VUB FELLOWS 2020-2021

CONNECTING ACADEMIA







VUB FELLOWS 2020

Elke Jorens Aline Muylaert Angela Mills Wade Johan Haelterman Jo Coutuer **Rudy Van De Voorde** Lieve Verboven Jef Gorrebeeck **Florence Delogne** Surva Prasad Subedi **Guido Gryseels** Michèle Oleo Sandrien Mampaey **Bambi Ceuppens** Henk Van der Velde Jurgen Wayenberg Katrien Verhegge **Patrick Waterbley Daphne Deckers** Late Marco Van Uffelen Marc Sarens Werner De Wolf Anne d'leteren Sammy Mahdi Felix Van de Maele Hassan Al Hilou Fatima Zibouh

VUB FELLOWS 2021

David Dehenauw Pieter De Leenheer Jerry Aerts Isabelle Langlois-Loris Karin Baetens Lieven Wostvn Ludo Vermeulen **Mireille Delange Inge Arents** Tamara Van Dam Jonathan Berte Ruud Hendrickx Els Keytsman Ans Persoons Johan leven Joris Van Loco Frank Vandenbroucke Mieke Walraevens **Annick Dermine** Walter Dechateau **Piet Spiessens Katelijne Boon Maurits Hendriks Clement Hiel** Alicja Gescinska **Kristof Pitteurs** Stefaan Van der Borght As a society, as a university, as scientists, we have today an overwhelming responsibility for our children and grandchildren. We need to tackle today's challenges with an interdisciplinary approach. Complex problems are multidimensional by nature and require expertise from different disciplines. We need to use open science and data as a guide, and stick to the values of humanism. It comes down to each of us.

> Caroline Pauwels Rector of VUB



CONTENT

Connecting Academia and Society
VUB FELLOWS 2020
Solvay VUB Fellows
Law and Criminology VUB Fellows
Science VUB Fellows
Arts and Humanities VUB Fellows
Psychology and Educational Sciences VUB Fellows
UMC VUB Fellows
Engineering VUB Fellows
Movement and Rehabilitation VUB Fellows
VUB Fellows
VUB FELLOWS 2021
Solvay VUB Fellows
Law and Criminology VUB Fellows
Science VUB Fellows
Arts and Humanities VUB Fellows
Psychology and Educational Sciences VUB Fellows
UMC VUB Fellows
Engineering VUB Fellows
Movement and Rehabilitation VUB Fellows
VUB Fellows
VUB Fellows - Classes 2019 – 2021
Honorary VUB Fellows
Contact



CONNECTING ACADEMIA AND SOCIETY

RETHINK, REUSE, REJOYCE. That was the theme of this year's academic opening ceremony at the Gare Maritime on the Tour & Taxis premises. Never waste a good crisis. Rector of VUB Caroline Pauwels called on all of us to seize the momentum and to address the many problems society is facing – climate, inequality, racism, fake news, privacy, cancel culture, attacks on science... An interdisciplinary approach is necessary. As University Fellowship Coordinator of VUB, I am convinced that an interdisciplinary approach must go hand in hand with a strong connection between academia and society. We count on our double class of Fellows (2020 & 2021) to improve the quality of our (interdisciplinary) research and our education, the employability of our graduates and our overall capacity for innovation and competitiveness.

Through the VUB Fellowship Programme, all who are involved discuss challenges, exchange experiences, share good practices and learn from one another for the benefit of society in general.

Since 2012, VUB Fellow is the highest grade of membership at our Alma Mater, a title bestowed upon unique personalities: top level business people, visionary decision makers and socially relevant personalities. Next year, in 2022, our VUB Fellowship Programme will celebrate ten years of connecting academia and society. A successful connection that is so much more than the sum of its parts!

Vice-rector Hugo Thienpont University Fellowship Coordinator Let's rebuild! Vrije Universiteit Brussel is more than ever a real builder. The new university district Usquare.brussels, the Learning and Innovation Centre, the expansion and renovation at our Brussels Health Campus and our Humanites, Sciences and Engineering Campus, the significant expansion of our Brussels Photonics Campus in Gooik, these are just a few examples. The expansion of VUB is necessary to successfully deal with the complexity of today's and tomorrow's challenges. An expansion that allows academia and society to connect even more.

> Karsten De Clerck Chairman of the Board of VUB & Honorary Fellow (2012)





VUB FELLOWS 2020

SOLVAY VUB FELLOWS

"STUDENTS SHOULD SEE THEIR STUDIES AT VUB AS THE FIRST STEP IN A PROCESS OF LIFELONG LEARNING."

HEAD OF TALENT ACQUISITION, EMEA MICROSOFT

Proxima Ilse Scheerlinck

Elke Jorens graduated from VUB in 1990 as a commercial engineer. She started her career as a consultant at Accenture. Since 2006 she has worked at Microsoft, first as HR director for Belgium and Talent Acquisition Lead for West Europe. In 2013 she became Senior Director Head of Talent Acquisition Europe, the Middle East & Africa. In this role she is responsible for the recruitment of sales, service and engineering staff in more than 100 countries in the EMEA region. Her team recruits 6,000 people a year.

With her rich career and experience at Microsoft, Jorens knows better than anyone how new technology changes the labour market. VUB is honoured that she will challenge and inspire students and professors with new insights about gender equality, innovation and cross-curricular learning and working. VUB's humanistic values are still the values that she applies each day in carrying out her function and managing her teams.

ELKE JORENS

© Thomas Legreve

ALINE MUYLAERT



"TRANSPARENCY IS A CORE VALUE OF VUB, PUTTING IT AT THE HEART OF SOCIETY WHERE IT NEVER SHIES AWAY FROM DEBATE. THAT'S HOW YOU COME UP WITH INNOVATIVE IDEAS."

CO-FOUNDER, CITIZENLAB

Proximus Nikolay Dentchev

Aline Muylaert graduated from VUB in 2016 as a commercial engineer. During her studies she lost her heart to social enterprise, which inspired her to set up Citizenlab in 2015. Citizenlab is an e-democracy platform through which governments can involve citizens in their policymaking. Over 300 governments in more than 20 countries use the platform. This success brought her a place in the Forbes 30 Under 30 list in the Law & Policy category.

She also sits on the steering group of Start.VUB, the VUB start-up incubator for student entrepreneurs. She inspires our students to be entrepreneurs and shares her motivation and expertise via guest lectures and master's theses for enterprising students. The Social Entrepreneurship chair will continue to grow thanks to her engagement.

"VUB IS UNIQUE IN ITS COMMITMENT TO CONNECTING SCIENCE AND SOCIETY. I WANT TO STRENGTHEN THIS POSITION WITH MY EXPERTISE IN DIGITAL MEDIA."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EUROPEAN PUBLISHERS COUNCIL

Proximus Luciano Morganti

Angela Mills Wade studied French and business administration at the French Institute in London. After graduating in 1977 she began a long career in the media and European public affairs. For 30 years she has been Director of the European Publishers Council, a high-level lobby group of presidents and CEOs of leading media companies in Europe.

She defends the economic interests of the sector at policy level and focuses on furthering the sustainability of professional journalism. She also established Europe Analytica, an independent public affairs and communications consultancy with a special focus on the media and creative industries.

She already makes a large contribution to VUB and is a sounding board for research group SMIT's Journalism, Participation and Trust unit. She is also a highly valued partner of the VUB event Difference Day, held on 3 May, Unesco's World Press Freedom Day. Thanks to her, VUB can continue to expand its research in the field of media policy and economy.

ANGELA MILLS WADE

© EPC Europe

JOHAN HAELTERMAN



"THE CLOSE COLLABORATION BETWEEN UNIVERSITY AND BUSINESS CREATES OPPORTUNITIES. FOR RESEARCHERS TO KEEP THEIR FINGER ON THE PULSE OF BUSINESS AND SOCIETY. FOR ENTERPRISES TO GROW THANKS TO SCIENTIFIC INSIGHTS."

CEO, BUREAU FOR STANDARDISATION

Proximi Kim Willems & Marc Van Overmeire

Johan Haelterman studied business administration at VUB between 1986 and 1988. He began his career in IT and IT audit, after which he became a consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers. In this role he advised listed companies and multinationals on risk management and corporate governance. The experience gave him the necessary expertise to start consultancy activities at Grant Thornton. Since 2012 he has been the CEO of NBN, the Belgian knowledge centre for business standards. Thanks to NBN, thousands of students and academics around the world have free access to ISO and European standards. That is the proof of NBN's credo "Access to Knowledge".

Haelterman has a strong connection with his alma mater. He works with various academics from the faculty of Social Sciences & Solvay Business School. Under his leadership, NBN and VUB published a study about the effect of standards on the Belgian economy. As a Fellow, he will expand his guest lectures and wants to further encourage the link between standardisation and academia.

"IF WE UNDERSTAND DATA AND TECHNOLOGY BETTER, WE CAN USE THEM TO MAKE BETTER DECISIONS."

