“Our Fellows help us to thrive as an open university, connected to society, industry, and the future. The VUB Fellowship is not just about sharing networks and knowledge, it is also about sharing values.”

Paul De Knop, Rector VUB
 содержащаяся в структурированном формате.
For the fifth year in a row, we are privileged to warmly welcome a new class of Fellows. Jointly we will without any doubt strengthen the ties between Academia and Society.

Four years ago, in 2012, the Vrije Universiteit Brussel initiated its Fellowship program with five Solvay Fellows VUB. The first editions of the Fellowship Ceremony took place on our campuses, but in 2015, we moved to the City Hall of Brussels. I’m delighted that this year’s ceremony will again be held in this wonderful historic venue at the Grand Place. The location in the heart of the capital of Belgium and Europe is completely in line with our aim to open up to society and to the world. This year we’re introducing 30 new Fellows. In total the VUB has now 79 outstanding Fellows and 23 Honorary Fellows, who have accepted to continue their commitment.

The aim of the VUB Fellowship program is to act as a platform where academics and the worlds of society and business meet to discuss joint challenges, exchange experiences, share good practices and learn from one another for the benefit of research, academic education and society in general.

We firmly believe that the VUB Fellowship can, as such, become a main vector to further improve the quality of our education, foster the employability of our graduates, stimulate research and improve our overall capacity for innovation and competitiveness, resulting in better service to our society.

We are proud to have 79 outstanding Fellows VUB and 23 Honorary Fellows that bridge the gap between Academia and Society. Together with them we continue our efforts towards the university of the future, and focus our attention on the realisation of VUB 2020.

Prof. Hugo Thienpont
University Fellowship Coordinator
Fellows VUB - Classes of 2014 and 2015

ARTS AND HUMANITIES FELLOWS
2015
Stefan Blommaert
Frans Boenders
Paul Dujardin
Hendrik Pinxten
Christina von Wackerbarth

2014
Kathleen Dupont
Philip Hermans
Pol Hoorelbeke
Lieve Paternoster
Jan Vliegen

ENGINEERING FELLOWS
2015
Peter Grognard
Martine Tempels
Chris Wuytens

2014
Kathleen Dupont
Philip Hermans
Pol Hoorelbeke
Lieve Paternoster
Jan Vliegen

KURT LEWIN FELLOWS
2015
Ingrid Lieten
Koen Maertens

2014
Sonia Frey

LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY FELLOWS
2015
Vincent Lambrecht
David Van Herreweghe

2014
Michele Coninx
Veronique Pertry

LK FELLOWS
2015
David Steegen
Sonia Van Den Broeck

2014
Marc Frederix
Krista Vandenborre
Luc Van Mol

SCIENCE FELLOWS
2015
Marc Schepers

2014
Bart Degeest
Peter Strickx
Jurgen Tack

SOLVAY FELLOWS
2015
Thierry Geerts
Isabelle Meunier
Wim van Hees

2014
Béatrice Delvaux
Chantal Pattyn
Micheline Scheys
Joséphine Rebecca Vanden Broucke
Dominique Vercaeye

UMC FELLOWS
2015
Yves Desmet
Raf Mertens
Yves Vandenberghe
Caroline Verlinde

2014
Luc Adriaenssens
Dirk Dewolf
Patricia Lanssiers

VUB FELLOWS
2015
Els Ampe
Karel De Gucht
Pamela Peeters
Ajit Baron Shetty
Raymonda Verdyck
HONORARY ENGINEERING FELLOWS
  Line Alderweireldt
  Dirk Boogmans
  René De Keyzer
  Yves Pianet
  Jan Watté

HONORARY KURT LEWIN FELLOWS
  Patrick Coulier
  Telidja Klaï

HONORARY LK FELLOWS
  Eddy Desmedt
  Yves Geysels
  Willy Smeets

HONORARY SCIENCE FELLOWS
  Ingrid Daubechies
  Jean-Marie Solvay
  Guy Van Lommen

HONORARY SOLVAY FELLOWS
  Karsten De Clercq
  Lieven Deketele
  Luc Lallemand
  Michel Van den Broeck
  Olivier Vanden Eynde
  Ludo Vandervelden
  Xavier Verhaeghe

HONORARY UMC FELLOWS
  Yolande Avontroodt
  Maggie De Block
  Jo De Cock

Honorary Fellows VUB
“The most important raw material we Europeans have - and that we should invest in - is our knowledge. At the same time however, we need innovative ideas, fresh insights, and a healthy portion of entrepreneurship. Only this will lead to tangible, real-life applications with commercial potential which will improve the world we live in.”

