment may not apply for NRF Postgraduate Funding.
- Students who hold South African/Netherlands government funding for a doctoral degree.

7. Financial Means Test

The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) currently defines **financially needy students** as individuals who come from households with a **combined net family income of no more than R350 000** (three hundred and fifty thousand rand) per annum.

Applicants will be subjected to a financial means test to determine their financial need. Applicants for NRF postgraduate funding who were previously supported by National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) or the Ikusasa Student Financial Aid Programme (ISFAP) will not be subjected to a financial means test, however, they **must attach proof** in the form of an official university stamped financial statement or signed agreement with NSFAS or ISFAP.

The NRF acknowledges that there are financially needy students that may not have undergone a financial means test prior to applying to the NRF for postgraduate funding, and therefore, a financial means tests for those applicants' will be facilitated in partnership with ISFAP. Applicants that need to undertake a financial means test must provide the following:

- Completed NRF-ISFAP consent form certified by a commissioner of oath; and
- Consent to the NRF-ISFAP, and/or such other person or entity that the NRF-ISFAP may designate, the absolute right and permission to conduct creditworthy checks, affordability assessments and to verify his/her combined household income in order to ascertain whether they qualify for NRF-ISFAP funding.

The above checks and assessments by NRF-ISFAP will be conducted strictly in accordance and/or in compliance with the provisions of the National Credit Act No 34 of 2005.

Applicants who were previously funded by Funza Lushaka, Department of Military Veterans, or Department of Social Development (DSD) bursaries for their undergraduate studies must undergo a financial means test upon application for NRF postgraduate funding. Typically, students funded by Funza Lushaka, Department of Military Veterans or DSD are nominated by the funder and financial need is not a criterion in the award of the undergraduate bursaries (although the bursaries are administered *via* NSFAS), hence they will be subjected to a financial means test at the postgraduate level

8. Applicable Allowances

Successful applicants **under the split site mode**, will be funded either at Full Cost of Study (FCS) or Partial Cost of Study (PCS). The **FCS** will cover **tuition, accommodation, living allowance, meal allowance** and a once-off allowance for study resource material such as an electronic device (Table 1). The **PCS** will cover **tuition and accommodation** costs only (Table 1).

Table 1: Annual NRF allowances applicable for FCS and PCS for doctoral studies under the split site mode.

Category	Doctoral ¹	
	FCS allowance per annum	PCS allowance per annum
Personal care/Living allowance (Rand)	48 000	n/a
Meal/Food allowances (Rand)	27 000	n/a
Maximum Accommodation allowance (Rand) ²	60 000	60 000

Maximum Tuition Fees (Rand) ³	30 000	30 000
Electronic study Device allowance (Rand) ⁴	10 000	n/a
Total (Rand)	175 000	90 000
Maximum Assistive technology device (Rand)	20 000	20 000

1. The allowances per category will be reviewed on an annual basis for adjustment where applicable.

2. Accommodation fee will be capped and paid as per invoice. Limited to maximum cost of the equivalent university owned on-campus accommodation at a particular institution. Students accommodated in private accredited accommodation must also provide proof of lease agreement.

3. Tuition fee will be capped and paid as per invoice. Tuition fee is the agreed institutional fee for the actual programme of study. Registration fee to be included in the tuition fee. Qualifying NRF funded students are not required to pay registration fee upfront.

4. The electronic study device allowance will be provided as a once-off for the duration of the postgraduate studies.

9. Application Process

Applications for funding for doctoral studies in the 2021 academic year must be submitted through the NRF Online Submission System at <https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/> - NRF Postgraduate Scholarships. Students must first identify the university where they will be registered for their postgraduate degree before submitting an application to the NRF.

Note that:

Under the single site mode, the closing date for submission of applications to the NRF is 01 June 2020.

Under the split site mode, South African universities at which students intend to register for doctoral studies, will set their own internal cut-off dates for applications and applicants must abide by those dates. The Designated Authority cut-off date for submission of applications to the NRF is 14 August 2020.

