In the past few months we have seen an influx of new members of the Graduate School, an increase of successfully submitted research proposals and an increased number of doctoral dissertations. In the meantime, we are exploring new international connections, try to streamline procedures and protocols and extend our online courses. In other words, things are going quite well (even though there are many, many things which must go better). We are preparing ourselves for the upcoming site visit for the Research Visitation on 8 and 9 November at our faculty. Do we deserve our fifth place on the QS ranking list? We’ll see!

Dr Arie W Zwiep  
Director Graduate School
All registered candidates have received an email from Hora Finita with the request to fill in details of their dossier. You are all kindly requested to respond to this (and other HF mailings) promptly. Note that if no action is undertaken, the registration process will stagnate. Supervisors can only see candidates whose research proposal have been approved (formerly “form 1”).

On the website of the Graduate School you will find the various instruction manuals (under Admission and Registration, page bottom) of Hora Finita.

Request for supervisors! If your candidate’s research proposal has already passed the Doctorate Board (Professors’ Board) but your candidate is not visible in your Hora Finita dashboard, please contact our office.

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**NEWS**

_Eva van Urk_, assistant of the Graduate School, recently received a funding from NWO (Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research) for her PhD project at our Faculty. This enables her to work for the next four years on a project entitled “Religion as Ecological Resource in the Anthropocene; The *Imago Dei* in a Time of Mass Extinction. We are very happy for the opportunity given to her to take up this challenge and congratulate her on this new stage in her academic career. As a matter of course, Eva has stopped her activities for the Graduate School. Needless to say, we are very grateful for all the work she has done for the Graduate School with so much enthusiasm and expertise. In the meantime, work goes on. Until further notice, all correspondence relating to the Graduate School, including registration, membership fees, questions about Hora Finita and so on, must be sent to the office of the Graduate School via _grad.school.frt@vu.nl_.

We are happy that the International Baptist Theological Seminary (IBTSC) has recently appointed _Dr Mike Pears_ as its new director. Mike is a former PhD of our faculty and successor to _David McMillan_, who is now preparing himself for his upcoming doctoral defence. We thank David for all his efforts to make the cooperation between IBTSC and VU successful and look forward to a fruitful continuation of our VU-IBTSC programme.

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**CALL FOR PAPERS POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE STELLENBOSCH**

Deadline 20 November 2018

Prof. Willie van der Merwe alerts our (VU) PhD candidates on the following call from the University of Stellenbosch. Students of theology who are currently busy with (or have recently completed) a postgraduate degree in any theological discipline are invited to South Africa’s very first postgraduate theology conference to be held at Stellenbosch University from 27 - 29 March 2019. The aim of this conference will be to provide students and early career researchers with the opportunity to share their research, and to meet, learn from, and exchange ideas with their peers from other academic institutions. See _https://www.theologyfrombelow.com/_ for details. The deadline for submission of proposals/abstracts has been extended to 20 November 2018.
**KNIR RESEARCH GRANTS FOR FEBRUARY–JUNE 2019**

Deadline application: 15 November 2018
Are you writing your MA-thesis or working on your PhD dissertation or Post-doc project in the spring of 2019 and would you like to do this partly in Rome? Or are you working on a proposal for a PhD? Is your subject in any way related to Italy or Rome? Apply now for one of the Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome’s scholarships of spring 2019. There you will have the opportunity to work on your research in an interdisciplinary environment under the guidance of expert staff members with fellow students, PhDs and Post-docs and have access to the many important institutes, museums, libraries and depots in Rome. For more information: [http://www.knir.it/en/accommodation-scholarships/scholarships.html](http://www.knir.it/en/accommodation-scholarships/scholarships.html)

**PHD SEMINAR NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES**

The recently launched PhD seminar of New Testament studies is now halfway its course. Every two weeks a group of about 15 participants (PhD students, staff and members of the NT Colloquium) meet in person and online to discuss Arie Zwiep’s upcoming book on Jairus & Co. The seminar serves as a pilot for other potential research seminars organized by the Graduate School and our faculty’s research groups. Supervising staff interested to organize such an online seminar may contact Arie Zwiep (a.w.zwiep@vu.nl).

**REMEMBER MEMBERSHIP FEES**

If you have not yet paid your yearly membership fee, please do so immediately. Any questions? Please contact our office.

**REGISTRATION FOR ONLINE COURSES**

PhD Research Design (second cycle): registration deadline: 1 February 2019. For details, see the website.

**NETHERLANDS CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESEARCH INTEGRITY**

Dutch: [Nederlandse gedragscode voor wetenschappelijke integriteit](https://www.knir.it/en/education/scholarship-scholarships/scholarships.html) [2018]
English: [Netherlands Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](https://www.knir.it/en/education/scholarship-scholarships/scholarships.html) [2018]
These documents can also be found on the website of the Graduate School, under Doctorate Regulations.
A SPECIAL REMINDER: A VALORISATION TRAINING

A special opportunity to earn credits (e.g. for the mandatory credits for transferrable skills) is to follow a valorisation training (2 EC). Valorisation entails the creation of social and/or economic value from scientific knowledge for domains outside the scholarly community (societal relevance) and is an important way to make your research profitable for a wider non-specialist audience. More information on our valorisation policy, including best practices, can be found in the VU Valorisation Guide / VU Valorisatiegids. As a follow-up to this training, extra credits can be earned by a valorisation project linked to your PhD project (6 EC). For terms and conditions, please contact our faculty’s valorisation officer, C.R. [Miranda] van Holland (c.r.van.holland@vu.nl). See also the website of Innovation Exchange Amsterdam [IXA].

SUBMISSION DEADLINES FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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For supervisors: send your candidate’s research proposal to the director of the Graduate School. Proposals accepted for submission will be published in the electronic agenda of the Professors’ Board (iBabs). Please ensure that you are connected.

RECENT AND UPCOMING PROMOTIONS

- 21 Jun 2018 - H.E. Wesselink - Een sterke toren in het midden der stad (Harinck, Bosma)
- 4 Sep 2018 - A.K. To, Lam Chi-fung’s Transformative Role in Shaping Hong Kong Baptist Life between 1950 and 1970 (Janse, Pilli);
- 5 Sep 2018 - C.G. van Kralingen, Waarborg en waarheid van het christelijk geloof (Van der Kooi, Van Woudenberg);
- 24 Sep 2018 - K.O. Machado, The Brazilian Jesus (Brinkman, De Wit);
- 1 October 2018 - J.M.D. de Heer, Opinievorming reformatorische kerken over evangelische beweging en de charismatische vernieuwing (Van der Kooi, Stoffels);
- 9 October 2018 - H.A. Colijn, One House, Two Paths (Moyaert, Niyiri, Peverelli, Chau);
- 5 November 2018 - G.F. Porter, Persecuted and Misunderstood, New Gatherings of Christ-Followers Stand Firm (Reitsma, Kirk, Noble);
- 9 November 2018 - M.S. Keller, Experiencing God in Words (Van Vlastuin, Neele);
- 14 November 2018 - J.F.R. Greig, The disarmed community (Reinders, Enns);
- 16 November 2018 - M. La Rip, Intertribal Hermeneutics in the Context of Myanmar (De Wit, Dubbink).
- 13 December 2018 - C.C. den Hartog, Het spreken van de kerk in de theologie van dr. J. Koopmans (Van der Kooi, Harinck)
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