

## Dutch Universities with most successful impact on society announced

On December 7th, 2017 ScienceWorks published its biannual Impact Ranking in the Dutch Elsevier Magazine. In this ranking, ScienceWorks has quantitatively measured which Dutch University had the most Societal Impact in the year 2015. The data for this ranking was collected through information provided by the Universities themselves and public sources.

The most **Impactful University of the Netherlands** was calculated by adding the outcomes of four categorical groups. These are the *most Entrepreneurial University* (30%), the *most Cooperative University* (30%), the *most Communicative University* (20%), and the *most Policy-Oriented University* (20%). For this year – measured by average Impact per scientific staff member – **Twente University** can call itself the **most Impactful University of the Netherlands**.

**Twente University** winning this title can be explained by their overall good score and their winning of the title **most Entrepreneurial University**. This subcategory is based on multiple variables. Firstly, the number of spin-offs in which the University is involved is measured (40%). Secondly, the employment created by the Science Park of the University is calculated (15%). Thirdly, the size of the universities' investment funds is measured (30%). Lastly, the number of new patent applications counts for 15%. **Twente University** received the highest score in this category because of their unprecedented success in creating and supporting spin-offs.

The University which is the **most Cooperative** with society is based on four variables. The largest percentage (45%) of this subcategory is based on contract income (third stream research). Secondly, a substantive part (30%) is calculated by looking at how much a University is cooperating in research consortia with public and private organisations. Thirdly, the income out of licencing of patents accounts for 15% of the subcategory. The last variable that accounts for cooperation with society in this subcategory (good for 10%) is the number of publications of a University created in cooperation with industry partners. Because of its overall good score on these variables **Wageningen University and Research** is proclaimed the **most Cooperative University**.

For the **most Communicative University** of the Netherlands, ScienceWorks measured the number of times a University is cited in national newspapers and on National TV. Through Elsevier's SciVal software they measured the number of times the Universities were cited in international printed press, and online citations. Lastly, they measured how much Societal Impact was mentioned in the annual reports of the Universities. The university with (in percentage) the most social scientists – **Tilburg University** – has become the **most Communicative University**.

The last subcategory is the **most Policy-Oriented University**. This is a new category in which citations in political documents is measured. The number of times a University is mentioned in municipal documents, documents of the National Parliament and the European Parliament are measured. Lastly, the academics who participate in advisory commissions to the Dutch National Government were counted. Based on these indicators the **University of Amsterdam** can call itself the **most Policy-Oriented University** of the Netherlands.

### Trends in the last two years.

In the last two years, investments from society (so-called third mission investments) have risen with approximately 5,8% (In total this is almost 1,5 billion which is approximately 22,1% of the total research income for Dutch Universities). These investments come from international organisations such as the European Union, contract education, industry and non-profit organisations. Investments from private companies have shrunken 6% in the last two years. For the first time now investments from the EU are bigger than those from private-companies.