Further instructions on the application process are available in the NRF-Nuffic Doctoral Funding Application and Funding Guide for 2020 which must be read in conjunction with this framework document.

10. Attachments

Applicants will be required to attach the following documents, in PDF format when submitting applications:

- Certified copy of a valid South African Identity Document for both South African Citizens and Permanent Residents. These documents must be attached under the Registration Details section only;

- Certified academic record or, in the case of applicants with outstanding fees owed to the university, an official (i.e. stamped and signed) statement confirming that the transcript is not issued due to outstanding fees owed to the university and that the student obtained a minimum of 65% at the master's level;
- Proof of prior funding by the NSFAS or ISFAP in the form of an official university stamped financial statement or signed agreement with NSFAS or ISFAP if applicable;
- Provisional letter of acceptance for doctoral studies at the Dutch HEI and South African university in the case of a joint degree. The letter must confirm that the necessary research infrastructure, resources and funds for undertaking the research and supporting the doctoral student exists within their faculty/school/department; and
- A medical certificate from applicants with disabilities, specifying the nature of the disability.

11. Review of Applications and Selection Criteria

11.1. Applications for Single Site doctoral studies

Applications that fall under the **single site mode** will be screened and reviewed by the NRF using the standardised scorecard presented in Table 2. These Applications will be reviewed through a virtual (online) panel of subject area experts convened by the NRF. Each reviewer will assess applications remotely and submit reports on their review to an appointed moderator for validation. The moderator also reviews applications independently but also performs quality assurance on the reviewers' submissions. The moderator then collates reviewers' and their own independent reviews for submission to the NRF as funding recommendations. These recommendations are informed by their own knowledge, expertise and experience as well as the consensus discussions between the reviewers and moderator.

11.2. Applications for Split Site Doctoral Studies

Applications submitted under the **split site mode** will be assessed by review committees at the public universities in South Africa at which the applicants intend to register. Universities will use the same scorecard presented in Table 2 to review applications. Only applications that are recommended for NRF funding based on the merit review, may be submitted to the NRF by the university's Designated Authority (DA). Review scores and recommendations will be uploaded onto the NRF Online Submission System by the DA when approving an application on the system. The DA must submit a report on the review process and comments from the reviewers signed by either the respective Director, Deans of Faculties or the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research.

11.3. Transparency and Accountability

To be compliant with the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act (Act 3 of 2000) and in order to respond to appeals from students, the reports on the review process undertaken must include proof of the following:

- The names of committee or panel members of subject experts that participated in the review of applications for NRF postgraduate funding;
- Minutes of the review meeting and sign-off by the Chairperson of the review committee; and
- Recommendations made by the panel on whether applications are recommended or not recommended for funding, with clearly stated reasons.

Appeals that relate to the review of applications by the institutions must be responded to by the respective institutional DA.

11.4. Selection of Successful Candidates

The selection of successful candidates will be informed by the merit review, priority areas for doctoral training, NRF equity targets and financial need. The following will be considered in evaluating all applications in a competitive merit review process (see Table 2 for the scorecard):

- Academic merit;
- Completion time for previous degree;
- Track record or research outputs;
- Priority research areas;
- Originality of the doctoral study; and
- Potential impact of the research.

11.5. Standardised Scorecard for Reviewing Applications

Table 2: Scorecard for the assessment of applications for Doctoral Funding

Criteria	Description	Weight
Academic merit*	Percentage mark for the master's degree if completed; OR if the master's degree is in progress, Average percentage mark for the honours degree; OR	30%

	Average percentage mark for major subjects in the final year of a four-year undergraduate degree.	
Completion time for previous degree	Time taken for completion of the master's degree.	15%
Track record or research outputs	Evidence of research outputs in accredited peer-reviewed publications and, presentations at conferences/symposiums.	15%
Priority research area	Research aligned with one of the NRF listed research priority areas.	10%
Originality of the doctoral study	Problem statement, Identified knowledge gaps, Aim and Objectives of the study.	20%
Potential impact of the research	Potential to contribute to national research strategies and the strategic goals of the knowledge economy.	10%
		100

12. Funding Details

The funding is designed for students enrolled in a full-time, four (4)-year doctoral degree in either the **single or split site mode**. The Dutch HEI will waive tuition, provide research running costs³ and access to research infrastructure. Costs that will be covered by the NRF are detailed in Tables 3 and 4 below and are in alignment with NRF funding for doctoral studies in South Africa which may be adjusted from time to time.