Eddy Van Gelder, Chairman VUB
Arts and Humanities Fellows VUB

Faculty Fellowship Coordinator:
Martina Temmerman

- Hans Alma
- Kristine De Mulder
- Sophie De Schaepdrijver
- Faroek Özgünes
- Katleen Van Langendonck
Bio:

Hans Alma studied andragology at Leiden University and psychology at Radboud University Nijmegen. Subsequently, she worked as a psychologist of religion at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Utrecht University and Leiden University. Since 2003, Hans Alma is Professor of ‘Psychologie en Zingeving’ (Psychology and meaningfulness) at the University of Humanistic Studies at Utrecht, where she was also rector from 2007 to 2012. A recent book that characterises her research and civic engagement is entitled “What you live for: Studies in humanistic sources of meaning” (Waarvoor je leeft. Studies naar humanistische bronnen van zin).

“As former vice-chancellor of the University of Humanistic Studies, I collaborated with humanist organisations both in Belgium and the Netherlands, committed to meaningful life in a humane society. By building bridges to these organisations, the VUB’s commitment to work for a better society through academic research and education can be strengthened.”
“I hope that my fellowship will enable me to share experience with graduates in the domain of Art management, Cultural diplomacy, negotiation procedures, exhibition curating, networking and interaction with different cultures such as, Russia, China, Brazil, Turkey, India and Indonesia …”

Bio:
Kristine De Mulder was one of the first to get the degree of “licentiaat kunstgeschiedenis en archeologie” (degree in art history and archeology) from the starting VUB in the early 1970’s. She worked as academic assistant at the department of Art Studies & Archaeology of the VUB until 1984. She was also text writer for radio 1. Between 1984 and 1999, she became the head of communication of Axa Belgium. She combined this with the function of assistant commissioner of Europalia. From 2002 onwards, she is director-general of the international arts festival Europalia (25th festival this year).
Bio:

After graduating in History at VUB (with a semester in Florence), Sophie De Schaepdrijver worked in the Netherlands at the universities of Amsterdam, Groningen, and Leiden. She obtained her PhD from the University of Amsterdam in 1990, with a study on foreign elites in the city of Brussels in the 19th century. In 1995, she moved to the USA to work at New York University and Princeton, and ended up at Penn State University in 2000, where she is still appointed. Alongside her lectures and research, she counsels exhibitions (the last big one being in Bruges in 2012) and TV-programs. The latter is connected to the fact that she is one of the experts dealing with the history of the First World War, about which she particularly investigates the social and cultural history. Among her publications is “De Groote Oorlog” (1997, reprint 2013), French translation “La Belgique et la Première Guerre Mondiale” (2004). In 2013, she received the Gold Medal of the Flemish Parliament. She was named Commander in the Order of the Crown in 2014. She received the annual Public History Prize of the Davidsfonds (Belgium) in 2015.

“Historical arguments tend to be used and abused; it is historians’ privilege and duty to enter that conversation. This is a civic task, for which there is a demand from civil society. All the more so as enlightened values – rationality, civil dialogue, choice – remain, sadly, embattled.”
“As a journalist, I have a profound knowledge of the functioning of the media. Media literacy is a skill of ever increasing importance in our society, for all its members but especially for university students and staff. I am willing to put my experience at the disposal of the university community.”

Bio:

Faroek Özgünes (Ankara, 28 November 1963) is a journalist and news host for the Flemish television broadcasting company VTM.

