university of groningen

Year Report

Young RUG

2024

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Introduction



Klaas Wilts
Chair YoungRUG

In 2024 we worked on establishing ourselves more as the platform for young professionals within the UG. We intensified our contact with the Faculty Boards and Service Department Boards. This leads to new connections and attracting new community members to our events. It also feeds us with ideas for new events. Next to this we organized roughly two activities per month! This was only possible due to the effort of our active members! I would like to thank them all for their contributions to YoungRUG in 2024.

In the coming year we will further pursue our strategic goals for 2029, while continuing to offer inspiring, informative and fun activities.

MISSION

YoungRUG is a community for young professionals employed at the UG. Our goal is to facilitate personal and professional development, networking, and knowledge-sharing. We foster an open and dynamic environment to encourage active participation and create a strong community.

- Established in 2019

VISION

By 2029, YoungRUG is a more established network within the UG and we are the knowledge platform for young professionals. We act as an advisory and sparring partner to upper management on topics related to attracting and retaining young professionals. YoungRUG provides insight into possibilities and career paths within the UG that young professional can take. Through our dynamic events, we provide a stimulating environment for networking and personal and professional development. YoungRUG is a community where young professionals come together and can learn from each other.

- Established in 2019

What's New?

New: Blog ‘Insights from young professionals at the UG’

This year, we set up a new blog on our webpage: ‘Insights from young professionals at the UG’. This blog is written by and for young (OBP) professionals at the UG with the aim of inspiring each other with our stories. What career paths can you take as a young (OBP) professional within the UG? What do OBP colleagues choose to do? What are useful tips? Each 8 weeks, another young support professional writes a new blog.



Language Buddy Programme

YoungRUG started with a pilot for a Language Buddy Programme. In this programme, international professional staff members have the opportunity to meet a language buddy with whom they can practice their Dutch. The pilot was a great success, and the programme returns in January 2025!

Contact with Faculty Boards

This year, we started a tour visiting the boards of faculties and services. The purpose of these visits is to remind them what YoungRUG is and to explore how we can support and benefit each other.

Working group ‘Improving accessibility of information’

We started the working group ‘Improving accessibility of information’, an initiative dedicated to enhancing access to essential information on rights and regulations for employees. The group focuses on key areas such as (young) parenthood, illness and reintegration, leave arrangements, conflict management, and transitions such as leaving a position. YoungRUG cooperates with the Lokaal Overleg (LO) in this regard.

Working group ‘Career Development'

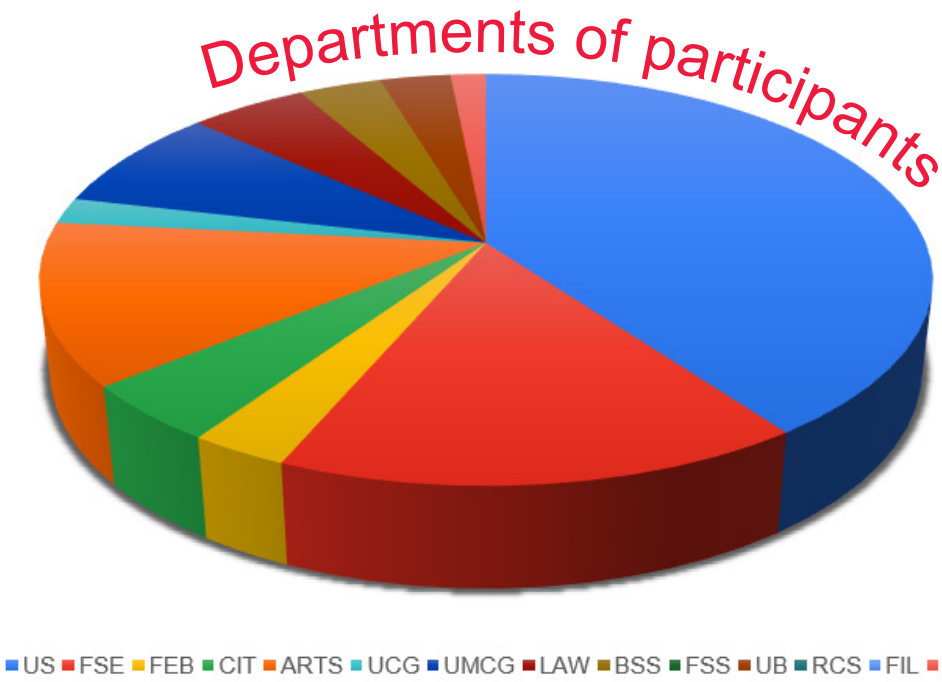
Another working group we created this year is the 'Career Development' working group. The aim of this working group ‘Career Development’ is to create more insight into career paths and opportunities for UG young support professionals. This working group is currently working on a UFO tool to help staff members with finding professional development goals and next career steps.



Changes in the board

As of 1 October, Klaas Wilts has assumed the role of Chair, while Bas Teunissen has transitioned to the position of Treasurer, taking over Klaas's previous responsibilities. Additionally, Hendrik Visser, an active member, has joined the board as Secretary, succeeding Bas.