With respect to the **single site mode**, the NRF provides **an economy airfare for the student**, valid for not more than one (1) year, to and from The Netherlands and, the funding value for subsistence and health insurance based on minimum requirements set by the Dutch government.

Table 3: Funding values for NRF-Nuffic Doctoral Funding in The Netherlands (single site mode)

Amount (€) ⁴					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Grand Total
Funding (subsistence including accommodation)	15 000	15 000	15 000	15 000	60 000

³ Research running costs refer to costs that can reasonably be expected to accrue during the course of the research period.

⁴ All costs are based on figures provided by the Dutch Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND). Figures will be updated on an annual basis.

Mobility⁵ (including airfare, visa and medical insurance)	2 410	1 310	1 310	2 110	7 140
Total	17 410 (R348 200)	16 310 (R326 200)	16 310 (R326 200)	17 110 (R342 200)	67 140 (R1 342 800)

A maximum budget of €21 600 (twenty one thousand and six hundred Euro), for the duration of the doctoral studies, has been allocated for international visits in the **split-site mode**. Students and supervisors must jointly agree on the frequency and duration of the international visits over the four (4)-year period of study, within the amount budgeted. In addition students will receive funding for doctoral studies in South Africa either at FCS or PCS depending on their financial need.

Table 4: Funding values for NRF-Nuffic Doctoral Studies in The Netherlands and South Africa (split site mode)

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Grand Total
Local South African Funding: Students will be funded at FCS or PCS based on financial need				
Travel Grant⁶ (Euros) (including airfare, accommodation, visa, medical insurance & subsistence)				
5 400	5 400	5 400	5 400	21 600

All students with a disability may apply for **additional funding** for an **assistive technology device** of up to **R20 000**. This is the **maximum amount allowed** during the tenure of the funding. **An assistive device** is defined as any device, product, equipment or tool that is designed or adapted to enable persons with disabilities to participate in activities, tasks or actions including: (i) **mobility aids** such as wheelchairs, prostheses and crutches as well as service animals (ii) **communication aids** such as hearing aids, Frequency Modulation (FM) systems; (iii) **sensory aids** such as white canes; noise reducing headphones and coloured lenses (iv) **technology aids** such as computers for alternate and augmentative communication, screen readers, magnifiers, texts in audio format (Strategic Policy Framework on Disability for the PSET, 2018).

⁵ €800 for airfare is paid in year 1 and 4, €300 to cover the visa cost is paid only in year 1 and €1 300 for medical insurance is paid annually.

⁶ Note that although the allocation for mobility is presented annually in the table, successful applicants have flexibility on when and how often to travel up to the capped amount of €21 600.

13. Award Principles

The funding is awarded through an annual grant from the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) of South Africa. Given the need to transform the researcher cohort in South Africa, the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology has outlined the demographic targets for the allocation of all funding.

Postgraduate bursaries across the NRF are allocated as follows:

- 95% South African citizens and permanent residents; and
- 5% Students from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the rest of the world
- 55% Women

The South African targets are further disaggregated in terms of race as follows:

- 90% Black (African, Coloured and Indian)
- 10% White; and
- 1% Students living with a disability.

The application of the Ministerial guidelines is underpinned by excellence in all its dimensions.

For this Call, applicants must be South African citizens or permanent residents, however South African citizens will be prioritised.

