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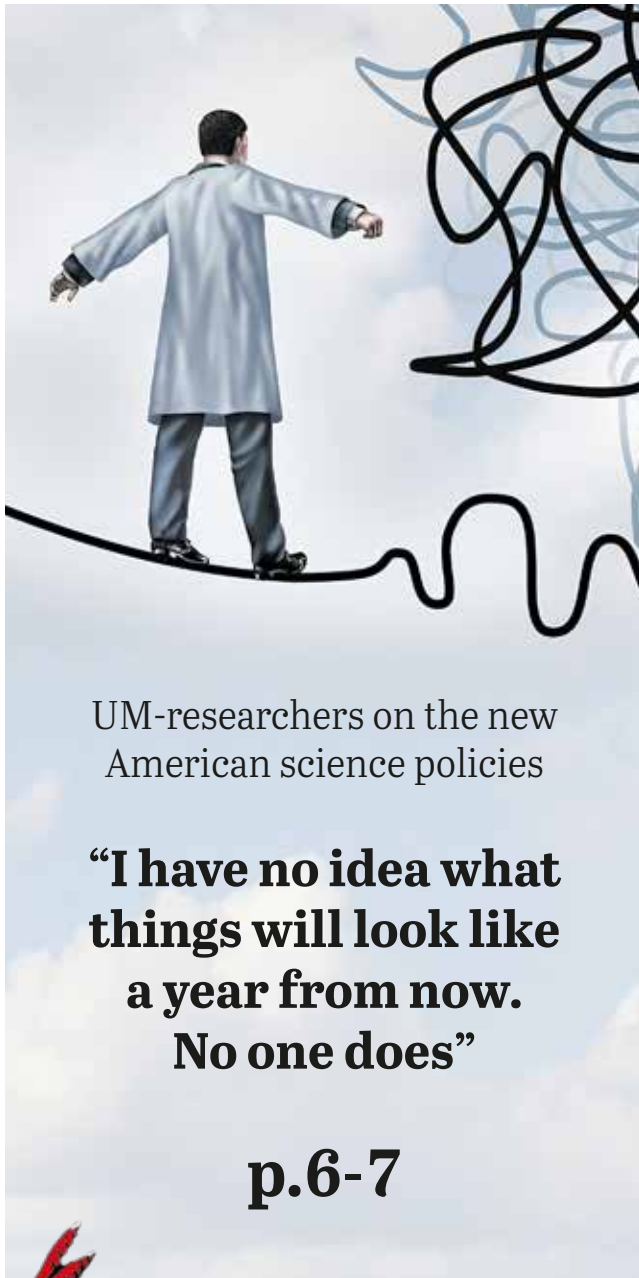
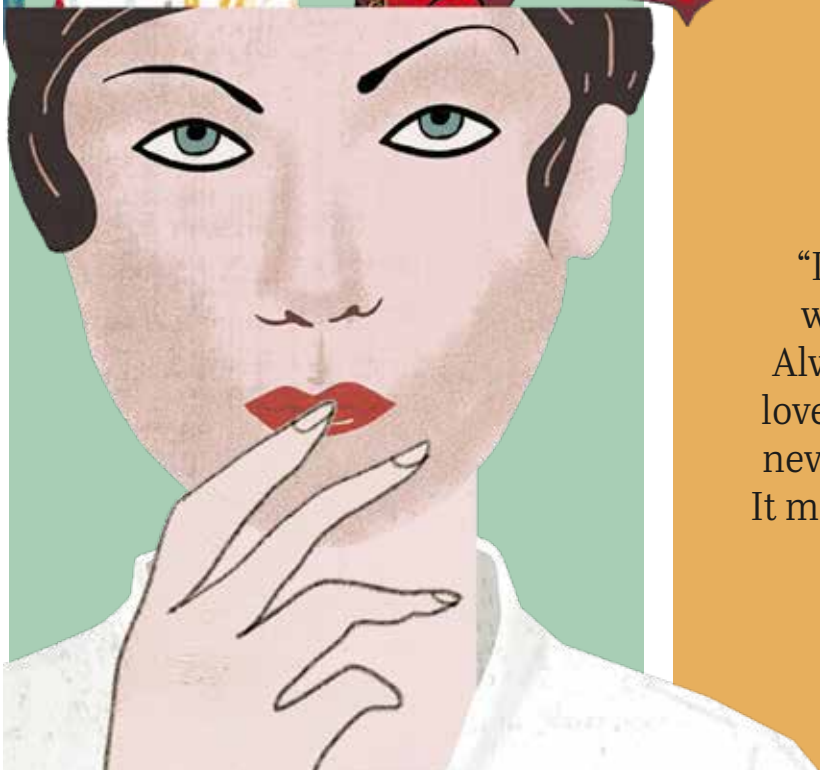
INDEPENDENT WEEKLY MAASTRICHT UNIVERSITY