CHIEF DATA OFFICER, BNP PARIBAS FORTIS

Proximus Jo Pierson

Jo Coutuer graduated from KU Leuven as a commercial engineer in management informatics. He then obtained an MBA in international financial management. For most of his career, he was active as an entrepreneur, co-founding Numius, a business analytics company, in 1999 and merging it into Deloitte Consulting in 2012. Since 2016 he has been a member of the executive committee of BNP Paribas Fortis as Chief Data Officer.

Coutuer has built up substantial experience in data management, data protection, data governance, artificial intelligence, big data architecture, analytics and business intelligence. He actively focuses on the protection of privacy with his support of the VUB Chair Data Protection on the Ground. With this chair, his expertise will be applied throughout the university.

JO COUTUER

LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY VUB FELLOWS

"SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AT VUB IS BASED ON THE IDENTITY OF THE UNIVERSITY BUT HAS THE AMBITION TO DEVELOP SOCIETY."

DIRECTOR-GENERAL, DIRECTORATE-GENERAL PENITENTIARY INSTITUTIONS, FPS JUSTICE

Proxima Kristel Beyens

Rudy Van De Voorde is an alumnus of VUB. He first studied psychiatric nursing then criminology. An internship brought him into contact with the prison system. He first worked for nine years in a psychiatric hospital before he became director of various prisons in 1992. Since October 2018 he has headed the Directorate-General Penitentiary Institutions.

The faculty of Law & Criminology has always been able to count on Van De Voorde's support to carry out empirical research in the Belgian prison system. That has caused national and international surprise because scientists have had easy access to Belgium's prisons. Van de Voorde regularly gives guest lectures and supports Learning Together in Detention, in which VUB students follow classes with detained students under the guidance of VUB professors. He is also involved in doctoral research, internships and master's theses. VUB's prison researchers look forward to continuing this journey with him.

RUDY VAN DE VOORDE

LIEVE VERBOVEN

WHEN ACADEMIA MEETS SOCIETY, HUMAN CONNECTIONS AND GROWTH ARE NURTURED. INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE MEANS MATCHING THEIR CURIOSITY, LISTENING AND CRITICAL THINKING WITH EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE. THIS IS HOW WE CAN SHAPE THE FUTURE AND CONTRIBUTE TO BUILDING A SOCIETY BASED ON SOCIAL JUSTICE."

DIRECTOR, ILO OFFICE TO THE EU AND BENELUX COUNTRIES

Proximus Wilfried Rauws

Lieve Verboven studied law at KU Leuven and obtained a master's in European law at VUB. She specialised in social dialogue, conflict resolution and collective bargaining. After her studies she began an international career in Canada and Senegal. In 2011 she began working as a Federal Labour Mediator with the Belgian FPS Employment, Labour and Social Dialogue. The most challenging collective labour conflict she had to handle was the closure of the Ford Genk plant. In 2018 she became Director of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) for the EU and Benelux, building daily on the partnership with EU institutions, social partners and governments.

Verboven already has a strong connection to VUB and is a source of inspiration for students when it comes to social dialogue. The Brussels office of the ILO has run a research project and published a Study on Access to protection and remedy for victims of human trafficking and forced labour in close collaboration with VUB researchers Dr Amy Weatherburn and Prof Dr Paul de Hert. This collaboration will continue. "THE PHILOSOPHY 'ACADEMIA MEETS SOCIETY' BEGINS WITH THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ACADEMICS AND STUDENTS, FROM WHICH INSIGHT AND INNOVATION ARISE."

CONSULAR JUDGE

Proximus Ralph De Wit

Jef Gorrebeeck has had a rich career as a specialist in maritime transport insurance. He also possesses exceptional knowledge of insurance and commercial law. Since 2002 he has been engaged as a consular judge at the Ondernemingsbank in Antwerp where he also acts as supervisor in bankruptcy files. During his career he has always had a particular interest in legal science and its teaching. The result is many publications, scientific engagements in various organisations and guest lectures at UAntwerp and the Antwerp Maritime Academy. At the age of 65 he retired from Vanbreda Marine after a career of over 40 years in legal maritime occupations. He recently accepted a volunteer role as academic collaborator/guest lecturer at our university.

Gorrebeeck gives guest lectures in the insurance law programme, supervises master's theses and publicises and helps organise study days. Thanks to his expertise from the field and his leading position in the sector, he offers researchers and students at VUB first-line information on the reform of insurance law.

JEF GORREBEECK

© Pascal Lemmens Photography

FLORENCE DELOGNE

"AS FELLOW I AM AN AMBASSADOR FOR VUB AND WANT TO BUILD A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY AND SOCIETY."

FORMER ADJUNCT DIRECTOR, CABINET OF PENSIONS MINISTER DANIEL BACQUELAINE, LAWYER

Proximus Guido Van Limberghen

Florence Delogne gained her diploma in law in 1998 from the UCL (Université Catholique de Louvain). She then followed various specialisations in social legislation, fiscality and pension law. With her particular knowledge of supplementary pensions, she was an advisor to Pensions Minister Alexander De Croo from 2012 to 2014. She was then Adjunct Director of cabinet to his successor, Daniel Bacquelaine, until 2020, and recently joined the Brussels Bar (Barreau de Bruxelles Francophone). She has various publications to her name and regularly addresses conferences.

As a Fellow, Delogne will share her rich experience in the field of supplementary pensions with students of the master in law and the advanced master in labour and social security law at VUB. She will give expert guest lectures, discuss cases and comment on master theses. "VUB MAKES A CONTRIBUTION TO MANY GLOBAL CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME. THIS FELLOWSHIP OFFERS ME AN EXCITING PROSPECT FOR MORE COLLABORATIONS ON ENRICHING PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF STAFF AND STUDENTS OF VUB AND THE WIDER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY. I LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING AS AN AMBASSADOR FOR VUB ON THE GLOBAL STAGE."

PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Proximus Kim Van der Borght

Surya P Subedi is among an exceptional group of international jurists who have served in high-level positions in national and international organisations and governments with responsibility for policy formulation and advice. He has extended the frontiers of knowledge in international law and human rights, influenced developments in law and policy, taught at prestigious universities around the globe and practised as an advocate and barrister in these areas of law.

He was elected by the UN Human Rights Council as the UN special rapporteur for human rights in Cambodia in 2009 and served in this position until 2015. He was appointed by the British government as an adviser on human rights to the foreign secretary in 2010 and held this post until 2015. The Council of the International Union for Conservation of Nature appointed him as legal procedural adviser to the World Conservation Congress in 2021. He has also served as a member of the Task Force on Investment Policy of the World Economic Forum. Given his expertise, he will advise on the study of economic justice in international economic law and sustainable development with special attention to human rights.

SURYA PRASAD SUBEDI

SCIENCE VUB FELLOWS

"ACADEMIA MEETS SOCIETY' IS A GREAT INITIATIVE TO CONNECT AND INSPIRE. IT IS A STEP TOWARDS 'ONE WORLD, ONE TEAM'."

DIRECTOR-GENERAL, ROYAL MUSEUM FOR CENTRAL AFRICA

Proximus Nico Koedam

Guido Gryseels is an economist by training, specialised in agricultural and development economics. He has had an international academic career with the International Livestock Centre for Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and as head of service at the Food & Agriculture Organisation in Rome. Since 2001 he has been Director-General at the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren, near Brussels. The museum has a unique, world-class African collection. As well as presenting this collection, it also carries out high-level geological, ethnographic, historical and biological research.

The museum has partnerships and collaborative research activities in 12 African countries and contributes to the training of 150 African scientists every year. VUB carries out research activities in domains closely related to the museum. In collaboration with Gryseels, VUB wants to more closely study the museum's existing collections. Thanks to the Fellowship, VUB students will have the chance to do internships at the Africa Museum.

GUIDO GRYSEELS

Frank Abbeloos

© Anne Kumps

MICHÈLE OLEO

"I AM CONVINCED THAT JOINING FORCES INTERNATIONALLY IN THE CONTEXT OF COMPLEX, EXPENSIVE RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES BOOSTS EXCELLENT RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN ALL SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES FOR THE BENEFIT OF LOCAL AND GLOBAL SOCIETAL CHALLENGES. AS A FELLOW I WILL BE HAPPY TO SHARE MY EXPERTISE."

POLICY ADVISOR, FLEMISH GOVERNMENT, DEPARTMENT ECONOMY, SCIENCE & INNOVATION

Proximus Jan Steyaert

Michèle Oleo is a VUB alumna. After studying biology and botany in 1985 she gained her PhD in 1991 in plant genetics under Professor Michel Jacobs. After her studies she worked from 1999 to 2009 in various ministerial cabinets at Flemish and federal level. Science and innovation policy was partly drawn up under her guidance.

At Flanders' Department of Economy, Science & Innovation, she has coordinated the participation of Flemish researchers at several fora such as the ESFRI Forum since 2015. She sits on various European research infrastructures boards and works closely with the FWO. Oleo's network within ESFRI will facilitate VUB participation in new and existing research infrastructures in the European interest.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES VUB FELLOWS

© WE Media

SANDRIEN MAMPAEY



"ACADEMIA AND SOCIETY NEED EACH OTHER TO GAIN KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE. THIS INTERACTION IS PUT INTO PRACTICE VIA THE VUB FELLOWSHIP. ACADEMIA MEETS SOCIETY."