14. Conditions of Award

A list of successful candidates will be published on the NRF website as soon as the internal NRF approval processes have been finalised. Successful applicants who are offered funding by the NRF are required to complete and sign the student agreement (Conditions of Grant) that will be forwarded at the time of the award. Successful candidates studying in The Netherlands (in single site mode) will in addition be required to give a written undertaking to return to South Africa upon completion of the doctoral studies abroad.

All successful candidates will be expected to obtain the doctoral degree within one (1) year after NRF funding has ceased and notify the NRF in writing *via* the relevant university authority, unless otherwise approved by the NRF in writing. The NRF will only provide possible extensions to the funding beyond the four (4)-year nominal duration in exceptional cases.

Funding not taken by 30 April 2020 for the split site mode and 30 November 2020 for the single site mode will be cancelled for reallocation, unless otherwise approved by the NRF.

In light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, students may not undertake travel to The Netherlands for doctoral training until the international travel embargo has been lifted by both the South African and Dutch governments.

15. Reporting

For continuous funding and monitoring of the funding instrument, the scholarship holders will be required to submit Bi-annual Progress Reports on the NRF Online Submission System on the dates indicated in the NRF Conditions of Grant (CoG). The NRF will release funds for continuing students, subsequent to the submission of the Progress Report. The NRF may, in consultation with the grant-holder's research office or relevant university authority, request interim progress reports for the purpose of implementing corrective measures timeously to ensure that the stated objectives are met within the stipulated timeframes.

The NRF standard practice is to support all eligible continuing students, aligned to the NRF maximum period of support for the level of study, in order to enable them to complete their postgraduate degree.

16. Financial Control

The financial administration of the funding is performed through the NRF Grants Management and System Administration (GMSA) Directorate. Students that will be registered at a Dutch HEI (i.e. the single site mode) only, will receive their award directly into their student account upon submission of the required written confirmations to the NRF. Scholarship holders on the joint degree programme (i.e. split site mode) will have their funds administered by the South African institution to the value of the full sum awarded by the NRF.

17. Contact Details

For technical enquiries relating to the NRF Online Submission System, please contact the Support Desk (Mondays to Fridays from 08h00 to 16h30) on:

Tel: 012 481-4202 or E-mail: supportdesk@nrf.ac.za.

For programme related enquiries, please contact:

Mr Nelson Komane

Professional Officer: Human and Infrastructure Capacity Development (HICD)

Telephone: 012 481-4219

E-mail address: nelson@nrf.ac.za

Annexure 1: Participating Dutch Higher Education Institutions

Institution	Field of Study / Faculty	Name of Supervisor	Email Address
1. Amsterdam University Medical Centre, University of Amsterdam	Non-communicable diseases; Ethnic and Social Inequalities in Health	Charles Agyemang	c.o.agyemang@amsterdamumc.nl
2. Eindhoven University of Technology	Radio Science; Astronomy; Electrical Engineering	Mark Bentum	m.j.bentum@tue.nl
3. Erasmus University Medical Centre	Department of Biochemistry	Tokameh Mahmoudi	t.mahmoudi@erasmusmc.nl
	Biostatistics	Dimitris Rizopoulos	d.rizopoulos@erasmusmc.nl
	Medical Decision Making	Joost van Rosmalen	j.vanrosmalen@erasmusmc.nl
	Cell Biology	Danny Huylebroeck	d.huylebroeck@erasmusmc.nl
	Cell Biology	Nils Galjart	n.galjart@erasmusmc.nl
	Cell Biology	Eskeatnaf Mulugeta	e.mulugeta@erasmusmc.nl
	Clinical Genetics	Stefan Barakat	t.barakat@erasmusmc.nl
	Clinical Genetics	Robert Hofstra	r.hofstra@erasmusmc.nl
	Epidemiology	Maryam Kavousi	m.kavousi@erasmusmc.nl
	Epidemiology	Trudy Voortman	trudy.voortman@erasmusmc.nl
	Gastroenterology and Hepatology	Jaap Kwekkeboom	j.kwekkeboom@erasmusmc.nl
	Gastroenterology and Hepatology	Abdullah Pan	g.pan@erasmusmc.nl
	Osteoarthritis and Related Disorder	Sita Bierma-Zeinstra	s.bierma-zeinstra@erasmusmc.nl
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	Department of Immunology	Ton Langerak	a.langerak@erasmusmc.nl
	Department of Pediatric Rheumatology	Marjan Versnel	m.versnel@erasmusmc.nl