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Integrity investigation FHML professor finally finished

The Maastricht epidemiologist should have “informed the university more fully” about his sidelines, but UM is also taking responsibility

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UM-researchers on the new American science policies

“I have no idea what things will look like a year from now. No one does”

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Is there an alternative for Microsoft?

“We can’t just stop using it overnight”

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DIRECTOR FACILITY SERVICES:

“If I didn’t have this job, I would have a large farm. Always outdoors, no stress - lovely. My job isn’t easy; I can never fully switch off from it. It makes you long for a simple, nature-filled life”

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Sometimes we have to sit on our hands

No member of the *Observant* editorial team would ever put themselves forward for the University Council or Employees' Council, let alone the Local Consultative Body. A journalist's job is to hold those in power accountable, and you can't do that if you're part of the system. For the same reason, it's unwise to be close friends with a university administrator. The risk of losing impartiality is simply too great – what if you need to write something critical about them? This is exactly why we teach our students never to interview their friends. A journalist asks tough questions that may not be well received from a friend.

When we attend meetings of the University Council or Local Consultative Body – as we regularly do – we're there as observers, not participants. We listen and take notes. It's not our place to join the discussion or ask questions. This isn't always easy; sometimes we have to grit our teeth, especially when council members fail to ask the right questions or press for proper answers. At times, it takes all our willpower not to jump into the conversation. This happens when council members bring up issues *Observant* has already investigated and reported on – something that seems to have escaped their notice. One time during a Law Faculty Council meeting, members wondered aloud why the university library in the city centre couldn't stay open late during exam weeks. We'd already covered the answer: local residents had objected due to noise and disruption at night. In this case, our reporter briefly set aside professional detachment and fired off a quick email to the director, who was then able to clarify the situation on the spot.

Or take that time when the Faculty Council of Science and Engineering wanted to know the status of the university's merger with the hospital. No one in the room had any idea. But just a few weeks earlier, in December 2024, we had published an in-depth article on the topic: we'd interviewed seventy employees from both sides of the river, asking what they thought of the upcoming merger, and detailed its progress (much was still uncertain, but a go/no-go decision was expected by summer 2025). Evidently, the article had passed them by. This isn't a plea for us to have a say in these meetings – far from it. It's on us to deal with this and find ways to reach more employees and students so that *Observant* can keep them informed. And sometimes, we just have to sit on our hands, no matter how much we want to speak up. So be it.

Riki Janssen

Every week, the editor-in-chief writes about what has been happening at the *Observant* office



Photo: Ellen Oosterhof

"This tree became 'our' tree during INKOM"



Ties Goris, a recent University College Maastricht graduate and now a full-time board member of the student organisation AIESEC Maastricht, shares his favourite spot in Maastricht: a tree in Monseigneur Nolenspark.

