

And the
winner
is ...



Kevin Smets



Vincent Ginis

Media researcher Kevin Smets and physicist Vincent Ginis join Jonge Academie

Kevin Smets and Vincent Ginis have been chosen to become members of the Jonge Academie (Young Academy). Their membership will run until 31 March 2022. Ginis, who also has a role in Harvard, studies the interaction between light and material using artificially structured nano-materials. Smets, who also works at UAntwerp, focuses on media in the context of migration and conflict, centred on the Middle East.

jongeacademie.be/nieuwe-leden-2017



Rouslan Efremov

Structural biologist Rouslan Efremov receives ERC Consolidator Grant

The European Research Council (ERC) has awarded Rouslan Efremov a consolidator grant. These grants are awarded to more experienced scientists and allows them to consolidate a high-risk/high-gain programme, supported by nearly €2 million per scientist. Efremov, of the VIB-VUB Center for Structural Biology, says: "I see this grant as a fantastic opportunity to pursue ideas I have been nurturing for years, but also as a sign of confidence from the scientific community and a responsibility to make these ideas come to life." The ERC grants were established 10 years ago, and VUB has 16 recipients in its ranks.

vib.be/en/erc.europa.eu



Lien Smeesters

Photonics engineer Lien Smeesters receives European Student Innovation Award from Photonics21

Photonics21 is a European technology platform representing industry and research in photonics. The European Student Innovation Award, awarded for the eighth time, honours students for important contributions in photonics research and innovation. Lien Smeesters received the award for her research into optical spectroscopy for detecting carcinogens – any substance or agent that tends to produce a cancer – in food products. Her research paves the way for industrial, non-destructive, optical detection of carcinogens, contributing to increased food safety. Smeesters is the third B-PHOT researcher to have received this prize.

photonics21.org



Wim Vandebussche

Linguist Wim Vandebussche appointed to Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters

On 3 May, Wim Vandebussche became an official member of the renowned Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters. The Academy's awards include the Abel Prize, the unofficial Nobel Prize for mathematics, and the prestigious Kavli Prizes for astrophysics, neuroscience and nanoscience. Joining the Academy is not easy: there are 250 seats for Norwegians and 160 for foreigners. A seat becomes available when a member reaches the age of 70 or dies. Vandebussche sees the nomination as a reward for the research his team has conducted into historical sociolinguistics, and in particular for their frequent collaboration with Norwegian colleagues into social language history, planning and politics.

english.dnva.no



Gracienne Lauwers

EduLaw project receives €1m from European Commission

The Fundamental Rights & Constitutionalism research group of the faculty of Law and Criminology has received a European subsidy of almost €1 million for its EduLaw project. The project is about introducing modules on law and rights into teacher training and educational science programmes, and started in January. The project proposal was written by Gracienne Lauwers, and will be carried out with researchers Georgia Du Plessis, Charlotte Mbuyi, Martijn Roelen and Ielizavieta Kovalska under Lauwers' leadership, in the context of the Erasmus+ programme.

edulaweu.eu