Institution	Field of Study / Faculty	Name of Supervisor	Email Address
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	Department of Internal Medicine	Marjolein van Driel	m.vandriel@erasmusmc.nl
	Internal Medicine and Epidemiology	Fernando Rivadeneira	f.rivadeneira@erasmusmc.nl
	Department of Radiology	Ling Oei	h.l.d.w.oei@erasmusmc.nl
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	Experimental Radiotherapy	Gerard van Rhoon	g.c.vanrhoon@erasmusmc.nl

Institution	Field of Study / Faculty	Name of Supervisor	Email Address
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	Department of Radiation Oncology	Sebastiaan Breedveld	s.breedveld@erasmusmc.nl
	Department of Radiation Oncology	Miranda Christianen	m.christianen@erasmusmc.nl
	Department of Viroscience	Marion Koopmans	m.koopmans@erasmusmc.nl
	Molecular Virology	Ron Fouchier	r.fouchier@erasmusmc.nl
	Department of Virology	Charles Boucher	c.boucher@erasmusmc.nl
	Department of Virology	David van de Vijver	d.vandevijver@erasmusmc.nl
4. Erasmus University Rotterdam, International Institute of Social Studies	Development Studies and its subfields (such as Politics of Development, Development and Governance, Development Economics, Agrarian Studies, Conflict Studies, Environment and Development)	Wil Hout	hout@iss.nl
5. Groningen Institute for Evolutionary Life Sciences	Ecology & Conservation; Climate Change; Behavioural Biology; Neurobiology; Sustainable Agriculture	Corine Eising	c.m.eising@rug.nl
6. International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), Erasmus University of Rotterdam (EUR)	Economics; Health Economics; Political Economy of Conflict and Natural Resources	S Mansoob Murshed	murshed@iss.nl
	International Law; Human Rights, Children's Rights, Relations South Africa-European Union, Socio-legal Research, Environmental Law; Refugee Law	Karin Arts	arts@iss.nl
	Innovation in informal sector, Inclusive innovation, Frugal innovation; 4th Industrial Revolution Technologies and Local Innovation for Inclusive Development	Peter Knorringa	Knorringa@iss.nl
7. Kapteyn Astronomical Institute, University of Groningen	Astronomy	John McKean	mckean@astro.rug.nl

Institution	Field of Study / Faculty	Name of Supervisor	Email Address
8. Leiden University, Department of Anthropology and Development Studies	Sustainability; Land Governance and Land Reform; Water-energy-food Nexus; Conservation Areas; Private Wildlife Conservation; Community-based Natural Resource Management; Climate Change; Social and Environmental Justice	Marja Spierenburg	mj.spierenburg@gmail.com
9. Ministry of Agriculture	Urban & Regional Planning (especially on Sustainable Smart City)	Aida Almasri	a.almassri@gmail.com
10. Protestant Theological University	Theology & Religious Studies	Albert Nijboer	a.s.nijboer@pthu.nl
11. Radboud University	Plant Systems Physiology	Jian Xu	J.Xu@science.ru.nl
12. Solidaridad Network	Development Economics: Regional Economic Integration and Poverty Nexus	Binyam Engidasew	binyam.kassa@solidaridadnetwork.org
13. Tilburg University	Cross-cultural analyses of prosody Nonverbal communication	Marc Swerts	M.G.J.Swerts@tilburguniversity.edu
	Language policy Language education and multilingualism Management of linguistic and cultural diversity Language and Identity (issues related to language discrimination, power and hegemony) Language and Intercultural communication in multi-ethnic communities	Kutlay Yagmur	K.Yagmur@tilburguniversity.edu
	Artificial intelligence - deep learning approach to develop socially intelligent robot behavior to understand and respond to human touch Computational Psychiatry - uncovering brain biomarkers for mental illness High-resolution tactile perception for human and robot dexterous manipulation (deep (reinforcement) learning / haptics)	Eric Postma	E.O.Postma@tilburguniversity.edu
	Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Reinforcement Learning	Pieter Spronck	P.Spronck@tilburguniversity.edu
	Cultures in Interaction: Conflict and Reconciliation	Juliette Schaafsma	J.Schaafsma@tilburguniversity.edu

