
Three Duvels

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Marsh helleborine

What's growing and blooming
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Bathing in a tub

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RESOURCE

SPECIAL
AID EDITION

For everyone at Wageningen University & Research

Summer 2018 – 13th Volume


BRING IT ON!

Check out the programme | **p.18**





STUDENT POWER

'Weightlifting brings it all together: precision, timing, technique, consistency and strength.' That is how Douwe Zantinge, MSc student of Plant Biotechnology, explained his passion for weightlifting to *Resource* magazine. And he's made a success of it, because he and the Wageningen Beasts team came first in the Great Dutch Student Championship this year.  photo GNSK

Fancy taking up a sport?

Google 'Thymos + Wageningen' for information about all the sports you can do here.

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Finding your way around



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For Bachelor's and Master's students



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SOCIETIES

All the clubs you can join

THE TIME FREEDOM OF YOUR LIFE

Your student years are a period of incredible freedom. Sure, you have a timetable, homework and exams, but you are also free to divide your time as you wish. If you leave home you are free of your parents' supervision. You get a public transport pass with which you can travel free. And you are free to explore a new environment and reinvent yourself. What is more, your new environment is bursting with options: student societies, parties, sports, part-time jobs, voluntary work and a whole lot more. Within your degree programme, too, you get more and more opportunities – for internships, for example, or spending six months abroad.

When I was doing my Bachelor's degree at the School of Journalism, I didn't appreciate how much freedom I had as a student. Okay, I did two nice internships – a compulsory part of the curriculum – and I went on an exchange to South Africa (which I can recommend!). But for the other two and a half years, I mainly used my freedom to play video games and drink with friends. Only when I got a job did I realize how free student life is. A couple of months of working life were enough to make me decide to do a Master's after all. It's hard work, but above all: I'm enjoying the freedom.

Luuk Zegers, Student & Education editor

AND MORE...

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About Resource

You can read news and background about university life in *Resource* magazine every two weeks. And online we publish every day on resource-online.nl. Check out our Facebook page too!

THE PEOPLE YOU NEED TO KNOW

The general introduction days (AID) from 17 to 22 August revolve around just one thing: getting to know people. And that starts with...

1 Your group
This week you'll get off to the ultimate start to university life in a group of about 10 fellow students. Some of them might become your best friends!

2 Mums and Dads
You'll have two mentors from previous cohorts, who are also known as Mums and Dads. They'll show you what Wageningen and the university have to offer.

3 CREW
These are the volunteers who help run all the activities. From handing out lunch to building podia, laying cables and meeting and greeting artists – you name it, they do it! It's thanks to them that we can organize such a fantastic week. This year you can recognize the CREW members by their yellow shirts.

4 The AID board
The fulltime board of five people. They have put their studies on hold for a year to organize the introduction days and make a big success of them.

5 Other first-years
You'll be embarking on student life with another 2500 first-years. And it will be a kick-off you'll never forget! 🎉



▲ AID group in 2017

▼ AID board of 2018. From the left: Florian Ellenbroek, Suzanne Brouwer, Julia Besselink, Nicky Moolhuijzen, Imke Reith



▶ CREW in 2017

GOOD ON YOUR CV – AND FUN TOO!

Your studies are important, of course. But the classroom isn't the only place where you can learn a lot.

STUDY ASSOCIATIONS...

... are not just great for drinks parties but also extremely useful later in life! Because the person you have a beer with now might help you get that internship or job later. Almost every degree programme has an association, and you can be as actively involved as you like. So whether you want to get experience on a board or you just fancy a drink now and then: the study association is always a good idea!

STUDENT SOCIETIES...

... are known chiefly for their hazing

rituals, drinking and partying. But there's a lot else you can do there besides drinking. A lot of societies have their own little groups and committees for things like making the society more sustainable, supporting charities or doing voluntary work. Have a look on page 26 and 27 to see which student society suits you.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Do you want to help decide on the course the university takes in future? And help think through the issues in education, housing and internationalization? Then you should get involved in one of the three parties on the Student Council: The Christian Student Party (CSF), Sustainability & Internationalization (S&I) or United Students (VeSte). The

Student Council represents all students and has the right to veto the Executive Board's plans. The students on the Council also advise the board and come up with initiatives of their own.

GREEN OFFICE

Are you passionate about sustainability? Then the Green Office is the place for you. They help you to implement green initiatives at the university, or match you with sustainable assignments on your degree course. Join the team and make your impact green!

www.greenofficewageningen.nl

STARHUB

Would you prefer to set to work as an entrepreneur? The StartHub is the


place to learn how to go about it. From training and coaching by experts to help with your business plan and microcredit. Bonus: free coffee and a pinball machine. www.starhubwageningen.nl

INTERNSHIPS AND JOBS

AIESEC helps you find international internships and voluntary work.

www.aiesec.nl

At **Unipartners** you can work as a consultant and find vacancies for management jobs and traineeships.

www.unipartners.nl 

You can find more information about study associations, student societies and the Student Council on www.wur.nl/en/show/Study-and-student-associations.htm

SMASH YOUR TRASH

Four ways we make sure the AID is sustainable

1. A FLEXITARIAN MENU

Meatless Monday has long been a feature of the AID. But from this year, AID-goers, mentors and CREW members will have a new option besides 'meat-eater' and 'vegetarian' when they register. The 'flexitarian' option means you'll go vegetarian for three of the six AID days. We all know by now that eating meat is bad for the environment. With the new flexi option we can reduce the environmental impact of the AID!



2. SUSTAINABLE MERCHANDISE

The AID bags are made of sustainable jute. And there are far fewer folders in the bags this year, which means less waste paper in the bins. You can buy an AID water bottle that you can fill up at one of the water dispensers. And you can buy an AID lunch box to put your leftovers in, and later your lunch.




3. WASTE-SORTING

There is no getting out of sorting your waste on the campus, and we do it at the AID too. The different containers are easy to recognize by their colour-coded signs. This will help you understand the waste disposal system at Wageningen University, making it easier for you to sort your waste correctly on campus later. And our 'Smash your Trash!' signs give people a little extra push towards sorting their waste.



4. FOOD BANK

All the still edible leftovers from the AID lunch will go to the Food Bank in Wageningen. That way we don't have to throw away so much and we can do something for people who are less well-off. 

CAMPUS CRASH COURSE

New surroundings always take some getting used to. So here's a brief introduction to the four most important buildings on campus.

The **Forum** is what the Forum Romanum once was for ancient Rome — the heart of the campus. As solid as a castle from the outside, spacious on the inside with large plazas. You will find the library here along with cafes, teaching facilities, the WUR shop, study associations and lots more. An ideal place for working, studying and meeting up.



Orion is the most sustainable building on campus, as well as being a great place to chill out in student cafe The Spot — with table tennis! — or get a delicious bite to eat in the restaurant. A notable feature is the series of six lecture rooms that can also be combined to create a single huge lecture hall with seating for 750 people. The building's name refers to the constellation Orion. That sounds rather more professional than the Great Bear.



Leeuwenborch, or 'Lebo' (pronounced Lay-Bo) as students call it. This renovated building to the south of the campus houses the social sciences. There is also a branch of the library and a decent canteen. Leeuwenborch is the former name of the neighbourhood in which the building stands.



The grid structure on the outside of **Atlas** is not just for decoration: this structure holds the building up. Hence the name Atlas, the god who in Greek mythology had to hold up the sky on his shoulders. This is where you will find the university board and the *Resource* journalists — do drop in!



Lost?

If you need to be in Gaia, Lumen or Radix and are getting a bit dizzy from all those abstract names, the Wageningen campus app will show you where to go, from Axis to Zodiac! **LZ**

HOW TO SPOT THE BEST TEACHERS



ROEL DIJKEMA

Did you find it difficult to say goodbye to your history teacher who told such fascinating stories about the Cold War? Do you fondly recall that maths teacher who taught you a love of calculus? Wageningen has dozens of inspirational teachers who talk so passionately about their subject that you will soon have forgotten your secondary school teachers.

Every year, Wageningen students choose one teacher as their Teacher of the Year. The winners often have one or more of the following traits.

1. GOOD STORYTELLERS

Good teachers never tire of talking about their subject. They love their field of expertise and are keen to get students enthusiastic too. Roel Dijkema, a Hydrogeology lecturer who won the award in 2016, thinks nothing is more fun than talking about soil layers and water flows. 'Hydrogeology is such a great field; I can't imagine a better subject for myself than this. And I love talking about it.'

