Finding funding opportunities in Research Professional

To help researchers find appropriate funding opportunities the VU has a subscription to Research Professional (RP), an online interactive database that covers a wide array of funding opportunities.

Though Research Professional has great potential, it is our experience that not every researcher finds it easy to navigate the RP website. To help researchers find and identify the right funding opportunities for them, we have created several tailored funding searches for the different faculties of the VU. In this guide we will explain how to access Research Professional, how to use these searches, how to review opportunities and how to save opportunities that are of interest for you.

Additionally, we will also explain how you can subscribe to email alerts so that you can receive weekly email alerts regarding funding opportunities.

1) Accessing Research Professional

Go to https://www.researchprofessional.com and select ‘VU University Amsterdam’ from the drop down menu (1) and press the ‘Log in’ button (2):
On the next screen, you can choose (1) to proceed as a ‘guest’ or (2) you can link your VU account to Research Professional. If you choose the latter option, you will have access to additional features like being able to sign up for mail alerts, bookmark funding opportunities as well as express interest for calls.

2) Next you will find yourself on the RP start screen for the VU. Here you can still find the general searches as before (outlined in red) if you prefer to use those. To go to the tailored searches for the Faculties, please click on either of the 2 outlined areas to go the next screen:
3) This screen is the actual VU home screen that houses the RP search functionalities. From the list on the right ‘Our Hierarchy’ select the faculty of your choice:

4) In the next screen you now see the option ‘searches’ (under the header ‘Funding Resources’). We have created 4 distinct searches that can serve as a starting point:
- Dutch calls
- EU calls
- Global calls (consisting of all non-Dutch and non EU opportunities)
- Early to mid-Career (focus on Dutch and EU opportunities)
- Newsletter Dutch-EU

(for this example the Faculty of Humanities was selected, but the exact same searches have been created for the other faculties)

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1 The search ‘Newsletter Dutch-EU’ was created specifically for the email alerts. This search lists all the Dutch and EU funding opportunities that will open at least 2 months from now and will close in approx. 4 months from now. This window of opportunity has been chosen to notify researchers for upcoming opportunities with ample time to work on a proposal and/or contact potential partners.
To subscribe to the newsletter, simply click the orange ‘Join this group’ button. If in the future you wish to unsubscribe, you can simply do that by pressing on the same button again (once joined, the button will be relabeled to ‘Leave this group’).

After selecting one of the searches, the results will be presented in a new screen (for this example ‘EU Calls Humanities’ was chosen). By clicking on the main title in the listing (outlined in blue), you will be directed to a new page with more detailed information regarding the funding opportunity. If you are interested in one of the listed opportunities, you can choose to bookmark that opportunity and save it for later. This can be done by first ticking the box in front of the opportunity (1) and either bookmark the selected opportunity (2). Alternatively, you can choose the option ‘Download’ from the dropdown menu (3).

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2 Please be aware that this option will only work if you chose to link your VU account to RP earlier.

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If you feel that topics for your Faculty have been included erroneously and/or are missing from the discipline section (the section outlined in red) please contact us at subsidiedesk@vu.nl so that we can add said topics and/or apply changes.

5) Below is an example of the more detailed funding page. Core data is listed further down the page (outlined in blue) below the general outline on the call. More importantly, the closing date is mentioned at the top of the page (outlined in red). Additionally, the Grant Office can also provide specific data (on for example internal deadlines). If used, these annotations will become visible above the ‘Expressions of Interest’ (please see the red arrow). Please also note the ‘Express interest’ button which can be used to express interest for a certain call. Alternatively, you can contact us at subsidiedesk@vu.nl to inquire about and discuss the funding opportunities that are available for you.

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