He made his début with the programme Royalty in the 1990ies. Afterwards, he became presenter of the daily news programme. In 2008, he combined this with presenting the information programme Telefacts. Since 2011, he has specialised in crime reporting for the daily news and for the crime investigation programme Telefacts Crime. This programme carries his name since 2013.
Bio:
1997-2002: responsible for performing arts programming at de Singel international arts centre
2002-2007: researcher Theatre Studies, University Antwerp, co-ordinator of the interuniversity Master Theatre Studies;
2007- : Artistic director Kaaitheater

“During my fellowship, I hope to bring together artists and academics to contemplate and take a position on a society that has become increasingly difficult to understand. If nowadays opinions seem to be superseding reflection, one of the core tasks of both an art institution and a university is to slow and deepen a fast moving world. Therefore, the VUB fellowship is an important structural initiative: it encourages and channels opportunities from both sides.”
Engineering Fellows VUB
Faculty Fellowship Coordinator:
Abdellah Touhafi

- Marco Croon
- Christ’l Joris
- Ingrid Van de Voorde
Marco Croon
Proximus: Patrick Guillaume

Bio:
Marco Croon (51) graduated at VUB in 1987 as civil engineer and worked as a consultant for McKinsey. He has over 15 years of experience at the head of international companies, including among others ABB and Diamant Boart. Since 2010, Marco Croon was the CEO of the Belgian company International ACV located in Ruisbroek. He is now the CEO of Vinçotte (with headquarters in Vilvoorde) and an expert in merger and acquisition processes. He is also well known in the industrial world.

“Education is the cornerstone of societal development and growth. The academic education is key for providing the wanted professionals to the business that in turn make our society flourish. An intense cooperation between academia and business people is basic for well-tuned academic programs. As a smaller university, the VUB should make the difference with the quality of the professionals it produces.”
“As anthropologist by training and president of a family business, I am fascinated by the industry, and more specifically, the lighting industry: diverse working environments in rapid transformation. By adding “academia”, the VUB Fellowship offers an inspiring platform to which I hope to be able to contribute actively.”

Bio:

Christ’l Joris (born Antwerp, Belgium, 17 July 1954) is a Belgian businesswoman. She is the President of the Board of ETAP Lighting, President of Agoria Flanders and of Flanders Investment and Trade. Christ’l Joris is a daughter of Norbert Joris, founder of the ETAP group of companies. She started her career in Academia and the non-profit sector in mental healthcare. She also worked for the King Baudouin Foundation on programs for environmental care and economics. In 1994, she joined ETAP Lighting, and in 2005 she became president of Flanders Investment and Trade (FIT). She is also President of Rode Kruis-Vlaanderen.
Ingrid Van de Voorde

Executive Director Bell Labs Belgium

Bio:

Ingrid Van de Voorde received a MSc degree in electrical engineering from the Vrije Universiteit Brussel in 1990. That same year, she joined the Alcatel Corporate Research Center in Antwerp (Belgium). Starting at research on APON systems, she moved to more advanced PON systems and led the first European funded project on SuperPONs. In 2000, she moved to the Network Strategy group of Alcatel where she elaborated with her team on the introduction of Ethernet in Access. In 2003, she moved back to the Research & Innovation Center to lead the research activities related to fixed access. With the team she pushed several innovations towards the business group, the major ones being Ethernet DSLAM, DSL network Analyser, and GPON. In 2008, she joined Bell Labs in the new merged company Alcatel-Lucent, to lead successively the Research Domains Fixed Access and Multimedia Technologies, which comprises next to fixed access, home networking and multi-media technology. Today she is Executive Director of Alcatel-Lucent Bell Labs Belgium.

“Active for more than 25 years in industrial research organisations in the Telecom Industry, my passion lies in driving disruptive innovation that contributes to the world and society. Diversity and multi-disciplinary communities are excellent environments to stimulate innovation. This I always found at the VUB. I am honored with the fellowship and will strive to further foster collaboration between academia and industry. I profoundly believe that our local, academic eco-system is a key differentiator by developing the talent and providing new insights for our industry.”
Kurt Lewin Fellows VUB

Faculty Fellowship Coordinator:
Dominique Verté

- Johan De Muynck
- Godelieve Van den Brande
Johan De Muynck  
Proximus: Dominque Verté