"I started studying here in 2021, when some Covid restrictions were still in place. I often met up outside with the friends I'd made during INKOM – people I'm still close to today. This tree in Monseigneur Nolenspark quickly became 'our' tree. When

the weather's nice, we like to meet up here to hang out, toss a ball around or play football. We come back every summer. "I settled into life in Maastricht faster than I'd expected. I thought I'd be going back to my parents in Hilversum more often, but before long, I was staying here at weekends to spend time with my friends. Maastricht is such an easy city to get to know, as everything's close by.

"Now that some of us have graduated, a few friends have moved away, which feels strange. We still see each other – we recently went on a weekend trip to Budapest together – but our Maastricht era is behind us. Because of that, we don't meet up by the tree as often, and I don't really go and sit there on my

own. But I often walk past it on breaks; it's close to both UCM and the Student Services Centre, where I now work with the rest of the AIESEC board. It's still a special spot for me.

"I'll be moving soon too, after the summer – probably to Rotterdam for my master's. I really enjoy living in a place I know so well, where I run into familiar faces in the supermarket, but at the same time, I'm looking forward to the energy of a bigger city. Somewhere a bit livelier, where the shops don't close at 6 PM on Sundays. I do miss that sometimes."

Cleo Freriks

In this weekly series, *Observant* asks students or staff about their favourite spot in Maastricht

Number of residents moved temporarily Lift in Guesthouse still a problem: Out of service for another two weeks

Last year, it was out of service for four weeks, now it's out for another two: the lift in the eleven-storey ARCH student flat, part of the UM Guesthouse on the Annadal Campus. To the frustration of many residents who sometimes have to walk dozens of stairs just to go about their daily activities.

Going to lectures, grocery shopping, or 'just' popping out for some fresh air – without a lift, it's "very exhausting" and "you have to plan your whole day around it", students complained to *Observant* last March. They threatened to leave the building after lift supplier Otis delayed repairs to the broken lift numerous times. It took four weeks and pressure from both students and Xior, which owns the building, before Otis resolved the issue. However, it appears the lift is still a cause for concern. A new problem arose at the end of February. Repairs weren't carried out until last Wednesday. Why did it take so long? "As was the case last year, Otis blames the delivery time of new parts," said Maurice Evers, head of Maastricht Housing, which the Guesthouse falls under. "We hope this won't be an annually recurring problem. According to the owner, there's nothing wrong with the lift. This is just a case of bad luck."

Students who felt overly inconvenienced were offered temporary accommodation in building C, a little further along on campus. "We had space there; it usually houses exchange students and there are always fewer of those in the spring than in the autumn," said Evers. In the end, 15 of the 109 students who live in the ARCH building accepted the offer. Now that the lift is working again, they will return to their 'old' rooms.

Last year, as a "show of goodwill", residents were charged €100 less rent. Can students expect a similar offer this time? "Last year, the lift was out of order for twice as long, so maybe it could be €50 this time. We'll decide later this week," said Evers.

Dennis Vaendel

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Photo: Pexels

"We can't just stop using it overnight" Looking for alternatives to Microsoft

How dependent is Maastricht University on American tech giants with close ties to the Trump administration? This question came up last Wednesday during a University Council committee meeting on the new digitalisation strategy.

"Employees are concerned about where their data are stored. How should they deal with this uncertainty?" asked Donna Yates, an academic staff representative on the University Council. "It's complicated", replied Marita Keurentjes, director of the UM Corporate Information Office. "We're dependent on Microsoft, but we are reconsidering this. At the same time, we can't just stop using it overnight." Virtually everyone at the university uses Word, Excel, Outlook and Teams. According to Keurentjes, a "dilemma session" with digitalisation experts will be held soon. "With every new project, we'll need to reassess our options." If UM wants to reduce its dependence on American systems, this will likely come at the cost of factors such as user-friendliness.