Institution	Field of Study / Faculty	Name of Supervisor	Email Address
	Language learning Brain-computer interfaces, Social robotics, Neuroscience of human-technology interaction	Max Louwerse	M.M.Louwerse@tilburguniversity.edu
14. University Medical Center Rotterdam	Virology	Marion Koopmans	m.koopmans@erasmusmc.nl
15. University of Groningen	Ecology; Biodiversity; Biology; Environmental Sciences	Chris Smit	c.smit@rug.nl
	Cognitive Neuroscience - Decision Making, Mind-Wandering; Social Neuroscience; Computational Cognitive Neuroscience; Contemplative Science - Meditation, Mindfulness	Marieke van Vugt	m.k.van.vugt@rug.nl
	Astronomy; Physics; Biology	Liza Ten Velde	l.ten.velde@rug.nl
	Electrochemistry; Analytical Chemistry; Microfluidics; Pharmaceutical Analysis; Nanofluidics	Klaus Mathwig	k.h.mathwig@rug.nl
16. University of Groningen / University Medical Center Groningen	(Bio)medical Sciences; Health Sciences; Health Psychology; Epidemiology - any field matching/complementary to research carried out at the University Medical Center Groningen (i.e. the medical faculty of the University of Groningen).	Joyce Fongers	j.e.fongers@rug.nl
17. University of Twente, Faculty ITC	Quantitative Remote Sensing of Vegetation Traits; Spatial Agriculture; Forest; Food Security; Biodiversity; Environment	Roshanak Darvishzadeh	r.darvish@utwente.nl
18. Utrecht University	Reproductive biology - with emphasis on Assisted Reproduction, Early Pregnancy Loss or Embryo-maternal Communication	Tom Stout	t.a.e.stout@uu.nl
	Julius Center for Health Sciences and Primary Care: Epidemiology, Public and Global Health / Cardiovascular Disease / HIV / Integrated Chronic Care / Maternal and Child Health	Kerstin Klipstein-Grobusch	k.klipstein-grobusch@umcutrecht.nl
	Clinical Epidemiology; Clinical Trials; Cardiovascular Disease	Diederick E. Grobbee	grobbee@umcutrecht.nl

Institution	Field of Study / Faculty	Name of Supervisor	Email Address
	Our group is strong on Antimicrobial Resistance and Zoonoses (diseases that transfer from animals to humans).	Jaap Wagenaar	j.wagenaar@uu.nl
19. Van Swinderen Institute, University of Groningen	Quantum gravity; Theoretical and also Testing Quantum Aspects of gravity in a lab via Spin Entanglement; Cosmology and Gravity.	Anupam Mazumdar	anupam.mazumdar@rug.nl
20. Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam	Medical Microbiology	Wilbert Bitter	w.bitter@vumc.nl
	Health Science; Infectious Diseases / Metabolomics of tuberculous / Meningitis	Marceline van Furth M. van der Kuip	am.vfurth@vumc.nl ; m.vanderkuip@vumc.nl
	Biosolar Cells / Biophysics of Photosynthesis	Raoul Frese	r.n.frese@vu.nl
	Governance / Organizational Change / Financial Management	Rob van Eijbergen	r.van.eijbergen@vu.nl
	Renewable Energy - Healthcare commercialization and Tech Development	Bart Bossink	b.a.g.bossink@vu.nl
	Religious Traditions and Socio-cultural Identities / Leadership in Religious Traditions / Reconciliation	Eduardus Van der Borght	eaig.vander.borght@vu.nl
	Water Management; Resource Economics; Spatial Economics	Erik Ansink	j.h.ansink@vu.nl
	Theoretical Biophysics / Machine Learning applied to Biology	Greg Stephens	g.j.stephens@vu.nl
	Religion and Theology	Ruard Ganzevoort	r.r.ganzevoort@vu.nl
	Postcolonial Post-apartheid Historiography / Interdisciplinary Research at Intersection of Art, Performing Art; History; Critical Thought / Museology	Susan Legêne	s.legene@vu.nl
	Philosophy of Religion / Philosophy of Culture and Intercultural Philosophy / Contemporary Continental Philosophy	Willem van der Merwe	w.l.vander.merwe@vu.nl

