

# Preliminary Programme LERU Summer School 4-8 July 2022

## Monday: The University of the Future

- Introduction by:
  - Rector Magnificus Prof.Dr Henk Kummeling
  - TBC
- Intellectual introduction by Dr Jeroen Oomen: Futuring & the University of the Future
  - In this introductory session, we will introduce the aims of the summer school, outline the practicalities, and introduce the intellectual and academic commitments that underlie the summer school. Specifically, we will introduce the notion of ‘futuring’ and ‘techniques of futuring’ as frameworks through which to understand the ways in which universities co-shape the future – and to help us think through what a university fit for the future might be like.
- Opening Keynote: Prof.Dr Maarten Hajer: The University of the Future & the Future of the University
  - In the opening keynote, Maarten Hajer, current director of the Pathways to Sustainability Strategic Theme and former director of PBL (Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency), will outline the challenges that we face and the role that universities play in these challenges. Through the ‘futuring’ lens, he will outline the role universities play in shaping the future – and what the university of the future might be like.
  - Following this keynote, we will have an open discussion about what the university of the future ought to be like: what needs to be kept in mind throughout the week?
- Manifest session and writing: In this first session we will be structuring the manifest, introducing working groups to one another, and make some first steps in thinking through what the university of the future might look like. Prof.Dr Geert Buelens will lead and guide this session.
- Public Keynote: The University as a Historic and Future Institute (speaker TBC)
  - In this keynote, open to the public and in a historic venue in Utrecht’s city centre, a renowned speaker will address the university as a historic institution, tracing the past into the future.

## Tuesday: The Challenges facing universities

- The Polycrisis: Perspectives on the Pressures Universities are Facing
  - In this session featuring several experts (TBA), we will introduce the pressures universities are facing as a result of the multiple crises that we are confronted with. How do universities have to respond to, for instance, digitalisation, increasing inequality, multiple ecological crises, and the changing role of expertise in society? In this session, we will grapple with these questions, featuring a host of experts on the topic.
- Keynote: Prof.Dr José van Dijck: The University in Transition
  - In this keynote, José van Dijck, professor of Media and Digital Society and the first female president of the Royal Netherlands Academy for the Arts and Sciences (KNAW) (2015-1018), will address the changing role of universities already. From her expertise as a professor of media and her experience in the KNAW, she will highlight pressures that universities are already facing, how they might intensify, and how universities might respond to them.
- Manifest writing: In the afternoon, there is time for participants to write on their manifest, in groups. Academic staff will be available for tips, tricks, and discussions.

## Wednesday: The University & Transition

- Keynote (TBA): Do Universities Help or Hinder Just Transition?

- In this session, we will look at the university as an ‘agent of change’: how does the university, as an institution but also as a site of knowledge production, affect the necessary transitions of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Can universities help create a fair sustainability transition? Or are they implicated in (and help maintain) existing inequalities and issues? How could universities play a part in a fair and just transition? To do so, what needs to change? In this keynote session, such questions will be broached, discussed, and deliberated.
- Conflicting Transitions: Rethinking the Value of Expertise – The Place of Knowledge & Knowledge Production in (Future) Society
  - In this session, we showcase different perspectives on the position of knowledge and expertise as a part of society. Starting with a brief introduction outlining prominent perspectives, this interactive session discusses what the value of expertise is for society, and what its role should be in the governance of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Of central importance in this session is the way in which university expertise frames our ideas about the future – and hence our ideas about how to make decisions in the present.
- Manifest writing: In the afternoon, there is time for participants to work on their manifest, in groups. Select faculty will be available for tips, tricks, and discussions. Prof. Dr Geert Buelens and Dr Jeroen Oomen will be present.

### Thursday: The Way Forward

- The Way Forward: Where does the University Need to Go?
  - In this session, the central question is a back-casting exercise. Imagine the university of 2050: what does it look like? What role does it play? How is it funded? Who governs it? What is its political role? Several experts will give a short pitch on their ideal university of the future. Subsequently, participants and faculty will debate these questions, in a closely curated conversation.
- The Way Forward: How do we Get there?
  - Departing from the Pathways to Sustainability strategy document ‘*The Way Forward*’, this serves as a preparatory session for the finalisation of the manifest on the University of the Future that participants will be asked to write. It deals with two questions: a) having determined where you want the university to go, how can you map the way forward?, and b) how do you incorporate different visions and nuances from different people into a shared document? To discuss these questions, lead authors from *The Way Forward* and other shared manifests will share their experiences, how the document was received, and how they negotiated such differences.
- Manifest wrap-up: In this final afternoon, participants will bring together the different parts of the ‘University of the Future’ manifest – and finalise a document to present on Friday.