Since Trump came back to power, Big Tech and the US government have become closely intertwined. Are our data being monitored from across the Atlantic? Will the US start blocking European data? These questions are troubling both university administrators and researchers. "We certainly have a desire to explore alternatives", said Jan-Tjitte Meindersma, Vice-President of the Executive Board. So why has the university only increased its reliance on Microsoft in recent years? Academic staff representative Jeroen Moes raised this question, pointing

out that Teams among others has become the default software for video conferencing and calls. Keurentjes replied, "With every new project, we ask, 'Do we want to use something different? And if so, what's the alternative?'" She pointed out the university's relatively small size: "We can't solve this on our own. We need to put our heads together with other institutions and SURF [the IT cooperative of Dutch education and research institutions]." Meindersma explained that a UM delegation will soon visit Nextcloud, a European open-source collaboration platform for file storage and sharing. Five Dutch universities – the University of Amsterdam, Delft University of Technology, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Utrecht University and Tilburg University – have recently started a joint pilot project with the platform. Last week, the Dutch current affairs TV programme *Nieuwsuur* described Nextcloud as "the European alternative to Microsoft", though less comprehensive and advanced. Natali Helberger, a professor of law and digital technology at the University of Amsterdam, spoke on the programme about the erosion of academic freedom under Trump, noting that the US has restricted research on diversity, among other things. We'll have to sacrifice some user-friendliness for privacy and academic freedom, she concluded. "It's the price we have to pay."

Wendy Degens

For more on this topic, see pages 6-7, where UM researchers working closely together with US colleagues discuss the impact of Trump's policies



Forbidden words

“

In a society that values inclusiveness and equal opportunity, actively addressing racial inequality, implicit bias, and other inequalities faced by marginalised groups, is of utmost importance.

For those who haven't yet been informed about Trump's latest stunt, I urge you to take a moment and google 'Trump banned words'. Now, reread the first sentence in this column. See what I did there? My statement, entirely innocent (or arguably even exemplary), uses six words that have recently been banned by the Trump administration. Six, from a list of nearly two hundred.

Upon reading the list for the first time, I didn't know whether I should laugh or cry. Even now, I find the extremity of the situation almost comedic (key word, almost).

It took me nearly a week to gather the courage to write this column. It deviates so heavily from my usual topics, and to be honest, I was worried about how it would be received. But there comes a point where avoiding uncomfortable topics feels like cowardice, if not complicity.

As an aspiring journalist, I find the prospect of active censorship particularly distressing. The list is a direct slap in the face of democracy, and an active threat to the freedom of expression- which is actually a constitutional right. I consider this aspect especially ironic, having witnessed voters throwing a hissy fit over the suggestion of a firearms regulation. Am I really supposed to believe that the word "female" poses a greater threat than a loaded handgun?

I mean, seriously, who sits down and decides that "diversity", "feminism", and "trauma" are threatening terms? Did they hold a meeting? Were certain taboo words pitched, and if so, how were those choices justified? I can't help but picture a room full of people solemnly ruling out words that represent entire communities- all whilst allowing actual hate-speech to roam free.

Maybe I've read one too many dystopian fiction novels, convincing myself that the situation is worse than it really is. But isn't that the scariest part? When the lines between fiction and reality blur this much, it's hard to tell the difference.

”

Robin van Wasen,
student at UCM

series sing, fight, cry, pray, laugh, work and admire



/ Catharien Kerkman
(Nuth, 1965)

/ Director of Facility
Services since
1 December 2022

/ Lives in: Maastricht

/ Relationship status:
married to Bert; they
have a son, Pieter (24)

Photo: Joey Roberts

“
I apparently give off the impression
that I am confident,
but inside it doesn't always
feel that way
”

I may have agreed to this interview, but... I don't like being the centre of attention, even if people tend to assume otherwise. When I was 16 or 17, a girl I didn't know came up to me at Nuth Train Station and said, 'You seem so confident.' Apparently, that's the impression I give off, but I don't always feel that way inside. One of my duties as a director is to give speeches, which I absolutely hate. I prepare them well, but I just can't seem to deliver them spontaneously. It's a kind of stage fright. This isn't to say I'm not self-confident, though – I am, but more in some areas than others. My strength lies in building relationships with people, which is probably why I ended up at FS. I naturally give people a lot of attention and a bit of love. It comes easily to me.