BUSINESS CONSULTANT, MAMPAEYBAY

Proximus Koen Lemmens

Sandrien Mampaey studied law at VUB from 2002 to 2005. She began her career at the Interdisciplinary Centre for Law & ICT at KU Leuven, which studies all aspects of data protection in projects relating to e-health. In 2006 she joined Vlaamse Nieuwsmedia as a legal counsel and in 2010 she became Administration Manager. From December 2015 till August 2021 she was Director. Since August 2021, she has chosen to broaden her expertise in companies and organisations on a self-employed basis.

Mampaey is known for her passion. She enjoys explaining new developments in the media landscape and the faculty wants to build a partnership with the master's in journalism.

"SCIENCE IS FREEDOM, BUT FREEDOM COMES WITH OBLIGATIONS."



SENIOR RESEARCHER, ROYAL MUSEUM FOR CENTRAL AFRICA

Proxima Gily Coene

Bambi Ceuppens holds a PhD in social anthropology from the University of St Andrews in Scotland. Before joining the Royal Museum for Central Africa, she lectured and did research at various universities in the UK and Belgium. She works at the RMCA as Senior Researcher and curator of contemporary African art and teaches at KASK School of Arts (Ghent) and Sint Lucas Antwerpen. Her current research focuses on Belgo-Congolese history, Congolese in Belgium, Congolese culture and art, restitution and the need for the RMCA to decolonise itself. She has curated exhibitions on Congolese independence and Congolese popular painting.

Ceuppens is known for her many years of experience and active participation in debates and research on Belgo-Congolese colonial history and its impact on Belgian society. As a Fellow she will hold panel discussions and give lectures on this topic. She will be invited to work on the VUB diversity plan.

BAMBI CEUPPENS

HENK VAN DER VELDE

"RELEVANT AND WORKABLE COMMERCIAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONTRIBUTES TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR IDENTITY AND PROFESSIONALISATION OF OUR FIELD OF WORK."

DIRECTOR ARCHAEOLOGY, VLAAMS ERFGOED CENTRUM & ADC ARCHEOPROJECTEN

Proximus Dries Tys

Henk Van der Velde is Head of Archaeology at the Vlaams Erfgoed Centrum, scientific officer at the ADC Archeoprojecten and director of the Stichting RoelBrandt. He graduated from the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and specialised in excavations from the Roman era combined with the archaeology of the Middle Ages. Since 1995 he has been active in commercial archaeology and has combined various functions in businesses, government and research groups in the Netherlands and Flanders.

Van der Velde is a scientist and entrepreneur. As an expert, he is committed to teaching students at VUB's Faculty of Art Sciences & Archaeology about how to connect the scientific expectations of archaeology with the needs of the market in a commercial working environment. He also helps organise internships and is developing a practice-oriented profile with credits linked to the master's programme.

PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES VUB FELLOWS

JURGEN WAYENBERG

"TO OFFER BRUSSELS' YOUNG PEOPLE MORE OPPORTUNITIES, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, PARTNERS MUST WORK TOGETHER MORE CLOSELY."

MANAGING DIRECTOR, GO! SCHOLENGROEP BRUSSEL

Proximus Koen Lombaerts

Jurgen Wayenberg studied at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels and the Hogeschool voor Wetenschappen en Kunst. His passion for art and education are the common theme throughout his career. After a period as a teacher and performing musician, in 1996 he became director of the Hemiksem Academy of Music and Drama. He was simultaneously conductor of VUB's symphonic orchestra. He lost his heart to Brussels and in 2006 became director of the Kunsthumaniora Brussel. Since May 2018 he has been Managing Director of GO! Scholengroep Brussel.

Wayenberg's Fellowship strengthens the link between VUB and the GO! schools. This strong collaboration brings research and practice together, allowing VUB to tackle metropolitan challenges in the Brussels-Capital Region. Thanks to his network and expertise, new internships and practical projects for bachelor and master students will be possible. Relevant cultural and educational partners in Brussels will have access to innovation, enhancing opportunities for all young people in Brussels.

"BY WORKING WITH SCIENTISTS, WE CAN IMPLEMENT AN AGILE, CURRENT POLICY ACCORDING TO THE NEEDS OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE."

GENERAL ADMINISTRATOR, OPGROEIEN

Proximus Johan Vanderfaeillie

Katrien Verhegge graduated in pedagogy from KU Leuven. She specialised in multi-problem families and followed a three-year programme in family systems therapy. She worked as a researcher at KU Leuven. The common theme in her training and career has been the welfare of the child. Based on that commitment she started working for Kind & Gezin in 1991, focusing on poverty and psychosocial-pedagogical prevention.

Since 2019 she has been general administrator at the Opgroeien agency with the mission of giving every child the right to a childhood of opportunities. The agency builds bridges with education, culture and work.

In the past VUB has carried out multiple research assignments for Kind & Gezin. Thanks to this new collaboration, Verhegge will give guest lectures in various modules on education, and the collaboration with Proximus Johan Vanderfaeillie on policy issues is likely to become more intensive.

KATRIEN VERHEGGE

UMC VUB FELLOWS

"OUR BELGIAN SUCCESSES COME FROM KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL. THIS WIDE INTEREST IN THINKING AS WELL AS DOING TYPIFIES VUB. IT MAKES VUB AN IDEAL BREEDING GROUND FOR THE PROFESSIONALS OF THE FUTURE."

VICE-CHAIR AND SECRETARY, HIGH COUNCIL OF DOCTORS, SPECIALISTS AND GPS, FPS PUBLIC HEALTH

Proximus Michel Deneyer

Doctor and lawyer Patrick Waterbley enjoyed a multifaceted academic training with a master's in healthcare and business at KU Leuven. At VUB he obtained a master's in law. Since 1985 he has had a flourishing career in the care sector. He is currently vice-chair and secretary of the High Council of Doctors, Specialists and GPs at the FPS Public Health. Medical law is more than ever in development, and thanks to Waterbley's Fellowship, VUB can keep up with this evolution.

The Faculty of Medicine & Pharmacy has started a new Master of Medicine, for which the legal and strategic assistance of an expert is very welcome. Waterbley is known for the encyclopaedic knowledge he has built up within the FPS Public Health and this will strengthen the development of the degree.

PATRICK WATERBLEY

ENGINEERING VUB FELLOWS

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR, ASK-ROMEIN HILLEBRAND

Proximi Tom Hauffman & Annick Hubin

Daphne Deckers graduated from VUB as a structural engineer in 2006. During her 12-year career at Victor Buyck Steel Construction, she specialised in engineering and contract and project management of complex steel constructions. At the age of 34 she became CEO of the steel company Ferrokonstrukt. In May 2021 she joined ASK-Romein as Technical Director for Hillebrand BV. Hillebrand BV is located in Vlissingen and specialises in offshore and infrastructure projects.

Deckers is a role model for young women who want to take on a stereotypically male career. As an engineer, she has delivered impressive achievements in a predominantly male field. She is committed to recruiting engineering students and shares her expertise, experience and enthusiasm with VUB students via lectures, panel discussions and internships.

"GIRLS NEED ROLE MODELS WHO INSPIRE THEM TO CONQUER THE WORLD."

© Het Belang van Limburg

DAPHNE DECKERS

MARCO VAN UFFELEN

PROJECT MANAGER, EUROPEAN COMMISSION – EUROPEAN JOINT UNDERTAKING FOR ITER AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF FUSION ENERGY

IN MEMORIAM

Marco Van Uffelen graduated in 1992 as a civil engineer in applied physics at VUB. From 2001 to 2010 he was Project Engineer at the Belgian nuclear research centre in Mol. From 2010 to 2021 he was a member of ITER, an international collaboration of the EU with the aim of demonstrating the scientific and technical feasibility of nuclear fusion as an energy source.

He was elected Fellow of VUB's Faculty of Engineering as he was proof that collaboration between universities, governments and businesses can accelerate innovation. He was an example of the importance of cross-curricular thinking and multidisciplinary collaboration.

On 21 December 2020, during the Faculty of Engineering's online Fellowship event, Marco delivered a brilliant and much-appreciated presentation about the development of ITER – the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor – and about its ongoing construction near Aix-en-Provence in France. He touched on the many challenges involved and conveyed to our students and colleagues his passion for solving complex problems by teaming up with experts in a truly international context.

As an engineer, Marco Van Uffelen would have continued inspiring our students with his leading role in the ambitious large-scale ITER project, but sadly he passed away on 13 May 2021 after a three-year battle against one of the most lethal cancers. His colleagues at the European Commission's Fusion4Energy (F4E) office in Barcelona left very touching messages in an extended "in memoriam", of which we cite a few sentences below.

Marco was an extremely popular figure in the Remote Handling programme and, more widely, within F4E. Highly considered for his hard work and his steady commitment towards the team, he was also appreciated for his sense of solidarity, his fair play and his human touch. He will be remembered for his kindness, sense of humour, passion for his work (but also for fine food and wine) and, above all, his remarkable sense of duty.

