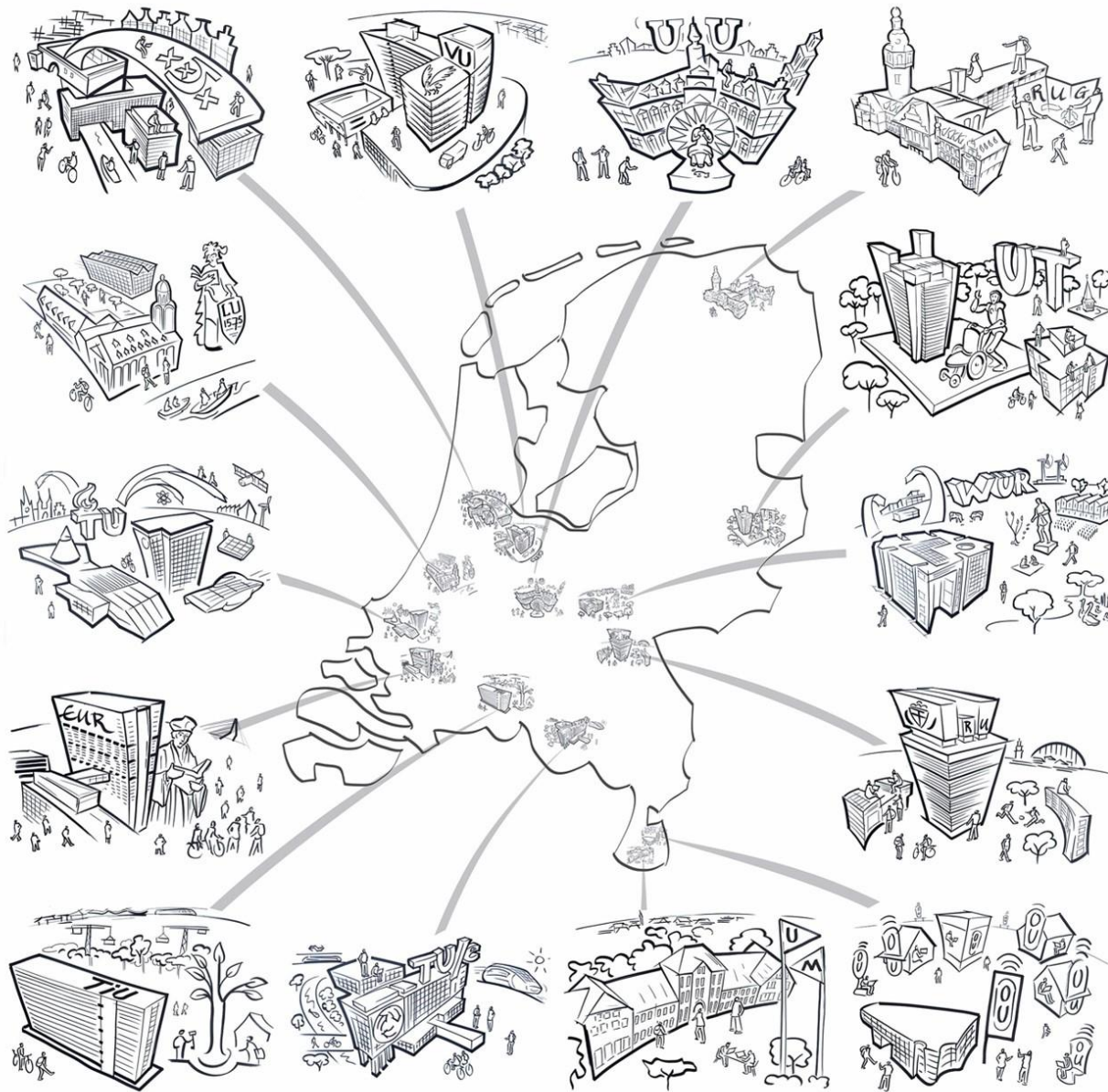


Campus NL

Data as strategy: collaborating across institutions to drive smarter (campus) decisions
Funding forum, European Universities Association





Campus NL

Research by and for universities

Our Mission:

"Learning from each other, between science and practice and 14 universities among themselves, should further professionalise campus management in practice and further strengthen it as a field of science. It is about generating new knowledge but also bringing existing knowledge together."

Campus NL

Research university partners



Source: <https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nederland>



Case-based and evidence-based support for campus decision-makers in higher education always combining data about

Organisational **GOALS**

Needs of **PEOPLE**

Value & **COSTS**

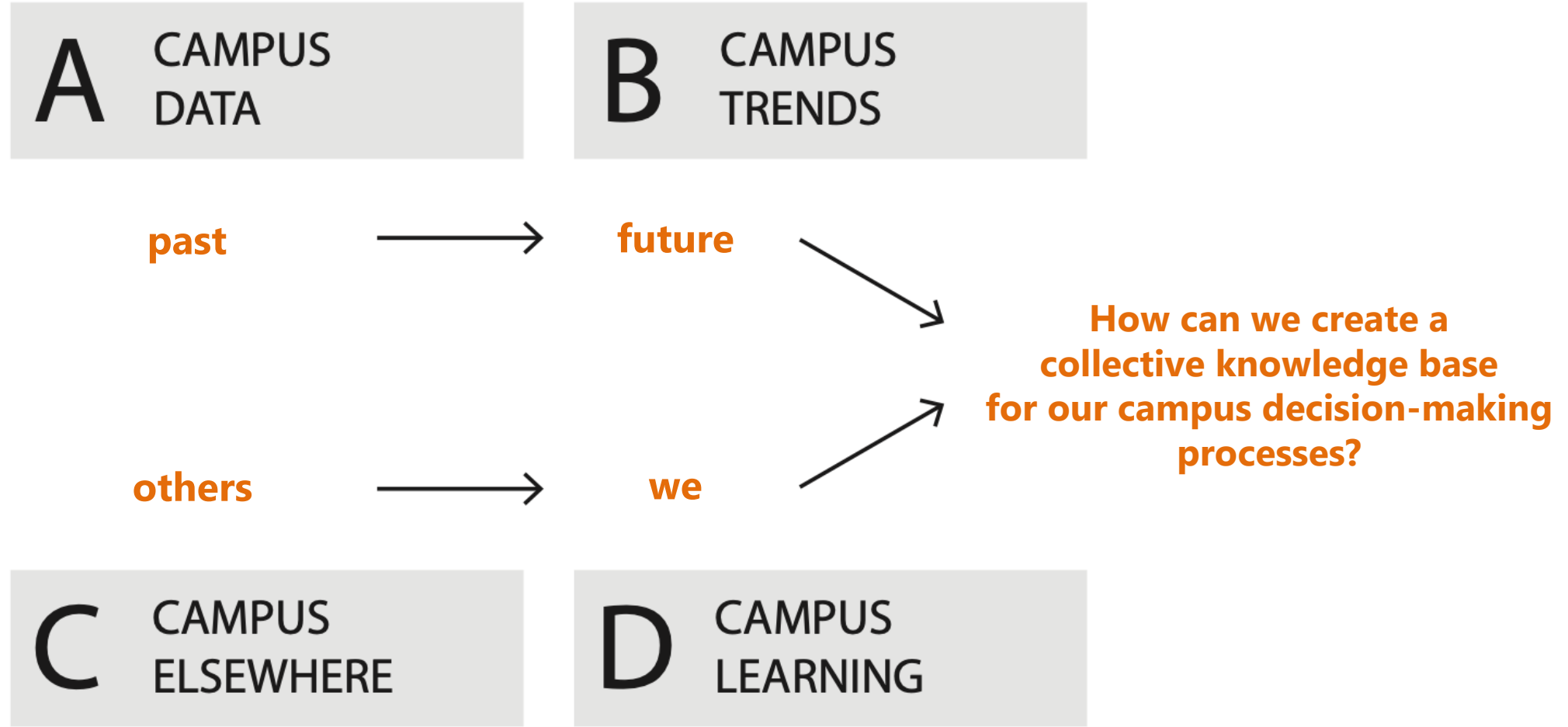
Energy & **BUILDINGS**



Source:
Campus NL (2016)
Figure I.6

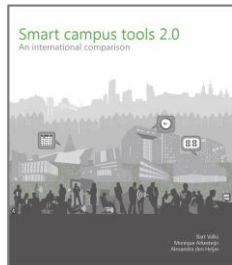
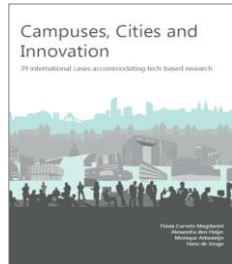
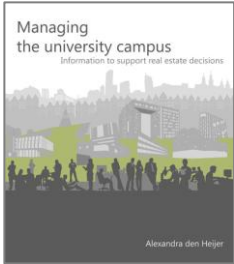
Campus NL