Prof. Dolf Weijers, who holds a personal chair in Biochemistry and won the prize in 2013, aims to pass on his enthusiasm for cell physiology to students. 'I always stress how important a passion for understanding things is. That's the recipe for success.'



DOLF WEIJERS

2. THAT LITTLE BIT FURTHER

Top teachers don't just focus on teaching students the content. They are also personally interested in their students and are happy to go that little bit further. Animal Sciences associate professor Henry van den Brand, the winner in 2018, makes sure he gets to know the names of all his students before the course is completed, whether there are 10, 20 or over 100. He sees students as individuals, not just numbers. That also means that Van den Brand is willing to spend his free time helping a student get up to speed.



HENRY VAN DEN BRAND

3. DIFFERENT FROM THE REST

The best teachers are not afraid to do something unconventional if they think it will help their students. Taking a few minutes for gym exercises or acting crazy to fire the group up again if they are starting to doze off. Jessica Duncan, the winner in 2017 and assistant professor in Rural Sociology, does games and exercises after a difficult session to keep students fresh and motivated.

Professor of Cell Biology and Immunology Huub Savelkoul, who won the prize in 2014, is also known for his unusual lessons. Once he ran round the lecture hall pretending to be an antibody. And in his lectures on allergies, he gets students to talk about how they deal with their allergies. 'The information becomes more vivid and tangible if you connect it to the students' own experiences.'



HUUB SAVELKOUL

4. A LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES

Most top teachers are also researchers. They take that experience with them into the lecture hall, which brings the abstract facts to life for the students. Dolf Weijers regularly uses recent scientific articles instead of the course book to give students an idea of the latest developments in a field. Henry van den Brand has a farming background and refers to that practical experience in his lectures. Jessica Duncan goes even further. She travels all over the world for fieldwork and takes students with her whenever she can to let them get a taste of 'real' life. **LvdN**



JESSICA DUNCAN

‘Three Duvels really was enough’

He wasn't a big drinker or a flirt. But he was on lots of committees. WUR rector Arthur Mol looks back on his student days with *Resource*.

text Stijn van Gils photo Guy Ackermans

‘My goodness, this has changed,’ says Arthur Mol, indicating the Bassecour apartment complex off the Herenstraat. ‘This used to be the university’s admin building, and we students occupied it when we were dissatisfied with the education programme and wanted more say,’ says the second-in-command at the university with a hint of pride, his smart jacket hanging over his arm.

It is a while since the rector magnificus, who now lives in Utrecht, went out on the town in Wageningen. He does still have a studenty bike, but that’s just for getting between WUR buildings. ‘The Mayor thinks it’s a pity I don’t live in Wageningen but it’s quite nice not to run into your colleagues all the time,’ he says as he sips a beer on the terrace of De Kater on the market square. Alcohol-free, as he has to drive home this evening. Slowly the stories start coming out about his own student days, which started in the late 1970s and went on for seven years.

SEVEN ROOMS

He moved rooms at least seven times. ‘No, not because there was any shortage of rooms. I just kept fancying a change.’ Mol started out with a landlady – ‘dreadful’ – and moved on to the Asserpark residence, followed by a house opposite Unitas and later one on the Veerstraat. ‘Our landlord there was an unemployed alcoholic in his fifties. He was separated and he had been allocated the house by the municipal council. He usually slept at his wife’s house, though, so he could rent out the house secretly. But when he had a row with his wife he came and slept on the sofa in our kitchen.’



Mol led an active student life, and loved organizing things and being innovative. ‘I was on the AID committee, but it was much less professional than it is now. We never gave any thought to a security plan. You wouldn’t get away with that nowadays.’ Mol belonged to Unitas youth club, he was on an educational policy committee, and he was involved in the ‘imperialism collective’ and the working group on The Environment and the Third World. ‘We talked a lot about the situation in the world and that at the university.’ Evening meetings could be long. But this student of Environmental Sciences was an evening person. ‘I’ll never forget the time a work group scheduled a meeting at a lecturer’s house at 10:30. So I showed up and rang the bell, and the teacher opened the door in her pyjamas. Turned out she meant 10:30 in the morning.’

HET GAT

We stroll from De Kater to the Conventplein, past the church. ‘Het Gat. Is that still there, actually?’ he asks. A moment later we are standing in front of a closed building that is apparently called ‘Luca’ nowadays. ‘Yes, this is where it was, but it looked much bigger then. And the bar was

somewhere else entirely. We would go to the pub at 11 o’clock. At first, it was Unitas, and later Loburg, Troost (which no longer exists, ed.) or Het Gat.’ Mol was never a heavy drinker. ‘In Loburg we once drank three Duvels in a row, and we hadn’t eaten yet. Well, I certainly couldn’t have taken any more.’ Over a long night, from 10 pm to 4 am, his beer consumption could go up to 10 glasses max, he says.

GIRLFRIENDS

It is time for a bite to eat and Mol heads for Sa Lolla, which opened when he was a student. ‘I ate here occasionally. It hasn’t changed much and the pizzas are still as good,’ says Mol, tucking in with satisfaction. ‘There was Jokari, too, in those days – a canteen where you could eat for free if you helped do the dishes.’

Mol volunteers most anecdotes spontaneously and in detail. Relationships are not mentioned but when pressed, Mol doesn’t mind saying something about that. ‘I think in total I dated about 10 girls, but it never lasted long. Others were much better at that than I was.’ Eventually he met his current partner in Wageningen, and they clicked completely right from the start. **16**

A green learning environment

Students often get together in the green space around the academic buildings, Orion and the Forum. But there is a lot more nature on campus. Our tour takes in the Dassenbos, the Wet Natural Garden, The Field and the Natural Garden behind Lumen.

text Roelof Kleis *photos* Guy Ackermans

Wageningen's campus is still young and that is visible everywhere you look. Few of the buildings are more than 10 years old, and new buildings are still going up. A Dialogue Centre, a conference centre to be used in future for PhD ceremonies and other functions, is now on the drawing board in Atlas. And a third academic building is to go up opposite Vitae. Meanwhile, Unilever's new building is coming on well. There is an amazing amount of nature in amongst this ecosystem of education buildings and offices. Some of it was

there before the university moved here, but much of it has been created to enhance the learning and work environment. All ecologically sound, of course – as you may expect from a university that preaches sustainability.

These pages give you a glimpse of the biodiversity on the campus. And then we've said nothing of the Forum pond, with the swans who nest here every year, the indoor garden at Lumen, or the garden at the Leeuwenborch on the other side of the Nijenoordallee. In other words: get out there in your breaks, lunch hours or at the end of the day.



▲ A swampy area around a stream near Atlas.



▲ A feast for the bees.



THE FIELD

On the western edge of the campus, behind Rikilt, lies The Field, an experimental garden run by and for students and staff. Designed by ex-student Fiona Morris, this garden is only three years old. People who want to develop green fingers are welcome to join Wageningen Student Farm, a group of about 60 students working on experimental ecological gardening. But there is a lot more to see, when it comes to biodiversity. In one area of the garden there are 80 different varieties of apple tree. They are still small, but some of them are already bearing fruit. They belong to the Centre for Genetic Resources and form a kind of showcase for Wageningen research. 'To show and to share', says Elike Wijkheimer, who is responsible for the green spaces on campus. 'Three years ago, this land was as dead as a dodo. And now just look at what has already been achieved through ecological water management.' Trenches, willows and a few ponds ensure customized drainage. And mixed herb seeds sown here have turned it into a sea of flowers. A feast for the bees from the hives further into the garden. And accessible for everyone. But keep your hands off, warns the notice board at the entrance.

THE NATURE GARDEN BEHIND LUMEN

The Nature Garden belonging to the Environmental Sciences Group (ESG) is tucked away behind Lumen. The peace and quiet around the central pond is refreshing. And this is no ordinary pond: it is a fridge! The water cools Lumen, the showpiece of sustainable architecture next to it. Lumen was built on top of a large tank of water, explains Joop Spijker of the garden management committee. 'That water in the basement is connected to the pond with pipes, and that circulation provides Lumen's main source of cooling.' The garden with the pond is as old as the building, exactly 20 years old. The nutrient-rich topsoil of the former field was dug up and integrated into the banks around the pond, thus reviving the original soil of the Binnenveld, with its mix of clay, layers of peat, and sand. The variety was further increased with imported river clay and chalky marlstone soil from the Limburg region. The result is a sampler of biotopes and a gorgeous variety of flowers. In the spring and summer, it is full of Rhinanthus, knapweed and mallow. But the real stars of this ecologically managed garden are the orchids. As many as five different species, including the heath spotted orchid and the marsh helleborine, are on proud display here.

