

Bestuurlijke reactie M Archaeology (research)

Overall the panel was impressed by the quality of our program. They emphasized our strong reputation for research and its embedding in our research master program, “thus connecting students with a research environment that in many areas should be considered world-leading”. Next, they pointed out that one of the program’s assets is its clear transdisciplinary and multidisciplinary aims. They conclude that our research master’s program offers its students a high-quality research environment with excellent facilities and good access to resources and staff.

They offered recommendations for further improvement as well, of which the main points are outlined below:

- The panel encouraged that the program continues with diversifying its teaching staff in line with the quick developments in the field of Archaeology, including the involvement of young researchers.
- The panel recommended that we explore semi-formal collaborations with like-minded and research-oriented programs, within both the Netherlands and Europe, to create an additional exchange of ideas and to keep up with the trend towards specialization and diversification in archaeology.
- The panel stressed that the research-oriented nature of the research master’s degree could be shown more explicitly. They suggested to add *publishability* to the Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO) of the program and to list publications based on thesis research to make the achieved level of publishability more visible.

The recommendation of extending the list of supervisors is strongly supported by both staff and students. During a meeting in October 2021 all staff members present voted in favor of adding assistant professors to the list of potential supervisors. Also, at present many students have two supervisors, to allow a research topic that is only covered by assistant professors.