Goal – Generate campus knowledge

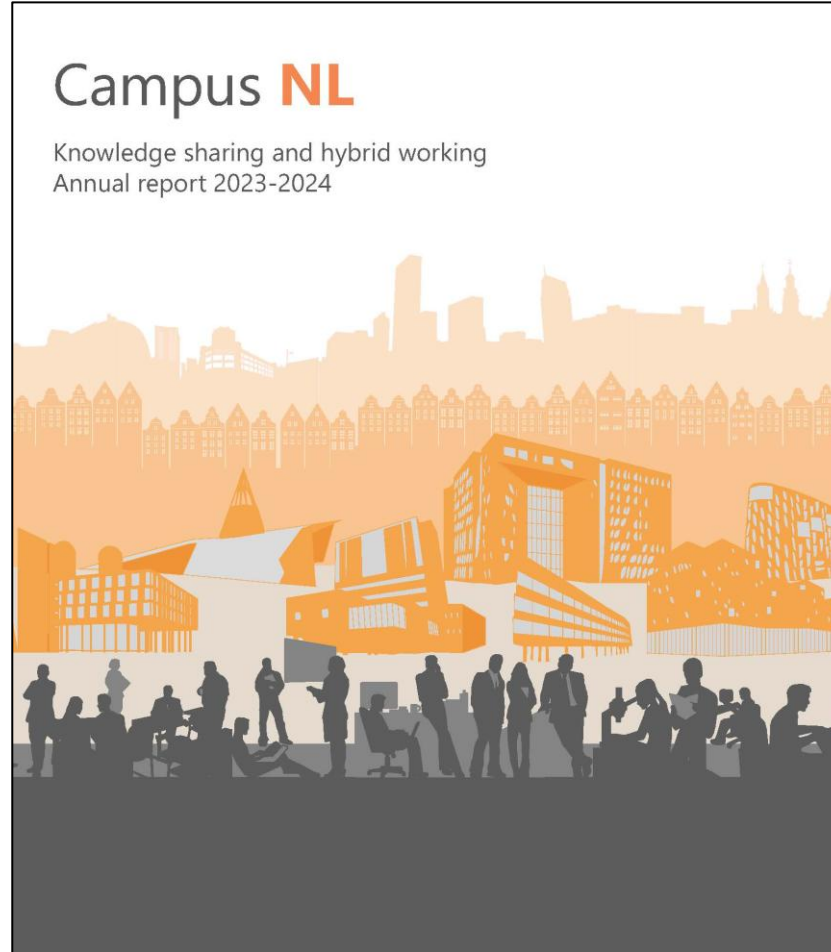


Campus NL

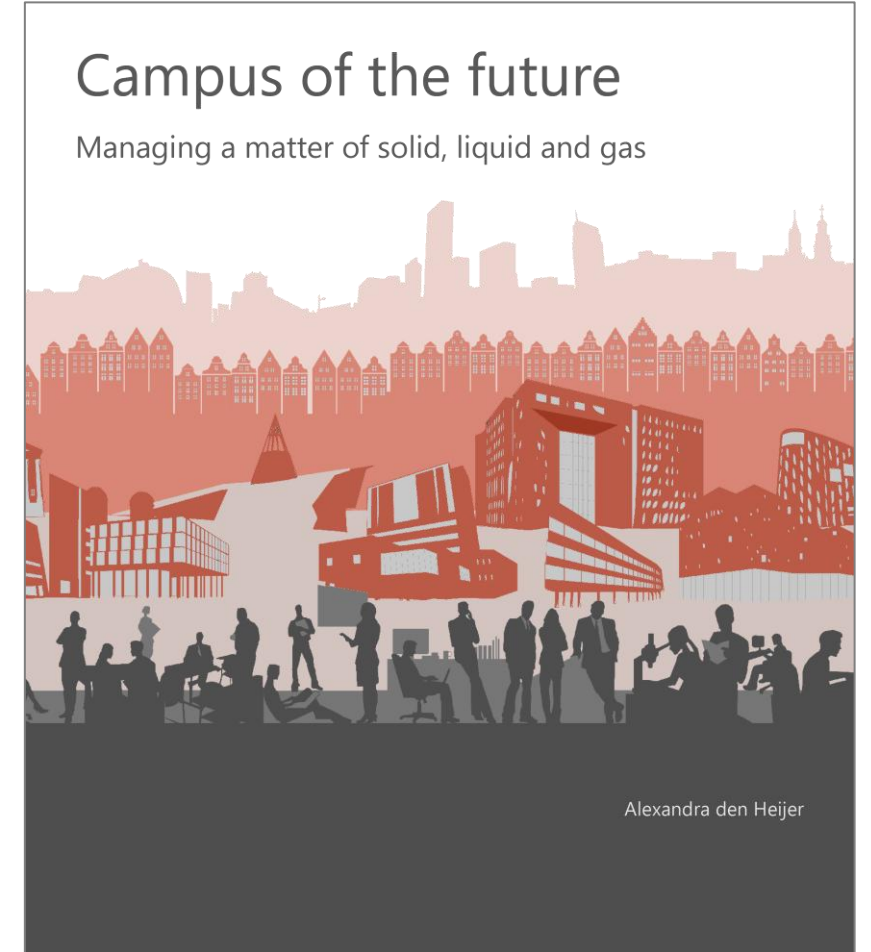
Supporting university and campus decision-makers since 1995