Bio:

40 years old, graduated in 97 at VUB in Agogics (Agogiek); Erasmus at Bordeaux; and DEC Aménagement du territoire and GAS Culture Management. But overall, he was also monitor and leader in several youth organisations. After having done several freelance jobs; he became advisor-manager of the subventions for social policy at CPAs (OCMW) and manager of the activation program. Afterwards, he did the interim management of a hospital group (2500 beds); was merger of social housing companies and chairman of several organisations. Since 2009, he is CEO at Zorgbedrijf Antwerpen and chairman of Manus and Sense. In his rare free time: he loves cycling and travelling. He is a true manager, but more an entrepreneur in social organisations, combining social services in a business environment.

“As CEO of a public healthcare organisation in elderly and youth care and chairman of two companies in social economy, I want to help the VUB in becoming a platform where academia meets the healthcare stakeholders, the white economy and the social economy. This platform should focus on translating fundamental research into innovative processes and products for society.”
“Youngsters of today are living, communicating and learning in an increasingly open, flat, global and interactive environment. Universities are called to rethink their role in society and support flexible and open education. Educational change requires the engagement from multiple stakeholders on a national and international level, above all from the student and its educator. It is with great honour that I accept to be part of this vision building as a VUB Fellow.”

Bio:

Lieve Van den Brande (born in 1958) graduated as master in educational sciences and master Aggregaat Hoger Secundair Onderwijs (Aggregate Higher Secondary Education) at the VUB. After having been a research assistant at the Faculty of Psychology and Education (VUB) from 1980 to 1988, she completed her PHD in the educational sciences at Université de Liège (B) in 1992 while having started at the EC. Her main research fields are: decision making in complex environments; ICT and education; competences development for educators; development of transversal skills such as entrepreneurship; digital competences; collaboration; creativity and innovation; EU-wide approaches modernising education and training through innovative teaching and learning. She is the author (and editor) of multiple books, chapters of books, journal papers and presented at international conferences and high level policy meetings. She has been visiting lecturer at College of Europe; ULB, Hoger Instituut voor Sociale Readaptatiewetenschappen (Higher Institute of Social Re-adaptation sciences); pedagogical tutor and course developer for the Open University Heerlen, is active member of editorial research journals and boards; and evaluator of multiple research projects and surveys.
Patrick Hofströssler
Gunther Sleeuwagen
Lutgarde Sommerijns
Stefan Yee
Bio:

Mr. Hofströssler (*1967) got his law degree at the VUB (1990, magna cum laude). He received the René Marcq-prize, TPR-award and the Pierard-Prize. Member of the Brussels and Antwerp Bar and former director of the Flemish Bar (Orde van Vlaamse Balies), former president of the study department of this professional association, and a former member of the commission on deontology of the Dutch Bar Association Brussels (Nederlandse Orde van Advocaten te Brussel).

“The VUB, the professors and assistants who have taught me all about the Law, have determined my professional path. I owe them so much. My family had no tradition of pursuing higher education. The VUB made mine possible. I hope that the Fellowship enables me to give something back to the next generation, if only a fraction of what I received. That interaction between the business and educational world aptly illustrates that education is the main key to the professional development of society.”
“The guiding principles of the VUB remain guiding principles for myself, all through my professional career. The quest for independent thinking is a continuous challenge for an individual or an organisation. Fellows should honor and foster this strife. In public life, charged with tasks responding to society challenges, the search for the academic life to be part of society has to be supported and motivated.”

Bio:

Born in 1958, Master International Law VUB; President for the Student “Circle for International Relations” at the VUB; Diplomatic Service (started in 1986), stationed successively in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, New York, United States (United Nations), Nairobi, Tanzania, Genève, Switzerland (WTO), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (Head of Mission), Director Eastern and Southeastern Europe / Central Asia in Brussels, and since April 2015 appointed as Head of Mission in Tokyo, Japan.
Bio:

Lutgarde Sommerijns is registered as a lawyer-member of the New York bar and of the Brussels bar (earlier with Linklaters and Loyens & Loeff). She regularly publishes articles and books on pensions and is often invited as a guest speaker at conferences both in Belgium and abroad. Via active participation in workgroups, she contributes to the development of the pension legislation. She was Secretary General of the Belgian Association of Pension Institutions (2007-2010), Member of the HR Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in Belgium (member since 1994 and Vice-Chair from 1994 to 2006).

