



## Good practices and challenges in an interfacultary doctoral programme

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**Graduate School of Life Sciences** 





## The Life Sciences Ecosytem: Utrecht Science Park







# Interdisciplinarity in Life Sciences PhD education in Utrecht

- A PhD candidate is an employee
- Late '80s: Research Schools
  - local or national: mass
  - QC by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts & Sciences (KNAW)
- Mid '00: Graduate Schools
  - local
  - QC by the university itself





## **Graduate School of Life Sciences**







14 Master's programmes ± 1,100 MA students

14 PhD programmes ± 1,800 PhD candidates

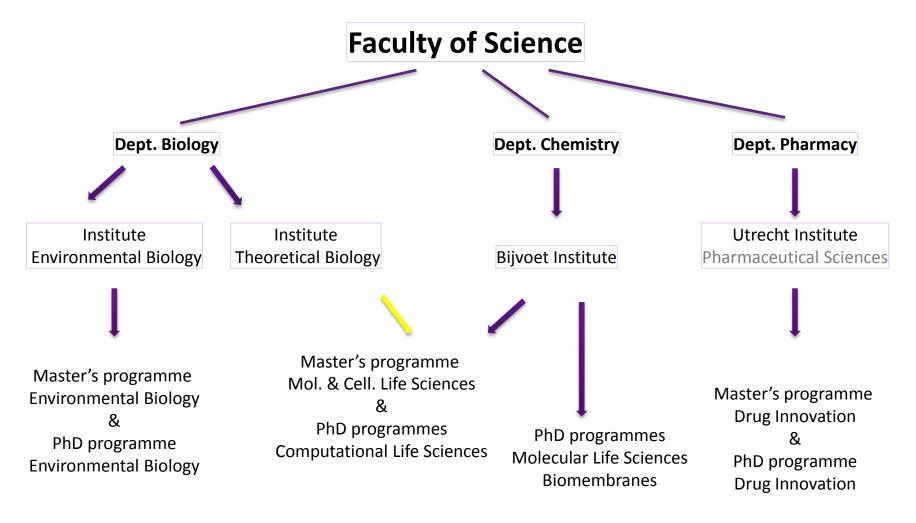




## **Research-based education**

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Research Programme	Master's Programme	PhD programme	
Cancer	- Cancer, Stem Cells & Developmental Biology	- Cancer, Stem Cells & Developmental Biology	
		- Clinical & Translational Oncology	
D	6666	December Market	
Regenerative Medicine	- Cancer, Stem Cells & Developmental Biology	- Regenerative Medicine	
	- Regenerative Medicine & Technology		
	- Biofabrication (2015)		
Public Health	- Neuroscience & Cognition	- Clinical & Experimental Neuroscience	
	- Biology of Disease	- Cardiovascular Research	
	- Epidemiology	- Epidemiology	
	- Infection & Immunity	- Infection & Immunity	
	- Toxicology & Environmental Health	- Toxicology & Environmental Health	
Basic Science	- Drug Innovation	- Drug Innovation	
	- Environmental Biology	- Environmental Biology	
	- Molecular & Cellular Life Sciences	- Molecular Life Sciences	
		- Biomembranes	
		- Computational Life Sciences	
	- Biomedical Image Sciences	- Medical Imaging	
	- Science & Business Management		
	- Bioinspired Innovation (2016)		

## **Organisation**







## **Graduate School of Life Sciences (2013)**

PhD programme	Science	Vet. Med.	UMC Utrecht	Hubrecht	Other	Total
Biomembranes	57	8	8	1		74
Cancer, Stem Cells & Developmental Biology	20	7	67	58	3	155
Cardiovascular Research			88			88
Clinical & Experimental Neuroscience	4	12	166			182
Clinical & Translational Oncology			39			39
Computational Life Sciences	15	2				17
Drug Innovation	119	3				122
Environmental Biology	43				18	61
Epidemiology		11	92		2	105
Infection & Immunity	2	46	131	1	7	187
Medical Imaging			144		8	152
Molecular Life Sciences	59		2			61
Regenerative Medicine		17	49	1		67
Toxicology & Environmental Health		39				39
Total in programmes	319	145	786	50	45	1,349

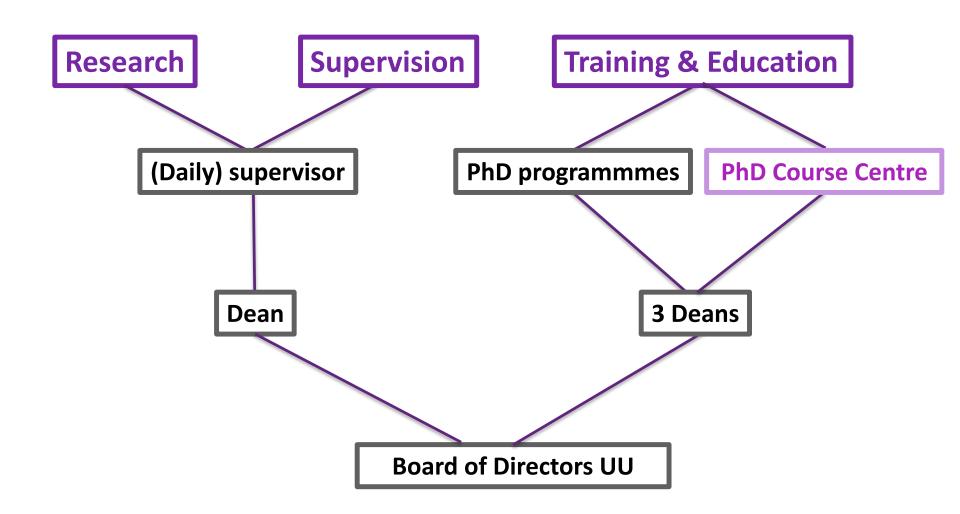
Not in a programme	114	113	273
Total	433	258	1059

500	
1,849	





## QC & Responsibilities: who does what?







## **Graduate School of Life Sciences**



A PhD candidate is the driver of his/her own professional development

### **Training**

- Disciplinary PhD programmes
- General scientific & transferrable skills
- Career perspectives

#### **Supervision**

- Admission to the PhD track by the Board for the Conferral of Doctoral Degrees (UU)
- Training & Supervision Agreement (GS-LS)
- Supervisor
- Daily supervisor
- Annual assessment interviews
- Supervisory Committee (2013)
- Confidants