Previous publications



Campus NL annual report, 2024



Campus of the future, 2025

Publications are available in TU Delft repository

Campus NL

Most recent publication

Campus NL – Innovative learning environments, 2026

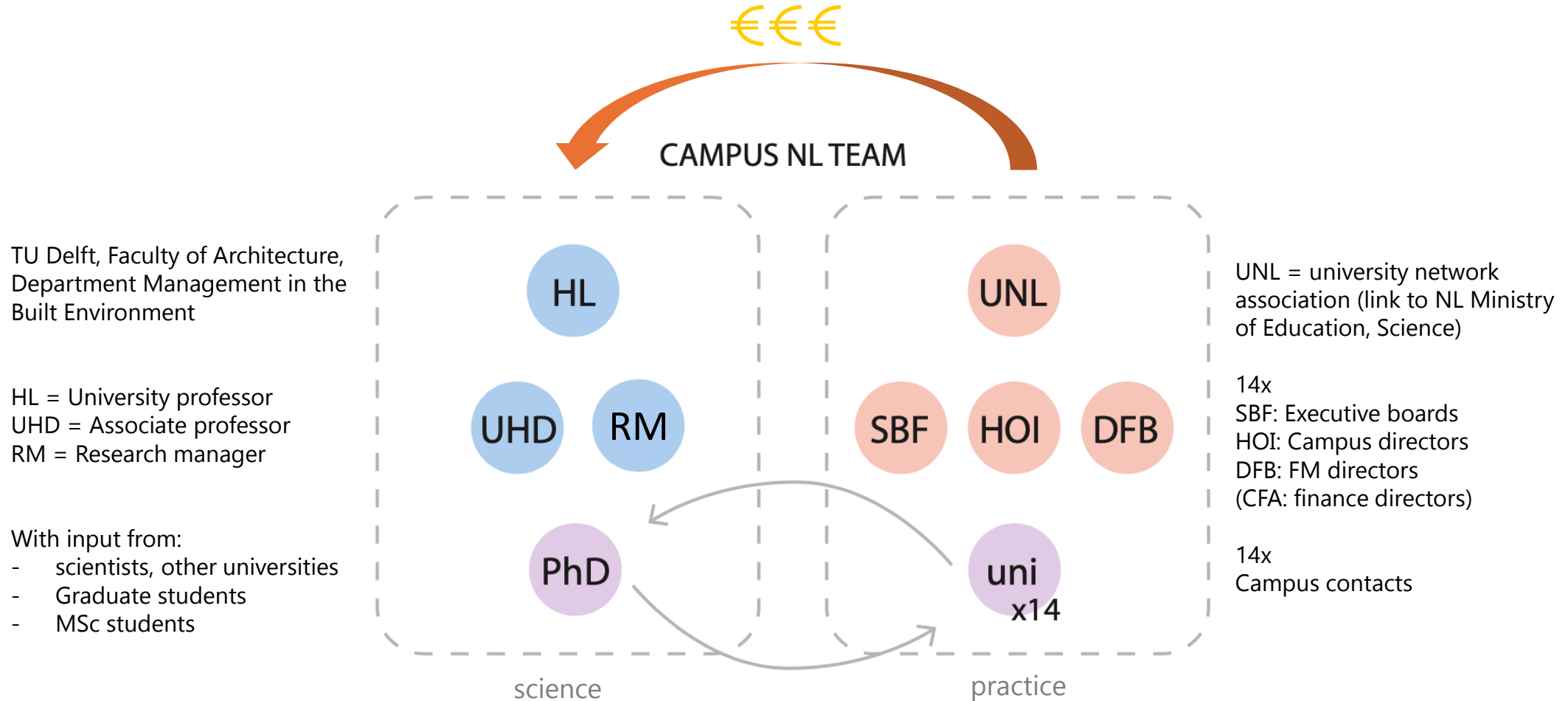


SCAN ME



Campus NL

Organisational structure



Campus NL

2023-2027 Research outputs

2023-2024

Knowledge sharing
and Hybrid working



Data from
2012 to 2024



31 Space
utilisation
studies



10
Universities



96 Buildings



> 32.700
Workplaces

2024-2025

Innovative learning
environments



Data from
2017 to 2024



38 Space
utilisation
studies



11
Universities



133
Buildings

2025-2026

Multifunctionality and
Laboratories



Data from
2025 to 2026



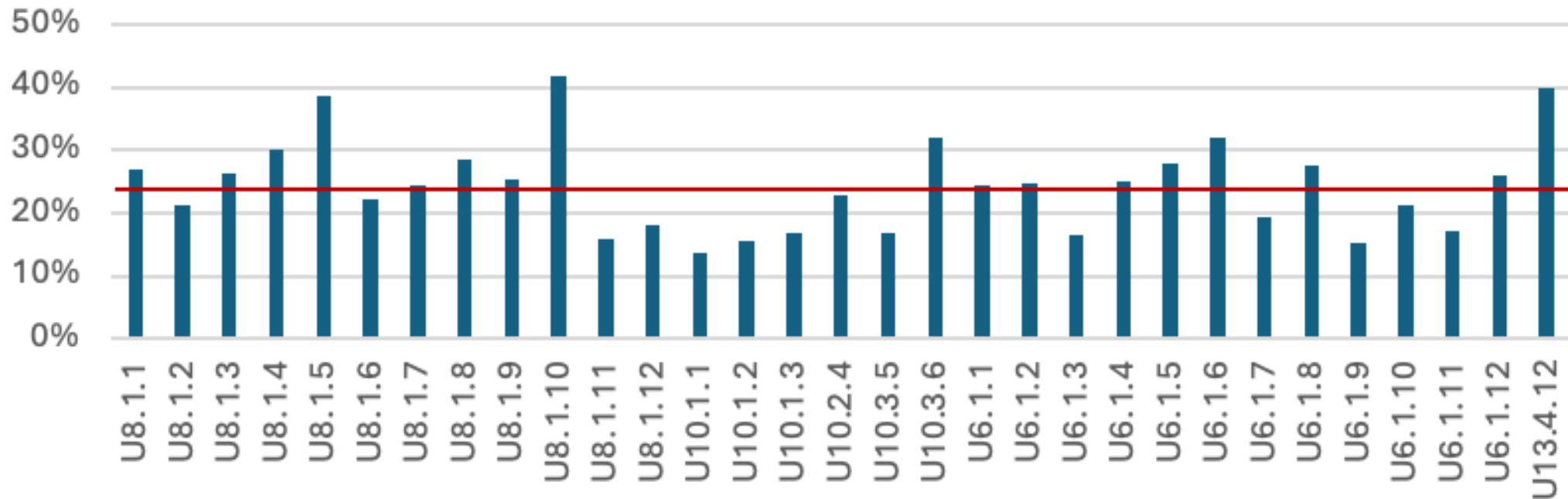
38
interviewees



14
Universities

Knowledge sharing and Hybrid working

Utilisation Campus NL office - %



Office Occupancy (%)
down to **2/3** of
Pre-COVID Levels

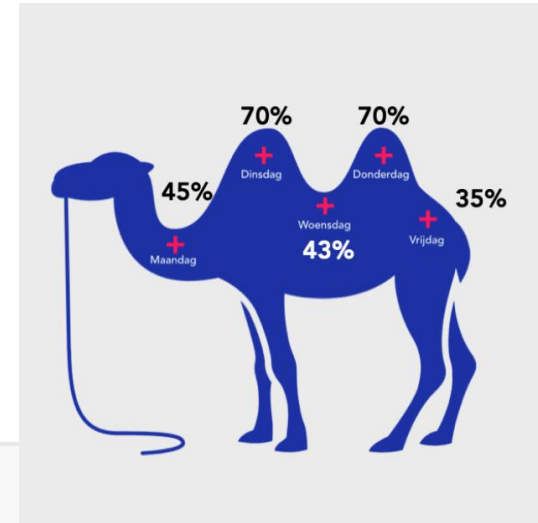
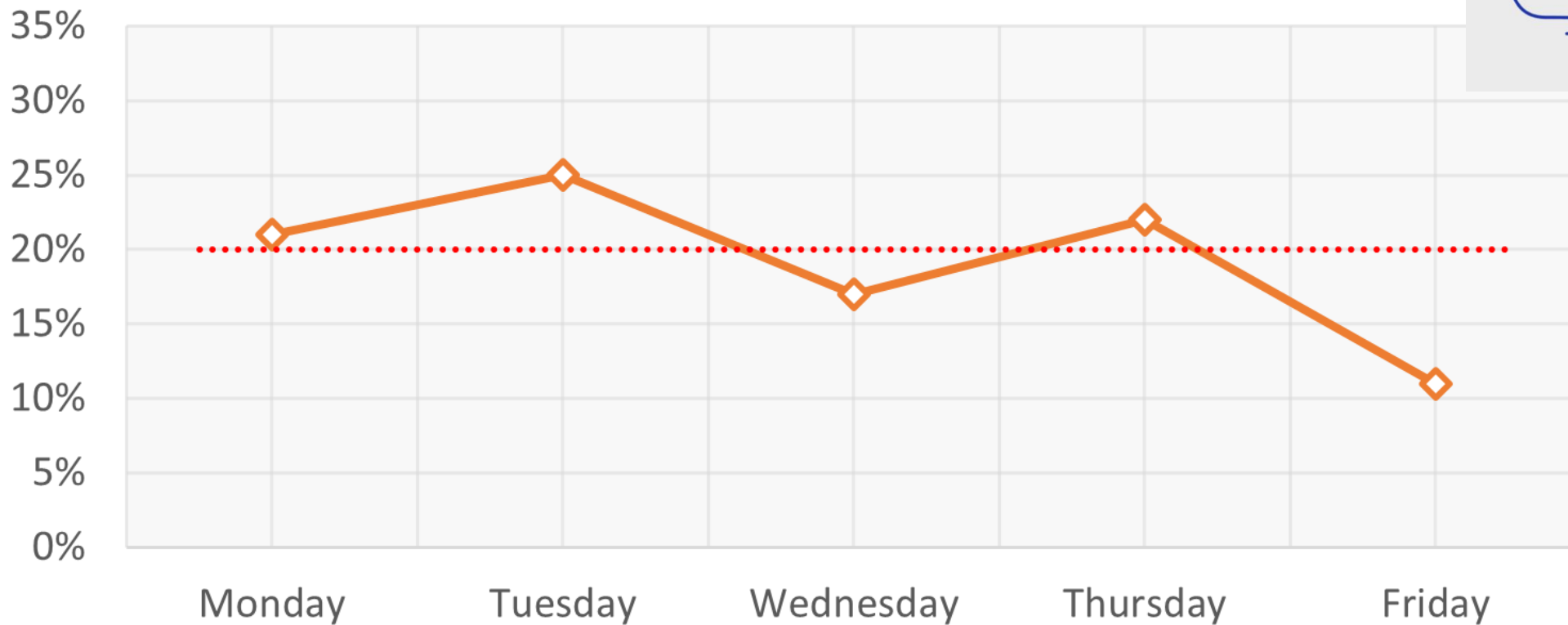
Office space per
employee has decreased
by **45%** since 2016,
averaging **11 m²**

