

Plenary session Amsterdam Biannual

For the first part of the plenary session, we aim for an interactive way to inform the broader group of Biannual participants on what is happening in Aurora and how activities contribute to the core Aurora Vision & Mission. We will be hosting a series of mini-interviews by an experienced moderator of (selected) group chairs, with the moderator also soliciting questions and comments from the audience.

For the second, more in-depth part of the plenary, we will zoom in on the various developments of the EUN-proposal. Since the last biannual in Grenoble, substantial changes have been made in regards to the completion of the proposal. By means of a presentation, the changes and progress made in between the two biannual will be presented.

A. What is happening in Aurora? – a series of mini interviews (60 min)

Prof Nana de Graaff from VU Amsterdam (*to be confirmed*) will interview some of the chairs of the key groups of Aurora on their objectives, activities, and achievements. There will be interaction with the audience, and especially, students and university leaders in the audience will be invited to comment.

Who will be interviewed?

- Diversity: Karen van Oudenhoven, dean of Social Science at VU and chair of the DiversityDiversity & Inclusion group
- Education: Neil Ward, DPT Vice-Chancellor at UEA and chair of the Aurora Vice Rectors Education group.
- Research: Jon Atli Benediktsson, President of the University of Iceland and chair of the Aurora Vice Rectors Research group.
- Students: Elisabeth Brynjarsdottir, a student at the University of Iceland and President of the Aurora Student Council
- Sustainability: Tavis Potts, a researcher at the University of Aberdeen and chair of the Aurora Sustainability group

B. What is happening with the EUN Proposal? (60 min)

Aurora is preparing a proposal in response to the 2nd Call for European Universities initiatives. Part of the plenary session will be devoted to the proposal as it will stand end of October. We will have short presentation, each followed by Q&A sessions, on:

- The overall Vision & Mission for the proposal
- An outsider's observations and reflections
- Each of the key substantive Work Packages of the proposal
- The perspective of the students

Speakers on these specific topics will be announced later.