In one of his last emails, a few days before his passing, one simple quintessential sentence describes Marco: "For me it has been an honour to work for F4E". He was proud of his work, like a true and genuine engineer. He was also proud of his team and of what they are achieving.

It is with great sadness that we lost an exemplary Fellow of the Faculty of Engineering, an inspiring gentleman and a dear friend. He will be missed, and our thoughts are with his wife, Daniela Fernandez-Caceres, and with his sons, Maxime and Vincent.

Francis Berghmans, Dean and Proximus of late Marco Van Uffelen "ONLY BY BRINGING TOGETHER DIFFERENT EXPERTISE CAN WE SOLVE ISSUES SUCH AS CLIMATE CHANGE AND SECURE ENERGY SUPPLY."

MARC SARENS

"INNOVATION REQUIRES AN OPEN BUSINESS CULTURE. STUDENTS AT VUB ARE TRAINED IN THIS CULTURE AND ARE THUS PERFECTLY ADAPTED TO THE BUSINESS VALUES OF SARENS."

EXECUTIVE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SARENS

Proximus Tim De Troyer

Marc Sarens is an industrial engineer by training and has spent his whole career at the family business, Sarens. When he took his first steps in the company in 1978, he was responsible for the crane and transport fleet. In 2002, he became Director Fleet Management. The fourth generation is now working in the family business. It has more than 100 entities represented in 65 countries, specialising in crane hire, heavy lifting and technically complex transport.

Sarens is a dream lab for students in VUB's Faculty of Engineering. As a Fellow, Marc Sarens commits to inspiring students with the latest developments in the field of wind energy and IoT (Internet of Things). He will also help with master's theses and give students the chance to perfect their skills during industrial internships at Sarens.

"WHEN BUSINESSES AND UNIVERSITIES WORK TOGETHER, WE ACCELERATE INNOVATION FOR THE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY."

CEO, SCHRÉDER GROUP

Proxima Valéry Ann Jacobs

Since 2018, Werner De Wolf has been CEO of the Schréder group, the Belgian world leader in public lighting active in 70-plus countries with more than 2,500 employees. Previously he was active in telecoms and IT with Commscope, TE Connectivity, Raychem and Unisys. He has more than 25 years of experience in the global telecoms industry. He graduated as a civil engineer in computer science from KU Leuven and has an MBA from Vlerick Business School. He was a director at Voka, Leuven Mindgate and Fiber to the Home Council Europe. He has been mentoring various innovative scale-ups in their development.

De Wolf encourages young people to be entrepreneurs and believes strongly in the "Think big, start small, scale or fail and learn fast" approach. As a Fellow, he will strengthen the research line on lighting science at the Faculty of Engineering. Via him, the research group B-PHOT will work with Schréder as a research partner on smart public lighting and photometry of LED lighting fixtures.

WERNER DE WOLF

MOVEMENT AND REHABILITATION VUB FELLOWS

PRESIDENT, BELGIAN PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

Proximi Jos Verschueren & Veerle De Bosscher

Anne d'Ieteren is the bridge between the Paralympic movement in Flanders and Wallonia. Under her leadership, since 2009, the Belgian Paralympic Committee has expanded to become an exemplary dynamic federation in terms of policy, image and national and international relations at the highest level. D'Ieteren was a member of the board of directors of the Belgian Olympic and Interfederal Committee (BOIC) until 2017 and is the figurehead of Paralympic sport in the country. She is also chair of the Ligue Handisport Francophone, the French-speaking federation for parasports. As an expert in equestrian sport, she is a member of the board of the Royal Belgian Equestrian Federation. In 2020 she received the Order of Merit from the BOIC.

D'leteren enriches the Faculty of Physical Education & Physiotherapy with guest lectures, the intention to develop a Paralympic Sport chair and her support for the SPLISS high-performance sports research from the Paralympic perspective. With her, VUB wants to develop synergies between top Paralympic sport and diverse courses. In doing so, VUB will create a unique offer for students and confirm the great social value of Paralympic sport in Belgium.

ANNE D'IETEREN

"THANKS TO ACADEMIC

PARALYMPIC MOVEMENT

CONTINUES TO GROW INTO A VALUED SOCIAL PLAYER WITH

COLLABORATION, THE

REAL IMPACT"

VUB FELLOWS

"BRUSSELS AND VUB ARE INDIVISIBLE.THE CITY AND THE UNIVERSITY ARE ALWAYS LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER."



Proxima Caroline Pauwels

Sammy Mahdi, State Secretary for Asylum and Migration in the Belgian government, is a born-and-bred Brusselaar. He spent his youth and his student days in Brussels. As the son of a political refugee from Iraq he has always been interested in politics. He studied political science at VUB, complemented by a Advanced Master in Laws. In 2014 he started his political career as a parliamentary assistant to Joris Poschet of CD&V. In 2017 he became chair of JONGCD&V and in 2019 he was elected as city councillor in Vilvoorde.

Mahdi shares the humanist values of VUB and defends them in his dialogue with diverse communities. He has been a guest speaker at VUB and is happy to share his insights about national politics, migration, diversity and integration. Within the weKONEKT.brussels network, he is engaged in a number of VUB's social projects.

SAMMY MAHDI



"VUB HELPS OUR SOCIETY PROGRESS BECAUSE IT STRENGTHENS BUSINESSES WITH INNOVATION AND CRITICAL THINKING."

CEO, COLLIBRA

Proximus Hugo Thienpont

Felix Van de Maele is co-founder of Collibra. Worth more than \$1 billion, Collibra can call itself the first "Belgian unicorn": an impressive achievement by Van de Maele, who studied applied informatics at VUB from 2002 to 2006. A collaboration between VUB and the Ecole des Mines in Nantes gave him the chance to gain a master's in software engineering in Nantes and La Plata, Argentina. In 2008 he obtained his master's in general management from Vlerick Management School.

He is a born entrepreneur. During his studies, he was a part-time researcher at VUB's STARIab. That was the basis for VUB spin-off Collibra, which he launched with three fellow researchers in 2008. Collibra is a data intelligence company. Thanks to its software, businesses can better manage and understand data about their clients and employees.

Van de Maele has a strong link with VUB and sees the VUB Fellowship as a great opportunity to give something back to his alma mater. He will inspire entrepreneurial VUB students. Collibra is currently working with VUB on new projects in artificial intelligence.

"IN A DIVERSE SOCIETY, ALL YOUNG PEOPLE DESERVE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES ON THE LABOUR MARKET."

FOUNDER, CAPITAL

Proximus Jan Danckaert

Hassan Al Hilou is a born entrepreneur. Aged 15 he launched the digital discussion forum YouthTalks and a year later he started his advice bureau AGE Consultancy to promote diversity in Belgian businesses. Today he is one of the driving forces behind CAPITAL, which aims to become the IKEA of youth development. CAPITAL organises, with various companies and advisory groups of students and teachers, the INDUSTRIAL FLOOR: a "phygital" experience that inspires and informs young people about the labour market. Phygital is a fusion of physical and digital, and refers to bringing together the physical aspect of the visit and digital, high-tech tools.

With his Fellowship, VUB can improve the preparation of its students for the job market. Students with a migration background often lack the right networks, contacts and soft skills to successfully apply for jobs. Al Hilou will contribute to arming these students for a strong start to their career.

HASSAN AL HILOU

© Luc Gordts

FATIMA ZIBOUH

"THE MOST INSPIRING ACADEMICS ARE THOSE WHO ARE COMMITTED AT THE HEART OF SOCIETY. THEY SPREAD PROGRESSIVE VALUES, TAKE STRONG POSITIONS AND ENSURE CHANGE."

EXPERT, ACTIRIS INCLUSIVE, ANTI-DISCRIMINATION SERVICE

Proximus Romain Meeusen

Fatima Zibouh studied political science at ULB. She then obtained an advanced master's in human rights at UCL/Saint-Louis in Brussels. Finally she gained a PhD from the University of Liège. After her training she began working at the Centre for Ethnic and Migration Studies at the University of Liège and the Institute for European Studies.

She has been engaged in the Brussels community for 20 years. Today she is responsible at Actiris Inclusive for the integration of jobseekers facing discrimination. She is chair of the think tank Aula Magna and of the Foyer des Jeunes in Molenbeek, and is co-founder of W100, a leading network of women in Brussels.

Zibouh is a networker who is committed to diversity in Brussels. She can expand that engagement with her role as a VUB Fellow. During her Fellowship, she may help VUB to expand its diversity policy as a role model for students and an expert on diversity, discrimination and inclusion.





VUB FELLOWS 2021

SOLVAY VUB FELLOWS

HEAD OF FORECASTING, ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF BELGIUM

Proximus Alexandre Thys

David Dehenauw is a VUB alumnus, graduating in 1993 as a civil chemical engineer. He started working as a weatherman with VTM, VRT and RTL-Tvi. Since November 2017 he has been in charge of daily operations at the weather stations in Uccle and Ostend as head of the weather forecasting department of the Royal Meteorological Institute of Belgium. In 2013, he became a visiting professor of meteorology and climatology at Ghent University's Faculty of Sciences.