Demand for **meeting
rooms** has increased

Data from +100 buildings
indicates up to **30%** of
office space could be
reduced or repurposed

Knowledge sharing and Hybrid working

Use of the office per weekday



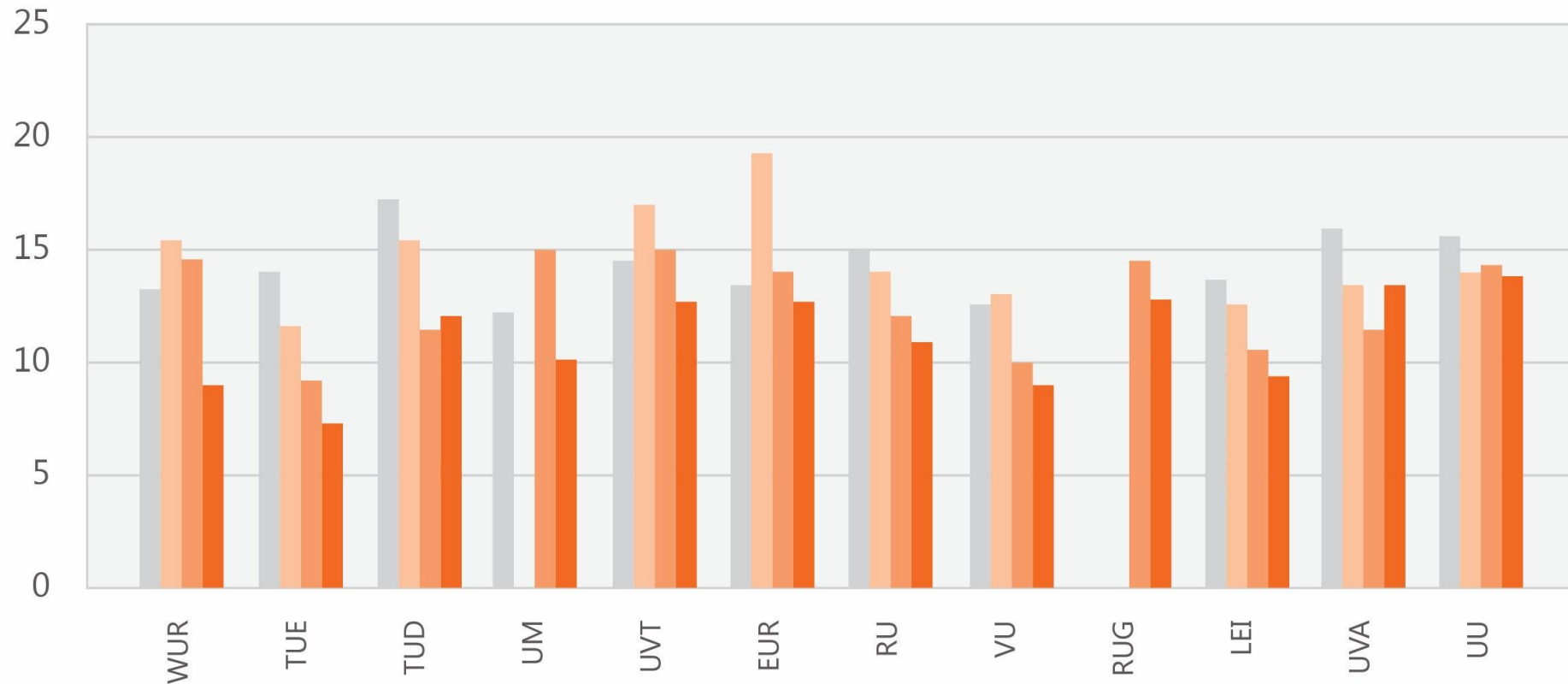
<https://brainsandbricks.nl/hybride-werken-en-de-kameel/>

Knowledge sharing and Hybrid working

Change in university office space from 2016-2023

Office space (m2) per fte per university

2016 2018 2021 2023 **From 20 m2 / fte (Campus NL 2016)
to 11 m2 / fte (Colliers 2024, based on 2023)**



Comparing notes on NL universities space standards



Innovative learning environments

“Learning environments are:

- valuable
- expensive
- often empty
- and should be shared”

Collegezaal Amphi (A1-1)



Collegezaal plat (A1-2)



PC-Practicum (A2-3)



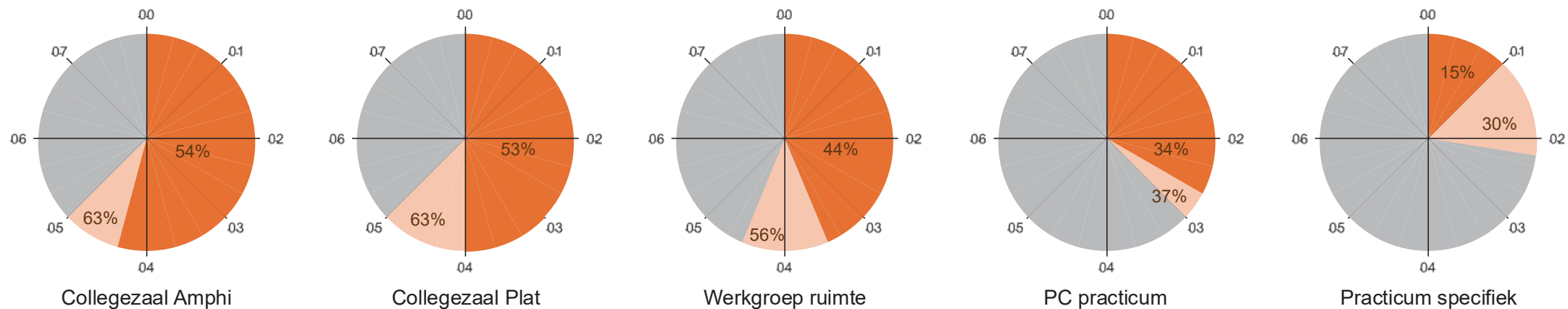
Werkgroepruimte (A3-1)



Innovative learning environments

Utilisation data, based on 133 buildings

Bezetting



Benutting:



Innovative learning environments

Teaching space per student is increasing on Campus NL

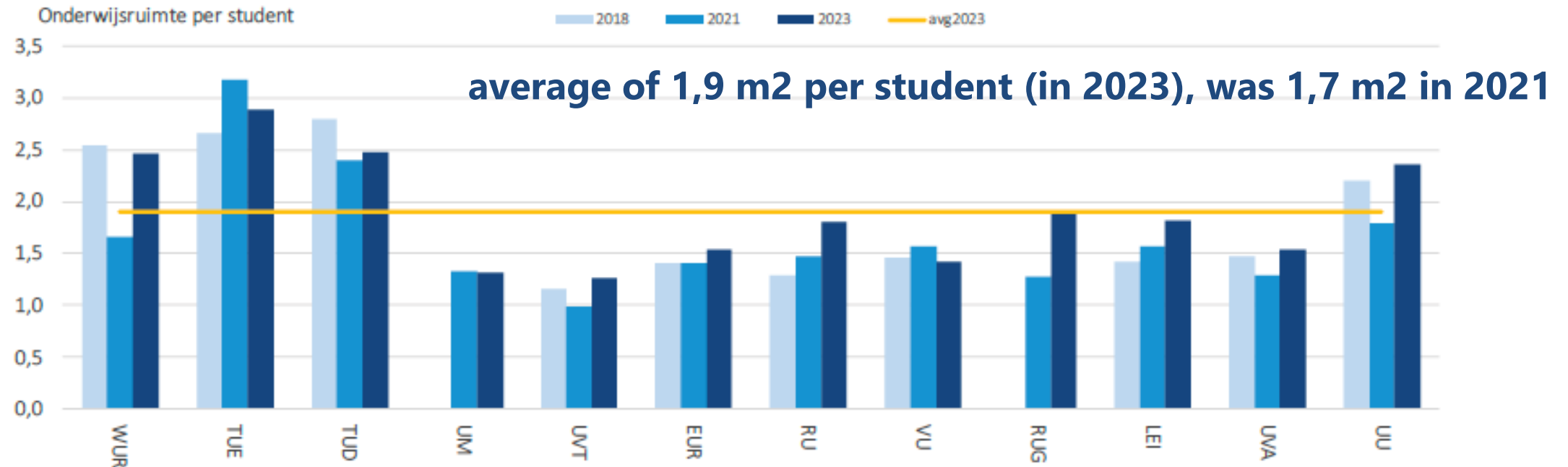


Figure 9: Educational space in m2 per student from 2018 to 2023 (Colliers, 2024, based on the 2023 data, used with permission from Colliers) - the average of 1,9 m2 per student (in 2023) is indicated with a yellow line.