Institution	Field of Study / Faculty	Name of Supervisor	Email Address
	Organization Sciences	Frans Kamsteeg	frans.kamsteeg@vu.nl
	Private Wildlife Conservation; Human-animal Studies; Gender Studies	Harry Wels	h.wels@vu.nl
	Persons with intellectual disabilities; Social Relations and or Attachment; Persons with visual impairments	Paula Sterkenburg	p.s.sterkenburg@vu.nl
	Artificial Intelligence	Koen Hindriks	k.v.hindriks@vu.nl
	Mathematics (pure and applied)	Andre Ran	a.c.m.ran@vu.nl
	Biophysics of Photosynthesis	Rienk van Grondelle	r.van.grondelle@vu.nl
	Earth & Climate	Gerald Ganssen	g.m.ganssen@vu.nl
	Water Governance; Climate Governance; Policy Dynamics; Learning & Innovation.	Dave Huitema	dave.huitema@ivm.vu.nl
	Molecular Cell Physiology	Remco Kort	r.kort@vu.nl
	Econometrics and Operations Research	Harold Houba	harold.houba@vu.nl
	Environmental Economics	Marjan Hofkes	m.w.hofkes@vu.nl
	Artificial Intelligence	Stefan Schlobach	k.s.schlobach@vu.nl
	Earth & Climate	F. Peeters	f.j.c.peeters@vu.nl
	Criminology; Law	Annelies Verdevelde	a.vredevelde@vu.nl
	Logistics and Supply Chain	Wout Dullaert	w.e.h.dullaert@vu.nl
	Innovation, Logistics and Information	Roberto Roberti	r.roberti@vu.nl
	Political History	Susan Legene	s.legene@vu.nl
	Prof. Africana Studies at Brown Uni also Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Culture,	Bouges Barrymore	barrymore_boques@brown.edu

Institution	Field of Study / Faculty	Name of Supervisor	Email Address
	History, Antiquity CLUE+		
	Spatial Economics; Environmental Economics;	Carolyn Fischer	c.fischer@vu.nl
	Spatial Economics	Erik Verhoef	e.t.verhoef@vu.nl
	Policy evaluation	B. van der Klaauw	b.vander.klaauw@vu.nl
	Child studies	Jaap Oosterlaan	j.oosterlaan@vu.nl@vu.nl
	Phenomenology; Hermeneutics; Feminist Philosophy	Annemie Halsema	j.m.halsema@vu.nl
	EU and International Law	Galina Cornelisse	g.n.cornelisse@vu.nl
	Chemistry	Matthias Bickelhaupt	f.m.bickelhaupt@vu.nl
	Neonatology	Mirjam van Weissenbruch	M.vanWeissenbruch@vumc.nl
	Environment and Health / Chemistry	Jacob de Boer	jacob.de.boer@vu.nl
	Politics of Transnational Law	Wouter Werner	w.g.werner@vu.nl
	Constitutional and Administrative Law	Frank van Ommeren	f.j.van.ommeren@vu.nl
	Clinical, Neuro and Developmental Psychology	Pim Cuijpers	p.cuijpers@vu.nl
	Clinical, Neuro- and Developmental Psychology	Marit Sijbrandij	e.m.sijbrandij@vu.nl
	Philosophy (Epistemology & Metaphysics)	René van Woudenberg	R.van.Woudenberg@vu.nl
	Linguistics and Cognition, English Literature	Alan Cienki	a.cienki@vu.nl
	History of State Building in Global Perspective	Marjolein 't Hart	m.c.t.hart@vu.nl
	Sports and Exercise Science and Medicine; Health & Safety in Sports	Willem van Mechelen	w.vanmechelen@vumc.nl
	Sports and Exercise Science and Medicine; Health & Safety in Sports	Evert Verhagen	e.verhagen@vumc.nl
	Development of the history of the profession and identity of teacher educators	Anja Swennen	j.m.h.swennen@vu.nl

