

## **DRAFT**

### **Job profile for the position of Rector Magnificus of the University of Amsterdam and member of the Executive Board of the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences**

**4 September 2015**

The Supervisory Boards of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) and the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (AUAS) are seeking to appoint a new Rector Magnificus for the University of Amsterdam (who will also serve as a member of the AUAS Executive Board) in close collaboration with the representative advisory bodies. The Executive Board comprises four members and is responsible for administering both institutions.

The Executive Board holds final responsibility for:

- administering the University of Amsterdam and the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences.
- formulating and implementing the organisations' strategy and policy;
- the quality of the education, research and services provided by the organisations, the operational management and the ensuing financial results;
- maintaining relationships in a constructive manner with the representative advisory bodies, the academic rank and file, the international scientific field, social organisations and the business community, the Amsterdam City Authorities and national policy makers.

The Executive Board reports to the Supervisory Boards.

The areas of responsibility of the Rector Magnificus are: education, research and internationalisation.

#### **Requirements**

The UvA and AUAS are seeking an outstanding academic, a democratic administrator and a consummate team player who values the importance of research and education and promotes the interests of students and lecturers. The ideal candidate will work closely with the representative advisory bodies, will help shape relationships with the business community and social organisations from an academic perspective and further raise the institutions' leading scientific profile in the Netherlands and abroad. The Rector Magnificus will serve in various external positions in order to promote scientific development.

#### **Competences**

##### *Academic figurehead*

The new Rector Magnificus is an internationally respected scholar or scientist and the University's academic figurehead. He/she works in close collaboration with the deans to achieve the University's ambitions in the area of education and research, creates the framework conditions for implementing its chosen course and monitors the implementation of all decisions. He/she encourages the faculties to continually improve the quality of their education and research, and strives to ensure that our successes are visible and transparent to broader society. He/she safeguards quality by supervising professorial appointments, serves as chair of the Doctorate Board and helps develop a clear institutional profile at both national and international level. He/she represents the institution in relevant networks such as LERU and U21.

##### *Internationally oriented*

The Rector Magnificus is aware of developments in the Netherlands and abroad that are of significance to academic research and education. He/she has knowledge of the main aspects of relevant legislation and the various academic education and research systems in Western Europe, the United States and the BRIC nations. From an academic perspective, the Rector Magnificus also maintains relationships with the international business community and social organisations and has the

ability to bridge the gap between the academic community and broader society. In association with the rectors, deans and school directors, the Rector Magnificus ensures that the leading position of our education and research is safeguarded both nationally and internationally.

#### *Decentralised leadership*

The Rector Magnificus displays democratic leadership and acknowledges and recognises the advantages of a decentralised organisational structure. He/she has extensive experience in managing complex improvement and other education and research processes, and is capable of setting the institution's agenda in this area. He/she prioritises students, education and research and adheres to the principle that authority follows substance. He/she creates the preconditions for progressive consultations with the Student Council, whereby members are encouraged to actively contribute to the administration and development of the University. He/she subscribes to the principle of shared responsibility, whereby the Executive Board establishes the frameworks in collaboration with the deans and school directors who are responsible for supervising actual implementation.

#### **Remit**

The forthcoming Executive Board term will focus on the following:

- Strengthening and innovating education and research policies in order to solidify the UvA's position as a leading research university of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In concrete terms, this involves the development of an innovative education policy that prioritises students and educational quality while supporting further innovation; it will also involve active policies aimed at strengthening our research groups and infrastructure through the active promotion of international and interdisciplinary cooperation and other measures.
- Further democratisation; in concrete terms, this will involve further elaboration of the 10-point plan agreed upon by the UvA's representative advisory bodies and academic community in the spring of 2015. The development of new, more decentralised management models is a key priority in this regard.
- The further consolidation of the UvA's leading international position is another key area of responsibility during this term.
- Evaluating the collaboration between the UvA and the AUAS and defining a new strategy on the basis of this evaluation, while developing a strategy for other alliances such as our collaboration with VU University Amsterdam. The development of this strategy will inevitably require close collaboration with the various internal and external interest groups - the representative advisory bodies, the deans and school directors and the Amsterdam Economic Board.

The forthcoming Executive Board term will be deemed successful if the new strategy is implemented and the democratisation and internationalisation targets are demonstrably attained with sufficient internal and external support and enthusiasm. The necessary changes should be implemented in a manner that allows for differentiation in terms of both format and pace. The Strategic Plans 'Boundless Curiosity' and 'Inquisitive Professionals' serve as guidance for the forthcoming Executive Board term.