### Friday: The Future of the University

- Utrecht Young Academy: In this session, the Utrecht Young Academy, the association of some of its most promising young academics, will showcase their own thoughts on the university – and debate with the LERU participants what the most pressing issues of concern are.
- Closing session: Participants present their manifest, and discuss its main recommendations, with a panel of LERU administrators
- Closing Drinks: informal moment between participants and faculty
- Optional: Informal (self-paid) Dinner for Participants and Faculty

Arrival: Saturday 2 July (check-in accommodation) Participants will have met online in a social networking event in the preceding week.<sup>1</sup>

Sunday 3 July	-	Monday 4 July	Tuesday 5 July	Wednesday 6 July	Thursday 7 July	Friday 8 July
	<b>Approx. Timings</b>	<b>Theme of day 1 City centre campus</b>	<b>Theme of day 2 City centre campus</b>	<b>Theme of day 3 City centre campus</b>	<b>Theme of day 4 City centre campus</b>	<b>Theme of day 5 Academiegebouw</b>
Greet & meet brunch	<b>Morning Sessions</b>  <i>9am – 12.30pm (inc. 30 min break)</i>	Registration (8am – 9am) - Welcome from Rector Prof.Dr Henk Kummeling - Introduction and preview of the week by Dr Jeroen Oomen: Introduction to Techniques of Futuring - Keynote 1: The University of the Future & the Future of the University, by Prof.Dr Maarten Hajer	The Polycrisis: to which challenges does the University of the Future need respond? Interactive Keynote Session - Break - Keynote: The University in Transition, by Prof.Dr José van Dijck	[ <i>Just Transition</i> by Prince Claus Chair]  Do Universities Help or Hinder Just Transitions? - Break - Conflicting Transitions: Rethinking the Value of the Expert - The Place of Knowledge & Knowledge Production in Society	The Way Forward: Where does the University Need to Go? - Break - The Way Forward: How do we get there?	<i>View of Utrecht Young Academy members on the University of the Future &amp; showcasing the Centre for Unusual Collaborations</i> - Wrap up DSS programme by Prof.Dr Maarten Hajer
	<i>12.30pm – 1.30pm</i>	<b>LUNCH</b>				
Canal tour through the city centre of Utrecht	<b>Afternoon Sessions</b>  <i>1.30pm – 3.30pm (inc. 30 min break)</i>	<i>How to write a manifest</i> by Prof.Dr Geert Buelens  Structuring the manifest: what does it need to contain? Break-out in groups: working on the manifest	Break-out in writing groups: working on the manifest	Brainstorming and writing session with help of Prof. Dr Geert Buelens	Break-out in writing groups: working on the manifest	Presentation of the manifest Panel discussion
	<b>Plenary sessions</b>  <i>4pm – 5pm</i>	Groups come together to integrate into one text	Groups come together to integrate into one text		Groups come together to integrate into one text	Optional: 'borrel' & night on the town
<i>Leonardo da Vinci the scientist: when innovative ideas and methods conflicted with the university of the past</i> – lecture by Prof.Dr Michael Kwakkelstein Dinner at Sonnenborgh	<b>Evening</b>	<b>Public Keynote: TBC Looking backwards and forwards: The University as a Historic and Future Institute</b>	Free Evening (Dinner)	BBQ at the Botanical Gardens of Utrecht University	<b>To be decided</b>	Departure around 3pm

Pre course work:

1. A reading list will be provided approx. early June 2022 (to be read before the start of the Summer School)

## Additional information for participants

### **Participant requirements**

Candidates for the summer school are nominated by their home institutions. They should be well advanced in their doctoral project and have a strong motivation in rethinking the role of universities globally. Candidates must be available for the entire duration of the summer school, and must be prepared to take part in all activities. All sessions will be conducted in English, and therefore fluency in both spoken and written English is essential.

### **Format of the course**

The summer course will be delivered on-site. Should that not be possible, we will move to an entirely online format. Participants should take this into account when booking their tickets.

### **How to write a manifest – Online workshop on 29 June**

Prior to the course, on 29 June in the afternoon, there will be an online training session on how to write a manifest. Course participants are required to be attend, so can they please mark their calendars?

### **Preparatory reading**

The participants will receive a reading list early June. They are expected to read the compulsory part of the list (estimated at 100 to 200 pages).

### **Arrival and departure, accommodation**

Check-in is on Saturday 2 July. Departure on Friday 8 July, late afternoon or evening (although we are currently looking into the possibility of extending participants' stay until Saturday 9 July).

### **Budgetary aspects**

LERU Participants will be asked to pay € 600 to attend the 2022 LERU Doctoral Summer School. This cost includes course materials, 'university dorms' accommodation for six nights (arrival in the weekend and hand in key on Friday morning), meals at social occasions and a social programme. Participants can book an extra week if they like (extra costs € 150).

### **Additional costs**

Travel to and from Utrecht is not included in the Summer School cost. Participants will be expected to cover the costs of any social activities which are not part of the official programme.

### **LERU summer school group app**

Utrecht Summer School will make available a special group app in a safe environment which will enable the participants to connect with each other before the start of the course.