◀ Rhinanthus, knapweed and mallow galore.

THE WET NATURAL GARDEN

At the foot of Atlas lies the Wet Natural Garden. It is wet because groundwater seeps to the surface here and the water from the dam around it flows through the garden as a stream. It is natural because it is intended to bring back some of the vegetation formerly found in the Binnenveld area the campus borders. The garden was laid down two years ago with a view to the centenary in 2018: WUR's present to itself. The central feature is an old stream that has been newly dug up. Seepage and rainfall have brought about a marshy area around this stream, with species characteristic of the bluegrass vegetation the nearby Binnenveld used to be full of. That, at least, is the idea. For the time being we are still waiting for the quaking grass, the marsh thistle and the meadow thistle to show their heads. But various species from the nearby Natural Garden behind Lumen have established themselves successfully.



▲ Groundwater surfacing at the foot of Atlas.



THE DASSENBOS

On the western edge of the campus, behind Zodiac, lies the Dassenbos, a four-hectare wood consisting mainly of black alder. Hardly anyone ever comes here, and there is not even a path through it. There was an oak coppice here for centuries, and the bark was used in tanneries. The current plantation is about 70 years old. Contrary to its name, there are no badgers in this wood. Just rabbits – although foxes and stone martens have been spotted too. The Dutch Centre for Avian Migration and Demography uses the wood to catch and ring birds. The usutu virus deserves a mention in this context too: this tropical virus, which kills off blackbirds, was first noticed in the Dassenbos. Researchers at NIOO have been doing research on this virus ever since. But the Dassenbos is probably best-known as part of the route of the future ring road around the campus, which may go right through the wood. So if you want a peaceful walk, you'd better be quick about it. 📍



▲ Rabbits, foxes and the usutu virus.

Find the locations on our Google Map too: resource-online.nl/kaart



'Don't do the obvious'



What can you learn from the president of WUR? Two Master's students ask Louise Fresco how you can get the most out of your degree programme. 'It is a good idea to keep a diary, and not just about your love life.'

text Konstantina Togka and Lotje Hogerzeil *photos* Bram Belloni

Looking back on your university career, you are quite a Wageningen 'veteran': You obtained all your degrees here.

'Yes, I was here for most of my academic career, and now I have been reappointed as president of the Executive Board, but I've been away for a long time in between. Thanks to my time at WUR in combination with my time outside Wageningen, I gained more of an overview of the breadth of our field. That makes it easier for me to make sound decisions, and to talk to the staff, the professors and the students at this university.'

s thing'



▲ Executive Board president Louise Fresco talking to students in The Spot.

How do you think studying at WUR now is different from when you studied here?

‘There was more freedom in the past. The university was a lot smaller and it was not as regulated as today. And in my day the university buildings were scattered around the town centre so we had to cycle fair distances from building to building. Now everything is concentrated on the campus. The plus side of that is that it is easy to meet people from different backgrounds. You can go to the research institutes, startups, or even Friesland Campina to meet students from other disciplines, chemists, entrepreneurs, or anyone. You can see here how ideas and knowledge get translated into tangible things. The campus constitutes a true innovation ecosystem.’

The fundamental advantage of Wageningen University is that you can choose among many different courses. That hasn’t changed much over the years. When I was a student, I took any course I was interested in. And then Wageningen has always has an international dimension, which is very important too. Multiculturalism is like a window to another world and helps us understand how other people think and live. That is an investment for life, I think.

And right from the start, the people who work at WUR have always been highly motivated to make a difference to the world. They are not here simply because they don’t know what they want to do. I taught in several universities and that difference is very clear.’

‘Ask yourself: who do I want to become?’**What is your advice to new students, for getting the most out of their time here?**

‘The main thing is to ask yourself: “Who do I want to become?” Of course, this is difficult to define on the first day of your degree course. I always think it is a very good idea to keep a diary, and not just about your love life. What courses and subjects seem interesting to you, what books would you like to read, what people would you like to meet? And see how that evolves over time. It sets off a sort of awareness-raising process. By writing things down, you start to be able to define yourself better and better. When I was a student here, I lived above a bakery in the Hoogstraat in a group of 10 girls. We did not have much: only one loo, one kitchen, and one shower for the 10 of us, and it was very cold in the winter. But what we did have was a book club. We would read things way beyond our own disciplines. And that’s another piece of advice: get out of your comfort zone. In our house, we

had girls of different ages and I advise students not to only stick to people in their own year.

Finally, students should do things that are not the obvious option. Do not just look for confirmation of what you already know. Read books about countries you don’t know, meet people who are from different backgrounds. That forces you to open your mind. For example, even as a student, my eyes were not really good, so I was hopeless at detecting birds. However, I would still go bird-watching with the students from the ornithological society. I didn’t have a clue, I couldn’t see the birds. But it was fun to be with people who looked in a completely different way than I did. It’s so nice to learn something about other people’s passionate interests.’

‘Discipline has negative connotations but it can be a very positive thing’**Now for a more practical question. Do you have any smart tricks for studying more efficiently?**

‘There are two skills that I would recommend everyone to develop. One is to get a feel for calculation and quantification. A lot of the work we do has a quantitative side to it. So it is essential to have a sense of the order of magnitude – I still hear people confusing millions and billions – and of how to assess whether what a paper says is right. Don’t be afraid of facts and figures. They are good tools. It is essential to learn to be critical about statistics.’

The other skill, perhaps the most difficult one, is to develop real discipline - without becoming a workaholic. Set your priorities and be honest with yourself. If you want to finish something in three weeks, you have to make a plan, start working and not leave it until the last minute. If you do that, you create unnecessary stress, the quality of your work will suffer, and you will get frustrated. Discipline has negative connotations, but it can be a very positive thing when you handle it well.’

And what could you learn from the students of today?

‘Students on our campus teach me something every day. Apart from IT knowledge – that difference is very obvious – they convey their passion in their own way. Young people and students are so open-minded and have very inspiring opinions and ideas. Resistance to innovative applications usually comes from the older generations and not the youngest. It is a joy for me to see how willing students are to try out new things.’





▲ Louise Fresco: 'Students are very open-minded and have very inspiring opinions and ideas.'

How important do you think it is for the students to follow the 'standard' academic path? What would you advise the students who can't decide whether to do a PhD?

'Don't do the obvious thing! I get to see a lot of CVs and I look carefully at the gaps. A lot of people take a gap year to travel. This can work out well if you set out your goals very clearly. I believe working for some years after your Master's can enrich your personality. I worked for several years before I started my PhD and I am very glad I did so. It gave me more experience and a more realistic idea of my field. But it all depends on what your interests are and who you want to do. In the end, you have to define your own path.'

Recently, the university allocated extra funds to stress prevention. Apparently, many students suffer from stress. Do you have any advice on how to deal with it better and maintain a healthy balance between studying and personal life?

'Firstly, the social media like Facebook are too time-consuming and create a lot of pressure and stress. Most stress is self-induced due to the lack of planning and prioritizing. Also, nowadays, a lot of people are overam-

bitious. Students need to have a more relaxed attitude towards their responsibilities and keep a balance between their professional and personal lives.

I can be quite busy and I often have to prepare speeches but I do not often get stressed. I can be productive even when I haven't had much sleep. I do get tired sometimes. But then I realize that I have one of the nicest jobs in the world. We should always keep in mind how privileged we are to be living in this country, where we have so many rights and opportunities. We need to be grateful for the things we usually take for granted.'

And to finish off with, what do you enjoy doing in your free time, when you are not chairing boards or speaking at conferences? What are your hobbies?