A bit of love alone can't fix everything. I'm the seventh director of FS in ten years, and the first woman. It's a fascinating department, with around two hundred employees across different locations and with a wide range of tasks. Each group, from real estate to procurement to so-called "soft services" like catering and reception, has its own culture. I can never give them all personal love, though I wish I could, because it would benefit us all. Sometimes I have to deliver

difficult messages, which isn't something I enjoy, but I do it. And when issues arise, I get the people involved around the table and say, "You all know what's going on – it's time to talk."

I don't have time to keep a diary. My first diary entry dates back to 1976, when I was eleven. I still keep a diary. I've filled 74 notebooks, stored in big plastic boxes. For years, I've struggled with the question of what to do with them. There's a lot in there I wouldn't want anyone else to read. My mother always said, "Catharien, just get rid of them." As a child, she'd spent time in an air-raid shelter where residents had stored boxes of their belongings. She remembered someone pulling out a diary and reading it aloud. Awful. But throwing mine away? [Laughs] I once suggested they be buried with me, but the coffin would be too heavy. I considered burning them, but I couldn't bring myself to do it. Last Christmas, I finally started destroying them, starting with the most recent. I've shredded fourteen notebooks already. But I'm not sure I'll be able to part with the ones from when I was 18 to 30, when I was growing into adulthood. So much happened. It would feel like erasing my own life.

I take after... my father, at least in looks. I come from a warm family of four daughters; I'm the second. My parents had the kind of marriage you can only hope for. They were a real team. My father was a bit rough around the edges and came from a large, hard-working family. My mother's side was in education. She was a teacher, did the bookkeeping for my father's transport business and took care of the family. She was the softer one. If my father was angry with a driver and had a mind to fire him, my mother stepped in as the peacemaker. I've inherited that from her.

What's the first thing you do when you get home?

I take off my shoes and start cooking. I hate cooking. I work long hours; I start early – I'm a morning person – and get home around six or seven. Bert doesn't cook. He can't and won't. He's incredibly smart and funny, hoovers the whole house every Saturday, but cooking? No, although it'd be very sweet of him. He once hired an Italian cook who delivered meals in containers once per week, but after a few months, we got tired of those containers. I tried HelloFresh, but there was so much peeling and grating involved. On the plus side, at least we ate vegetables.

Greatest love? Pieter, my son.

I grew up in a family of women. I would've loved to have had more sons, but I had several miscarriages – an unspoken grief. The joy I felt when Pieter was born never left me. He's my everything. There's no love like it. We're very close, even now that he's left home to study in Leiden. He takes after his father – he's funny, has a strong sense of justice, and is smart, honest, kind and determined.

If I weren't the director of FS...

I'd be a farmer on a big farm, getting up at 4 AM every morning to fry bacon, eggs and black pudding for the farmhands. The rest of the day would be spent not in the kitchen but out in the fields, on a tractor, with my husband. Just fresh air, no stress. My job isn't easy; I can never fully switch off from it. It makes you long for a simple, nature-filled life.

I'm obsessed with... chocolate.

Do you know how much a bar of Côte d'Or costs? €4.69 – outrageous, but it doesn't stop me eating it. How much chocolate I eat? Definitely too much. [A little while later, a colleague walks in with a slice of rijstevlaai. CK laughs: "I should put a 'Do Not Feed' sign on my door."] I also love perfume. Right now, I'm wearing Aromatics Elixir by Clinique, one of my mother's favourites. I have a drawer full of perfumes; each scent reminds me of someone in my life. Bert is Chanel No. 5. I was wearing it when I met him. Every morning and evening, I decide what I feel like and dab on a few drops. Even at night. [Chuckles] What did Marilyn Monroe wear to bed? Chanel No 5.