Dehenauw can advise VUB on dangerous weather conditions often induced by climate change, one of the biggest challenges for the coming decades. In 2015, he contributed to VUB's actions as part of WeAreParis, an initiative by a number of Belgian social, environmental and cultural organisations on the occasion of the Paris Climate Conference (COP21). Thanks to his Fellowship, this cooperation will be strengthened.

"VUB HAS SHAPED ME WITH VALUES SUCH AS HUMANITY, SOLIDARITY AND JUSTICE. AS A FEDERAL CIVIL SERVANT AND WEATHERMAN, I HAVE DAILY CONTACT WITH PEOPLE FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS AND I STILL APPLY THESE QUALITIES EVERY DAY. STANDING UP FOR SCIENCE IS STANDING UP FOR SOCIETY."

DAVID DEHENAUW



"HOWARD STEVENSON, THE GODFATHER OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP STUDIES AT HARVARD **BUSINESS SCHOOL, DEFINES ENTREPRENEURSHIP AS 'THE** PURSUIT OF OPPORTUNITY BEYOND **RESOURCES CONTROLLED'.** INVESTORS AND TALENT NATURALLY **GRAVITATE TOWARDS THE** PERSEVERANCE, PASSION FOR LONG-TERM GOALS AND TEAM SPIRIT THAT ENTREPRENEURS CONVEY."

CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER. ZENOPTICS

Proximus Pieter Ballon

VUB alumnus Pieter De Leenheer is an entrepreneur, venture capitalist and computer scientist. He is Chief Technology Officer at ZenOptics, an analytics catalog software company. Previously, De Leenheer founded Collibra, the first Belgian unicorn company and a spin-off from his data research at VUB. He writes, teaches and advises on computing and management aspects of data innovation and serves as an expert to several national governments and the European Commission. Besides VUB, he has been affiliated with Harvard Business School, Columbia University, San Diego Supercomputer Center and the VU Amsterdam. He lives in New York City with his wife and three daughters.

De Leenheer is closely involved with VUB as a lecturer on European digital markets, and is a willing advisor and sounding board for the ambitious AI for the Common Good programme being established by VUB and ULB. His world-leading expertise in business modelling of new digital services, strategic and policy aspects of data innovation and ethical issues around AI and data are an asset not to be underestimated.

"VUB TEACHES STUDENTS TO CONSCIOUSLY ENGAGE IN SOCIETY FROM WITHIN ACADEMIA."

CONSULTANT ART & CULTURE, DE SCHRIJFWERKERIJ

Proxima Katia Segers

Jerry Aerts graduated in media and communications sciences at VUB in 1978. He built up an impressive career at the deSingel arts centre and raised its international profile as a leading European arts institution. He retired in November 2020 but remains active in the Flemish art and cultural world.

As an alumnus and an expert in art and cultural management, Aerts is already closely involved with the Department of Communication Sciences as a guest lecturer and speaker at graduation ceremonies. He is a leading figure in the world of art and culture, and plays an active role in various advisory and assessment bodies involved in Flanders' cultural policy.

JERRY AERTS

ISABELLE LANGLOIS-LORIS

"VUB BUILDS BRIDGES BETWEEN THE ACADEMIC WORLD AND CIVIL SOCIETY AND SO PLAYS AN ESSENTIAL ROLE IN SOCIAL UPLIFT."

PARTNER, EGON ZEHNDER ASSOCIATES

Proximus Joël Branson

Isabelle Langlois-Loris graduated as a commercial engineer from Solvay ULB and MBA INSEAD. Today, she is a partner at Egon Zehnder and chairs the alumni organisation of the Solvay Schools. She recently took over the organisation of the biannual Solvay Schools Alumni Congress.

As President of the Solvay Schools Alumni organisation, Langlois-Loris has coordinated numerous events for VUB Solvay alumni and master's students of the Solvay faculty. Within her network, she emphasises the importance of women in top positions and on boards, and on inclusion more broadly. Via her commitment to the Solvay Schools Alumni Congress, Egon Zehnder, the Solvay women alumni chapter and Solvay Schools Alumni, she is a familiar face at VUB and ULB. "ACADEMIA MEETS SOCIETY MAKES INNOVATIVE COOPERATION POSSIBLE THROUGH KNOWLEDGE SHARING."

DIRECTOR AND CO-FOUNDER, EXERTI

Proxima Elvira Haezendonck

Karin Baetens studied information technology at Karel de Grote university college and, as a co-founder of IT solutions provider Exerti, is an expert in project management and change processes in profit and non-profit organisations. She has outstanding relations with Microsoft and has significant expertise in MS Project and ICT training.

Baetens has a special relationship with VUB and is committed to passing on her knowledge to young people. VUB can always count on her when in need of digital solutions. In recent years she has offered workshops to students in project management and soft skills. Under her Fellowship, she wants to offer MS Project workshops on project management and tools to both students and staff.

KARIN BAETENS

LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY VUB FELLOWS

"AT VUB, STUDENTS DEVELOP AN OPEN AND FREE MIND TO MAKE THE RIGHT SOCIAL CHOICES."

MEDICAL DIRECTOR, HEALTH CENTRE FOR SEXUAL VIOLENCE, AZ DELTA ROESELARE

Proxima Elise Goossens

Lieven Wostyn graduated in 1982 from the University of Leuven with a doctorate in medicine, surgery and obstetrics. As medical director of AZ Delta Roeselare and delegate of the National Council of the Order of Doctors at the World Medical Association, he occupies a prominent position in Belgium's healthcare landscape. His unique profile makes him the ideal bridge-builder between medical law and practice and between the Faculties of Law & Criminology and Medicine & Pharmacy.

Wostyn has been involved in VUB's Health Law programme as a voluntary academic staff member since 2011, in which capacity he contributes to research and education. He gives guest lectures on the organisation of Belgian healthcare and the status of doctor, and supervises and evaluates master's theses on health law. His Fellowship provides a good framework for his strong relationship with VUB.

LIEVEN WOSTYN

LUDO VERMEULEN

"THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAS PUT THE IMPORTANCE OF INDEPENDENT RESEARCH AND CRITICAL THINKING TO THE TEST. THE FELLOWSHIP BRINGS TOGETHER CRITICAL MINDS IN OUR SOCIETY."

LAWYER & MANAGING PARTNER, MPLOY

Proximus Wilfried Rauws

Ludo Vermeulen studied law at KU Leuven and specialises in labour and social security law. He is the founder of a social law firm and a deputy judge at the Labour Tribunal of Antwerp, Turnhout section. He is also a guest lecturer for the Pension Law course at KU Leuven's Faculty of Law and founded the Belgian Pension Lawyers Association with a number of other specialists in 2010.

Vermeulen is a driven expert in social law, with excellent publications focused mainly on non-discrimination law to his name. As a Fellow, he can give guest lectures on various topics within social law based on his extensive practical experience. Every year, his office organises internships for students of the VUB Law School. "FREE RESEARCH AND STUDENT-CENTRED EDUCATION ARE CORE VALUES AT VUB. RESEARCH WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL LAW IS EXCELLENT AND BRUSSELS AS A DIVERSE, COSMOPOLITAN LOCATION OFFERS A CHALLENGE FOR EDUCATION. ACADEMIA MEETS SOCIETY ALLOWS FOR FRUITFUL CROSS-FERTILISATION BETWEEN PRACTICE AND UNIVERSITY."

COUNCILLOR, COURT OF CASSATION

Proximus Guido Van Limberghen

Mireille Delange studied law at ULB and became a social law lawyer at the Brussels Bar. She is currently a councillor at the Court of Cassation, the highest court in Belgium. In that capacity, she is a leading magistrate in social law and has published, among others, work on the jurisdiction of the court in social security law matters. She is also a member of the academic editorial board of the Tijdschrift voor Sociaal Recht.

With her Fellow title, Delange can help shape lectures and expert classes on social law in general and social procedural law in particular. With her broad expertise, she will be able to assist the law school and the master after master in social law as a commissioner of theses.

MIREILLE DELANGE

SCIENCE VUB FELLOWS

MANAGING DIRECTOR, FLANDERS' FOOD

Proximus Luc De Vuyst

Inge Arents studied agricultural engineering at Ghent University, specialising in nutrition and dietetics. Since 2013 she has held several positions in product and process development. In 2016, she joined Flanders' FOOD as managing director.

Arents already has a strong relationship with VUB, where she contributes to food biotechnology research. She has enabled three bioengineers to graduate and she recently participated in Kanaal Z's TechTransfer report on food biotechnology research at VUB.

"THE RESEARCH GROUPS AT VUB CHOOSE STRATEGIC SUB-DOMAINS IN THEIR RESEARCH IN WHICH TO EXCEL. THE FELLOWSHIP STIMULATES THEM TO CONTINUE INNOVATING AND TO TAKE ON NEW SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHALLENGES."



TAMARA VAN DAM



"ACADEMIA MEETS SOCIETY ENABLES INNOVATIVE ACADEMIC VISIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN SOCIETY."