Both Colliers (benchmark in 2024) and Campus NL (TU Delft 2016) concluded: students gain territory on campus, but not necessarily demonstrated by these numbers. Colliers (2024) compares the 1,9 m2 average in 2023 to the 1,7 m2 in 2021.

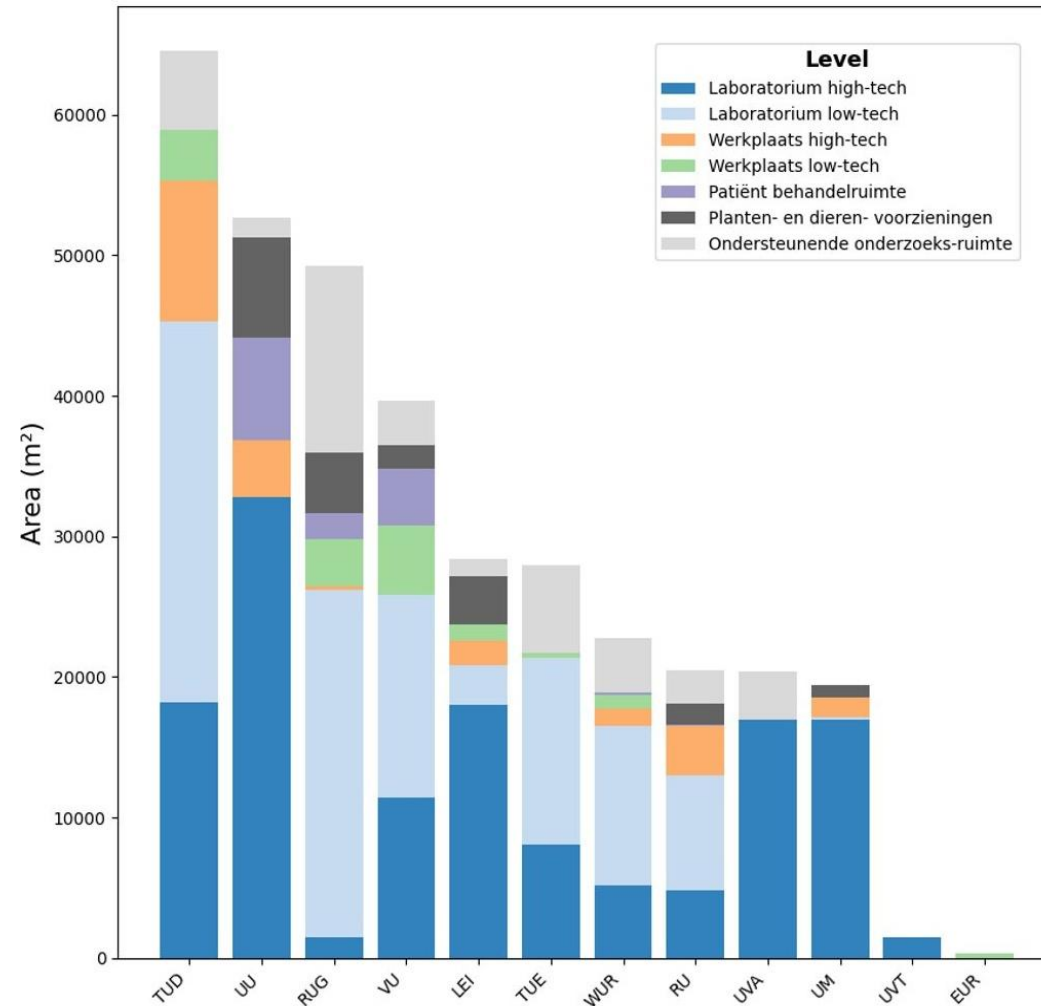
The average does hide that the university with the lowest number (1,3 m2 educational space per student) is only half of the 2,6 m2 average for universities of technology. Note that UvT is referring to University van Tilburg (normally abbreviated as TiU, also by UNL)

Multifunctionality and laboratories

Laboratory space insights

- **Not all** Universities have facilities for all defined **laboratory space types**
- Most **common laboratory** space between all Universities include:
 - High Tech Laboratories : 11
 - Supportive Research Area : 9
 - Low Tech Workshop : 8
- NL Universities with science faculties have **10.000s m2 lab space**
- **Source: project Campus NL 2026**

Laboratory Space Types Per University



Campus NL space standards

model A - solid
traditional



model B - liquid
network



model C - gas
virtual



SOLID

own room,
individual territory

shared offices,
activity-related

off-campus,
at home, in city
at other universities

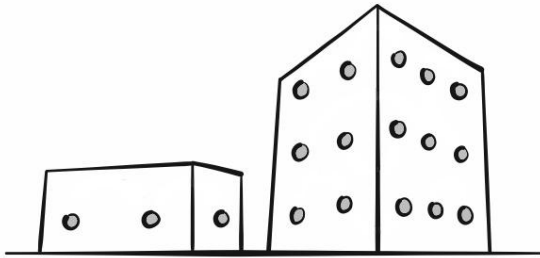
LIQUID

GAS

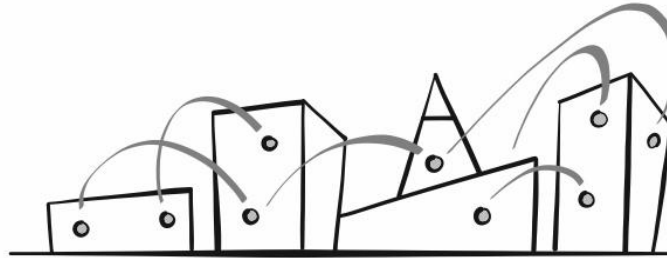


Campus models

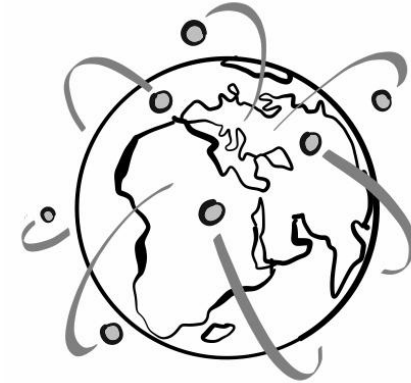
Analogy – solid, liquid, gas



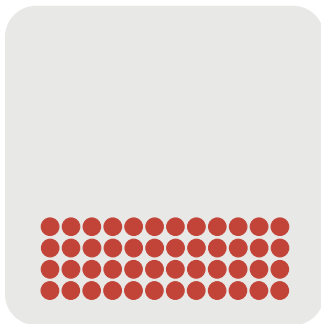
traditional
exclusive & territorial



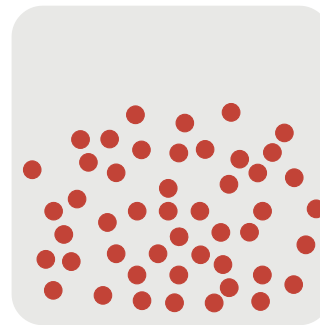
network
interactive & shared



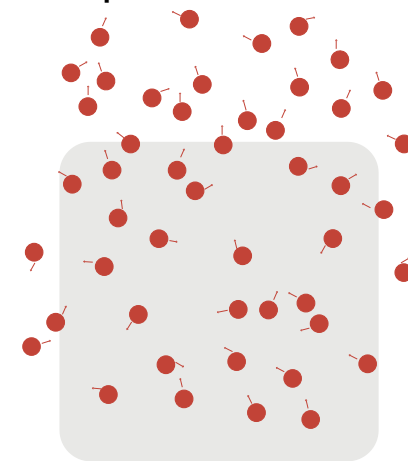
virtual
place independent & individual



"solid state"