She is member of the International Pensions and Employee Benefits Lawyers Association - IPEBLA (since 1997) and lector at the Leergang Pensioenrecht (KU Leuven).

“As a Fellow VUB, I hope to be able to contribute in implementing the “academia meets society” approach. Exchanges between the business world, policy makers and the academic world can, in my opinion, enhance the understanding of the challenges which our ageing society is facing and provide practical solutions in the interest of all stakeholders.”
“I strongly believe that permanent and focussed interaction with alumni and society at large is key for building an even stronger, larger and socially more relevant VUB community. I therefore fully support and endorse the VUB Fellowship initiative and I consider it a privilege to contribute towards its objectives as a Fellow.”

Bio:

Stefan Yee holds Masters degrees in Law and Business Administration from the Universities of Brussels (VUB and ULB Solvay Business School) and graduated as a BAEF Fellow from the University of Chicago (see above). He was Senior Auditor of KPMG (1985-1987), Lawyer in the Corporate Department of Linklaters De Bandt (1988-1991), Assistant Contract Law at the then Faculty of Law of the VUB (1989-1995) and has more than 25 years of experience in audit, corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and private equity with companies (see above). He is a Hoover Foundation Fellow of the Belgian American Educational Foundation. Stefan Yee is married and has 3 children.
LK Fellows
Faculty Fellowship Coordinator: Eric Cattrysse

- Constantino Balestra
- Alain De Greef
Bio:

As part of an Balestra successfully defended, in 1995, his thesis on the physiology of human fatigue. An annexed thesis was on Doppler analysis of venous gas emboli in disabled SCUBA divers. This started his investigations on diving and other environmental physiology issues. Since 2000, Tino has been the Director, Environmental, Occupational and Ageing Physiology Laboratory and a full time professor at the Haute Ecole Paul Henri-Spaak (Brussels). He is also member of the anatomy and morphology research unit of this institution. He lectures on the pathophysiology of diving on several internationally recognized courses and at the Scuola Superiore Sant’ Anna in Pisa. He is Vice President of DAN Europe for research and education and Immediate past President of European Underwater and Baromedical Society (EUBS). Balestra has co-authored Three books, being author or co-author of over 150 scientific publications and contributing sections to several book on diving physiology and field research on divers. He is a member of the Editorial Board of the European Journal of Applied Physiology and a reviewer for eight other journals.

“Being a fellow at the VUB will permit our institutions to collaborate more closely and, of course, develop more translational projects. The aim is to extend our skills, building a closer link between Anatomy, Morphology, Nutrition and Physiology with the help of my Proximus, Prof. S. Provyn. Having having said this, the “Academia meets Society” policy is inferred in the vision that we want to develop, given fact when translational projects are set, they are by definition not only theoretical but also dedicated to practical outcomes, including educational ones.”
“My activities mainly consist in bringing together very different approaches and stakeholders: non-profit, business, entertainment, sports and culture. I am looking forward to stimulate the inquisitiveness of the VUB students and to involve them in my daily challenges. I am very thankful to the VUB for offering me this opportunity and recognition, especially in the year that my son will start his studies at our Alma Mater.”

Bio:

Since 2011, Alain De Greef is Head of Sponsoring and Events at BNP Paribas Fortis. From 2010 till 2011, he was Sponsoring Manager Football at ING. Previously, he had been Operational Director at Suseia Travel & Events from 2008 till 2010 and Responsible marketing & partners at Prosport / Stade Roi Baudouin from 2006 till 2008. From 2003 up to 2008, he was Department Director Sport at Dialogic / Communication and Marketing Agency and from 1999 till 2003, Technical Director at the Flemish Ski and Snowboard Federation. He started his career as Professor of computer science in educational computing graduate at the Institute at Roger Guilbert (1996 - 2003) and as Professor of computer science at Royal Atheneum of Auderghem (1991 - 1999).
Science Fellows VUB

Faculty Fellowship Coordinator:
Freya Blekman

- Jan Bogaerts
- Patrick Roggemans
- Els Torreele
Bio:

Jan Bogaerts earned his degree in mathematics (1986) and his PhD in mathematics (1993) at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB - Belgium). In 1988, he also earned a degree in management at the VUB. From 1986 to 1993, he worked as an assistant in mathematics and statistics at the faculties of Economic, Social and Political Sciences and of Science at VUB.