PROJECT HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT MANAGER, DEME

Proximus Nico Koedam

Tamara Van Dam stands out as a biologist in the "hard" industrial world of marine engineering. In 2010, she graduated as a biologist at VUB and today she works at DEME as project health, safety & environment manager, monitoring and remedying the impacts of marine engineering. She plays an exemplary role in biology and at VUB, where marine research attracts lots of students.

Van Dam has strong ties with VUB and contributes to the master's programme as a representative and training advisor from the field. She gives regular seminars to biology students about her role in a company such as DEME, about project sites such as the Qatar port construction and the deepening of the Suez Canal. She also speaks on approaches to ecological restoration in temperate and tropical marine ecosystems.

"TO ACHIEVE A BETTER FUTURE, EVERYONE NEEDS TO STEP OUT OF THEIR COMFORT ZONE. AS AN ENTREPRENEUR, I DO THAT BY INTEGRATING MY AI TECHNOLOGY INTO VERY DIVERSE APPLICATIONS. FOR THIS, I RELY ON NEW ACADEMIC INSIGHTS. ONLY THROUGH SUCH INTENSE COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN COMPANIES AND SCIENTISTS CAN WE PRESERVE OUR PLANET FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS."

FOUNDER & CEO, ROBOVISION

Proxima Ann Dooms

Jonathan Berte graduated as a civil engineer in applied physics at Ghent University and specialised in neuroscience at ETH Zurich. Today, he is the founder and CEO of Robovision, a Belgian company specialised in industrialising deep learning. Berte and his team of machine learning experts have developed a fully scalable platform for the deployment of advanced artificial intelligence. Robovision operates in various sectors such as manufacturing, healthcare, security and agriculture, and has won a number of international awards.

Berte was keynote speaker at the third edition of the conference series The Beautiful Impact of Mathematics in Society in 2019. His address was appreciated by doctoral students who saw career possibilities in the field. He is in regular contact with the faculty for a possible collaboration with Fablab Brussels.

JONATHAN BERTE

ARTS AND HUMANITIES VUB FELLOWS

"VUB AND VRT ARE BOTH COMMITTED TO THE IMPORTANCE OF LANGUAGE. WE CAN REALISE GREAT INITIATIVES WITH THIS SHARED MISSION."

LANGUAGE ADVISOR, VRT – FLEMISH EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, GROTE VAN DALE

Proximus Rik Vosters

Ruud Hendrickx studied Germanic philology and Dutch and general linguistics at KU Leuven. For years he has been one of the driving forces behind VRT's current language policy. He advocates for a nuanced view of standard language in Belgium compared to the Netherlands, in which care of language and language variation go hand in hand. He has an extensive network, both inside and outside linguistics as an academic discipline, within the wider language sector in Flanders.

Hendrickx has often worked with the faculty on initiatives on language, policy and variation and has been a guest lecturer. Through his Fellowship, this partnership can grow, via guest lectures within the series on Dutch linguistics. He can also work with VUB on the vulgarisation of linguistic research results via VRT Taal and various other outreach and publicity activities.

RUUD HENDRICKX

ELS KEYTSMAN

DIRECTOR, UNIA

Proxima Martina Temmerman

Els Keytsman is director of Unia, the Interfederal Equal Opportunities Centre. She studied applied economics at VUB but has always been interested in language. In her current function, she deals with linguistic-pragmatic effects in all forms of communication.

Keytsman will get involved through guest lectures in the faculty's various master's programmes and particularly in the master's in journalism. Her expertise will be useful for research into discriminatory language use. Students operate better in a multicultural society where they can recognise and avoid discrimination.

"WITHIN THE ACADEMIC WORLD, POLICY IS BASED ON SCIENTIFIC INSIGHTS. WE BUILD BRIDGES BETWEEN PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS TO CREATE AN INCLUSIVE SOCIETY." "VUB HAS A CENTRAL PLACE IN THE CITY OF BRUSSELS. THROUGH ITS RESEARCH AND ITS SOCIAL CONNECTION, IT HELPS INSPIRE POLICY."

ALDERWOMAN OF TOWN PLANNING, PUBLIC SPACES AND DUTCH-LANGUAGE EDUCATION AND AFFAIRS

Proxima Nel de Mûelenaere

Ans Persoons studied contemporary history at Ghent University and European studies at Sciences Po in Paris. After graduating, she joined the Brussels-Europe Liaison Office, an organisation that welcomes expats and informs them about what it means for Brussels to be the capital of Europe. Since 2012, she has been Alderwoman in charge of town planning, public spaces and Dutch-language Education and Affairs.

Persoons can be a valuable link between the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy and the city of Brussels. She is an example of political and social commitment to a pluralistic, participative and inclusive urban community. She will encourage students and researchers to engage with Brussels policymakers and reflect on the metropolitan challenges of Brussels both past and present. As a Fellow, she may give guest lectures and organise a guided walk of the North-South connection as part of the courses Global City Region Brussels and the History of Urbanism.

ANS PERSOONS

PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES VUB FELLOWS

"VUB INSPIRES SOCIETY WITH ITS INNOVATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS. TOGETHER, ACADEMIA AND SOCIETY PUSH BACK BOUNDARIES."

GENERAL DIRECTOR, PLEEGZORG VLAAMS-BRABANT & BRUSSEL

Proximus Johan Vanderfaeillie

Johan leven is an alumnus of VUB and has been working as a clinical psychologist in foster care. He has been general director of Pleegzorg Vlaams-Brabant & Brussel since 2014. Since 1980 he has worked in a private psychotherapy practice and in various care sectors such as (child) psychiatry, addiction care and special youth care.

Through him, the faculty hopes to receive additional support in its foster care research and possible guest lectures. VUB is very pleased that Johan leven, with his wide network, has become a Fellow.

JOHAN IEVEN

UMC VUB FELLOWS

WORKING WITH VUB HAS ALLOWED SCIENSANO TO COLLABORATE WITH THE BRIGHTEST NEW DOCTORAL STUDENTS. THIS PUTS THE IDEA OF ACADEMIA CONNECTING WITH SOCIETY INTO PRACTICE."

SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR A.I., SCIENSANO

Proxima Vera Rogiers

Joris Van Loco studied at UHasselt and KU Leuven, then worked at the Scientific Institute of Public Health, where he held several positions. In 2018, he became scientific director a.i. of the Chemical and Physical Health Risks directorate at Sciensano, a federal research institution. VUB's In vitro Toxicology and Dermato-cosmetology and Analytical Chemistry department has been working with the directorate for years and has already seen several doctoral students develop their careers there under Van Loco's guidance.

Through the Fellowship, VUB expects to expand its cooperation with Sciensano, within the institute's scientific projects in toxicology, the replacement of animal tests and the development of new analytical techniques to support public health.

JORIS VAN LOCO

FRANK VANDENBROUCKE



"DEMOCRATIC POLITICS AND ACADEMIC RESEARCH PLAY A DIFFERENT, YET COMPLEMENTARY ROLE IN OUR SOCIETIES. ACADEMIA MEETS SOCIETY IS A HIGHLY WELCOME INITIATIVE TO EXPLORE AND STRENGTHEN THAT COMPLEMENTARITY."

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Proxima Christel Geerts

Frank Vandenbroucke studied economics in Leuven and Cambridge, UK, and received his D.Phil. in Oxford in 1999. He was Minister for Social Security, Health Insurance, Pensions and Employment in the Belgian Federal Government (1999-2004), and Minister for Education and Employment in the Flemish Regional Government (2004-2009).

Vandenbroucke has published regularly in academic journals on EU social policy, pension policy, patterns of household employment, public attitudes to risk-sharing and child poverty. He left politics in 2011 to become full-time professor at the KU Leuven and, next, at the University of Amsterdam (UvA). He also taught at the University of Antwerp (UA), where he held the Herman Deleeck chair. His most recent research focused on the impact of the EU on the development of social and employment policy in the EU member states and the normative rationale for EU social policy. He returned to politics in October 2020.

EXPERT IN HEALTHCARE

Proximus Michel Deneyer

Mieke Walraevens started her career as a midwife and lactation consultant. With experience in both intra- and extramural perinatal care, and as a practical lecturer in midwifery, she obtained a master's of science in nursing and midwifery at the University of Ghent in 2015. This led to her first steps in public health policy. She started as an advisor on mother-and-child care and then became deputy chief of cabinet of the federal minister of health. In that role, she worked in various fields of healthcare. Since October 2020, she has been advising prime minister Alexander De Croo on public health.

Walraevens's starting point is a complementary and multidisciplinary care model, always putting the interests of the patient first. Her framework of values is very closely aligned with VUB's basic principles. She may be involved in classes on medical ethics, deontology, healthcare and specialist medicine. In addition, she can act as a supervisor or jury member for master's theses, and because of her broad expertise, she can take on an advisory role at VUB. She is assuming the title of Fellow in her own name.

