

NEWS & UPDATES



Foundation Academy of Amsterdam

September is the start of our new academic year! We are looking forward to welcoming about 35 to 40 students who will study in one of our programs at the School of Divinity, the School of Global Studies, and the School of Integrated Human Rights. The School of Divinity will commence with “Passion for Preaching,” an opening day program with Rev. Ron van der Spoel as our guest lecturer. We will also start our Divinity Diploma and Academic Diploma Programs in September. In October, our diploma programs for Integrated Human Rights and Global Studies will start. Those who are interested in participating in any of these programs are most welcome to contact us via email.

The last academic year was amazing for Foundation Academy of Amsterdam:

From University to Academy, A Wise Choice!

In 2018 our name changed from university to academy. This change gave us more accountability and credibility in our wider society, and it opened door for us to collaborate with other institutions. We remain registered as an institution for alternative higher education, with emphasis on divinity, humanities, and social sciences.

Becoming Class-based

The pattern that we see here with Foundation Academy is that we are gradually becoming a class-based educational institution alongside the online education we offer. As academic staff, we have noticed that personal contact and class-based education are more effective and encouraging to the migrant groups here in the Netherlands.



Graduation 2018

In Amsterdam on the 16th of June, 23 of our students graduated in integrated human rights, global studies, and divinity. On the 14th of July in Barcelona, about 20 students graduated in global studies and integrated human rights. Also, this year, a group of “underground” pastors and church leaders in Pakistan graduated in divinity diploma. In Cyprus, about 20 students graduated with a certificate in Biblical Studies.



Basic Rights Festival

On June 30, Foundation Academy of Amsterdam participated in the Undocumented Migrants Festival in Utrecht. Organizations such as the FNV Trade Union, Basic Rights, and other institutions were present. We presented a workshop on higher education for refugees; roughly 30 people

New Chairwoman

In 2017/18 we inaugurated our very first female chairman: Ir. Minda Groeneveld-Jusay. Minda has worked at Hivos, the Humanist Institute for Development Cooperation, for 17 years. During that time, she first served as policy staff for gender and development for Asia and later as program officer for East Africa, addressing the topics of renewable energy and climate change. She holds an electrical engineering degree from Mindanao State University, Philippines. Since 2013, Minda Groeneveld-Jusay has been involved as volunteer lecturer at Foundation Academy of Amsterdam and co-developed the School of



New Deans

Both the School of Divinity and the School of Integrated Human Rights have new deans. Laura Dijkhuizen (MSc.-PhD Candidate) has been appointed as lecturer and as Dean for the School of Divinity. Laura is an expert in Pentecostalism, especially in an African context, and is an experienced educator and lecturer in theology. Formerly Ds. Gerard Worm was the past dean for the School of Divinity, and he is moving to serve as chair of the advisory board.

Jille Belisario is our newly appointed dean for the School of Integrated Human Rights. Jille is active at the Transnational Institute. She is a pioneer in labor rights for undocumented immigrants and has been active for many years at the Commission for Filipino Migrant Workers. Jille is also a co-founder of the School of Integrated Humans Rights. She speaks often at conferences and at United Nations conventions on migration.

VU University (Free University) Center for Theology of Migration

One of the most encouraging achievements in 2017-18 was the acceptance of our Academic Diploma students at Free University's Center for Theology of Migration (www.cthm.nl). The students who graduate from Foundation Academy of Amsterdam can now apply for the post-graduate program for migrant pastors and church leaders. This one-year postgraduate program (60 EC) is especially commissioned by SKIN (Samen Kerk in Nederland: Together Church in the Netherlands) and offered by Free University of Amsterdam Faculty of Religion and Theology. Three former Foundation students have already decided to further their studies at CThM. It's important to note that our academic diplomas are only accepted for this specific program, and not for BA or MA programs offered at Free University. If you are interested in continuing your studies at Free University Center for Theology of Migration, and you are a migrant pastor or church leader and do not have the necessary diplomas to apply for Free University CThM, feel free to enrol in one of our Academic Diploma programs. We will help you further.

Our Alumni

We also have quite a bit of good news about many of our former students who are active in various sectors of society—participating in conferences, grassroots movements for human rights, church activities, and missions. For example, in December 2017, Utrecht University's Conflict Studies and Human Rights together with Ubuntu House organized a special day for Human Rights, with many presentations and discussions. One of the presenters was our former student Berhane. Berhane earned his Academic Diploma in Global Studies at Foundation as well as his Diploma in Integrated Human Rights. The title of Berhane's presentation was Refugee Crisis Challenges Western Values.



On March 29, 2018, former student Natalia Robledo Contreras and Dean Jille Belisario spoke at the Workers Rights for Undocumented in The Netherlands conference at Wereldhuis in Amsterdam. Natalia has been elected as a member of the parliament of the FNV Cleaners Trade Union in the Netherlands. Natalia earned her diploma in Integrated Human Rights this year in June 2017.

Open Day 20 September 2018 Passion for Preaching

The School of Divinity will commence with “Passion for Preaching,” an opening day program with Rev. Ron van der Spoel as our guest lecturer. We will also start our Divinity Diploma and Academic Diploma Programs in September. Are you interested? You want to further your studies in divinity? Are you a pastors or an assistant pastor, or you have a calling to become one, feel free to attend this open day. Send us an email office@foundation.eu.com

October 2018 School of Global Studies

Global Studies is a multi-disciplinary program helping our students to understand and analyze how the world is changing. Global Studies emphasizes on global issues such as climate change, international migration, conflict and, violence, social justice, modern slavery, global cultures, and religions. In order to understand the complexity of globalization, it combines various disciplines such as sociology, anthropology, economics, political science and world history.

For further inquiries feel free to send us an email office@foundation.eu.com

October 2018 School of Integrated Human Rights

School of Integrated Human Rights facilitates interactive learning and enhances holistic understanding on the human rights. Migrants' rights, gender, racism and discrimination are part of the discussion. The student may choose between certificate or diploma program. Both programs are the same, except that the diploma program requires a final exam by the end of each module, whereby the certificate program is merely assignment based. Both programs are accredited by International Council for Higher Education.

For further inquiries feel free to send us an email office@foundation.eu.com



September 2018 School of Divinity

The classes are starting in September. Do you want to study theology and you don't have the proper papers and diploma's in order to enrol at a regular university, you can now study with us with potential prospect to further your pastoral education at VU University postgraduate program for migrant pastors and church leaders, a joint program of Samen kerk in Nederland and VU University (Free University Amsterdam) For further inquiries feel free to send us an email office@foundation.eu.com

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT



All our activities and achievements could have not been possible if our friends and those who believe in our work did not support us financially. Therefore, we express our gratitude to our volunteer professors and lecturers, staff, as well as to the JCF Church Amsterdam, CEC (Cultural Educative Center) in Amsterdam South East, as well as to individual sponsors and friends.

We humbly ask you to continue to support us. You can send your donations or gifts to the following:

Stg. Foundation Academy of Amsterdam

Account No. 5780947 OR (IBAN Number: NL96INGB0005780947)

BIC/SWIFT Code: INGBNL2A

Name of the Bank: ING BANK NV

Address of the Academy:

Bijlmerdreef 1289 1103 TV Amsterdam The Netherlands

We also accept PayPal. You can send PayPal donations and gifts to office@foundationuniversity.com (the PayPal account is still using our previous email address, but is still functioning)