



# RESEARCH SUPPORT IN THE NETHERLANDS

CURRENT SITUATION AT  
HANZE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED  
SCIENCES GRONINGEN

**SURF**

Many institutions are involved in research support: they want to support their researchers in their access to high-quality ICT infrastructure in order to process, analyse, visualise, manage and store research data. Each institution does this in its own way. SURF presents a series on how institutions organise their research support and their agenda for the future. This series is based on SURF's Support4research innovation project. This project aims to ensure that the services provided by SURF to researchers better meet the needs of the institutions and researchers. This episode focuses on Hanze University of Applied Sciences Groningen. **If you want to share your approach to research support, please let us know by sending an email to [support4research@surf.nl](mailto:support4research@surf.nl).**

# SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH AT HANZE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES GRONINGEN

## Hanze University of Applied Sciences Groningen

(figures from 2016, rounded)

### Scientific staff

300 (75 fte)

### Number of professors

52 (30 fte)

### Number of PhD students

90

### Number of students

BA 28.000 | MA 250

### Number of auxiliary staff

800 auxiliary staff of which 75 for ICT or research support

### Practice-oriented publications per year

300

### Areas of activity

- Impact of research on professional practice
- Connection between education, research and professional practice

### Strategic focus areas of Hanze University

- Energy
- Healthy Ageing
- Entrepreneurship

## Introduction

Hanze University of Applied Sciences Groningen is the oldest multi-sector university of applied sciences in the Netherlands. In 2018 it will celebrate its 220th anniversary. The university has approximately 28,000 students and 3,100 members of staff and has locations in Groningen, Assen, Leeuwarden and Amsterdam. Its educational portfolio consists of 54 Bachelor programmes and 19 Master programmes. Some of the programmes are taught in German or English. Hanze University of Applied Sciences Groningen has three focus areas:

- Energy
- Healthy Ageing
- Entrepreneurship

Aside from education, practice-oriented research is increasing in importance at Hanze University. With four multi-disciplinary knowledge centres and two Centres of Expertise, Hanze University of Applied Sciences Groningen is a knowledge institute where research, professional practice and innovation are integrated into education. Over 50 research groups carry out applied research in close collaboration with the business community and non-profit institutions. Hanze University is a leading university of applied sciences that is helping to develop the research function of universities of applied sciences.

## Vision for research support

Hanze University wants to provide researchers with support during the entire research lifecycle – from funding to publication and valorisation. This support helps researchers meet their immediate needs and promotes the professionalisation of the research function of the university.

Support needs to be easy to find, accessible and user-friendly. This is why this research support should, where possible, be available via a single central help desk. At this help desk, support providers from different departments work together in a network. In this way, we hope to relieve researchers of unnecessary work, leaving them to carry out their research more efficiently. On an organisational level, we are creating a coherent information management system for research using a Current Research Information System (CRIS).

Hanze University wants to provide the ICT facilities and knowledge that researchers need for their applied research (see Support scenario's). This support may be provided to researchers directly, via auxiliary departments or via national collaboration (SURF).

## Organisational guarantees

The various staff departments at Hanze University provide research support within their own specialisations. A point of strength is the increasingly strong collaboration between ICT, library services, marketing & communication, human resources and the policy department on an operational, tactical and strategic level. At the level of the staff directors, an initiative has been launched to take research support to the next level and to integrate it. Among other developments, this has led to the coordination of annual plans on the issue of research support.

For the valorisation of research, a new organisational unit has been established under the name of Hanze Invent. This organisational unit is currently separate from the other research support facilities, but is nevertheless a member of the support network.

Consensus on the changes still needs to be reached within the knowledge centres. The implementation of large-scale changes (e.g. CRIS) is a lengthy process. The Executive Board and leading deans are responsible for this.

### Support scenarios

The table below provides an overview of the various types of support and their relevance to Hanze University. The table also shows at which level this support could be provided and whether Hanze University has an immediate need for support in this area.

SUPPORT	RELEVANCE	WHICH LEVEL?			CURRENT NEED?
		RESEARCHER	HANZE	NATIONAL*	
<b>Knowledge about</b>	high				
• Subsidies		□	○		
• Literature/databanks		□	○		
• Data management		□	○	△	✓
• Methodology		□	○		
• Privacy		□	○	△	✓
• Publishing (open access)		□	○	△	
• Valorisation		□	○		✓
<b>Data storage facilities, all scenarios</b>	high		✓	✓	✓
<b>Standards</b>	high				
• Research indicators				✓	
• ORCID				✓	
• Open access				✓	✓
<b>Collaboration environment</b>	high		✓	✓	(✓)
<b>National systems</b>	high				
• Narcis				✓	
• Sharekit				✓	
• HBO knowledge bank				✓	
<b>CRIS</b>	high		✓		✓
<b>Efficient business processes (using CRIS)</b>	high		✓	✓	✓
<b>Customised research software/ visualisation</b>	medium	✓			(✓)
<b>Light paths</b>	low			✓	
<b>High performance computing</b>	low			✓	
<b>3D visualisation</b>	low			✓	

- basic knowledge required
- advanced knowledge required
- △ expert knowledge required

\* If a service is not available on a national level, the tick symbol ✓ indicates that Hanze University is interested in national collaboration.

## Current and future e-infrastructure and support situation

<b>COMPUTING SERVICES</b>	
<b>Number of clusters within the institution</b>	1 ESX cluster, not specifically for compute cluster
<b>Total scope of computing power</b>	VMWare ESX cluster for office automation services
<b>Third-party clusters within the institution</b>	n/a
<b>Acquisition of computing services</b>	Azure, SURF and University of Groningen CIT on an occasional basis
<b>STORAGE</b>	
<b>Capacity of centrally provided bulk storage</b>	Central 2 x 250 TB SAN of which 25 TB is available
<b>Capacity of centrally provided archives</b>	n/a
<b>Externally purchased storage services</b>	n/a
<b>NETWORK</b>	
<b>Routed capacity (external)</b>	10 Gbit/s internet
<b>MSP capacity</b>	10 Gbit/s of which 5 Gbit/s is available
<b>AUTHENTICATION &amp; AUTHORISATION INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	
<b>Connected to SURFconext</b>	Yes
<b>Other AAI supplier</b>	No

### Agenda for research support

Hanze University will continue to strengthen its research support programme in the coming years. Now is a good time to explore what we can collaborate on with SURF and other institutions:

- Data storage facilities for various use cases (lifecycle phases, types of data, privacy, collaboration partners, etc.)
- Open access
- Setting up CRIS, efficient business processes
- User-friendly, easy to obtain, just-in-time/on demand

### References

<https://www.hanze.nl/eng/research/knowledge-development/knowledge-portal>

# COLOPHON

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SURF is the collaborative ICT organisation for Dutch education and research. SURF offers students, lecturers and scientists in the Netherlands access to the best possible internet and ICT facilities.

The SURF logo consists of the word "SURF" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, set against a black background that is shaped like a speech bubble or a rounded rectangle with a tail pointing downwards and to the right.