Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU Amsterdam) has high ambitions in scientific research. The university recognizes that top researchers define the quality and reputation of the university. As a gesture of its appreciation, VU Amsterdam would like to honour a select group of internationally recognized academics by offering them a Fellow as part of our University Research Fellow programme.

This programme will enable a number of the university’s leading academics to annually appoint a Fellow of their choice. The talented students awarded the personal VU Fellowship will hold the title of Fellow for one year, and will carry the name of the scientist with whom they are affiliated. By launching this programme, VU Amsterdam aims to provide recognition to excellent scientists as well as talented students and to forge a stronger link between research and teaching activities.

1 WHICH ACADEMICS ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPOINT A FELLOW?
The university will designate a number of outstanding academics, actively involved in teaching, to award a VU Fellowship. These academics must distinguish themselves by holding an exceptional record of performance and by making a significant contribution to their discipline. Any of the following will be viewed as evidence of this:
- an ERC Advanced Grant
- an NWO Spinoza prize
- an NWO VICI Grant

Scientists with any of these achievements to their name will, each year for the duration of their special award, be entitled to appoint a VU Fellow for a maximum of 12 months. The Fellows will start their Fellowship at the beginning of the Academic year, which is in September 2018.

2 HOW DOES THE SELECTION PROCESS LOOK LIKE?
Each year, academics will be entitled to award a VU Fellowship to a student who has demonstrated exceptional academic excellence. Below you can find the academics and their research field. On www.vu.nl/urf you will also find links to their personal pages.

Students that are interested in a Fellowship with one of the academics listed below are invited to apply. To be considered for a University Research Fellowship, a complete nomination must be submitted. Each nomination package must include:
the URF nomination form and a CV.
3 WHAT ARE THE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES?
Each academic will be allocated a sum of €10,000 to be spent by the academic on the Fellowship. After consultation with the rector, they may choose from one of the four spending objectives:
1. To appoint the Fellow as a student assistant to carry out teaching and/or research activities.
2. To fund a Master’s study programme or Research Master’s programme at VU Amsterdam (if the Fellow is a Bachelor’s student).
3. To contribute towards the funding of a one-year PhD programme at VU Amsterdam (if the Fellow is a Master’s student and wishes to gain a PhD). The Faculty will meet the costs of the remaining period of the PhD programme.
4. To appoint the Fellow as personal assistant, enabling him/her to take on some of the duties of the academic.

Throughout the year, the academic and the Fellow are expected to work together in teaching and research activities. The Fellow may also join the academic when attending various conferences and meetings. The academic and his/her Fellow are expected to promote the visibility and overall reputation of VU Amsterdam.

4 WHICH ACADEMICS ARE ENTITLED TO BESTOW A VU FELLOWSHIP IN 2018-2019?
VU Amsterdam is proud to announce the fourteen leading academics who will be entitled to appoint a Fellow. The academics will be assigned their fellowships in the spring, at which point they may proceed with the selection process for a VU Fellow.

- **EUS VAN SOMEREN**
  - **INTEGRATIVE NEUROPHYSIOLOGY**
  - ERC Advanced Grant laureate
  - VU – van Someren - Fellow

- **JOELANDA VAN DER VELDEN**
  - **PHYSIOLOGY**
  - NWO VICI Grant laureate
  - VU – Van der Velden - Fellow

- **PIEK VOSSEN**
  - **COMPUTATIONAL LEXICOLOGY**
  - Winner Spinoza prize
  - VU - Vossen - Fellow

- **WIM UBACHS**
  - **ATOMIC, MOLECULAR AND LASER PHYSICS**
  - ERC Advanced Grant laureate
  - VU – Ubachs – Fellow

- **ALBERT MENKVELD**
  - **FINANCE**
  - NWO VICI Grant laureate
  - VU - Menkveld - Fellow

- **PAOLA GORI-GIORGI**
  - **THEORETICAL CHEMISTRY**
  - NWO VICI Grant laureate
  - VU - Gori-Giorgi - Fellow

- **BERT KLANDERMANS**
  - **SOCIOLGY - SOCIAL CHANGE AND CONFLICT**
  - ERC Advanced Grant laureate
  - VU – Klandermans - Fellow

- **SERGE DUMOULIN**
  - **COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY**
  - NWO VICI Grant laureate
  - VU - Dumoulin - Fellow

- **YVETTE VAN KOOK**
  - **MOLECULAR CELL BIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY**
  - ERC Advanced Grant Laureate
  - VU – Van Kooyk - Fellow

- **ERWIN PETERMAN**
  - **PHYSICS OF LIVING SYSTEMS - MOLECULAR BIOPHYSICS**
  - ERC Advanced Grant laureate
  - VU – Peterman - Fellow

- **HALLEH GHORASHI**
  - **SOCIOLGY - IDENTITIES, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**
  - NWO VICI Grant laureate
  - VU - Ghorashi - Fellow

- **MAURICE CRUL**
  - **SOCIOLGY - IDENTITIES, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**
  - ERC Advanced Grant Laureate
  - VU – Crul - Fellow

- **KJELD EIKEMA**
  - **ULTRAFAST LASER PHYSICS AND PRECISION METROLOGY**
  - ERC Advanced Grant laureate
  - VU – Eikema – Fellow