"IN GENERAL, POLICY IS THE BRIDGE BETWEEN SCIENCE AND SOCIETY. FOR THIS REASON, A GOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE VARIOUS DOMAINS IS ESSENTIAL. FINDINGS IN AND BY SOCIETY MUST THEN LEAD TO PRIORITY RESEARCH THEMES. FOR THIS, GOOD CONTACT BETWEEN ACADEMIA AND SOCIETY IS INDISPENSABLE."

at VUB. She is assur

ANNICK DERMINE



"THE INTERACTION BETWEEN ACADEMIA AND SOCIETY IS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS AND ENSURE STUDENTS' FUTURE."

DIRECTOR, HUIS VOOR GEZONDHEID

Proxima Ann Roex

Annick Dermine has been the director of Huis voor Gezondheid since 2014, where she is committed to making care accessible. Huis voor Gezondheid is a Brussels-based network organisation that connects, supports and attracts care providers. After training as a general practitioner, Dermine practised with great dedication for 10 years. She then worked for 11 years at ICHO (Interuniversitair Centrum voor Huisartsenopleiding), VUB and KU Leuven, where she was the driving force behind the development of a number of state-of-the-art medical assessment instruments, including a large-scale assessment (objective structured clinical examination) and a European version of the United States Medical Licensing Examination. Dermine has developed a broad healthcare network that can be of value to VUB's Faculty of Medicine & Pharmacy and others.

Dermine can share her expertise on interprofessional (IP) collaboration for more accessible care with students. Among other things, she could organise a training session on how the UMC can set up an in-service training module focusing on IP collaboration for more accessible care, and play an advisory role in designing IP care modules. Because of her broad network and expertise, she can also play a role in filling internships and finding jobs in Brussels healthcare settings.

ENGINEERING VUB FELLOWS

WALTER DECHATEAU

"WITH ACADEMIA MEETS SOCIETY, A NETWORK IS CREATED BETWEEN DIFFERENT SOCIAL ACTORS."

EMEA SEEDS ENGINEERING LEAD, BAYER CROP SCIENCE

Proximus Gert Desmet

Walter Dechateau joined Monsanto in 1990 as a start-up engineer, and held both technical and management positions. Until 2015, as plant manager, he was responsible for the Antwerp site with 750 to 950 employees. After Bayer's acquisition of Monsanto in 2018, he became responsible for the preparation and spending of capital investments for Bayer Crop Science's seed processing plants in EMEA (Europe, Middle East, Africa).

Dechateau's broad expertise allows him to offer guest seminars on both the technical and managerial sides of running a chemical company and provide insights in developments in the agrochemical and seeds industry. His career path is also an inspiring example for our students. He is therefore an ideal speaker at student events aimed at providing a glimpse into the career possibilities of the profession.

VICEPRESIDENT INNOVATION & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, TELENET

Proximus Stefaan Caenepeel

Piet Spiessens is an alumnus of VUB and vicepresident innovation & business development at Telenet. He received his doctorate from VUB's Al Lab in 1993. He then started in the strategy team at Belgacom and moved to Telenet in 1996 where he played an important role in the development of the first commercial broadband internet network. In that capacity he co-founded and is still vice chairman of the Internet Service Providers Association and chairman of DNS Belgium, the organisation responsible for all Belgian internet domain names. At Telenet he's currently responsible for the development of the mobile network of the future (5G).

Spiessens can contribute by giving lectures or seminars where themes such as 5G, IoT and AI are placed in a broader perspective. He has a broad, future-oriented vision of high-tech developments, with expertise that can also contribute to specialised courses in the master's programmes in (applied) computer science and to promoting the new mathematics and data science programme in the new WIDS department. In addition, he has an extensive network that could help with internships.

"THE VUB SLOGAN 'SCIENTIA VINCERE TENEBRAS' HAS ALWAYS STUCK IN MY MIND AS THE REASON WHY SCIENCE IS SO IMPORTANT. ESPECIALLY NOW THAT WE ARE FACING MANY NEW CHALLENGES AS A SOCIETY, THIS SLOGAN PERFECTLY ILLUSTRATES HOW THE ACADEMIC WORLD CAN HELP US FACE THESE SOCIETAL

and an Thoma

CHALLENGES."

PIET SPIESSENS

KATELIJNE BOON

"VUB IS AN OPEN HOUSE WHERE KNOWLEDGE IS TRANSFERRED WITH A CRITICAL AND FREE SPIRIT, TOLERANT AND OPEN, COMMITTED AND HUMAN.TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF AN INCREASINGLY COMPLEX WORLD, IT IS VITAL TO BUILD BRIDGES BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY AND SOCIETY."

BROADCASTER, VRT KLARA & CANVAS

Proximus Hugo Thienpont

Katelijne Boon is a broadcaster at VRT Klara and Canvas. After studying Germanic languages at KU Leuven, she specialised in computer linguistics, and in 1988 she joined UFSIA in Antwerp as an academic researcher, developing software for university education.

In future, VUB will focus even more on the importance of STEM and STEAM topics. In that context, Boon can play a role given her network in the arts, culture and science. Her radio programme De Liefhebber gives her a special voice in the cultural sector. She regularly hosts guests from the world of science and, through their music choices, seeks affinities between science and art.

MOVEMENT AND REHABILITATIONVUB FELLOWS

"SCIENCE OFFERS CONFIDENCE AND CALM TO A SOCIETY THAT'S CONSTANTLY CHANGING."



Proximus Paul Wylleman

Maurits Hendriks is an internationally acclaimed hockey coach from the Netherlands, where he is now responsible for the development of Olympic and Paralympic high-performance sport.

In 2021, the Netherlands reached 7th position in the Olympic medal ranking (5th in the Paralympic ranking) in Tokyo, making it the highest ranked European country. Today, he is Games & Performance director of TeamNL of the Netherlands Olympic Committee (NOC*NSF). He is nationally and internationally known for his expertise in top-level sport and innovative approach, in both management and scientific terms. With his experience in organising and leading in a high-level sports environment, he also advises top companies on leadership.

Hendriks's expertise can contribute to the development, management and leadership of an organisation and team members in a performance context. VUB will be enriched through his vision on leading, coaching, development, innovation, crisis management, cooperation and managing differences in culture and expertise.

MAURITS HENDRIKS

VUB FELLOWS



"IN THE PAST 18 MONTHS, THE WORLD HAS LEARNED THAT EDUCATION IS KEY TO SOLVING ANY SOCIETAL PROBLEM. EVERY DAY, VUB EXHIBITS THE GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT AND BOLD POSITIVISM THAT WILL DRIVE OUR FUTURE. I'M DELIGHTED TO ACTIVELY SUPPORT VUB IN THIS ENDEAVOUR, AS A VUB FELLOW."

MANAGING DIRECTOR, COMPOSITE SUPPORT & SOLUTIONS INCORPORATE

Proximus Romain Meeusen

Clement Hiel is a VUB alumnus and a world-renowned expert in advanced materials. After graduation from VUB, he worked for NASA, developing hardware and scientific instruments for orbital, deep-space and manned spaceflight. Subsequently, he founded companies that developed engineering innovations for NASA, Boeing, the US Air Force and clean energy systems worldwide. He is currently managing director of CSSI. He has received many prestigious innovation awards, including the 2016 Tibbetts Award for Innovation from US President Barack Obama and the 2021 George Lubin Award from the Society for Advanced Materials and Process Engineers.

Hiel continues his engagement with VUB and has a natural ability to impart his passion for learning and for science and technology to young people. He has played an important role in the context of STE(A)M initiatives and is eager to share his expertise and his extensive US network with VUB students and researchers.

"INSIGHT COMES ABOUT THROUGH DIALOGUE. THINKERS WHO RETREAT INTO AN IVORY TOWER DISTANCE THEMSELVES FROM THEIR PRIMARY OBJECT OF RESEARCH: THE WORLD AND LIFE ITSELE THIS APPLIES TO ALL FIELDS OF RESEARCH. ACADEMIA IS IMPOVERISHED WITHOUT LINKS TO SOCIETY. AND SOCIETY IS IMPOVERISHED WITHOUT IT. THE ENGINE OF PROGRESS, BEHIND ANY SOLUTION TO SOCIAL, POLITICAL, PHILOSOPHICAL OR MEDICAL PROBLEMS, IS CRITICAL SELF-DOUBT AND OPEN DIALOGUE."

DIRECTOR, PHILOSOPHY BY RESEARCH PROGRAMME, SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF BUCKINGHAM

Proxima Caroline Pauwels

Alicja Gescinska is a Polish-Belgian philosopher, writer and poet. She studied moral science at Ghent University, after which she carried out research at the University of Warsaw. She did her PhD in Ghent on freedom and personhood in the thinking of Max Scheler and Karol Wojtyła. She worked at Princeton University and Amherst College, and is now the director of the Philosophy by Research programme at the University of Buckingham.

Gescinska is an important voice in contemporary social and philosophical debate. Her publications testify to a great humanistic engagement and, especially, to a great belief in the value of free thinking and free speech. In this way, she represents and personifies the intellectual attitude that VUB wants to instil in its students. Under her Fellowship, Gescinska can act as a guest speaker and lecturer, and as a member of the PACT initiative.