In 1993, he joined BMS as statistician, and was later promoted Associate Director Statistics. In this position, he worked on the development of several drugs in oncology, including several FDA and EMA submissions. In 2010, he became Head of the Statistics department, in 2012 he was appointed Methodology Vice Director and in 2015 Methodology Director. Statistical interests include: statistical issues around Progression Free Survival, ways to use changes in tumor measurements as predictive markers, and the evaluation of contributions of new markers to existing prognostic risk evaluation.

“I chose to study at the VUB because it carried a message of freedom of thought. In my experience in clinical research, that same message has been a very positive influence in my interactions with scientists from many disciplines, and also with more business oriented people. I believe it is essential for Academia to have an important interaction with Society. Academia needs to show its interest in real world issues, while maintaining its unique role as the driver of science.”
“To bring the Society closer to Academic surroundings is for shure a challenge.”

Bio:

After obtaining his Master’s degree in Bio-engineering Sciences at VUB in 1988, Patrick Roggemans started his career as Project Manager at Belgian brewery Unibra. After diverse management positions at companies such as Tetra Pak and Crown Cork & Seal, he worked as General Manager Market Unit Brewery at Alfa Laval. A couple of years later, he became Managing director and CEO at the same company. During his years at Alfa Laval, he also managed to obtain a degree in Sales & Marketing at Ashridge Business School (2006) and a degree in Strategical Management at the Vlerick Management School (2009). In 2011, he became CEO and co-owner of Gillain & Co, a company specialized in the distribution of hygienic equipment and components in stainless steel for the Food & Pharma Industries.
Els Torreele

Director of the Access to Essential Medicines Initiative program - Open Society Foundations

Bio:

Els Torreele graduated as a bio-engineer and obtained a PhD in applied biological sciences from the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB). As a research and development coordinator at the Flanders Interuniversity Institute for Biotechnology (VIB), she worked on policy issues related to biomedical research agenda-setting, patenting of research findings, and the commercialisation of biotechnology research.

Torreele joined the Médecins Sans Frontières Access to Essential Medicines Campaign in its pioneering years as chair of the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Working Group, a think tank to come up with new ideas to foster needs-driven research and development of treatments for diseases that primarily affect developing countries. A key outcome of this group was the creation in 2003 of the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi), a nonprofit drug development organisation which she joined as a founding team member. At DNDi, Torreele was responsible for several research and development projects from discovery through clinical trials, including capacity strengthening for research in endemic countries, and international advocacy for increased research and development for neglected diseases.

“Academia is critical in defending our Right to Health by challenging dominant paradigms such as the propriety and inevitability of market forces to drive social good. Academia can meet Society by spearheading a rights-based approach to medical innovation that prioritises global health needs and delivers affordable access to treatments for all.”
Solvay Fellows VUB

Faculty Fellowship Coordinator:
Elvira Haezendonck

- Luc Bontemps
- Willem Debeuckelaere
- Anouk Lagae
- Martin Larch
- Nico Reeskens
Luc Bontemps graduated as business engineer at the VUB in 1978, and started his career as a researcher and teaching assistant at VUB, within the current department of Business. After 3 years, he joined, among others, leading companies in the automotive industry such as Pirelli and Recticel Automotive, where he held various senior management positions at both the national and international level. In 1999, he joined FEBIAC to offer his expertise in industry to one of the most important and well-known trade associations in Belgium.

