Greetings to all students,

The Faculty Student Council welcomes you back to the toilets of Science Park! We had two beautiful weeks without any classes and exams, and I think I can speak for everybody if I say that I’m a little sad that it’s over. Maybe you took some time or to rest, celebrated the holidays with friends and family, had an amazing New Year’s Eve, and perhaps even caught up on your studies. Whatever you were doing, we hope you are well rested and energised to start fresh and fruity in 2020!

For us, the holidays were like a breath of fresh air. The last few weeks of 2019 were very hectic, because we were working on our Nieuwjaarsenquête (New Year’s survey). This is an annual survey for students to let us know what we can do better in our Faculty. We hope to get a lot of input from all of you, so we get an idea of what needs to change or what doesn’t. Filling in the survey helps us help you; for example, based on the survey we arranged an additional vacation week for all students. A few years ago, we asked if you wanted an extra vacation week and when. Eighty percent of the students indicated that they needed some time off in the spring. Because of this great input, the Faculty of Science was the first to initiate an extra education-free week. It became even bigger when the Executive Board decided that it should be an UvA-wide policy.

Thus, don’t forget to fill in our survey! You can find it at bit.ly/njefnwi and we will be promoting the survey in the central hall. There is another great incentive for you: at the end of the Nieuwjaarsenquête, we will draw a name from the participants for a big prize. In December we gave you a little hint, and yes indeed, it will be a bicycle! A proper bicycle.

Kind regards,
Ilya Janssen
General council member
The Faculty Student Council 19/20

More information? Visit us in room B0.112, send an email to fnwi@studentenraad.nl or go to studentenraad.nl/fnwi

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**Faculty of Science celebrates 20 years!**

This year, the Faculty of Science celebrates its 20th anniversary. That’s right, while the UvA is coming up on 388 years, the Faculty of Science is about the same age as a third-year Bachelor’s student. In the year 2000, the three Faculties of Biology; Chemistry; and Mathematics, Informatics, Physics and Astronomy merge to become one. Ten years later, the build of Science Park 904 is complete and all teaching and research moves into this building. Since the year 2000, we’ve grown from 2,000 to 7,000 students.

With the enormous growth we made since moving in here, Science Park 904 is fast becoming too small to house all of our students and staff. Luckily, this year the construction of LAB 42 will start. With this new building for teaching, research and co-creation in the information sciences, we are ready to face the next decade(s)!

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**New student assessor: Hilal Demirel**

The new student assessor of the Faculty of Science is Hilal Demirel. Hilal is a first-year student in the Natural and Social Sciences Bachelor’s programme and was selected in a joint process by the Faculty Student Council and the management team at the Faculty of Science. She succeeds Stefanie Fijma, who held the role for the past two years.

As student assessor Hilal will attend meetings of the management team, where she contributes a student perspective to the conversation. If there is anything you’d like to bring to her attention, you can send her an email at student-assessor-fnwi@uva.nl. The Faculty of Science management team thanks Stefanie for her contributions in the last two years and extends a warm welcome to Hilal.

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**Comments or suggestions about the To Dah Loo? Please send an email: info-science@uva.nl**