Riki Janssen

Weekly personal interview with a student or employee

Rector: no evidence of conflict of interest or scientific misconduct

Report: professor should have been more transparent about work for third parties

FHML Professor Maurice Zeegers should have provided more detailed and timely information about the work he carried out for third parties. But Maastricht University is not without blame, says Rector Pamela Habibović. These are the key findings of an internal investigation into the professor's commercial activities.



Illustration: Shutterstock

The investigation was launched following a critical article in *NRC* in late 2023. The Dutch newspaper claimed that Zeegers, a leading epidemiologist, had allowed his commercial and scientific interests to overlap. More than a year later, the investigation has now been concluded. Rector Pamela Habibović explained that it took time “because it had to be done carefully”. The report will not be made public, as it concerns “an individual employee” who must be “protected”.

According to the Rector, the investigation found no evidence of conflict of interest or scientific misconduct. However, she notes that Zeegers provided incomplete information about his third-party activities. UM was aware that the professor had his own business and occasionally worked for the consultancy firm owned by his wife, a fellow epidemiologist. According to the rector, these third-party activities had been approved by the dean of Zeegers's faculty, Annemie Schols. “But the specific nature of the work he carried out within his own business was unclear. For example, he conducted and published research that overlapped with his work as a professor at UM.”

Zeegers himself is partly to blame for this lack of clarity. According to the Rector, the professor wrongly assumed that he had provided enough details and failed to raise any doubts he had with his supervisor. He should have done so, says Habibović, as “it is primarily the employee's responsibility to properly register [work carried out for third parties]”. She emphasises that this has been discussed with Zeegers: “We had a candid conversation about what happened and what we can learn from it. He recognises this as well and has since corrected the registration.”

Not all of Zeegers's third-party activities are currently listed on his UM profile page, though. “There could be a number of reasons for this. For example, he may no longer be involved in those activities, or they might still be awaiting approval [from the dean]. But we've spoken to him, and he knows what to do.” As far as UM is concerned, the matter is now resolved, and Zeegers can continue his work. Habibović also accepts part of the blame, acknowledging that the rules regarding the registration of work carried out for third parties could be clearer. However, she points out that there will always be grey areas and not everything can be covered by rules.

But is this really a grey area? Shouldn't an experienced researcher like Zeegers, who even chaired the now-dissolved UM Platform for Research Ethics and Integrity, have realised that he needed to provide more details? “You know, I can imagine that he genuinely believed he had registered everything properly”, says Habibović. She does not think that Schols, the FHML dean, made a mistake in approving Zeegers's third-party activities. “No, you operate on the assumption of trust, expecting employees to fully inform you. If they don't explicitly tell you what kind of research they're doing, it's difficult to determine whether there's a potential conflict of interest.”

NRC also accused Zeegers of using his UM position to lend greater authority to research conducted for third parties.

“We had a candid conversation about what happened and what we can learn from it. Zeegers recognises this as well and has since corrected the registration”

“That's a different issue”, says the Rector. “If you're publishing an article through your own business, you have to be clear about that. But I can understand why you might think, ‘For clarity's sake, I'll mention that I work for UM.’ This was interpreted as him using his position to add weight to his research. I can't really blame him for this; he was trying to be as transparent as possible. It's just not very clear how to handle these situations correctly, as there are no rules about it.” When asked if *NRC* exaggerated the issue, Habibović declines to comment.

However, she reveals that not all the allegations in the article were investigated in detail. “For us, the main question was what information about his work for third parties he had or hadn't provided. We don't currently have any reason to review his studies or publications. There have been no complaints about them.”

For her, the key takeaway from the report is this: “We need to keep talking about the registration of work for third parties, as not every detail can be captured by rules. Researchers should discuss any doubts or uncertainties with their supervisors; as administrators, we must make the registration process as easy as possible.”

