



Utrecht University

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Two Tenure track  
Assistant Professor  
positions in the division  
of Developmental Biology  
(1.0 FTE)

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Faculty of Science  
Department of Biology

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January 2021

Some connections  
are fundamental

*Be one of them*

# About Utrecht University

Founded in 1636, Utrecht University is one of the oldest universities in the Netherlands and is amongst the largest in Europe.

Utrecht University is a wide-ranging, international research university of high standing. We have a strong connection to the city of Utrecht and our roots lie deep in the past.

Our interdisciplinary research targets four themes: *Life Sciences, Pathways to Sustainability, Dynamics of Youth and Institutions for Open Societies*. We are a trailblazer in the field of modernising educational concepts. Our student pass rate is high.

Our teaching and research are strongly connected. We work together in tight communities. We believe diversity is important. All this provides us with a solid base from which to work with others around the globe on the societal issues of the future.



## WHAT WE SEE HAPPENING IN THE WORLD

We live in a world that is rapidly changing. Global issues are complex: they are not limited to generations or continents and cannot be solved from one single perspective. Themes such as climate change, distribution of wealth and healthy living require an interdisciplinary approach. Scientific insights are needed to solve these issues.

## WHAT WE WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORLD

We are working towards a better world. We do this by researching complex issues beyond the borders of disciplines. We put thinkers in contact with doers, so new insights can be applied. We give students the space to develop themselves. In so doing, we make substantial contributions to society, both now and in the future.

This ambition motivates our scientists in executing their leading research and inspiring teaching. At [Utrecht University](#), the various disciplines collaborate intensively towards major societal themes. More information can be found in Utrecht University's [Strategic Plan 2016-2020](#).

The University is located in the centre of The Netherlands in the attractive and culturally vibrant city of Utrecht. The Utrecht region is among the most economically competitive regions in Europe, and a hub for science, innovation and education.

# Two Tenure Track Assistant Professor positions in Developmental Biology (1.0 FTE)



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## JOB DESCRIPTION

At the division of Developmental Biology in the Department of Biology of Utrecht University, we are seeking two enthusiastic and ambitious scientists to strengthen our research and teaching activities. You will be given the opportunity to set up your own line of research and will participate in teaching at the Bachelor's and Master's level.

We would like your research to connect to and complement the current expertise in the division of Developmental Biology and the Biology department. We are particularly interested in candidates with strong expertise in a mammalian differentiation model, based on stem cells, organoids, or 3D culture. Candidates working with model organisms including zebrafish or with a disease (cancer) model are also welcome.

You will be expected to seek external funding for new research projects and to supervise the research of Bachelor's and Master's students, PhD candidates, and postdoctoral fellows. The teaching includes general as well as specialized biology courses and establishing a new course will be

stimulated. In addition to research and teaching, you will participate in outreach activities and committee work.

As the successful candidate, you will become part of the dynamic and inspiring Life Sciences community at the Utrecht University campus. Interaction with other groups in the Institute (IBB, see below), Department, Faculty of Science, and beyond (Utrecht Medical Center, Hubrecht Institute) will be highly encouraged.

## QUALIFICATIONS

We would like to hear from you if you have the dedication and drive to build an independent research line as well as an intrinsic motivation to add your skills and ideas to our team. You also have:

- a PhD in Developmental Biology or a related field;
- experience in publishing impactful science;
- experience in acquiring external funding;
- demonstrable affinity for teaching. Experience with innovation in education is appreciated;

- expertise with high-end microscopy is recommended;
- excellent proficiency in English and willing to learn Dutch if applicable;
- a positive mindset: enthusiastic, highly motivated and a team player who thinks critically and creatively and is organized and efficient;
- the capacity to develop leadership skills.

#### OFFER

- two full-time tenure track positions are available, each for five years with a mid-term evaluation after approximately 2.5 years and an end-term evaluation. If evaluations are positive after five years, the position becomes permanent;
- a full-time gross salary – depending on previous qualifications and experience – ranging between €3,746 and €5,127 per month (scale 11 at the level of Assistant Professor (universitair docent; UD) according to the Collective Labour Agreement Dutch Universities (CAO));
- benefits including 8% holiday bonus and 8.3% end-of-year bonus;
- a pension scheme, partially paid parental leave, and [flexible employment conditions](#) based on the Collective Labour Agreement Dutch Universities.

In addition to the employment conditions laid down in the CAO for Dutch Universities, Utrecht University has a number of additional arrangements. These include agreements on professional development, leave arrangements and sports. We also give you the opportunity to expand your terms of employment



yourself via the Employment Conditions Selection Model. This is how we like to encourage you to continue to grow. More information about working at the Faculty of Science can be found [here](#).