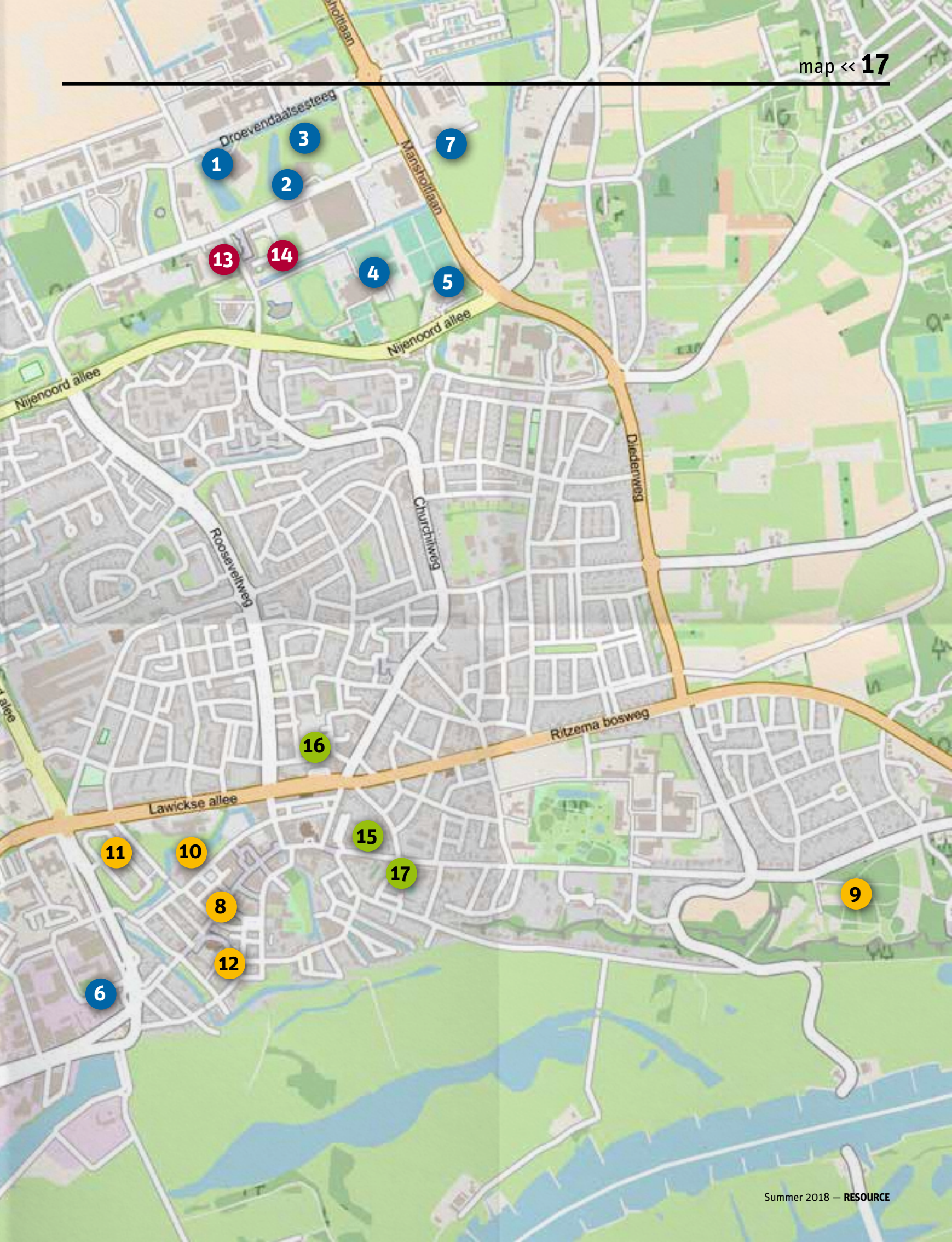
'I have a lot of hobbies! Hobbies are very important, as they define us too. I enjoy music, going to the movies and cooking. Books are a big part of my life, of course. I love walking, especially when the weather is nice. And I have a lot of friends to share these things with. Many of my friends are artists or writers. It is very interesting to interact with people who have different interests than you.'

PLACES TO BE

- 1 Forum**
Register as a Master's student here.
- 2 Orion**
Register as a Bachelor's student here.
- 3 Campus**
This is where the Opening Party, Crossing Borders and the Festival take place.
- 4 De Bongerd**
Join in the sports day at De Bongerd sports centre.
- 5 Leeuwenborch**
Or, as students call it: Lay-bo.
- 6 Patio**
One of the dinner venues during the AID.
- 7 Aeres University of Applied Sciences**
Wageningen has an applied sciences university too, right next door.
- 8 Town Centre**
Come here for the Street Theatre, the Crazy 88 and more.
- 9 Arboretum**
At the info market in the Arboretum you can learn all about all the associations and organizations.
- 10 Junushoff**
Have a laugh at the Comedy Night!
- 11 Duivendaal**
This is where the Brunch is on Saturday, and the Open Air Film on Sunday.
- 12 Town hall**
Found somewhere to live?
Congratulations! Your next step is to register as a resident of Wageningen at the town council (gemeentehuis).
- 13 Student Medical Centre +**
Need to see a doctor or student psychologist? You can do so on campus.
- 14 Vaccinatiecentrum +**
Going on your travels or an internship? Get your vaccinations in good time, as well as information about health risks.
- 15 W.S.V. Ceres**
- 16 K.S.V. Franciscus**
- 17 SSR-W**
- 18 W.S.R. Argo**

Where was that student society, that pub or that supermarket, again?

You'll find a super-handy map on our website! Hurry to www.resource-online.nl/kaart



PROGRAMME

AID 2018

photos Sven Mechel



FRIDAY 17 AUGUST

Registration

BSc MSc 1 2

10:00 - 12:00

Welcome to Wageningen! During registration, you will receive your AID bag and wristband. This wristband gives you access to everything the introduction days have to offer. You will also meet your AID group!

AID Opening

BSc MSc 3

12:00 - 13:00

The Rector Magnificus and the mayor of Wageningen will officially open the AID. Let's get started!

Lunch & Campus Games

BSc MSc 3

13:00 - 16:00

After lunch it's time to explore the campus in the Campus Games, organized by student societies and other organizations.

Wageningen Classroom

MSc 3

15:00 - 19:00

Today you will work with your group on solving an issue of the kind that Wageningen University deals with.

Societies' presentations

BSc MSc

16:00 - 17:00

Societies

Dinner

17:30 - 19:30 BSc

19:00 - 21:00 MSc

Various locations

Opening party

BSc MSc 3

20:30 - 00:00

Enjoy your first AID party and show off your dance moves to the rest of your AID group!

SATURDAY 18 AUGUST

Brunch

BSc MSc 11

11:00 - 12:30

Start the day with a delicious brunch and get ready for another great AID day!

Crazy 88

BSc MSc 8

12:30 - 15:30

In Wageningen town centre, complete as many tasks as possible with your AID group, from re-enacting your favourite film scene to marrying your AID mum and dad.

Societies' presentations

BSc MSc

15:30 - 17:30

Societies

Dinner

BSc MSc

17:30 - 19:30

Various locations

Street theatre

BSc MSc 8

20:00 - 23:00

Performers from all over the Netherlands set Wageningen town centre alight tonight. Enjoy the performance skills of acrobats, magicians and many other artists!

Check the location on the map on p.16



SUNDAY 19 AUGUST

Religious morning (optional)

9:30 - 11:30

The Christian societies in Wageningen will provide a church service this morning. You are free to attend this service.

BSc MSc 2

Sport brunch

11:00 - 12:00

BSc MSc 4

Aerial photograph

12:00 - 13:00

BSc MSc 4

Friesland Campina Sports day

13:00 - 16:30

Today it is time to show your sporting side. From familiar sports to less familiar ones, there is something for everyone!

BSc MSc 3 4

Societies' presentations

17:00 - 18:00

Societies

BSc MSc

Dinner

18:00 - 20:00

Various locations

BSc MSc

Outdoor film

20:30 - 23:00

After an active afternoon, you can now enjoy a film outdoors. It promises to be a relaxed evening!

BSc MSc 11

MONDAY 20 AUGUST

Study day

11:00 - 17:00

Various locations

Today you will meet your fellow students. You also get more information about your degree and learn what you can expect in the first weeks after the introduction.

BSc 1 2 5

Lunch with your mentor

12:00 - 14:00

At your mentor's home

MSc

Workshops

14:00 - 16:00

A relaxing afternoon awaits you. You can join a fun workshop or just chill out at various societies.

MSc

Barbecue

17:00 - 20:00

BSc MSc 3

Sing-in (optional)

19:30 - 20:30

Orion Amphitheatre

BSc MSc 2

Crossing Borders

20:00 - 23:00

Wageningen University is diverse and international. Tonight you will be introduced to various cultures.

