

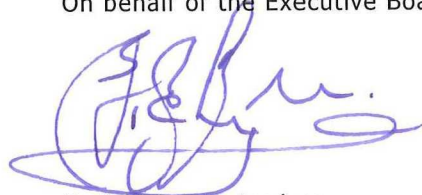
POSITION STATEMENT EXECUTIVE BOARD TU DELFT REGARDING CE ASSESSMENT

The Executive Boards of Delft University of Technology, Eindhoven University of Technology and the University of Twente have commissioned an assessment of all their research carried out in the field of Chemical Engineering (CE). For the TU Delft this included the departments of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology of the Faculty of Applied Sciences. The assessment was carried out in 2015 by an international peer review committee, using the Standard Evaluation Protocol 2015-2021 (www.vsnu.nl/sep). Chair of the peer review committee was prof.dr. Klaus Müllen (Max Planck Institute, Germany). The full report of the peer review committee is available on the TU Delft website.

The Executive Board wishes to express her gratitude to the peer review committee for their work and the final report. As we understood from the faculty it is a good reflection of the fruitful and open discussions during the site visit. The Executive Board is pleased that the committee regards the field of Chemical Engineering in the Netherlands in line with international levels and highly competitive in the world. This is also reflected in the assessment of the TU Delft departments. The committee recognizes a broad range of research, from basic to applied, with clear examples of internationally recognized high quality research. Both departments also perform research that is highly relevant for society with many examples of partnerships with industry.

The committee has made useful recommendations, both at the national and departmental level. The problems concerning the position and career perspectives of tenure trackers are not limited to the field of Chemical Engineering. The same holds true for the issue of gender balance with a striking underrepresentation of females in the field of engineering sciences. The remarks and suggestions of the committee provide useful insights for both the national and local discussions concerning these matters. The Executive Board of TU Delft will stay on top of these issues in the upcoming years and take action where appropriate. Last but not least, the Executive Board agrees with the committee that the average PhD trajectory takes too long. We are pleased that the committee recognized that measures are being taken to reduce the PhD duration such as the implementation of the Graduate School.

On behalf of the Executive Board of Delft University of Technology,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K.C.A.M. Luyben', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Prof. K.C.A.M. Luyben
Rector Magnificus TU Delft