Peter Doorackers

Maurice Zeegers has declined to comment further on the matter

UM RESEARCHERS ON THE IMPACT OF TRUMP'S 'WAR ON SCIENCE'

"The uncertainty is



Barely two months into Donald Trump's second term, American science is in turmoil. Government funding has become highly uncertain or has already been frozen, the US has withdrawn from the World Health Organisation and studies on climate change and gender appear to have been restricted. What impact is Trump's 'war on science' having, according to researchers at Maastricht University who work closely with American colleagues?

TEXT:
Cleo Freriks

ILLUSTRATION:
Simone Golob

There's a sense of unease, says Daan Westra, an assistant professor at the Care and Public Health Research Institute (CAPHRI). He frequently speaks with American colleagues, as the US dominates his field of healthcare management. "Some 75 per cent of published articles come from North America. I've noticed a shift towards uncertainty, and that's new. During Trump's first term, there was a sense of resigna-

tion – people thought they just had to sit it out. Now, everything is changing so fast. Our field has always been influenced by politics, but major legislative changes, like the introduction of Obamacare to expand health insurance coverage for Americans, were known well in advance. Now, I have no idea what things will look like a year from now. No one does. I know people who had financial meetings scheduled, only to be told they were no longer necessary because no one knows which projects will still receive funding."

BUDGET CUTS

This financial uncertainty stems largely from budget cuts at the National Institutes of Health

(NIH), the largest US funder of medical and biomedical research. After temporarily freezing almost the entire budget, the Trump administration now plans to slash "indirect costs" from 50-60 per cent down to 15 per cent. This would leave no budget for expenses such as administrative support or laboratory maintenance. A federal judge has blocked the proposed cuts for now. "The uncertainty is the worst part", says a UM alum who now works at an American university. She prefers to remain anonymous: "This administration has already gone to such extremes that you just don't know if speaking to the press will have consequences." PhD students and postdocs are in a particularly

the worst part"



precarious position, she explains. "All our research proposals are currently under review. We don't know which projects will continue, which means we don't know if PhD positions will be available. We risk losing a whole cohort of talented researchers." Sinan Gülöksüz, an associate professor in UM's department of Psychiatry and Neuropsychology

who is affiliated with Yale School of Medicine, has already seen this firsthand. "Several PhD students who had already been accepted have now been told they can't come after all."

MASSIVE LAYOFFS

European partners are also feeling the effects, says Kasia Czabanowska,

a professor in International Health at CAPHRI. "We collaborate with Indiana University on a master's programme in public health, but I've heard they're going to admit fewer students. And what about their job prospects? Many of our graduates go on to work at the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or in govern-

ment positions. Both are seeing massive layoffs." Thousands of federal government employees in the US have already lost their jobs, and the impact is being felt across the country, says Westra. "We're organising a joint conference in Europe this year, but some of my American colleagues aren't sure if they'll be able to

attend. They need to renew their passports to get a visa, but everything is taking much longer than usual because of all the layoffs."

DATA ACCESS

The US withdrawal from the World Health Organisation (WHO) also has financial consequences for European researchers, says Czabanowska. "We had to withdraw a European research proposal because the funding is no longer available. And a special issue of an academic journal, which was to be funded by the WHO, will likely be cancelled." But she is even more concerned about new restrictions on data transfers. "What if another pandemic breaks out? The CDC is already facing limitations in collecting data, let alone sharing them internationally."

Gülöksüz, too, is uncertain about European institution's continued access to US data. "A new version of the ABCD Data Repository, a major resource for psychiatric and neurological research, was supposed to be released in January, but it wasn't. They're not currently accepting new requests, so it's possible that soon only American universities will have access. On top of that, it looks like any research related to LGBTQIA+, gender and race/ethnicity is now being treated as taboo, when the US used to be far ahead of Europe in collecting data in these fields."