ALICJA GESCINSKA

KRISTOF PITTEURS

"BRUZZ WANTS TO CONTRIBUTE TO A BETTER AND LIVEABLE BRUSSELS, VUB WANTS TO CONTRIBUTE TO A BETTER SOCIETY. WITHOUT THAT MISSION. WITHOUT BEING EMBEDDED IN THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH WE WORK, ALL WE DO WOULD BE A TERRIBLE WASTE OF TIME AND TALENT. BRUZZ ENCOURAGES ITS JOURNALISTS TO GO OUT INTO THE NEIGHBOURHOODS. AND I AM PLEASED TO SEE THAT VUB IS GOING INTO TOWN MORE AND MORE OFTEN. NEITHER SCIENCE NOR JOURNALISM CAN AFFORD TO WORK ABOVE PEOPLE'S HEADS."



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, BRUZZ

Proximus Jan Danckaert

Kristof Pitteurs graduated in communication studies at VUB in 1991. He joined Woestijnvis in 1997 and for years was a driving force behind numerous programmes such as *De Laatste Show, Man Bijt Hond, De Rechtbank* and *De Ideale Wereld*. He was also a reporter with TV Brussel. Today, he is editor-in-chief of the Brussels city news organisation Bruzz.

Pitteurs has great expertise in his field and his appointment as Fellow will strengthen the existing cooperation. He will give guest lectures to communications students, among others, and through him there are very interesting internship opportunities. "THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES OF AN ENTREPRENEUR STIMULATE RESEARCHERS TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO TODAY'S CHALLENGES."



Proxima Karin Vanderkerken

Stefaan Van der Borght completed his medical studies at VUB in 1985 and obtained a master's in public health in developing countries at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He obtained a doctorate in medical sciences from the University of Amsterdam. Van der Borght has broad expertise in medical and health systems and is globally recognised as an HIV expert.

After a career with Doctors Without Borders, he worked at Heineken for 16 years, the last five of them as director of health and safety. He then worked as a scientific officer at the European Commission in the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation before becoming head of global health at the mining company Anglo-American in London. Since 2018, he has been on the board of the Institute for Tropical Medicine in Antwerp. His role there can help VUB in various research and strategic collaborations. He can also contribute to the new BRIAS light initiative, where the link between nutrition and his experience as a health expert can lead to interesting insights.

STEFAAN VAN DER BORGHT



SOLVAY VUB FELLOWS

2019

Guido Herman Emmy Oost Saïda Sakali Gilles Samyn Petra Van Zand 2020

Jo Coutuer Johan Haelterman Elke Jorens Angela Mills-Wade Aline Muylaert 2021

Jerry Aerts Karin Baetens David Dehenauw Pieter De Leenheer Isabelle Langlois-Loris

LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY

VUB FELLOWS

2019

Lola Boeykens Karl Dhont Vincent Mannaert Diana Wallis Andreas Ziegler

<mark>202</mark>0

Florence Delogne Jef Gorrebeeck Surya Prasad Subedi Rudy Van De Voorde Lieve Verboven 2021

Mireille Delange Ludo Vermeulen Lieven Wostyn

SCIENCE VUB FELLOWS

2019 Isabelle Van der Haegen 2020 Guido Gryseels Michèle Oleo 2021 Inge Arents Jonathan Berte Tamara Van Dam

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

2019

Eva Smets 2020

Bambi Ceuppens Sandrien Mampaey Henk van der Velde 2021

Ruud Hendrickx Els Keytsman Ans Persoons

PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL

SCIENCES VUB FELLOWS

2019 Erhan Demirci 2020 Katrien Verhegge Jurgen Wayenberg 2021 Johan leven

UMC VUB FELLOWS

2019 Bernward Garthoff Annemie Maes 2020 Patrick Waterbley 2021 Annick Dermine Frank Vandenbroucke Joris Van Loco Mieke Walravens

ENGINEERING VUB FELLOWS

2019 Philippe Block Véronique Wendrix 2020

Piet Spiessens

Werner De Wolf Daphne Deckers Marc Sarens Late Marco Van Uffelen 2021 Katelijne Boon Walter Dechateau

MOVEMENT AND REHABILITATION

VUB FELLOWS

2019 Bob Verbeeck 2020 Anne D'ieteren 2021 Maurits Hendriks

VUB FELLOWS

2019

Christophe Busch Dalilla Hermans Pascale Van Damme Paul Van Gysegem 2020

Hassan Al Hilou Sammy Mahdi Felix Van De Maele Fatima Zibouh

2021

Alicja Gescinska Clement Hiel Kristof Pitteurs Stefaan Van der Borght

HONORARY SOLVAY VUB FELLOWS

Luc Bontemps Lars Bové Ann Caluwaerts André Ceron Willem Debeuckelaere Tamara De Bruecker Karsten De Clerck Lieven Deketele An De Pauw **Thierry Geerts** Daniëlle Jacobs Anouk Lagae Luc Lallemand Isabelle Meunier **Chantal Pattyn** Ann Peuteman Nico Reeskens **Micheline Schevs** Michel Van den Broeck Joséphine Rebecca Vanden Broucke **Olivier Vanden Eynde** Ludo Vandervelden Wim van Hees Frank Van Massenhove **Dominique Vercraeye** Xavier Verhaeghe Vincent Verouden

HONORARY LAW AND

CRIMINOLOGY VUB FELLOWS

Michèle Coninsx Michel De Gols Erik Derycke Patrick Hofströssler Bruno Luyten Véronique Pertry Ricardo Ramirez-Hernández Chris Reniers Gunther Sleeuwagen Lutgarde Sommerijns Anne Vanderstappen Brigitte Vermeersch Stefan Yee Paul Nemitz Nic Van der Marliere

HONORARY SCIENCE VUB

FELLOWS

Jan Bogaerts Marc Ceusters Françoise Chombar Ingrid Daubechies Bart Degeest Aglaée Degros Frank De Winne James Gitundu Kairo Patrick Roggemans Marc Schepers Jean-Marie Solvay Els Torreele Frank Vandendriessche Guy Van Lommen

HONORARY ARTS AND

HUMANITIES VUB FELLOWS

Kader Abdolah Hans Alma Stefan Blommaert Frans Boenders Dirk Brossé Kristine De Mulder Sophie De Schaepdrijver Paul Dujardin Ilke Froven **Yves Goldstein** Faroek Özgünes Hendrik Pinxten Claire Tillekaerts Nic Van der Marliere Kathleen Van Langendonck Christina Von Wackerbarth

HONORARY PSYCHOLOGY AND

EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES VUB

FELLOWS

Chantal Cooreman Patrick Coulier Johan de Muynck Sven Gatz Piet Goddaer Jacky Goris Fons Leroy Goedele Liekens Ingrid Lieten Koen Maertens Godelieve Van den Brande Patrick Van Kerckhove

HONORARY UMC VUB FELLOWS

Bernward Garthoff Luc Adriaenssens **Yolande Avontroodt** Lutgarde Buydens Paul Callewaert Margot Cloet Maggie De Block Jo De Cock Peter Degadt **Yves Desmet Dirk Dewolf Pim Drinkenbura** Pedro Facon Martine Huybrechts Patricia Lanssiers **Raf Mertens Karine Moykens** Leo Neels Martin Paul Frank Robben

Johan Uvin Caroline Verlinde Ilse Weeghmans

HONORARY ENGINEERING

VUB FELLOWS

Line Alderweireldt **Dirk Boogmans** Marco Croon Marc De Groote **Rene De Keyzer** Marc Demarche Kathleen Dupont Peter Grognard Muzaffer Güler Philip Hermans Pol Hoorelbeke Anneke Hunninck **Christ'l Joris** Telidja Klaï Ali Mohammadi Lieve Paternoster Michael Peeters **Yves Pianet** Fauzaya Talhaoui Martine Tempels **Sven Vandeputte** Ingrid Van de Voorde Jan Vliegen Jan Watté **Chris Wuytens**

HONORARY MOVEMENT AND

REHABILITATION VUB FELLOWS

Costantino Balestra Alain De Greef Eddy De Smedt Veronique Feipel Marc Frederix Yves Geysels Harriëtte Jager-Wittenaar Willy Smeets David Steegen Sonia Van Den Broeck

HONORARY VUB FELLOWS

Els Ampe Bilal Benyaich Bob Elsen Farida Lamkanfi Pamela Peeters Ajit Shetty Guy Vanhengel Koenraad van Loo Raymonda Verdyck Lieve Wierinck Claire Tillekaerts

CONTACT

At the university level, the general management and common activities of the Fellowship programme are coordinated by the Fellowship Office.

Vrije Universiteit Brussel Pleinlaan 2 – 1050 Brussel +32 (0)2 614 88 32 fellows@vub.be www.vub.be/fellowship/

VUB FELLOWSHIP OFFICE



Isabelle Marneffe University Fellowship manager isabelle.marneffe@vub.be +32 (0)2 614 88 30



Hanan Belaraj Fellowship coordinator hanan.belaraj@vub.be +32 (0)2 614 88 32





MIX Paper from

FSC

ר 2, 1050 Brussel