#### ABOUT THE ORGANISATION

Research in the Developmental Biology division of the [IBB](#) makes use of a multidisciplinary strategy in genetic animal model systems (*C. elegans* and zebrafish) to acquire a deep fundamental understanding of the processes that determine development and health. Three teams that use the *C. elegans* model work closely together and share experience in *C. elegans* genetics and biology, as well as the latest technologies (CRISPR knock-in/knockout strategies, live imaging, super-resolution microscopy), on a daily basis. In addition, we collaborate closely with researchers in the division of Cell Biology, Neurobiology and Biophysics, as well as researchers in the Theoretical Biology/Bioinformatics division. These groups and Developmental Biology form part of the Institute of Biodynamics and Biocomplexity (IBB), and the department of Biology of the Faculty of Science at Utrecht University.

[The Department of Biology](#) consists of 12 research divisions, which are organized within two institutes: the [Institute of Biodynamics and Biocomplexity \(IBB\)](#) and the [Institute of Environmental Biology \(IEB\)](#). The department of Biology coordinates the teaching of the Bachelor's programme in Biology, as well as Master's programmes and PhD courses that



are offered through the Graduate School of Life Sciences. Each Institute promotes the maintenance of a high-quality and interactive research environment.

[Utrecht University](#) is a friendly and ambitious university at the heart of an ancient city. We love to welcome new scientists to our city – a thriving cultural hub that is consistently rated as one of the world's happiest cities. We are renowned for our innovative interdisciplinary research and our emphasis on inspirational research and excellent education. We are equally well-known for our informal atmosphere and the can-do attitude of our people. This fundamental connection attracts Researchers, Professors and PhD candidates from all over the globe, making both the University and the Faculty of Science a vibrant international and wonderfully diverse community.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have any questions, please contact Professor Sander van den Heuvel, [s.j.l.vandenheuvel@uu.nl](mailto:s.j.l.vandenheuvel@uu.nl) or Professor Mike Boxem [m.boxem@uu.nl](mailto:m.boxem@uu.nl).

Do you have a question about the application procedure? Please send an email to [science.recruitment@uu.nl](mailto:science.recruitment@uu.nl).

#### APPLY

Everyone deserves to feel at home at our university. We welcome employees with a wide variety of backgrounds and perspectives. If you have the

expertise and the experience to excel in this role, please respond by clicking on [this link](#), and enclose:

- a letter of motivation;
- your Curriculum vitae, including a publication list;
- a concise research plan (2–3 pages, please include how you envision the embedding of your research in the Developmental Biology division);
- a teaching statement (1 page);
- the names and email addresses of three references.

In the case of pregnancy and maternity leave or a part-time appointment please also state the corrected duration of your research career to date.

If this specific opportunity is not what you are looking for, but you know someone else who may be interested, please forward this vacancy to them.

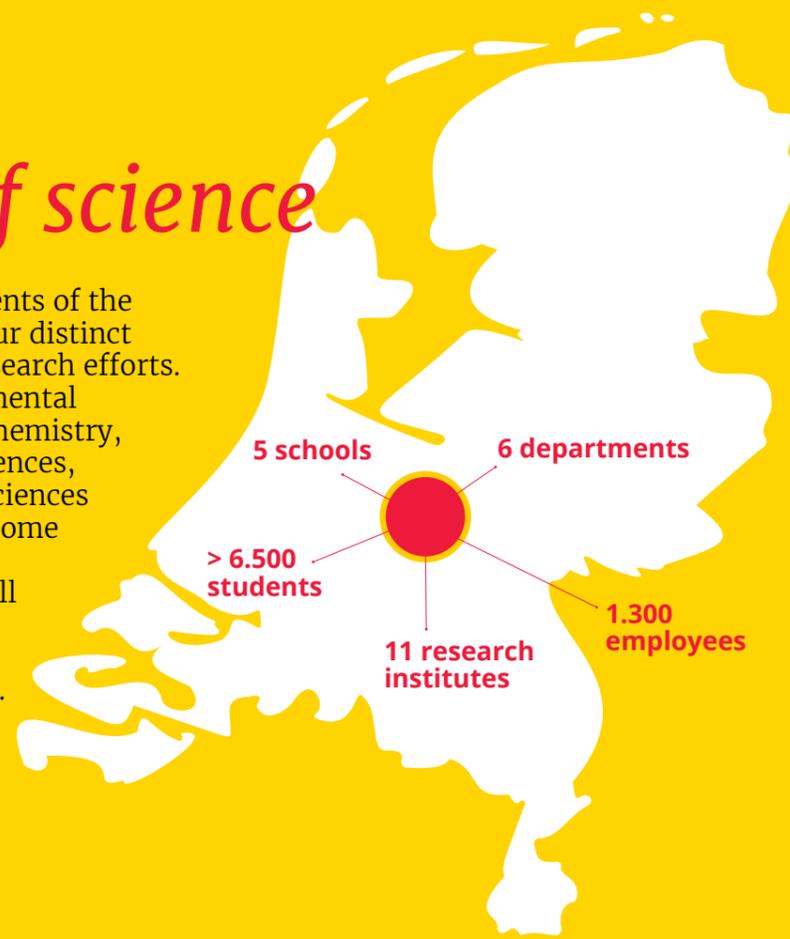
*Please note: Due to the current situation regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) the process of selection and interviews is subject to change. Initial interviews will most likely be conducted online.*

The application deadline is 28 February 2021.

**Some connections are fundamental**  
– *Be one of them*

## Welcome at the heart of science

Biology is one of the 6 departments of the [Faculty of Science](#), which harbour distinct institutes to coordinate their research efforts. This fosters establishing fundamental connections between Biology, Chemistry, Information and Computing Sciences, Mathematics, Pharmaceutical Sciences and Physics in order to answer some of humanity's most pressing problems. More fundamental still are the individual research groups – the building blocks of our ambitious scientific projects.



## Living and Working in Utrecht

### THE NETHERLANDS

The Kingdom of the Netherlands consists of twelve provinces in Western Europe (commonly known as the Netherlands) and three islands in the Caribbean. The Netherlands, (also known informally as Holland), with a population of over 16 million, is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system. It is a geographically low-lying country, with about 20% of its area and 21% of its population located below sea level, and 50% of its land lying less than one metre above sea level. This small nation boasts a wealth of cultural heritage and is famous for its painters, windmills, tulips, clogs and notoriously flat lands. Today, international trade is still the main driver of economic growth. Holland is the sixteenth largest economy in the world and one of the ten leading exporting nations. As a modern European country, it preserves its highly international character and is known for its liberal mentality. As a founding member of the EU and NATO, and host to the International Court of Justice in The Hague, the Netherlands is at the heart of international cooperation. Its small size, welcoming attitude to travellers and many sights make it a unique and fairly easy to discover destination.



Netherlands. There are direct connections from Amsterdam and Schiphol Airport (even at night), both taking 30 minutes. The high-speed train ICE to Cologne, Frankfurt and Basel stops in Utrecht and there are also daily night train (Euronight/ CityNightline) connections to Berlin, Copenhagen, Prague, Warsaw, Zurich, Munich and Innsbruck (seasonal).

Utrecht has its own International school – the International School Utrecht (ISU). ISU provides a high quality and accessible international learning environment for children from diverse backgrounds. For more information please visit: [www.uu.nl/en/organisation/international-service-desk/international-school-utrecht-isu](http://www.uu.nl/en/organisation/international-service-desk/international-school-utrecht-isu)

Certain categories of international staff (e.g. Researchers) can receive tax exemption on approximately thirty per cent of their gross salary. This is to compensate for the extra costs they incur in living abroad, such as having to rent temporary accommodation, etc. In principle, the 30% rule applies to staff who have been expressly recruited from another country and who have a formal contract of employment in the Netherlands.

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information on terms of employment at Utrecht University please see: [www.uu.nl/en/organisation/working-at-utrecht-university/terms-of-employment](http://www.uu.nl/en/organisation/working-at-utrecht-university/terms-of-employment).



### EDUCATION

- 7 Bachelor's Programmes
- 17 Master's Programmes



### RESEARCH

- 8 main research topics: Life Sciences, Food, Complex Systems, Game Research, Bioinformatics, Science Education, Climate and Energy & Resources.
- 1.529 scientific publications
- 122 dissertations



### INTERNATIONAL FACULTY

Your colleagues come from all walks of life: their diverse research and life-experiences inspire you to see the world from different perspectives.

- 30% international colleagues
- 65 nationalities (including guests)

### WARM WELCOME

We offer new colleagues throughout the world a warm welcome. We are happy to inform you about living in the Netherlands and help you prepare for your stay. If you have a family we will go out of our way to make your partner (and/or children) feel welcome as well, by assisting in job hunting and providing economic assistance toward childcare and/or schooling.

(FIGURES 2018)

### ABOUT UTRECHT

Utrecht is located in the eastern corner of the Randstad conurbation, and is the fourth largest city in the Netherlands with a population of over 330,000. Utrecht's ancient city centre features many buildings and structures several dating as far back as the Early Middle Ages. Utrecht boasts beautiful canals with extraordinary wharf cellars housing cafés and terraces by the water. As well as the famous Dom tower, the city has hundreds of other monuments that each contribute to the special atmosphere in this centuries-old university town. There are also a broad variety of shops and boutiques which line the canals and streets in the inner city.

### PRACTICAL

Utrecht Central Station forms the hub of the Dutch rail network, and is easily accessible directly, or with one change of train, from almost every station in the



**Utrecht University**

[uu.nl/science/careers](https://uu.nl/science/careers)