

The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) is an independent body that advises the Dutch government on matters related to scientific research, promotes international scientific co-operation, assesses the quality of scientific research and is responsible for managing and defining the policy for 17 research institutes in the life sciences, humanities and social sciences. The Academy employs approximately 1,300 staff.

The VKS is a new five year research programme of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. It aims to support researchers in the humanities and social sciences in the Netherlands in the creation of new scholarly practices using state of the art information and communication technologies. The Studio also aims to analyse these new practices and the development of *e*-research in a variety of disciplines. A core feature of the *Virtual Knowledge Studio* is the integration of design and analysis in a close co-operation between social scientists, humanities researchers, information technology experts and information scientists. The VKS has three research themes: data & digital information, communication & collaboration, and virtual institutions. The VKS develops three new methodologies: virtual ethnography, simulation & modelling in the humanities & social sciences, and Web Archiving for research. The working language of the VKS is English. The VKS will start on January 1, 2006 and will be evaluated in the course of 2010, after which the KNAW will decide whether and in which form the VKS will be continued.

To realise this exciting interdisciplinary programme, the VKS is currently seeking:

one senior research fellow

*(38 hours a week
vacancy number: PZ277)*

two senior researchers

*(38 hours a week
vacancy number: PZ 298)*

one management assistant

*(30,4 hours a week
vacancy number: PZ 279)*

The **Senior Research Fellow** will play an important role in leading and contributing to the empirical and theoretical development of the VKS research portfolio. The Senior Research Fellow will be a member of the VKS management team, and will be responsible for a theme as well as a methodological collaboratory.

Appointment

This position involves a tenure track appointment beginning with a temporary appointment for a maximum of 2 years. Given proven suitability for the job, the position will become permanent. Forms of secondment ('detaching') for candidates having tenured positions at a Dutch university can be considered. Candidates from the humanities and social sciences in the Netherlands are particularly encouraged to apply.

Salary

Depending on education and work experience, the maximum gross monthly salary with a full-time appointment will amount to €4.996,-, scale 13, Collective Agreement for Dutch Universities (*CAO-Nederlandse Universiteiten*), excluding 8% holiday pay and a year-end bonus. We offer an extensive package of fringe benefits.

Work location

Amsterdam

The two **Senior Researchers** will play an important role in the empirical and theoretical development of the VKS research portfolio. Beside developing their own research and acquiring external funding in one of the VKS themes or methodological foci, they will have specific responsibilities within the team. One senior researcher will be responsible for the peer review process of the VKS, the other senior researcher will organise one of the VKS collaboratories.

Appointment

This position involves a tenure track appointment beginning with a temporary appointment for a maximum of 2 years. Given proven suitability for the job, the position will become permanent. Forms of secondment ('detaching') for candidates having tenured positions at a Dutch university can be considered. Candidates from the humanities and social sciences in the Netherlands are particularly encouraged to apply.

Salary

Depending on education and work experience, the maximum gross monthly salary coming with a full-time appointment will amount to €4.605,--, scale 12, Collective Agreement for Dutch Universities (*CAO-Nederlandse Universiteiten*), excluding 8% holiday pay and a year-end bonus. We offer an extensive package of fringe benefits.

Work location

Amsterdam

All candidates for these research positions should

- be strongly focused on ground-breaking basic research in one of the relevant fields in humanities and social sciences
- have a PhD in either humanities or social sciences
- have a strong international orientation in their research
- have expertise in, or willingness to develop, the use of digital tools in research
- have, or be willing to develop, expertise in the methodological innovations necessary for the specific tasks within the VKS
- enjoy theoretical plurality and be able to engage with, and contribute to diverse theoretical perspectives based on empirical research
- have excellent organisational skills
- have a strong research track record, as demonstrated by an excellent publication list and acquired funding for research projects
- be proficient in English. Applicants who are not proficient in Dutch are expected to acquire a sufficient level of Dutch language skills within two years.

The **Management Assistant** will have a central role in the organisation of the VKS. He/she will perform all administrative and secretarial duties and be responsible for the planning of meetings. The Management Assistant will organise VKS lectures, seminars and scientific conferences. He/she will also be responsible for the production of the VKS Website, newsletter and for the VKS information services.

Candidates for the Management Assistant position:

- should have outstanding organisational and administrative skills
- will be excellent communicators in both English and Dutch
- will be used to working in innovative work environments and taking the initiative will come naturally to them
- should have expertise in project management or be willing to acquire these skills in a short time.

Appointment

This position involves a permanent appointment, beginning with a temporary appointment for a maximum of 2 years. Given proven suitability for the job, the appointment will then be converted into a permanent appointment.

Salary

The position is part-time (4 days a week). Depending on education and work experience, the maximum gross monthly salary coming with a full-time appointment will amount to €2.796,-- , scale 8, Collective Agreement for Dutch Universities (*CAO-Nederlandse Universiteiten*), excluding 8% holiday pay and a year-end bonus. We offer an extensive package of fringe benefits.

Work location

Amsterdam

Information

Information about the VKS programme can be obtained from the VKS Website www.virtualknowledgestudio.nl. Questions about the programme can be sent to the programme leader Paul Wouters, paul.wouters@vks.knaw.nl.

Application

You may send your application, consisting of a letter of motivation, copies of two publications, and curriculum vitae, to the VKS to the attention of Lianne Heuschen, Postbus 95110, 1090 HC by 15 January 2006 at the latest.

You may also email your application by forwarding a Word document to lianne.heuschen@vks.knaw.nl stating the vacancy reference.

Any acquisition further to this advertisement will not be appreciated.