BSc MSc 3





TUESDAY 21 AUGUST

Brunch with your mentor BSc
11:00 - 13:00
At your mentor's home

Study day MSc 3
11:00 - 16:00
Today you will meet your fellow students and study advisors. You will also get more information about your degree and the first weeks after the introduction.

Workshops & Lounging BSc
13:00 - 16:00
A relaxing afternoon awaits you. You can join a fun workshop or just chill out at various societies.

Societies' presentations BSc
16:00 - 18:00
Societies

Cantus MSc 3
16:30 - 18:30
Show your AID group how well you can sing, and sing along with the greatest hits!

Dinner BSc MSc
18:00 - 20:00
Various locations

Cantus BSc 3
20:30 - 23:00
Show your AID group how well you can sing, and sing along with the greatest hits!

Comedy Night BSc 10
20:30 - 23:00
An evening of laughter with comedians from all over the Netherlands. Sit back and enjoy!

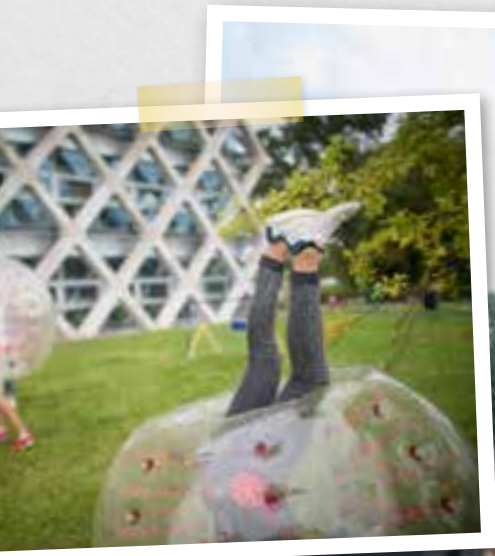
College Tour MSc 2
20:30 - 23:00
Get inspired by interesting speakers from your field of study. Take part in the debate and ask them whatever you want.

WEDNESDAY 22 AUGUST

Arboretum brunch BSc MSc 9
12:00 - 13:00

Information market BSc MSc 9
13:00 - 16:00
Wageningen has a lot more to offer in addition to student organizations. This afternoon, you will explore what else is going on here.

FestivALL IN! BSc MSc 3
17:00 - 00:00
It's already the last evening of the AID. Enjoy tasty nibbles and drinks from the food trucks. And finally, there will be a grand closing party!



Meet Wageningen in'to Languages

Have you always wanted to learn or improve that one language? Come to the language centre of Wageningen University & Research: Wageningen in'to Languages.

Language courses

English

- Academic Writing 1, 2 & 3
- English Skills Lab 1 & 2 (grammar & vocabulary course)
- English Speaking & Pronunciation
- English Presentation & Performance

Start October, February & May
Fee €60 per course of 8 sessions

Spanish & French

- French 1, 2, 3 & 4
- Spanish 1, 2, 3 & 4

Start October, February & May
Fee €60 per course of 8 sessions

Dutch as a second language

- Social Dutch 1, 2, 3

Start September, February & May
Fee €90 per course of 15 sessions

Wageningen in'to Languages in a nutshell

Centre of expertise for language and communication

- Broad and diverse
- Focus on academic communication
- Language, communication and culture fully integrated
- Personal approach
- Result-oriented
- Accessible and flexible

Language courses
for students
€60-90

www.wur.eu/into

Wageningen **in'to** Languages
opens up new worlds



DROP IN ON THE NEIGHBOURS

There is so much more going on at Wageningen University & Research (WUR) than you will come across in your future field. *Resource* has lined up the highlights from recent research in the five science groups for you.

text Tessa Louwerens, Albert Sikkema, Roelof Kleis *photos* Sven Menschel, Marte Hofsteenge, WUR archives

HELIX

THE AGROTECHNOLOGY AND FOOD SCIENCES GROUP

LOCATION: THE FOOD RESEARCHERS ARE IN THE HELIX BUILDING, THE AGROTECHNOLOGISTS IN AXIS.

VIBRATING FORK TO STOP YOU GOBBLING

It is always difficult to lose weight by willpower alone. In spite of all the good intentions, after a while most people fall back into their old bad habits again. So researchers are working on gadgets such as a fork that starts vibrating if you gobble down your food. The idea is that people will start eating more slowly. 'People often eat on automatic pilot, and are not aware of their behaviour,' explains Monica Mars. She is a researcher at Human Nutrition and studies eating behaviour with her colleagues.

MOBILE RESEARCH

COOL – Research on the Move is the only mobile facility in the world for research on the quality and storage of fresh products. The big shipping container houses an ultramodern research space. 'Here we are now simulating the transport conditions for avocados,' says Peter Ravensbergen of Food & Biobased Research. 'Because these fruits are very sensitive to damage from the cold, which makes them go black inside.' The COOL container can also determine, on location at producers, the optimal moment to harvest fruit, by measuring their sugar levels. How cool is that?

SLIM THANKS TO BACTERIA

Microbiologist Willem de Vos studies how the little organisms that live on and inside us are instrumental in whether we stay well or fall ill. He is especially interested in *Akkermansia muciniphila*, a bacterium that occurs naturally in the human digestive tract. This bacterium helps counteract overweight and, it is thought, other illnesses such as fatty liver disease and bowel infections. 'Our research shows that it is probably a particular protein in the bacterium that causes the health effect. So once we have found that protein, the bacterium doesn't necessarily have to be live. That makes it much easier to develop applications for food products,' explains De Vos.

PURE NATURE FROM THE LAB

Consumers are ever keener on 'purely natural' products without E numbers. So food producers are frantically searching for 'natural' ingredients. These are not always readily available so researchers manufacture them in the lab.



'If producers just add the substance itself, they have to give its E number,' says food technologist Eddy Smid. 'But if you add a bacterium that produces the same substance, you don't have to do that. Often, these are exactly the same substances as the ones with the E numbers. They are usually made by a natural method too, only consumers don't trust them.'

AXIS

A BEER?

Craft beers are increasingly popular but many of them contain quite a high percentage of alcohol. By using different strains of yeast, it is possible to brew low-alcohol beers which are rich in fruity aromas, discovered Wageningen PhD candidate Irma van Rijswijk. 'Mixed cultures are totally normal in the dairy industry but beer brewers are sticklers for tradition and prefer to use just one strain of yeast. Using mixed cultures could be of interest to craft breweries and in wine production, where a complex aroma is important,' explains Van Rijswijk.

GUT ON A CHIP

WUR researchers are collaborating with colleagues from the University of Twente on a gut on a chip: two glass plates with a thin layer of bowel cells between them, which can be used to study the interaction between various substances in the human gut. What makes this chip special is that it is a dynamic model, with the contents of the gut flowing on one side of the cells and the bloodstream on the other side. 'That creates a much more realistic



approximation to the actual gut,' says WUR toxicologist Hans Bouwmeester. The gut on a chip could help reduce the use of animal experiments.



THE ANIMAL SCIENCES GROUP

LOCATION: MOST OF THE WAGENINGEN ANIMAL SCIENTISTS ARE LOCATED IN ZODIAC, THE LOW BUILDING BEHIND THE POND ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE CAMPUS.

FEWER ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS

Wageningen researchers are using fewer and fewer lab animals. Fish, chickens and mice are the most frequently used animals. In 2016, WUR used more than 30,000 animals in experiments, 3000 fewer than the year before. In 2011, the number was twice as big. WUR is doing less research that involves animal testing. This is partly because there are now alternatives which do not involve lab animals.

SEARCH AND DESTROY: THE POULTRY MITE

Wageningen is looking for new biological pest control products that work against the mites afflicting poultry farms. An urgent necessity since the fipronil crisis, when hundreds of Dutch poultry farmers used the banned product fipronil and then had to throw away millions of eggs. Wageningen Livestock Research wants to track down and kill the poultry mite using Integrated Pest Management. This approach combines quick screening and the use of biological approaches such as the mite's natural enemies. The institute wants to test these approaches on 30 poultry farms.

ROBOT COLLECTS EGGS

PhD candidate Bastiaan Vroegindeweij has developed a prototype of an egg-collecting robot. This robot rides around the barn autonomously with its camera that registers eggs and arm that collects them. It is no easy task to develop a robot like this, as farmer's son Vroegindeweij noticed in the course of his research. But he is persevering. He is going to fine-tune the PoultryBot at his own small company on the Wageningen Campus.