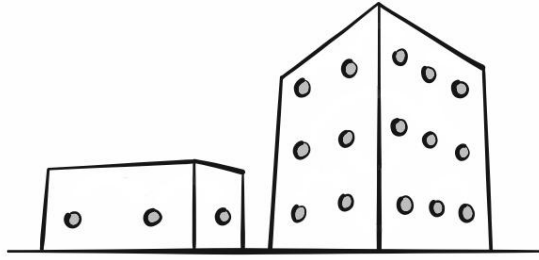
"liquid state"



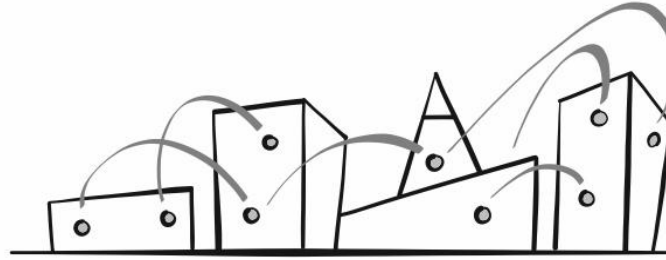
"gas state"

University and campus models over the years

Solid-Liquid-Gas



A = traditional
exclusive & territorial



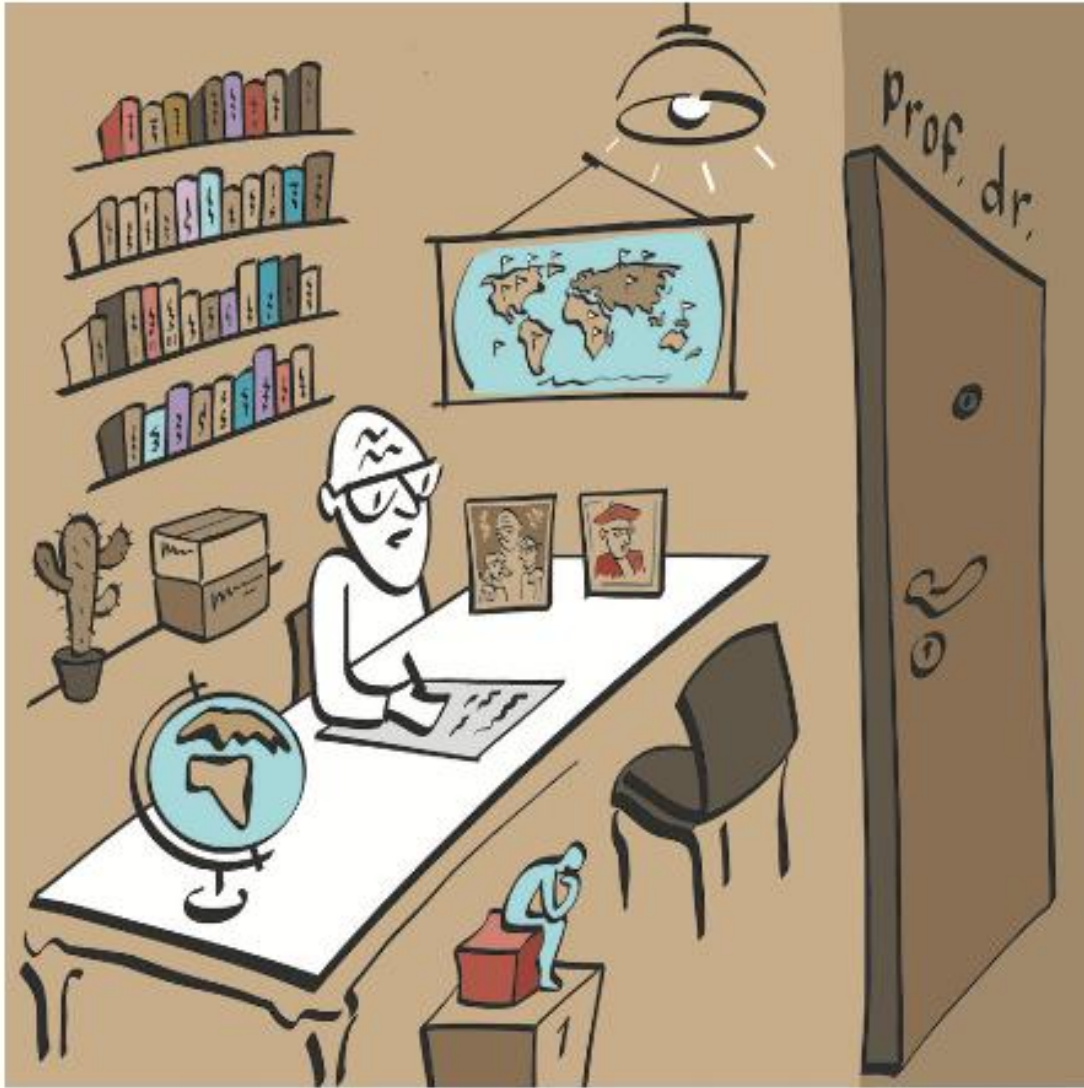
B = network
interactive & shared



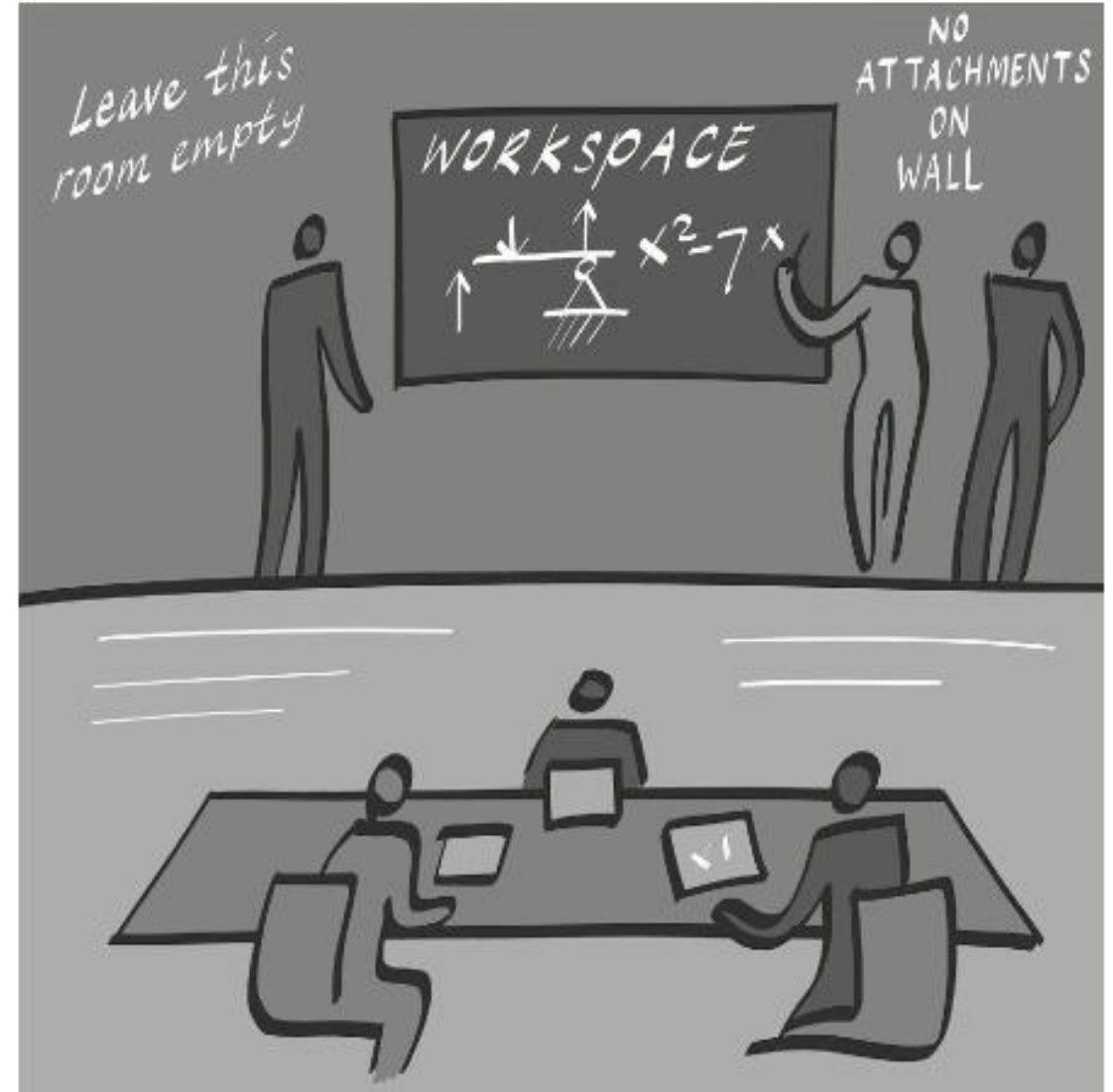
C = virtual
place independent & individual

Trend "from bricks to clicks"





Office is most dominant space, but how much do we still use it?