RETURN TO EUROPE

The UM alum has noticed this change as well. "I felt like we'd finally reached a point where everyone recognised the importance of diversity – something that, in my view, shouldn't even be seen as political – but we're rapidly regressing to where we were fifteen years ago. Paradoxically, we're required by law to explain in our research proposals how we try to make science more accessible. I'm not too worried about funding for my own research, which is fundamental and apolitical, but all my proposals emphasise the importance of women in STEM and my contribution to that."

She is now seriously considering returning to Europe. But would that really be a solution? Gülöksüz isn't so sure. "Budget cuts to research and education are happening everywhere. And with so many other alarming issues going on in the world, people may not even see this as a major concern for long."

WAGENINGEN RESEARCHERS RECEIVE POLITICAL QUESTIONS

Two researchers from Wageningen received an e-mail last week from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) with various political questions. This was reported by the Dutch newspaper *NRC*. They were

asked, for example, to explain whether the research project they are working on, together with USGS – monitoring forests via satellites to detect deforestation – takes "appropriate measures" to "protect against gender ideology".

They were also asked to confirm that it is not a diversity or climate project. In the e-mail, the USGS states it was commissioned by a government agency, the US Office of Management and Budget, to collect answers.

Wageningen University and Research (WUR) has advised its staff not to respond to the letter. Casper van den Berg, chair of the umbrella organization Universities of the Netherlands, told *NRC* that the questionnaire is

indicative of "the deteriorating climate for free scientific practice in the US. This also affects Dutch universities and researchers. It emphasizes how important it is for all of us to stand for free science."

news

If necessary, limit right to protest, say six parties

Questions in municipal council about disrupted lecture in Tapijn Z



Pro-Palestinian students knocked on the windows of the lecture room Photo: Jean-Pierre Geusens

What exactly happened last week when pro-Palestinian students disrupted the lecture by Rawan Osman in Tapijn Z? Was it really necessary to end it early? And how will Maastricht municipality handle events that are politically sensitive in future? Six parties in the Maastricht municipal council put these questions to the municipal executive.

On Friday, VVD, CDA, Partij Veilig Maastricht, 50-plus, Sociaal Actieve Burgerpartij, and Seniorenpartij submitted written questions on the issue. They say they are worried

about the freedom of expression in the city. According to them, last year, pro-Palestinian protesters disrupted the Maastricht Debate, a large European election debate. Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, was accused of being a war criminal at the Vrijthof.

“We wish to emphasise that freedom of expres-

sion is a democratic fundamental right that cannot be limited through intimidation,” the six parties wrote. They wanted to know how Maastricht aims to reconcile a speaker’s freedom of expression with the right to protest for people who disagree with them. According to the six parties, that right could be “limited” if a demonstration “endangers the normal operation of an event”. Their question was whether the municipal executive agreed.

UM spokesperson Koen Augustijn said it was “unacceptable” that an open debate about the situation in the Middle East was made impossible. According to him, such a debate was exactly what the organizers—several Jewish students—had in mind when they invited the outspoken pro-Israel speaker Rawan Osman. According to the protesters, however, the Syrian-German activist spreads “Zionist propaganda” and condones Israeli violence against Palestinians.

According to Augustijn, UM is now investigating whether the protesting students violated the university’s code of conduct “and whether there are grounds to file charges.” UM will also “reassess” its relation with student organisation Free Palestine Maastricht, which supported the demonstration.

Stand With Us, the pro-Israeli group who invited Osman to the Netherlands for three lectures, accused Maastricht University of “deliberate negligence”, *NRC* reported on Saturday. They said UM failed to provide sufficient security, leaving “Jewish and pro-Israeli students and staff” without protection and feeling like “fair game”.

Peter Doorakkers

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY, FACULTIES, SERVICE CENTRES AND STUDENT ORGANISATIONS CAN BE FOUND ON WWW.OBSERVANTONLINE.NL

Agenda
academic
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Aula Minderbroedersberg 4-6



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