“My vision on management is to focus on constraints and activate continuous improvement. The Academic world needs to stay connected with Society and Industry. Together we can build a better future!”
“To be invited by an institution that has worked under the motto “Scientia vincere tenebras” for so many decades now, is like arriving home in a safe harbour: the one of free research, a power free space. A fragile value as privacy needs support and I do consider “fellowship” as a pillar of the social mission of the Privacy Commission.”

Bio:
Willem Debeuckelaere studied Law at Ghent University (Belgium). He worked as a lawyer between 1977 and 1995 and chief of staff for the Belgian minister of the interior from 1995 to 1998. He was a Trial Court Judge in Ghent, and in 2002, counselor for the Appellate court in Ghent. From 2004 to March 2007, he was Vice President for the Belgian commission on Privacy, and since 2007 he has presided over this commission.
Anouk Lagae

Chief Marketing Officer Duvel Moortgat

Bio:


“When the power of fresh, rigorous and break-through academic thinking meets the practical implementation in the business world at a large scale, the biggest changes in society can happen. As a Fellow, I would like to embrace in as many ways as possible the collaboration, co-creation and mutual cross-pollination with my Alma Mater. As a graduate of the Solvay Business School, it is a real honour for me to be able to give something back. Generosity pays!”
“Contributing to the intellectual development of people and society, irrespective of the extent, is one of the highest, tough often undervalued privileges. Academia meets Society honors me with this privilege.”

Bio:

After finishing post-doc studies at the LSE, Martin Larch, joined the European Commission in June 2000 in the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN). In November 2006, he was appointed Deputy-Head of the Unit in charge of Public finances in the Euro area and the EU. In April 2008, he joined the Bureau of European Policy Advisers as advisor for EU Budget Review, Economic Policy in the Economic and Monetary Union, Country Developments. Martin Larch then became advisor for Fiscal Policy Analysis, EU Budget Review, Prospective Studies to move on as the Head of Unit for coordination of country-specific policy surveillance.
In the development of our academic and economic environment, I consider bridging education with the corporate society as an important and ongoing challenge. Academia meets Society stimulates the role that VUB can play in the canvas of Brussels, Belgium, Europe and the global economic, corporate & academic environment. This fellowship will further stimulate my commitment to support VUB programs.
- Peter Degadt
- Paul Deneve
- Martin Paul
- Johan Uvin
- Ilse Weeghmans
Bio:

Previously, he was legal advisor at the National Secretariat for Catholic Education in 1980 and to the Ministers Gaston Geens and Daniel Coens from 1981 to 1985, later he was Chief of Staff of Daniel Coens from 1986 to 1988. In 1988, he was Deputy Head of the Cabinet of Prime Minister Wilfried Martens and became Inspector General of the National Guarantee fund for school buildings in 1985. He was Chief of Staff to Minister Wivina Demeester in 1992 and later HR Director at the University Hospital Leuven from 1992 to 1996.

He was General Manager at AZ Sint-Lucas in Ghent from 1996 to 2007, the merged hospital which came about during his tenure. In 1998, the adjacent located hospitals AZ Heilige Familie and AZ St. Vincentius merged into AZ Sint-Lucas. In 2004, the nearby located AZ Volkskliniek joined in.

In addition, he serves in numerous boards and agencies that influence policies in healthcare in Flanders and Belgium. He is also a member of the Council General of Riziv and until 2012 he was the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the AZ St. Elisabeth in Zottegem.

Since 1994, Degadt is guest lecturer for the program Management and Policy in health care at the Catholic University of Leuven.

“I am convinced that this fellowship will allow me to reinforce the relations between Academia and the healthcare sector. There is an important interaction between hospitals and university in educating and training doctors and other healthcare providers, and providing our policy-makers scientific knowledge and data.”
“My education at the VUB helped me prepare for a career which brought me to different parts of the world. I believe the Fellowship Program will enable me to reconnect with Belgium and to engage with students, influencers and leaders to help build a better world.”

Bio:

Paul Deneve began his career in 1985 as an internal auditor at ExxonMobil EMEA, before becoming a financial controller at Oriflame International. He then went on to hold several sales and marketing positions within Apple Europe, from 1990 until 1997.