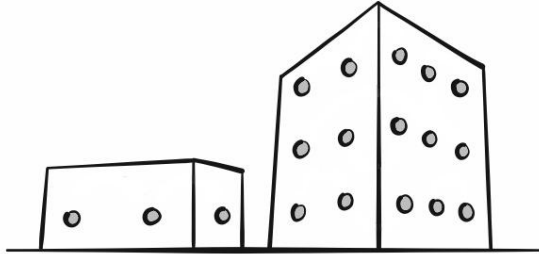
SHARED SPACES CAN INSPIRE... BUT ALSO BE ANONYMOUS



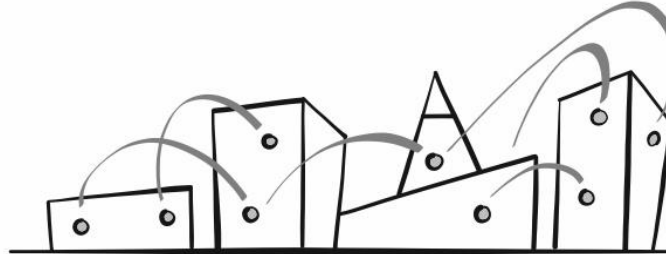
“GAS” – freedom of choice can also be overwhelming and stressful

Campus dilemma

Solid-Liquid-Gas



Solid - traditional
exclusive & territorial



Liquid - network
interactive & shared



Gas - virtual
place independent & individual

strategy "embrace hybrid reality"

strategy "we are a campus-community"

Many more campus trends

- **14 themes**
- **next trend report, end of 2026**



1. Changing
academic
workplace



5. Enriching
campus with non-
academic functions



8. Utilizing
circulation space



11. Safeguarding
the silence



2. Creating
a hybrid learning
environment



6. Giving
new life to
heritage



9. Applying
smart tools



12. Rethinking
storage



3. Replacing
faculty home
bases



7. Extending
opening hours



10. Making
campus more
sustainable



13. Showcasing
performance and
living labs



4. Investing
in state-of-art
laboratories



14. Combining
high-tech with
no-tech

Decision making about campus space has become more complex, in an **organizational**, **financial**, **social** and **environmental** force field.

How important is physical presence for education, teamwork, and innovation?

Reducing space can save money, but the extra HR costs can make it “penny-wise pound-foolish”

Community needs vs. individual needs?

Mental health

Where is everybody?

How well is office space used on campus?

Is working from home more sustainable than working at the office?



Value of knowledge exchange

A network (also called a peer group or professional association) is a *group of professionals* (e.g. academics, practitioners, etc.) that *meet regularly* on a *common topic* (i.e. campus management)

COLLECT



Data collection

Case studies

Benchmarking

STORE



Data storage

Shared case library

Collective memory

SHARE



Interaction points

Get inspiration

Evidence-based learning

APPLY



Decision-making

Supporting decisions

Institutional persuasion

European inter-university networks

Mapping inter-university campus networks across Europe, Webinar 2026 results



Countries

- 18 countries and counting
- Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom

Scales

- 18 national networks
- 3 cross-European networks
- 1 global network

Topics

- 7 networks focused on higher education
- 14 networks focused on real estate and facilities management
- 32 networks focused on sustainability

To contribute



European inter-university networks

Biggest challenges in campus management, Webinar 2026 results



Spain records 61 heatwave days in 2026, highest on record

By Reuters

'Exceptional' summer heatwaves in Europe hurting economies

By Alison Xiao

Droughts

Posted 23 Aug 2026 at 8:54pm

Record European fires burn over 500,000 hectares over summer

Paris (France) (AFP) – A record-breaking summer that saw more than 1,000 wildfires has torched some 540,000 hectares of land across the European Union since mid-June, according to official data -- an area more than twice the size of Luxembourg.

Issued on: 04/09/2026 - 15:31 | ⌚ 3 min

Share ↗



Italy logs hottest summer for more than 75 years, institute says

By Reuters

September 7, 2026 3:59 PM GMT+2 · Updated September 7, 2026

Return of the Heat Dome: A Late-Season Heatwave Expands Across Europe into Early October

By Marko Korosec

Heatwave scorches east Europe as Slovakia, Czechia see record temperatures

Some 130 million people in Central and Eastern Europe endure above 35C (95F) as heat records set.

