

STUDIUM GENERALE DUURZAAMHEIDSDENKEN 2017



**“Duurzame Universiteit:
wereldvreemd of wereldwijs?”**

**22 maart
29 maart
19 april
26 april**



“We are not just looking back at our rich history: most of all we are looking ahead and asking ourselves about what role we want to play as a university in the future. 2017 is the perfect moment to give shape to this vision.

Ghent University 20.0 is not the university of today or the university of tomorrow: it is the University of the Future.”




Website Ghent University

WHAT ROLE DOES UGENT WANT TO PLAY ?

We do not have a definite answer but we have some good ideas where to start from:

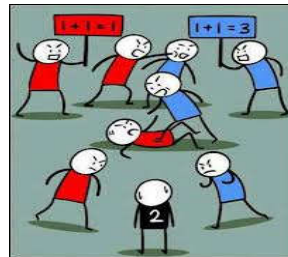
the huge challenges that societies are faced with worldwide



 Persistent inequalities



Ecological limits



Social conflicts



Democracy


3

WHY IS SUSTAINABILITY A GOOD STARTING POINT ?

The characteristics of the sustainability problem challenge the university as an institution in its core.



Sustainability as a societal problem

- Ambivalence in problems and solutions
- Uncertain knowledge
-  Distributed power

Challenges for the university

- Our scientific practices
- Our educational practices
- Our public role

4

CHALLENGES FOR THE UNIVERSITY (1)

1. It obliges us to think about the **public role** of our university

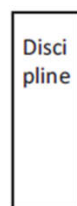
- Do we have a responsibility in relation to society and its problems? And if so, which?
- What is our relation to “the powers that be”? Is our institution part of the status quo? Or are we an actor of change for a more sustainable society?



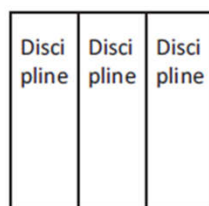
CHALLENGES FOR THE UNIVERSITY (2)

2. It obliges us to think about the **practices of science**

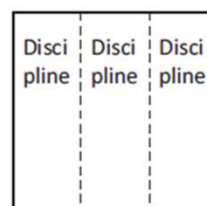
- What are interesting and relevant research questions?
- How do we set up and conduct research?
- By which criteria do we judge research?



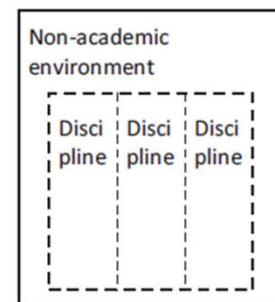
Mono-disciplinary



Multi-disciplinary



Inter-disciplinary



Trans-disciplinary



CHALLENGES FOR THE UNIVERSITY (2)

2. It obliges us to think about the **practices of education**

- How do we connect our education to current and future societal debates ?
- How do we set up education when answers are often not readily available? How do we prepare students for complexity, ambiguity and normativity ?



THE TRANSITION HAS STARTED (WE HOPE...)



Memorandum 2013



Memorandum 2014

STUDIUM GENERALE 2017 EEN DUURZAME UNIVERSITEIT: WERELDVREEMD OF WERELDWIJS

Keep it complex! Towards a sustainable 21st century university
22 maart 2017, Kunstencentrum Vooruit (20u-22u)

Duurzaamheidsuitdagingen en de academische verantwoordelijkheid
29 maart 2017, Kunstencentrum Vooruit (20u-22u)

Universiteit Gent, eilandcultuur of open samenwerking?
19 april 2017, Kunstencentrum Vooruit (20u-22u)

Transitie UGent Deluxe. Toekomstscenario's voor een duurzame universiteit
26 april 2017, Kunstencentrum Vooruit (20u-22u)



9

SESSION 1: KEEP IT COMPLEX! TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE 21ST CENTURY UNIVERSITY

- Prof. Dr. **René Schwarzenbach**:
“The Sustainable 21st Century University: more than just wishful thinking?”
- Prof. Dr. **Leif Östman**:
“Worldviews in education”
- Discussion with the public



10



All documents related to the STUDIUM GENERALE 2017 will become available on the CDO-website

www.cdo.ugent.be

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