THE COMPLEX SEX LIFE OF EELS

The eel is not faring too well. So researchers have been working for years on breeding eels in captivity. This is not easy because the eel has an incredibly complex sex life. Livestock Research scientist Arjan Palstra and his colleagues have now succeeded for the first time in getting the fish to reproduce. This brings commercial eel-breeding a step closer. But a lot of research still needs to be done. Up to now, no one has managed to get the eel larvae to eat, so they die within a couple of weeks.



ZODIAC

VIRTUAL FENCE FOR COWS

The GrazeGuide works on a simple principle. A cow wears a collar with a GPS sensor that registers its position. If she comes too close to the virtual fence, she feels an electric shock. Cows learn very fast, says Pieter Hogewerf of Livestock Research, Animal Welfare & Health, 'After one day they already understand that a correction signal will follow a warning signal.' Farmers can use this technique to let their livestock graze a different, fresh, strip of meadow every day. And without having to move fences, which is a lot of work.

THE PLANT SCIENCES GROUP

LOCATION: MOST OF THE WAGENINGEN PLANT SCIENTISTS ARE IN RADIX, THE FIVE-STORY BUILDING WITH THE GREEN SUN BLINDS ON CAMPUS. THEY USE THE GREENHOUSES AT UNIFARM, BEHIND THEIR BUILDING, FOR THEIR RESEARCH.

MILLIONS FOR PHENOTYPING

Wageningen and Utrecht plant scientists are going to collaborate on setting up a new research centre for phenotyping. Here they will be able to study the development of plants under various different environmental conditions. 'We want to investigate systematically how plants react to signals from their surroundings, such as diseases and pests, soil life, cloud cover, rain and wind,' says Professor Marc Aarts. The cost of the new centre is 200 million euros. Half of this sum is being provided by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research NWO, and the two universities are covering the rest themselves.

AUTONOMOUS GREENHOUSE

WUR has launched a competition for a greenhouse that is run by artificial intelligence. Teams from several countries are going to

design an autonomous greenhouse that can grow tomatoes without any human intervention. Some of the technology is already available in existing high-tech greenhouses, says researcher Silke Hemming of Wageningen Plant Research. The main challenge is to ensure that the computers translate the data from the greenhouse, about diseases and pests, for instance, into the right management strategies.

EDITING DNA WITH CRISPR-CAS

If there is one Wageningen researcher who is in line for a Nobel prize in the near future, it is microbiologist John van der Oost. He is one of the inventors of the CRISPR-Cas technology with which DNA can be edited elegantly and securely. Originally, CRISPR-Cas was an immune system against viruses in bacteria, but it is now being developed for use in plant breeding and medical applications. Last year, Van der Oost and Wageningen were paid millions of dollars for a patent on CRISPR-Cas. That money has been put into a research fund.

ODOUR TRAPS AGAINST MALARIA MOSQUITOES

Children with malaria are more attractive to malaria mosquitoes than children who are not carrying the disease. Wageningen entomologists have found out why this is. Children with malaria excrete three specific odours in their sweat that the malaria mosquito recognizes. The researchers can use this knowledge to cre-

ate better odour traps for catching and combatting malaria mosquitoes.

WATER LENTIL BURGER FROM DUCKWEED

It is not a reality yet but a veggie burger made of duckweed is coming soon. The plant contains a lot of protein. And because it grows so fast – you only need a layer of water and sunlight – it is interesting as a protein source. It will not be called a 'duckweed burger' though, says Jurriaan Mes, food and health researcher at Wageningen Food & Biobased Research. 'Consumer research shows that the word "duckweed" isn't very appealing,' explains Mes. 'It's better to call it water lentils, another name for the plant.'

RACING BICYCLE TYRE MADE OF DANDELIONS

In the past year, researchers at Wageningen Plant Research and tyre manufacturer Vredestein have developed a prototype of the Fortezza Flower Power. This is the first racing bicycle tyre in the world to be made out of natural rubber from the roots of Russian dandelions (*Taraxacum koksaghyz*). Natural rubber is currently sourced from the rubber tree, and tropical forest has to be cut down to grow these trees. The scientists are now researching how to breed these dandelions to make them more suitable for rubber production.

RADIX



UNIFARM



THE SOCIAL SCIENCES GROUP

LOCATION: THE SOCIAL SCIENCES GROUP IS MAINLY CONCENTRATED IN THE LEEUWENBORCH, A MAROON-COLOURED BUILDING NEAR THE CAMPUS, WHICH YOU PASS IF YOU CYCLE TO TOWN VIA THE SPORTS FIELDS.

PILGRIM BUSINESS

Two hundred thousand pilgrims trek to Santiago de Compostella every year. And everyone heading for this place of pilgrimage needs food and a bed for the night. Many of them buy a souvenir as well. So in 2010, they brought between 59 and 99 million euros into the coffers of the regional economy. This generates between 1400 and 2100 jobs,

calculated economist Wim Heijman. People knew pilgrimages were good for the regional economy back in the Middle Ages, he says. 'Then every city wanted a relic to attract more visitors.'

DO AS YOU'RE TOLD!

Dog owners bring up their dogs in the same way as they do their children, suggests

research by dog behaviour therapist Ineke van Herwijnen. Authoritarian parents usually make authoritarian dog-owners, for example. There has been a lot of research on the effect of parenting styles on children. Herwijnen is now doing research on whether there is an optimal dog-training style as well. ‘We would like to know what the effect is of the different training

styles. And whether some styles lead to undesirable behaviour or to an unhealthy relationship between the dog and its owner.’

RUBBISH DUMP OF THE OCEAN

Spitsbergen is the ocean’s rubbish dump in the North Pole region. Some beaches are littered with large pieces of plastic, nets, buoys and

other waste. ‘It is important to find out which buttons you have to press if you want to reduce the amount of plastic waste in this region. So if you find fishing nets, you want to know exactly which fishery they come from,’ says Wouter Jan Strietman of Wageningen Economic Research. He does this kind of research into the origin of the waste.

THE WAGENINGEN ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH GROUP

LOCATION: THE MAJORITY OF WAGENINGEN ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH’S ACTIVITIES TAKE PLACE IN THE GREENEST BUILDINGS ON CAMPUS: LUMEN AND GAIA. LUMEN’S INDOOR GARDEN IS WORTH A VISIT IN ITSELF.

FROM MURKY TO CRYSTAL CLEAR

Abrupt transitions sometimes take place in nature, apparently quite suddenly. Ponds that change from being murky to being crystal clear, for instance. There is more to this than meets the eye, though. Prominent researcher Marten Scheffer, professor of Aquatic Ecology and Water Quality Management, discovered the mathematical order behind these so-called tipping points. And the theory also seems to apply to countless natural phenomena, including migraine, for instance. His research is regularly published in the scientific journals *Science* and *Nature*.

TWEETING POPLAR

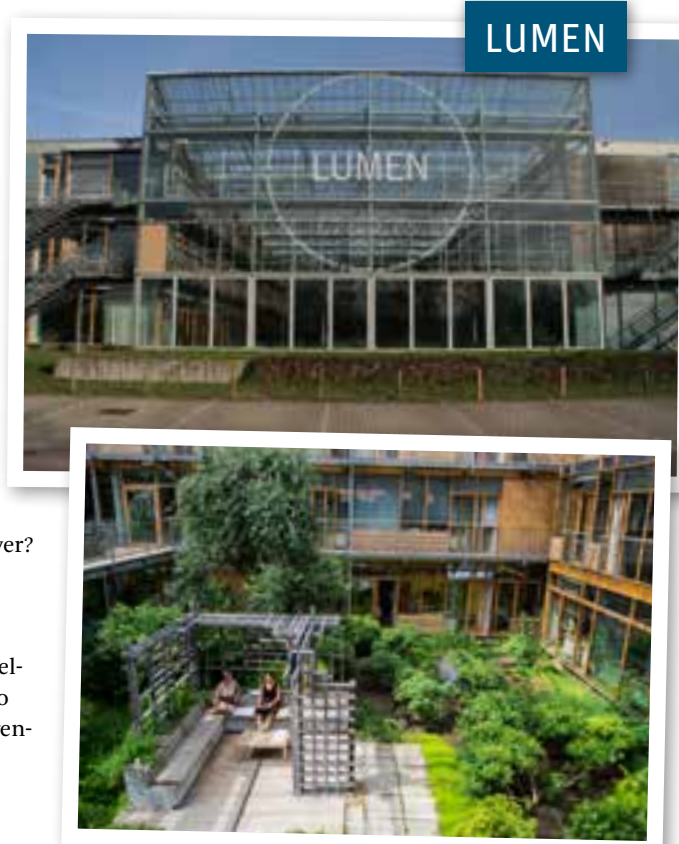
Numerous Wageningen researchers study trees and forests. How do trees grow, for example, and how does the changing climate influence that growth? The tweeting poplar next to Orion plays a special role in this research field. The tree is festooned with apparatus that monitors its growth from the inside. And the tree shares the data with the outside world on Twitter. With this project, Ute Sass-Klaassen, a researcher in Forest Ecology and Forest Management, hopes to gain a better understanding of how trees react to the climate.