Summer of 2026 was hottest summer ever recorded in Belgium

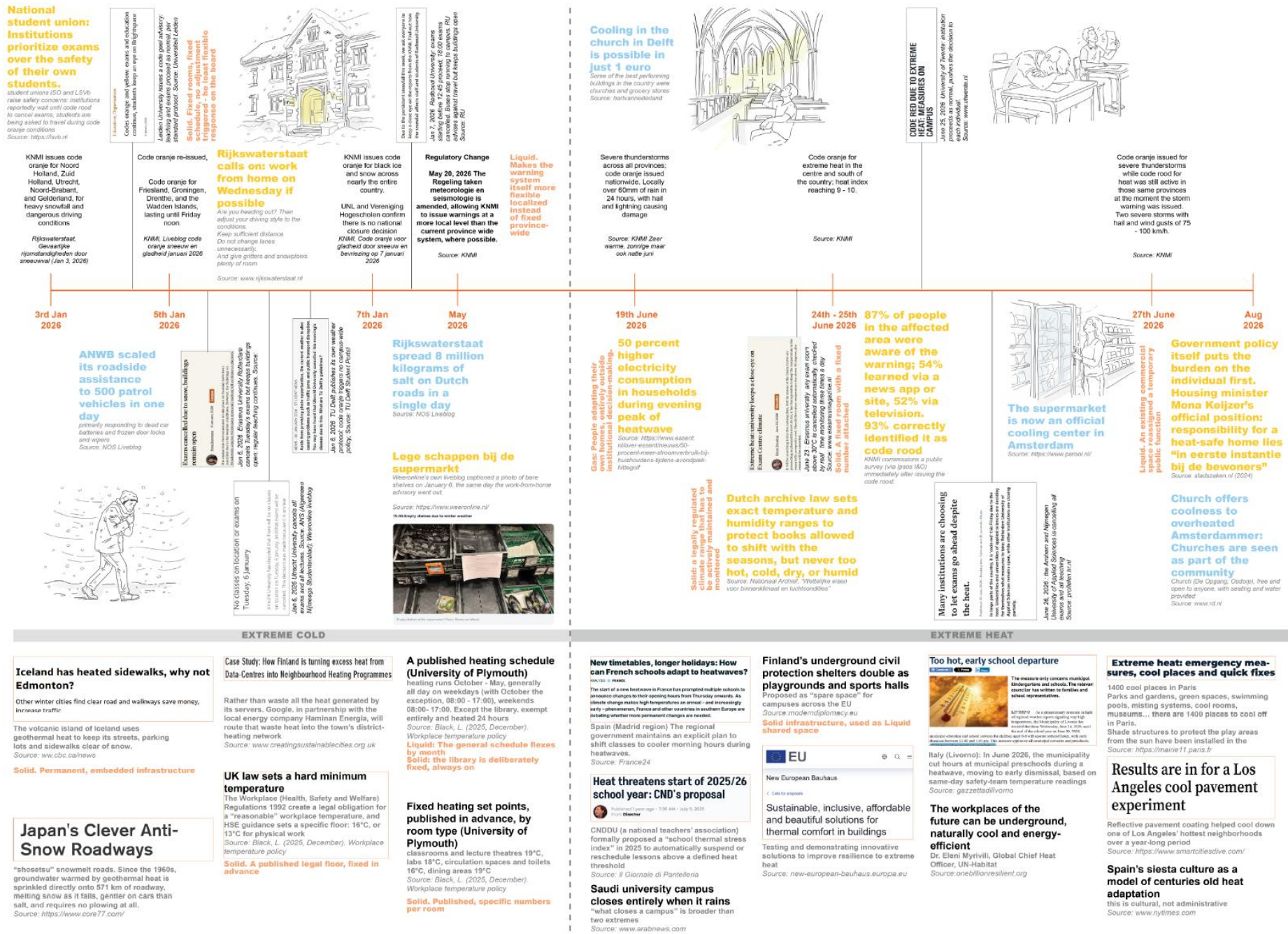
Tuesday, 1 September 2026

By The Brussels Times Newsroom

Energy prices rise in the Netherlands due to low water levels

How did universities in Europe handle the heatwave?

Not	No heat wave this summer	Work from home	Buy ventilators	Work from home	Not	I wrote with my colleagues from Health, Safety and Security a Merkblatt Hitze
They didn't	Not..	No obligation to come to work	spending water	Nothing special. They leave to the individuals	Switching off electricity devices	wait and see
Very purely	Not well :) Perhaps there were cooler spaces on campus, but I just didn't know!	Bought a ventilator	No directive from employer	We were advised to temporarily move our workplaces to newer buildings with air conditioning.	Made it our personal choice, but I expected more direction from management	No alignment between government suggestions and campus management
Unclear communication	By giving chilled drinks for complimentary	No actions	Provided a written warning (email announcement) and instructions on how to protect from heat.	We did not have them in Finland, we have made a decision that not all buildings should have cooling	no problems in our buildings - due to cooling ceilings 😊 for the university: task force was created 😊	Very reactive decisions - but we should have rules in place



Exploring road map for “El Nino Campus”

Different measures to combat heat

Building

Room types and design techniques



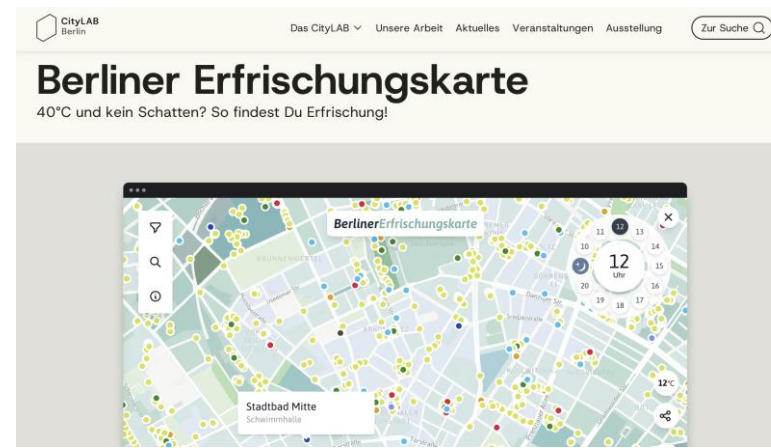
Sources:

<https://earthbound.report/2018/08/03/how-to-create-a-naturally-cool-building/>

<https://limobelinwo.com/en/How-to-keep-the-office-cool-without-air-conditioning/>

Logistics

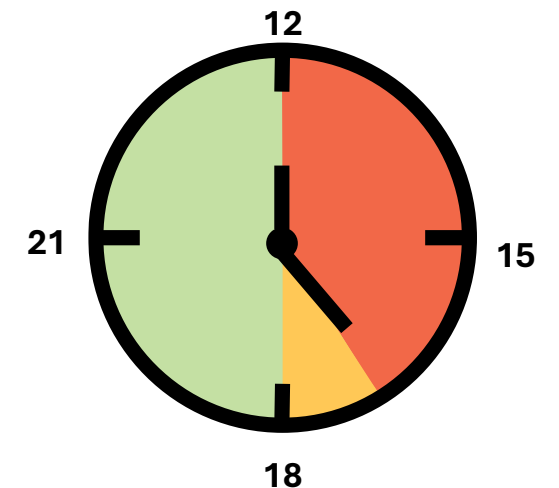
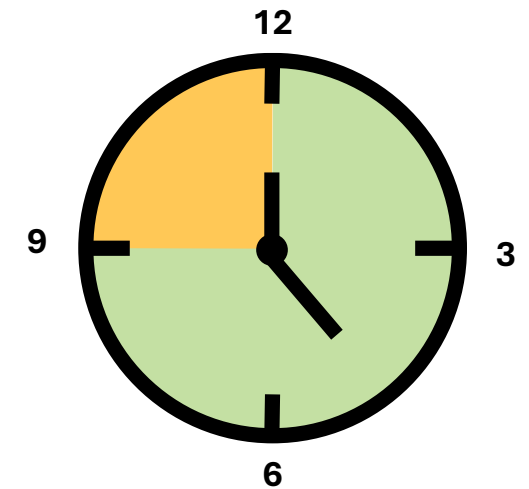
Redirecting flow of people to cool hubs



Source: <https://mannheim-gemeinsam-gestalten.de/archiv/kuehle-orte-mannheim.html>

Time

Campus siesta



It is so warm! The coolest spot for studying seems to be at faculty A. There is free space available.



Proposition / strategy:

"Not the space, but the organisation needs to be more flexible in times of climate change"

Add air conditioning to the most important rooms:
exam halls,
PhD defence room etc."

El Nino campus

Are you interested in teaming up with other universities?



Campus NL knowledge center

Knowledge platform by and for universities

NEW DOCUMENTS IN RESOURCES

Filter by:

Topic

Energy
Hybrid work
Labs
Mobility
Safety
Smart campus
Space utilisation
Sustainability

Year

2026
2025
2024
2023
2022
2021
....

Media type

LinkedIn groups
Infographics
Slide decks
Annual reports
Book chapters
Journal articles
Campus visions
Policy documents

Campus research history

2015 - 2020
2005 - 2015
1995 - 2005
<1995

Datasets

Campus m2 1995 - 2025
Benchmarks campus costs (Colliers)
UNL students and staff numbers

Elsewhere

Campus Europe
Medical Campus
Business Campus



University timelines

[Download the slide deck](#)



Campus of the future

[Download the book](#)



Smart Campus

[Download the book](#)



European Campus

[Download the book](#)



Day in the life of students

[Download the slide deck](#)



Office space utilisation

[Download the report](#)

KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

- Network/Contacts database
- Events and Conferences
- Campus contacts meetings
- "How to" guides
- Open source and closed groups



TRAINING VIDEOS/ONBOARDING TOOLS



Introduction to Campus management

Don't let good failures go to waste! Identify the causes of failure and use this knowledge to enhance safety and imp...

Free Course (MOOC) Self Paced



Health, energy and nature on Campus

Learn from the experience of the Netherlands-based "Room for a River" program devising river and delta solut...

Free Course (MOOC) 5 weeks



Campus development planning and budgeting

Learn about types and sources of industrial emissions and tools to mitigate them. Learn what the options are for climate...

Free Course (MOOC) 4 weeks

[See more ▾](#)

ANNUAL REPORTS

- Hybrid work 2023/2024
- Multifunctionality Education Spaces 2024/2025
- Multifunctionality labs
 - Report
 - Executive summary
 - University presentation

[Read more ...](#)

LINKS TO OTHER PLATFORMS

- **KENNISCENTRUM VOOR STUDENTENHUISVESTING**
<https://www.kences.nl>
- **HET OPDRACHTGEVERSFORUM IN DE BOUW**
<https://opdrachtgeversforum.nl>

AGENDA

EUA FUNDING FORUM CONGRES

OCTOBER 16, 2026

Brno

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES ESTATES CONGRES

OCTOBER 21, 2026

Manchester

ANNUAL YEAR CONFERENCE CAMPUS NL 2027

May 29, 2027

Delft

[See more ▾](#)