In 1997, Paul Deneve joined the fashion house Courreges as Managing Director and went on to take the helm of Nina Ricci between 2003 and 2005. He was President of Lanvin from 2006 to 2008, where he worked closely with the Artistic Director Alber Elbaz.

In April 2011, Paul Deneve became President and CEO of YSL (Yves Saint Laurent).

In July 2013, Apple Inc announced Paul Deneve will be joining the company as Vice President. Apple Inc specified Deneve will work on “special projects” and report directly to Tim Cook.
Bio:

Graduation from medical school in 1986; then research fellow in cardiovascular medicine at Harvard University and Brigham & Women's hospital in Boston.

• 1990: lecturer in Pharmacology at Heidelberg University.
• 1994: research group leader at Max-Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine in Berlin-Buch.
• 1995: Full Professor of Clinical Pharmacology at the Benjamin Franklin Medical Center of the Freie Universität (FU) Berlin.
• 1997-2008: Director of the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology at the FU.
• 1997 to 2003: Dean of the Medical Faculty of the FU.
• 2004 to 2008: Dean and Vice President of the Executive Board of the Medical Faculty of the Charité Medical Center in Berlin, the joint medical school of the Freie Universität and Humboldt University in Berlin.
• 2008-2011: Dean, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences and Vice President Maastricht Universitair Medisch Centrum.

“Maastricht University and the VUB share many similarities, among which a strong university medical center and the focus on societal challenges. The fellowship should be used to build bridges between disciplines, institutions and borders, and therefore, is of utmost importance for the future role of our academic institutions.”
“Supporting the different processes that allows the sharing of medical data will contribute to improved care. As a result the patient will be treated as a human in its entirety, more so than before. I am proud to pursue this goal with my colleagues and in collaboration with the University as a fellow.”

Bio:

• He is owner of PraktijkCoach since June 2004
• He was Account Manager at Microsystems Belgium (2002 - 2004)
• He was responsible as Account Manager for several federal Belgian authorities and the authorities of the Flemish government.
• Account Manager at UTIMACO. He was responsible as Account Manager for the European Commision and the European Council.
• Sales Manager Healthcare and Pharma at RealSoftware (1999 - 2001)
• Account Manager at Shared Medical Systems (now Siemens HIS) (1998 - 1999)
• Representative university hospitals at Glaxo Wellcome
Ilse Weeghmans
Director Vlaams Patiëntenplatform vzw

Bio:
Ilse Weeghmans is director of the Flemish Patients Platform since August 2002. She graduated in 1999 at the Leuven University College as Bachelor of Social Work. In 2002, she obtained a Master in Political Science, Public Management at the KULeuven and followed an Erasmus exchange programme in 2001, at Leiden, the Netherlands. She also obtained a postgraduate, consultation process leadership and organizational development and followed a coaching program at the Center for self-management of the KHL.

“Universities bear the task to connect their social responsibility and their scientific expertise, contributing to achieve quality care in which the patient is an active partner. The Fellowship is a way to connect the scientific world with the wider society.”
Koenraad Van Loo
Koenraad Van Loo

Bio:

Koenraad Van Loo served as the Head of the Cabinet of Belgium from May 2003 to November 2006. He joined the Office of the Belgian Minister of Finance as an Expert in September 1999 and also is an Advisor to the Cabinet since November 2000. He holds the position of Chairman of Fedimmo. He has been a Director of Dexia Crédit Local Société Anonyme since May 10, 2012. Furthermore, he also serves as a Director of Société Belge d’Investissement International, Fonds de réduction du coût global de l’énergie, Belgian Corporation for International Investment, Capricorn Health Tech Fund, Bel to mundial ASBL, Ginkgo Fund SICAR, Zephyr FIN, Zilver Avenue Participatiemaatschappij NV, Certi-Fed, SA and SN Airholding. He has been a Non Executive Director at Dexia SA since 2008. Mr. Van Loo was also the Deputy Advisor to the Conseil Central de l’Économie.

“For me VUB stands for creativity, liberty of thinking and respectful freedom of expression. At VUB, the leaders of tomorrow are formed, it is the cradle for new ideas that help shape the future growth and development of our society. I hope I can help stimulate this process.”
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