**Stan Gielen new chair NWO with effect from January 2017**

Professor Stan Gielen will become chair of the new NWO with effect from 1 January 2017. Stan Gielen is Professor of Biophysics and Dean of the Faculty of Science at Radboud University in Nijmegen. He is an internationally renowned researcher with a track record of multidisciplinary collaboration, from biology and computer science to cognitive sciences. He has supervised more than sixty PhD students, has wide-ranging management experience, and during his time as dean he has proven himself to be a person who actively seeks to make connections. For example, as co-founder of a spin-off company, Stan Gielen has demonstrated his ability to connect research with society.

Stan is an active member within the physics community. He was chair of the board of Nikhef, and member of the board of HFML. He was involved in the realisation of the Sector Plan Physics and Chemistry, and FOM's strategic exploration on the subject of health, brain and cognition. FOM knows Stan Gielen to be a committed scientist who actively builds bridges between a variety of fields.

The new chair has been announced well before the date of his appointment, which will allow him to be actively involved in the NWO transition from 1 September 2016 onward.

**Other news regarding the transition**

*Taskforce Continuity*

On 11 May, the NWO Transition steering group discussed the possible risks and bottlenecks regarding the transition. They decided to appoint a Taskforce Continuity, which is to safeguard the continuity of the operational affairs of NWO during the process of transition.

*Implementation phase and placement procedure extended into first quarter of 2017*

The steering group decided to take some more time for the implementation phase and especially for the placement procedure for the employees. The formal placement procedure will therefore start at the end of 2016 and continue into the first quarter of 2017. However, the focus now is on approval of the detailed design in October 2016.

*Works councils and employee organisations*

The work councils are preparing an advice on the integral main design of the new organisation (published in March 2016).

**More information**

More information about the NWO Transition can be found on the [FOM website](https://www.fom.nl).
*** SECONDMENT BONUSES UPDATED ***

Per 1 June 2016 the secondment bonuses have been recalculated. You may find the current amounts on the [FOM website in the Implementation Regulations, IR-8](#).

*** EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CENTRAAL BEHEER ***

For many years now, FOM has had collective agreements with Centraal Beheer concerning insurances, such as car insurance, travel insurance etc. Until recently the agreements on the level of discounts for FOM were settled periodically. Centraal Beheer has recently informed us about an altered direction. A result of this is that agreements on the level of discounts are no longer made per individual employer. The same discount percentages will be applied to every employer with whom Centraal Beheer has made agreements regarding employee benefits. FOM very much deplores this (we had considerable discounts) but unfortunately has no influence on it. Employees that have concluded (an) insurance(s) with Centraal Beheer will soon receive a personal notification regarding the consequences of the changes in discount percentages. It has already been disclosed that the discount on car insurance has been reduced to ten percent (per rollover date of your own policy).

FOM has informed Centraal Beheer that its altered direction will lead us to approach other parties in order to explore whether there is another party that offers these products under more profitable conditions.

The agreements with OHRA regarding the (health) insurances remain unaltered.

*** CYCLING #nieuwNWO COMPANY TEAM ***

In preparation for the merger of the different employers and parts of NWO, a group of sporty colleagues has started a #nieuwNWO cycling club! In this way we get to know each other better in a sportive way.

Our 'company team' has already reached a total of 22 cyclists. We are training to participate in the 'Dam tot Dam' classic in Amsterdam on 18 September 2016.

This Saturday 25 June, we will have our 3rd training ride. As not all of our conditions are at the same level yet, two routes have been planned by Huib Bakker (Director AMOLF) this time; one of 50km and the other of 78 km long. Part of the routes will be jointly covered (after all, the intention is to get to know each other).

We will gather this 25 June at 10.00 hrs at 'Het Wapen van Munster'Grote Dam 3, 1483 BK De Rijp. If you want to participate, please send an email asap to wielrennen@fom.nl
The 4th training ride is scheduled on Saturday 10 September (exact location details will follow).

The previous training rides in Utrecht and Leiden were a success in any case!!
New COR members
By-elections were called in Delft and Rotterdam at the end of May. We are happy to announce that Mathia Arens, FOM PhD student at the TUD, has joined the COR in these busy times. Jeroen van Houwelingen has succeeded Victor Land as COR member and represents the FOM Office employees.

New chair Board of Directors advice
Together with the other work councils that fall under the NWO umbrella, the COR FOM has positively advised on the appointment of Prof. Stan Gielen as chair of the Board of Directors of the new NWO. The COR thinks very positively of the vision formulated by Gielen on the contribution that NWO can offer Dutch research and considers him to be a committed scientist and experienced director. We wish him all the success in performing his new job in the coming years.

Integral Plan NWO advice
In the past two months the COR has extensively consulted with the work councils of NIOZ, CWI, ZonMw and NWO. This has resulted in a number of mutually drawn-up advices on the Integral Plan NWO. The work councils broadly approve of the plan and have offered advice on several subjects such as the further elaboration of the plan. The work councils have further asked to elaborate on the division of powers of the new NWO as quickly as possible and to submit it for advice. The transition office NWO has sent out a message concerning consequences for personnel and, on the work councils' request, an elaborate FAQ has been drafted that can be found on the nieuw.nwo.nl website.

Moreover
Of course the COR has done many more things in the past months. An overview of the most important advices, decisions taken and questions covered can be found on www.fom.nl/cor.

Contact COR
Would you like to know more about the COR and its members?
Please check www.fom.nl/centralworkscouncil
Email: cor@fom.nl