



## **PrOUT policy statement**

Promovendi Overleg Utrecht (PrOUT) is the PhD network for Utrecht University. PrOUT consists of PhD representatives from all graduate schools. This policy statement provides an overview of PrOUT's different roles within the University and policy goals for the coming year.

### Representation

PrOUT's main purpose as an official organisation within the university is to *represent* the interests of all PhD candidates to the university and influence decision-making processes concerning PhDs. To do this effectively, PrOUT maintains links and meets regularly with representatives from the university governing bodies (Rector Magnificus, University and Graduate School Councils), PhD faculty councils, and relevant external organisations (PNN and trade unions). In addition, PrOUT is represented in the University Council.

### Communication

We aim to provide an important *channel of communication* between the University and PhD candidates, by communicating PhD opinions and issues to the university, and making PhDs aware of the information available to them from the university and external bodies.

### Activities

PrOUT regularly arranges activities and workshops for the PhDs and for PhD faculty representatives on topics relating to their position as a PhD within the university. These activities act to encourage communication and interaction between the PhD candidates of different faculties and to help PhDs access information not automatically provided by the university. In addition, it allows PhD candidates to directly communicate with PrOUT, and vice versa, in order to understand current views and issues within the PhD community.

### Summary

In summary, PrOUT's policy goals are as follows:

#### *1. Representation*

- Represent the needs of PhD candidates at the university
- Ensure PhDs have a role in the decision making process
- Communicate with faculty PhD councils, representatives of PNN, trade unions and similar organisations

#### *2. Communication*

- To pass information from the university on to the PhDs
- To communicate PhD views and issues to the university

#### *3. Organize activities:*

- Encourage communication and interaction between the PhDs of different graduate schools
- Make PrOUT visible and available to the PhD community