Institution	Field of Study / Faculty	Name of Supervisor	Email Address
	Communication Science	Tilo Hartmann	t.hartmann@vu.nl
	Gender Diversity; Ethnography; Critical Discourse Analysis	Ida Sabelis	i.sabelis@vu.nl
	Qualitative Social Research; Cultural Anthropology; Gender and Sexuality	Lorraine Nencel	l.s.nencel@vu.nl
	Health Science; Infectious Diseases; Metabolomics of Tuberculosis and Meningitis	Marceline van Furth	vfurth@vumc.nl
	Higher Education Policy; University Governance; Human Resources in Science and Technology; Academic Mobility; Internationalization in Higher Education	Sandra Hasanefendic	s.hasanefendic@vu.nl
	Entrepreneurship and Innovation; Science and Business Innovation	Peter van der Sijde	p.c.vander.sijde@vu.nl
	Photoconversion; Solar Energy - Faculty of Sciences	Elizabeth von Hauff	e.l.von.hauff@vu.nl
	Faculty of Social Sciences	Kees Boersma	f.k.boersma@vu.nl
	Higher Education Research and specifically in Postgraduate Supervision Policies & Practices.	Henk van den Heuvel	henk.vanden.heuvel@vu.nl
	Educational Governance and Policy	Melanie Ehren	m.c.m.ehren@vu.nl
	Climate Change; Climate Governance; Sustainability	Peter Verburg	p.h.verburg@vu.nl
	Grandparent-parent-child relationship in the South African context	Paula Sterkenburg	p.s.sterkenburg@vu.nl
	Grandparent-parent-child relationship in the South African context	Anne Tharner	Tharner, A. < a.tharner@vu.nl >
	Preventive Dentistry	Catherine Volgenant	c.volgenant@acta.nl
	Teaching and Learning in Clinical education	Rashmi Kusurkar	R.Kusurkar@amsterdamumc.nl
	Design and the construction of national identity; Humanities and Culture;	Javier Gimeno Martinez	j.c.gimenomartinez@vu.nl

Institution	Field of Study / Faculty	Name of Supervisor	Email Address
21. Wageningen University	Reputation of consultants as expressed in internet jokes and self-reflections; Consultants and Stress; Consultants as stakeholder in the rigor and relevance debate; Change and employee participation, and argumentation strategies of entrepreneurs to convince their investors.	Onno Bouwmeester	o.bouwmeester@vu.nl
	Development and International Economics, specifically the effects of Globalization, Integration of Labor Markets, Firm Performance, and Agricultural Intensification	Remco Oostendorp	r.oostendorp@vu.nl
	Field Robotics; Agro-Food Robotics; Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), Drones; Artificial Intelligence; Machine Vision; Machine Olfaction; Emerging Remote Sensing Technologies for Agriculture and Ecology	João Ricardo Pereira Valente	joao.valente@wur.nl
	Business Research; Agriculture	Paul Ingenbleek	paul.ingenbleek@wur.nl