1200 SOIL PROFILES

There are soils everywhere you go. But nowhere will you find as many as on campus. With its 1200 soil profiles from 85 different countries, the World Soil Museum, the brown block between Gaia and Lumen, boasts the biggest collection in the world. A real El Dorado for soil scientists.

CITIZEN SCIENCE

The climate is changing rapidly and nature is keeping pace. Biologist Arnold van Vliet studies the phenological changes – annually recurring life cycle events – in nature. When do plants begin to flower? When does the first lapwing appear? With the help of citizen science, Van Vliet keeps his finger on the pulse of nature. Online platforms that he developed – the nature calendar, mosquito radar, tick radar and allergy radar – generate a store of data for further research.



MICROCLIMATE IN THE CITY

A lot is known about the climate on a large scale. But what about microclimates in cities? Cities are getting hotter in the summer, partly because of climate change. Combined with air pollution, that is creating unhealthy situations. Bert Heusinkveld, a researcher at Meteorology and Air Quality, is trying to understand the processes unfolding in the air above a city, using Amsterdam as his case study. To find out how the city breathes, Heusinkveld placed his measuring apparatus on the roof of the Carlton Hotel in the late spring.

Join the club?

#butwhichsociety

Joining a student society is the way to settle into Wageningen fast. The big three are Ceres, SSR-W and K.S.V. Franciscus. But there are many more, from provincial drinking clubs to international organizations. The Wageningen societies introduce themselves.

BSG

The Brabant Student Guild of Our Lady is a big group of friends. Everyone knows everyone and we all get on like a house on fire. It's all about that typical Brabant sociability. You don't have to come from Brabant to join us, though. There is an activity every week but nothing is compulsory.

WWW.HETBSG.NL



C.S.F.R.

C.S.F.R. is a cosy little studenty Christian association. We get together in student houses, where we organize talks and discussion groups as well as Bible study and drinks parties. We look at various academic subjects, philosophical or sociological, in the light of the Christian faith.

WWW.DEIGRATIA.NL



D.L.V. NJI-SRI

Our society is located in the heart of Wageningen town centre. All students are welcome for a beer every Thursday. Compared with other student societies, our membership is quite small. That means we all know each other and we are a close-knit community. Originally, we were agriculture students. So we have a big alumni network all around the work, which we keep in touch with.

WWW.NJI-SRI.NL



CERES

This Wageningen Student Society is the oldest, biggest and best in town. So it offers loads of possibilities. Membership enriches your student life with committees, bands, sports and friendships. It lays the foundation for your future, and you make friends for life.

WWW.WSVCERES.NL OF WWW.AIDWSVCERES.NL



ICHTHUS

Looking for a friendly student society that also supports you in your faith? Then you're in the right place at Ichthus Wageningen. Ichthus is a lively Christian society with about 60 members. Together we believe, enjoy and witness!

WWW.ICHTHUSWAGENINGEN.NL



ISOW

Connecting people from all around the world: that is what the International Student Organization Wageningen stands for. Want to meet new people and cultures, learn new languages, or take a singing or dancing course? As well as join in other nice activities, parties, courses and dinners? Then ISOW is the place for you!

WWW.ISOW-WAGENINGEN.COM



IXESN

IXESN Wageningen is a branch of ESN, one of the largest student associations in Europe. We promote integration between Dutch and international students by organizing international meals, parties and the Buddy Family Programme. And there is no lack of excursions to European destinations such as Paris and Texel. See you soon, we hope!

WWW.IXESN-WAGENINGEN.NL



SSR-W

At SSR-W, all our members can lead active student lives outside their studies. With all sorts of year groups, fraternities and committees, there is something for everyone. We are proud of our great parties and there is plenty of scope for self-development with us. Like the sound of it? Become a member!

WWW.SSR-W.NL



WSSFS

The Frisian Student Society is the jolliest regional student club in Wageningen! Our language of communication is officially Frisian, but anyone looking for a bit of fun is welcome to join us. Every Tuesday there are various activities. We are a nice society without many obligations, which you can easily fit into your student life. Oant sjen!

WWW.WSSFS.NL



K.S.V. FRANCISCUS

K.S.V. Franciscus is one of the biggest student societies in Wageningen. More than 750 members are active in committees, sub-societies, year groups and fraternities. Everyone finds their niche here and builds a close network of lifelong friends. Let your student days at Franciscus begin!

WWW.KSVFRANCISCUS.NL



UNITAS

As a youth club, Unitas is open to anyone between 16 and 30 years old. At Unitas you can really feel at home and be yourself. Being sociable and enterprising is important to us, and as well as having a beer or a soft drink together, you can experience and organize all sorts of things.

WWW.JVUNITAS.NL



YGGDRASILSTAM

The student scout troop is actually just a jolly bunch of friends. We eat together on Wednesdays and do all sorts of fun activities, sometimes indoors and sometimes outdoors. We also run several camps a year. Feel free to come along and have a look. You are most welcome to join even if you've never been involved in Scouts before.

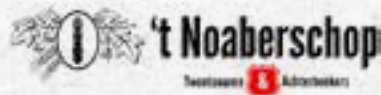
WWW.YGGDRASILSTAM.NL



'T NOABERSCHOP

Most of the members of 't Noaberschop come from the eastern Dutch regions of Twente and the Achterhoek. But people from other parts of the Netherlands are welcome too! We are a jolly, casual society where everyone knows everyone.

WWW.HETNOABERSCHOP.NL



VGSW

VGSW is an active Christian society which runs all kinds of activities such as weekly Bible studies, drinks parties and weekend outings. In this friendly, small society you soon form close friendships. There is room to develop, discover your talents and grow in your relationship with God.

WWW.VGSW.NL



NSW

NSW is a lovely Christian student society with 190 members. Our motto is 'Knowing Christ and making Him known'. We combine growing in faith with having a drink together and a lot of fun. We are open to everyone and provide a place where beer and the Bible go together just fine.

WWW.NAVIGATORSWAGENINGEN.NL



W.S.R. ARGO

Rowing is the ultimate student sport: a sport for everyone, and easy to learn. At Argo you get the chance to develop both physically and mentally, and to row at national, international or even Olympic level! The focus lies on rowing but we run other activities as well.

WWW.WSR-ARGO.NL



SHOUT

SHOUT is the LHBTQ+ (lesbian, homo, bisexual, transgender, queer and more) society in Wageningen. We are both a lobbying and a social society, and we run society evenings, open parties and introduction and support groups. SHOUT also helps LHBTQ asylum-seekers and we provide information in schools.

WWW.SHOUTWAGENINGEN.NL



Wageningen has lots of sports, musical and hobby associations too. And every degree programme has its own study association. You'll find a complete overview on www.wur.nl/en/show/Study-and-student-associations.

HOW TO SURVIVE WAGENINGEN



ROSANNE

A new life as a student in Wageningen: how do you survive that? This year's first-years share their experiences and tips. 'One of the teachers is so slow that I play his lectures at home at double speed.'

text Kenneth van Zijl photos Marte Hofsteenge, Sven Menschel, Joris Schaap

LOOKING FOR ROOMS

One of the biggest problems for first-years is to find a room in or around Wageningen. Demand is outstripping supply. 'A lot of students post on the Student Plaza Facebook page during the AID,' says Kim Otto, a student of Food Technology. For her it was essential to find a room before lectures started. 'I come from Hulst in Zeeuws-Vlaanderen. That's five hours by public transport, so a 10-hour return trip. That's impossible.'

Biology student Rosanne Dodde comes from a long way away too. 'The best thing is to ask everyone you meet in the first week if they know of a room to rent anywhere. I really wanted to live at Droeveendaal so I went knocking on every door. After two weeks I got an opportunity to sub-rent. Much better than my first four days in Wageningen, when I stayed in a primitive B&B. I had to bath in a tub.'