Statistics



5 board members

630 followers on Instagram

11 active members

169 followers on LinkedIn

141 unique participants

229 participants of events in 2024 only the events with registration

15 organized events in 2024

Something to remember

Laser Gaming in the Academy Building
For once we made the University our playground with the first ever lasergaming event in the Academy Building! The event filled up quickly, and we received many requests to organize it once again. Who knows: maybe we'll make it happen again in 2025!

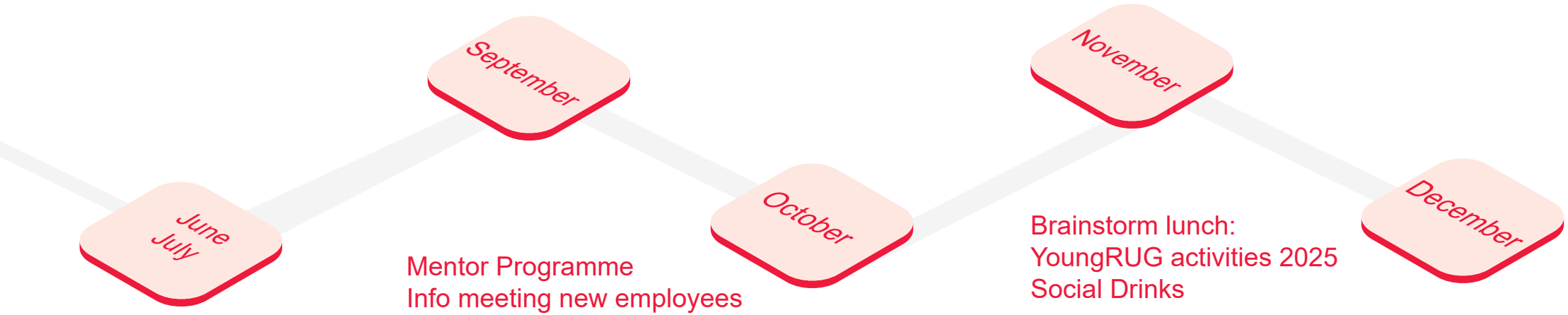
YoungRUG meets Rector Magnificus Jacquelien Scherpen
On 7 March, the YoungRUG board had a meet-up with Jacquelien Scherpen, the Rector Magnificus of the University of Groningen. It was an engaging session where both parties took the opportunity to exchange introductions and discuss about what YoungRUG can do for the UG - and vice versa.



Active Members Weekend
In June 2024, we held our first Active Members Weekend. The weekend was organized by 4 active members, and the rest of the active members did not know where we were going until a week beforehand: Schiermonnikoog! Throughout the weekend we did games, quizzes, activities and had fun, and we also went to the Tox Bar!

Events


January
Language Buddy Pilot
New Years Drinks
February
Laser Gaming
Info meeting new employees
Social Drinks
March
Power of Networking
Compliment Day
Social Drinks
April
Mastering self-care
Kick-off Personal Leadership
Social Drinks
Lunch Walk
May
Social Drinks



Active Members Weekend
Wadlopen
Social Drinks
Workshop: What's in your mind?

Mentor Programme
Info meeting new employees
Social Drinks

Social Drinks

Brainstorm lunch:
YoungRUG activities 2025
Social Drinks

Pizza & Game night
Social Drinks

Testimonials



YR is a welcoming community with inspiring and energetic young colleagues. Thanks to YR, I have been able to expand my knowledge about the UG beyond my own faculty, organize and participate in instructive and fun events. Furthermore, I built a larger and valuable network among different professionals. Especially in difficult times, YR feels like a safety net that reminds me why I work at the UG: not only because of education and research, which are super-important subjects close to my heart, but also because of the learning opportunities and the great colleagues I enjoy having around me.

- Deborah Bozzato
Board Member



As a YoungRUG member, I have greatly expanded my network within the UG and met many new people. YoungRUG gives me the opportunity to learn more about other departments and get an idea of the different career options the UG has to offer.
I am very happy that YoungRUG is committed to UG employees of my age; people who are roughly at the same point in their careers. There is always something interesting being organized for the opportunities and challenges we as young professionals face. And let's not forget that above all, the activities are a lot of fun with a group of fun people!

- Lucia Jansen
Active Member



As a young professional at the University of Groningen, I found it valuable to connect with people through YoungRUG. By joining activities like the monthly borrels and game afternoons, I saw how YoungRUG brings together young professionals from different faculties. After completing the traineeship, it was a fantastic opportunity to reconnect with my network, meet new people, and enjoy it all in a relaxed and fun atmosphere!

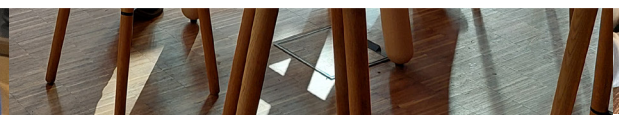
- Noa Vickers
Community Member












Active & Board Members









































Contact

Do you want to know more about YoungRUG?
Or do you have good ideas or suggestions?

Contact us!

rug.nl/youngrug
young@rug.nl

Our webpage:

Add our activities to your Google calendar: