

# LNVH OPZIJ CHAIR

- chair for gender-related research -

promoting the advancement of women in academia



# OPZIJ

## **PROFILE (Structuurrapport)**

### **LNVH OPZIJ Chair**

**- chair for gender-related research -**

**promoting the advancement of women in academia**

#### **Background**

*OPZIJ*, a Dutch feminist periodical, celebrated its silver jubilee in 1997. This monthly magazine played and still plays an important role in changing attitudes towards feminism and the women's movement in the Netherlands. To mark its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Board and editors of *OPZIJ* and the Board of Directors of its owner, 'Weekbladpers', decided to establish a special chair in gender studies at one of the Dutch universities. The overriding theme of the OPZIJ chair became 'Power and Strategy'. After the successful submission of a profile plan by Maastricht University outlining its ideas for the new chair, it was selected as the first host university. The inauguration of the chair led to the founding of Maastricht's Center for Gender and Diversity. Prof. dr. Maaike Meijer was the first person to be appointed to the Opzij chair on 1st March 1998, with a focus on 'Gender, Representation and Power'. Prof. dr. Liesbeth van Zoonen became the second appointee on 1st February 2000, with a focus on 'Gender and Multimedia Communication'. Prof. dr. Marli Huijer was the third appointee on 1st September 2002 with a focus on 'Gender in Biomedical/Health Sciences'. Huijers' appointment was extended by an additional year up to 1st September 2005. The fourth appointee was Prof. dr. Ineke Boerefijn who held the chair up until 1st September 2008 with the focus on 'Woman and Justice; Women in Conflict Situations'. On 12th of September 2014, Prof. dr. Lies Wesseling was appointed professor for the fifth OPZIJ chair on Cultural Memory, Gender and Diversity at Maastricht University's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

After the close of the fourth period, funding for the chair was discontinued. From 2014 onwards, the OPZIJ chair became an unremunerated position (other than an expense allowance), which is a common formula for special chairs.

When the periodical *OPZIJ* was relaunched in 2017, the OPZIJ Foundation and the Board of the Dutch Network of Women Professors (LNVH) decided to breathe new life into the chair. They created a new profile for the chair and chose a new name: the LNVH OPZIJ chair. The main difference between the new chair and the original is that the LNVH OPZIJ chair is no longer linked to a single university. Female associate professors (UHDs) employed by any of the members of the Association of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU) are eligible for appointment. Moreover, female associate professors in any discipline may apply for the appointment, provided that their research is gender-related.

**Description of chair**

The purpose of the LNVH OPZIJ chair is to further stimulate the careers of female researchers in the top echelons of academia in the Netherlands. It also aims to support research on gender-related issues and to improve the visibility of such research. The chair candidates themselves will propose the specific theme ('leeropdracht') of the chair.

The LNVH OPZIJ professor (chairholder) carries out her duties – research, teaching and external publicity – within her present appointment at her own university. The chairholder is expected to make a contribution to advancing research in her own discipline. She must also contribute to academic and public discussion on the issue of gender equality in relation to her own research.

The appointment is for a two-year period and should, in principle, result in an appointment as full professor immediately following the period as LNVH OPZIJ chair.

Both the Board of the OPZIJ Foundation and the Board of the Dutch Network of Women Professors (LNVH) have agreed to the name given to this endowed chair.

**Embedding of chair**

The LNVH OPZIJ chair is not embedded in one specific university. As stated above, female associate professors (UHDS) at any Dutch university affiliated with the VSNU are eligible to hold the chair. One requirement, therefore, is that the chair must be embedded in the faculty and/or position of the chairholder. It is up to the relevant university to guide this process. In consultation with the chairholder's own university, the chair may also be embedded in a faculty other than the faculty in which the chairholder has her appointment.

Since the chair not only rotates between individuals but also between universities, the relevant University Board must issue a statement in which it authorises the applicant to hold the chair. The applicant must also submit a letter of recommendation from the same University Board along with the other application documents.

Upon her appointment, the LNVH OPZIJ professor must give an inaugural lecture that will be facilitated by the university in question.

Each LNVH OPZIJ professor will also give the LNVH OPZIJ lecture (at her own university). The LNVH OPZIJ lecture is a new bi-annual event. The text of the lecture will be made available in a special series published by LNVH and OPZIJ. LNVH and OPZIJ will organise the lecture and its publication in cooperation with the university in question. In addition, the chairholder will make one or more contributions to the monthly periodical OPZIJ.

### **Academic disciplines – Gender-related research**

The chair is open to female researchers in all academic disciplines. The chair candidate's research must, however, have a clearly identified link with gender-related issues.

### **Profile of the candidate**

The LNVH OPZIJ chair will be held by a professor by special appointment for a period of two academic years. This appointment is for a minimum of 0.4 FTE.

The LNVH OPZIJ professor must match the following profile:

- She is an experienced researcher, as evidenced by a dissertation and acclaimed international publications.
- She is a reputable, internationally acknowledged expert with a broad understanding of developments within her own discipline.
- She has an up-to-date network, both in the Netherlands and abroad.
- She has been successful in attracting funding through second and third funding streams.
- She has shown to be successful at valorising research (social impact).
- She has good communication and social skills.
- She conducts trend-setting research on a gender-related issue.
- She is capable of acting as an ambassador for the chair.

### **Selection and invitation procedure**

Recruitment will proceed by means of an advertisement placed in *OPZIJ* and other media. The advertisement will also be distributed throughout LNVH's network and in other relevant academic media. The chair is a so called 'rotating' chair ('wisselleerstoel'). As a result, recruitment will take place once every two years. Recruitment will start on 1st June 2017 and end on 13th July 2017. The chairholder will take up the appointment as early as possible in the relevant year.<sup>1</sup>

The selection committee consists of the following members (listed in alphabetical order):

- Prof. Angela Maas, LNVH Board member, OPZIJ Foundation Board member, Professor of Cardiology for Women, Radboud University Medical Centre
- Prof. Maaïke Meijer, Emeritus Professor in Gender Studies, Maastricht University
- Prof. Ingrid Molema, LNVH Chairperson, Professor of Life Sciences, University of Groningen
- Prof. Janka Stoker, OPZIJ Foundation Board member, Professor of Leadership and Organizational Change, University of Groningen
- Marianne Verhoeven, Editor-in-Chief of *OPZIJ*

Secretary: Lidwien Poorthuis, Senior Policy Officer & Head of the LNVH Bureau

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<sup>1</sup> The starting date should be indicated in the candidate's Chair Performance Plan and will be determined by the chairholder and the university in question, in consultation with the committee. The chairholder should take up the appointment as early as possible in the relevant year.

## **Finances**

The chair is an unremunerated position. The LNVH has made a budget available of 5000 euros a year. The appointed professor will perform her work – research, teaching and external publicity – as an employee of her own university and account for her activities by reporting to LNVH and OPZIJ every year on the progress made in her appointment as LNVH OPZIJ professor.

Because the chair is embedded in the organisation of the university at which the chairholder is employed, the university in question is responsible for any further costs associated with the chair. OPZIJ and LNVH are not responsible for coordination on this matter.

## **Partners**

### **LNVH**

The Dutch Network of Women Professors (LNVH) is a network, lobby and expert organisation that aims to promote equal representation of women in the academic community. It was established officially on 9<sup>th</sup> of August 2001. At that time, only 6.5% of all professors in the Netherlands were female; today, this is 18%. The LNVH now has 1138 members, of which 835 are full professors and 303 associate professors (March 2017). The LNVH focuses mainly on carrying out its core projects. There are two categories of project: those concentrating on **capacity-building** among female academics, and those that focus on **influencing policy**. Both categories aim to promote to equal representation of women in the upper echelons of academia. For more information, visit [www.LNVH.nl](http://www.LNVH.nl) or call +31 (0)30 600 1361.

### **OPZIJ**

*Opzij*, a monthly publication, has a unique position in the periodicals market as a news magazine for women. It prioritises articles and studies exploring the position of women in society. *Opzij* is for ambitious women who want to get ahead in life and who have broad interests. It shows readers the world from a feminine perspective and offers them food for thought. *Opzij* has ideas about how to achieve a better balance in society and in readers' personal lives. It inspires them with stories about strong women from over the world . For more information, visit [www.opzij.nl](http://www.opzij.nl) or call +31 (0)88 700 2727.

Utrecht, May 2017  
(translation Dutch – English: Balance2 Amsterdam)

The Board of the Dutch Network of Women Professors and the Board of the OPZIJ Foundation are seeking to appoint a:

**LNVH OPZIJ PROFESSOR for the LNVH OPZIJ chair (min. 0.4 FTE, two-year appointment)**

The OPZIJ chair was established in 1997 at Maastricht University by the Board of the OPZIJ Foundation, in cooperation with the Editorial Board of *OPZIJ* and the Board of Directors of *Weekbladpers*. Since 1988, the chair has been held by five professors in succession. In 2017, the chair will continue in a new form: as the LNVH OPZIJ Chair. Qualified candidates for this chair are female researchers (associate professors or UHDs) employed by a member of the Association of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU); candidates may be active in any discipline, as long as their research has a clearly identified link to gender issues.

The purpose of the LNVH OPZIJ chair is to further promote the careers of female researchers in the top echelons of academia in the Netherlands. It is also specifically meant to support research on gender-related issues and to make such research visible.

The chair is an unremunerated position. A budget for representation purposes has been made available of €5000 a year. The professor will perform her work – research , teaching and external publicity – as an employee of her own university.

The candidate's Chair Performance Plan must suggest a starting date for her appointment as LNVH OPZIJ chair, preferably as early as possible in the relevant year.

The chair is a so called 'rotating' chair (wisselleerstoel). As a result, the appointment as professor will be for a two-year period and should preferably result in an appointment as full professor immediately following the period as LNVH OPZIJ chair.

Qualifications:

The candidate:

- is an experienced researcher, as evidenced by a dissertation and acclaimed international publications;
- is a reputable, internationally acknowledged expert with a broad understanding of developments within her own discipline;
- has an up-to-date network, both in the Netherlands and abroad;
- has been successful in attracting funding from the second and third funding streams;
- has shown to be successful at valorising research (*social impact*);
- has good communication and social skills;
- conducts trend-setting research on a gender-related theme;
- is capable of acting as an ambassador for the chair.

The LNVH OPZIJ chair profile ('structuurrapport') is available online at [www.LNVH.nl](http://www.LNVH.nl). Please contact the LNVH in case of questions ([infor@lnvh.nl](mailto:infor@lnvh.nl) / 030 600 1361). Candidates must

apply before the **13<sup>th</sup> of July 2017**. Please submit the following documents to the committee:

- CV, including list of publications
- Letter of recommendation by the Board of your university along with a statement by the same University Board authorising you to hold the chair
- Chair Performance Plan (field of study with related aims) with concise budget outline (3 A4 pages maximum)
- The names of two references

Please send these documents to [info@lnvh.nl](mailto:info@lnvh.nl), mentioning 'LNVH OPZIJ chair' + YOUR NAME.

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