



Newsletter Alumni Chapter Washington

2nd edition, July 2013

About 30 alumni of the University of Groningen gathered in the Dutch Embassy in Washington on March 22nd, 2013. Peter Mollema, our host and the Deputy Chief of Mission of the Royal Netherlands Embassy in the USA, opened the party by welcoming all guests. Some of the attendees traveled quite some distance to join the meeting: Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Rots (Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics from Boston), Abdul Gafur (Djakarta, currently at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia) and Tienke Koning (Ubbo Emmius Fund, Groningen).

> Alumni Chapter Washington <

Bertus Meins discussed the plans of the Washington Alumni Chapter. The Board (Founding Members) intends to have three meetings a year. All meetings and activities are open to alumni of UoG/RUG in Washington. Invitations are sent with support of the Alumni Office in Groningen, announcing the program, date and place. Prominent alumni of UoG/RUG, board members of the UoG/RUG and professors and faculty deans from Groningen visiting Washington will speak about the university, their research, their cooperation with international scientists, etc.



for alumni are held throughout the day in the city center of Groningen. The weekend ends at sports clubs, in the Groninger Schouwburg with a musical depicting the life of Aletta Jacobs, city tours around the campus of the university and the hospital. All alumni are cordially invited to participate. The university board hopes to see more than 10.000 alumni return home for the celebration!

> Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Washington Chapter and University of Groningen <

On May 7th, 2013, the president of Washington Alumni Chapter, Bertus Meins visited Groningen where he met with the Rector of the University, professor Elmer Sterken, Jan Overmeer, member of the board of Ubbo Emmius Fund and Professor Sibrandus Poppema. Prof. Poppema and Bertus Meins signed a MoU between the Alumni Chapter of Washington and the University (Ubbo Emmius Fund). The objective of this MoU is to guide the cooperation between all parties involved. Alumni want to help the university in accomplishing its ambitions, by assisting the senior leadership of the university with introductions in the Washington spheres of academia. The chapter would facilitate the introduction and induction process of newly arrived alumni in Washington. The chapter aims to provide from among its members professional expertise the university may need.



> 400 years University of Groningen; for infinity <

Tienke Koning, director of the RUG-foundation Ubbo Emmius Fund, explained the highlights of the Lustrum Program. The celebrations will take place from May 14th until June 14th, 2014. (see <http://www.rug.nl/news-and-events/events/lustrum/>) She especially drew everybody's attention to the Alumni Weekend in Groningen, that will commence with Honorary doctorates and parties in all student corps, on June 13th 2014. Saturday, June 14th, will form the climax of all festivities. Many different events especially

> Dr. Ok Pannenburg donates € 10.000 to the Ubbo Emmius Fund <

May 30th, 2013, Ok Pannenburg visited his Alma Mater. Some of the top scientists of the RUG met with him and he advised them about collaboration with American Institutions. Dr. Pannenburg has a brilliant network that he is willing to open for the University of Groningen. Prof. Poppema, president of the board of the university, and dr. Pannenburg met over lunch. During this meeting dr. Pannenburg handed over a check of € 10.000. With this wonderful gift he intends to support the Eric Bleumink Fund (awards scholarships to talented students and young researchers from developing countries, see <http://www.rug.nl/science-and-society/alumni-and-fundraising/support-the-university/eric-bleumink-fund/>), and the BTSA project (a cooperation of MSU-Michigan, ABNE/NEPAD, Gates Foundation and the RUG) which seeks to empower African regulators and biosafety institutions by providing science-based information (see <http://ow.ly/mroVG>).

The Ubbo Emmius Fund, represented by Tienke Koning, is honored with this wonderful gift of dr. Pannenburg. It is one of the first donations the Ubbo Emmius Fund has gotten from overseas alumni of the RUG. The board of the UEF is very grateful to Dr. Pannenburg.



> Next meeting in Washington <

The Rector Magnificus of the RUG, Elmer Sterken, will visit the Alumni Chapter this fall. Date will be announced soon.

> International Meetings <

Singapore Alumni Chapter kick-off event with Prof. Sibrand Poppema Aug. 23, 2013.

Cologne Alumni Summer Gathering Aug. , 2013.

> Important links <

Alumni magazine Broerstraat 5: <http://www.rug.nl/science-and-society/alumni-and-fundraising/broerstraat-5/>

Alumni Worldwide newsletter RUG: <http://www.rug.nl/news-and-events/newsletters/international/>

Ubbo Emmius Fund: <http://www.rug.nl/science-and-society/alumni-and-fundraising/support-the-university/ubbo-emmius-fund/>

Annual report Ubbo Emmius Fund: <http://www.rug.nl/science-and-society/alumni-and-fundraising/support-the-university/ubbo-emmius-fonds-2012-in-vogelvlucht.pdf>

> International Alumni Officer <

Prince Ralph Osei
Stichting Ubbo Emmius Fonds
Postbus 72, 9700 AB Groningen
T: +31 (0)50 363 7621
E: internationalalumni@rug.nl
www.rug.nl/alumni

> RUG alumni Washington <

Sake Antonides
Bas Bakker
Onno de Beaufort Wijnholds
Caroline van den Berg
Robert van den Berg
Marcel Beukeboom
Tim Boersma
Peter Bootsma
Eelco Bosch van Rosenthal
Jacob Bergman
Oscar de Bruyn Kops
Joost van Daal
Santiago Delgado Calderon
Willem van Eeghen
Annette van der Feltz
Emilie Fokkelman
Willemien Free
Lars de Gier
Ilse van Heusden
Skander van den Heuvel
Margot Hoftijzer
Inez van der Horst
Jennifer Jun
Hans Kaper
Macha Kemperman
Maarten Kolsloot
Suzanne Koopmans
Polly MacLaine-Pont
Mbemba Jabbi
Bertus Meins
Peter Mollema
Jacqueline Nienhuis
Christiaan Poortman
Ok Pannenburg
Pierre Pratley
Diego Rodriguez
David Rutges
Menno Snel
Harry Snoek
Willem Struben
Peter Teuben
Pascal Theunissen
Guus Valk
Bart Vermeulen
Janneke de Vries
Froukeliën Wendt
Maarten Westermann
Yee Man Yu
Yvonne Zoomers
Maarten Vleeschouwer
Allison Smithe
Annet Jansen
Welmoed Laanstra
Christian Ngouen
Giora Hadar
Vincent Goossen
Olivier Ferdinand Asser
Antje Becker-Benton
Dennis Bodewits
Rob Olling
Tracy Huang
Patrice Willoughby