Mees Keukens, who is doing Business and Consumer Studies, sub-rented a room for her first few months. 'When I had to leave that place, I lived in my grandma's shed in Wageningen for six months. After a meal with the residents of a student house earlier this month, I heard yesterday that they had picked me to have a room there.'

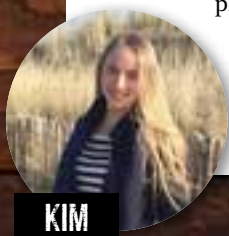


CAMPUS TIPS

When you approach the Wageningen campus from the north the first thing you see is four gigantic dice. The most prominent buildings on campus, they are called Atlas, Orion, the Forum and Helix. The main ones are Orion and the Forum, where you'll find lecture theatres, labs, the library and the Student Service Centre. You can also get a great latte, espresso or cappuccino there.

'I think it's lovely that it's so green,' says Feline Fiering, who is doing Forest and Nature Management. 'When I walk across the campus and see all those trees that are so small now, I imagine how big they will be in 20 years.'

Every building on campus has not just a name but also a number. It is not uncommon for a first-year to turn up at building 201 when he was supposed to be at building 102. So it's better to remember the names and forget the numbers.



KIM



MEES

A SEAT IN THE LIBRARY

The library is a popular spot in the week before exams. It is quiet and there are good work stations where you can concentrate. According to Kim Otto, you need to get there at eight o'clock as all the work stations are taken in no time. Biology student Sjoerd Doorn comes to the library almost every day. He still lives at home and takes the train to Ede-Wageningen from Zutphen. 'After all the classes and practicals I make notes on the material in the library straightaway. Then I take the train home at about nine o'clock. At six in the morning I'm on the train to Wageningen again. It took a bit of getting used to, because I am not a morning person. But I have learned to use my time efficiently.'



SJOERD

YOUR STUDIES

The first-year courses in Statistic and Maths – never the most popular subjects at secondary school – evoke mixed feelings at Wageningen University too. 'You have to grit your teeth and get through it,' says Kim Otto. She understands that you need certain basic knowledge before you can go deeper into your own degree programme. But she argues that first-years should get more courses on their subjects and at an earlier stage. 'Apart from an introductory course on Food Technology, I only really started to get a feeling for the programme in the last period, on the course on Food Production Chains.' Feline Firing had no trouble with maths, though. 'My mother teaches maths so it's probably in my genes.' She is enthusiastic about the practical side of her degree in Forest and Nature Management: 'It was as though we had an excursion every week. We could apply the theory from a lot of the lectures out in nature straightaway.' That was Biology student Sjoerd Doorn's experience too. He enjoyed the field trip by bike to the 'Wageningen hill' to look for plants and insects.

Fellow student Rosanne Dodde was a bit disappointed at first, however. 'I was disappointed by the lack of awareness of nature among my fellow students. No doubt my expectations were too high.'



FELINE

CLASSES


The days are long in the first periods of the degree programmes in Biology and Food Technology, with lectures, practicals and work groups from eight thirty to quarter past five. Sjoerd Doorn is very enthusiastic about his studies, but does feel the work pressure is too high at times. 'In some periods you have two tough courses. Then you are bombarded with knowledge all day long.' It's a different story in Business and Consumer Sciences. On that programme there are very few lectures in the first few months, says Mees Keukens. 'Because I had so much free time at the start, I didn't see many people and I felt a bit lost.'

Not all lectures are compulsory. Most classes are recorded nowadays. Kim Otto is satisfied with the teachers. 'On the whole they are very good and they are open to questions. But there is one teacher who is so slow that at home I play his lectures at double speed. Then it takes me an hour to listen to a two-hour class.'



PARTIES AND SPORT

Take part in as many activities as possible at the start, and you'll get to know a lot of people in a short time, says Feline Firing. 'During the AID I wandered around here like a lost soul. Once I had a room I vowed to go to every party at the student society. I didn't miss a single one.'

Before she came, Kim Otto didn't think she would want to join a student society. 'But on the second day of the AID I became a member of a student society after all, because the atmosphere appealed to me so much.' She spends a lot of time at the society, but also at the gym, and she goes running a lot. 'When I'm physically fitter, I can study much better.' 



Check it out, like & follow!



Wageningen students are not always born followers but a bit of 'liking' here and there can't do any harm. These social media are fun and can be handy to keep track of.

text Luuk Zegers

Wageningen Student Plaza

Looking for a room, secondhand furniture, course books or a bike? Or do you have something to sell yourself? You'll find it all in the Wageningen Student Plaza Facebook group.

 www.facebook.com/groups/192901857389536



Social introduction week

News and other updates about the AID are published on these media channels:

 www.facebook.com/aid.wageningen

 [@aid.wageningen](https://www.instagram.com/aid.wageningen)

 [wursnap](https://www.snapchat.com/add/wursnap)

For more information, look on: www.aidwageningen.nl



The beauty of nature: #outdoorwageningen

No account, but a great hashtag to keep track of. More than 1000 fabulous photos of Wageningen 'outdoors'. And counting.

 [#outdoorwageningen](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/outdoorwageningen)



The university

Follow WUR on social media. The main accounts:



www.facebook.com/WUR



[wursnap](https://www.snapchat.com/add/wursnap)



[@uniwageningen](https://www.instagram.com/uniwageningen)



[WURtube](https://www.youtube.com/WURtube)



[@WUR](https://twitter.com/WUR)



www.linkedin.com/school/wur

Interested in particular subjects? Environmental or marine research, for instance? There is a complete overview of the 50-plus WUR social media channels on: www.wur.nl/en/Wageningen-University-Research-on-social-media.htm

The latest news: Resource

For the latest student, education and science-related news, go to *Resource*, both the paper magazine and resource.wur.nl. Not to forget the social media *Resource* is active on. No excuse for not being up to the minute!



www.facebook.com/WUR.Resource



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[@resource_wur](https://www.instagram.com/resource_wur)



[ResourceWageningenUR](https://www.youtube.com/ResourceWageningenUR)



What's APPening?

There are a few apps that can make your life as a WUR student a lot easier too. During the AID you can find the programme, news updates, important information and more in the **AID app Wageningen**. Want to check something on Blackboard, but don't have your laptop with you? No stress: that's why there is the **Blackboard** app. Lost your way at the university? The **Wageningen Campus** app will help you get where you want to be.



Colophon

Resource is the magazine and news website for students and staff at Wageningen University & Research. Resource magazine comes out every fortnight on Thursday.

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ISSN 1389-7756

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Printer Tuijtel, Hardinxveld-Giessendam

Subscriptions

A subscription to the magazine costs €58 (overseas: €131) per academic year. Cancellations before 1 August.

Advertising

External: Bureau van Vliet, T 023-5714745 m.
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Deadline

Deadline for submissions: one week before publication date. The editors reserve the right to edit and/or shorten announcements.

Publisher

Marc Lamers, Corporate Communications & Marketing Wageningen University & Research



>>TYPICAL DUTCH



ILLUSTRATION: HENK VAN RUITENBEEK

Licking the index finger

I was having a group discussion with my ACT (Academic Consultancy Training) team. We were struggling with a calculation when a Dutch teammate said: 'If we can't figure it out, we can just do this.' Then he quickly licked his index finger and lifted it up in the air, as if he was pointing at the ceiling.

Seeing that the other international student in our group and I were both quite confused, he explained what he meant. The gesture of licking the index finger and raising it in the air means 'making a rough estimation'. It has to do with the typical windy weather in the Netherlands. In the past, when the Dutch wanted to know which direction the wind was blowing from, they would lick their index fingers and raise them. The wet finger would feel coldest and dry fastest on the side the wind was coming from, and so a rough estimation of the wind direction could be made. Over time, the meaning of this action extended beyond estimating the wind direction to any kind of 'guesstimation'.

Of course wind direction in the Netherlands is no longer measured in this way nowadays, either due to the huge uncertainty of this method or the widespread use of wind vanes. But it's still an interesting example of how even a small gesture can have a deep bond with a country, its climate and its people. **Yinci Yan, 1st year MSc student of Forest and Nature Conservation, from China**

Have you had an interesting encounter with Dutch culture? Send your anecdote (in 250 to 350 words) to resource@wur.nl and earn 25 euros and a jar of Dutch sweets. The editors reserve the right to shorten and edit the contributions before publication.

The gesture of licking and raising the index finger has to do with the windy Dutch weather