

# Comenius Programme Call 2023

Information session, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022, Leiden University

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Carine de Wilde (SOZ/SEA)

Maarten van de Ven (ICLON)

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**Universiteit  
Leiden**  
The Netherlands

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# Today's Programme

- 15.15-15.30 Welcome, outline of today's programme, and inventory of your questions
- 15.30-15.50 Celebration of 2022 awards with laureates and rector magnificus Hester Bijl
- 15.50-16.20 Short introduction to Comenius programme 2023, including available support
- 16.20-16.40 Laureates' experiences and tips with Paz González and Steven Lauritano
- 16.40-17.00 Q&A

# John Amos Comenius – 17<sup>th</sup> century pedagogue, educational innovator



# Comenius Programme: background



# The Comenius Programme

## Aim

To give impetus to educational innovation and improvements by professionals in higher education

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by **professionals** in higher education

# Aim of the Comenius Programme

“to give impetus to educational innovation and improvements by professionals in higher education”

Innovation:

- is **evidence-informed**
- needs to **improve** teaching practice
- needs to directly **benefit students**
- is considered **innovative** for Dutch higher education (beyond LeidenUniv.)
- derives from the fellow's own **vision** on education

# Aim of the Comenius Programme

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Innovation:

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- needs to directly **benefit students**
- is considered **innovative** for Dutch higher education
- derives from the fellow's own **vision** on education
  
- Experiences and results will be **evaluated and shared** within the (nationwide) HE teaching community
- Contribute to the **professional development and career** of a Comenius Fellow



# **Congratulations to all awardees of the Comenius Programme 2022!**

**by  
Rector Magnificus  
Hester Bijl**



# Awardees Leiden University Call 2022

## Teaching fellows (€50.000)

- **Anouk van der Weiden** (Soc.Sci.): Critical Investigation: training critical reading skills (Theme: Free theme – the entire scope of Fit for the Future)
- **Steven Lauritano** (Hum.): New Ways of Seeing Together – repurposing whiteboard software to facilitate object-based learning in the hybrid classroom (Theme: Studying together at the hybrid campus.)
- **Siavash Rafiee Rad** (Hum.): Languages in academic practices (Theme: Transdisciplinary collaboration)
- **Tessa Mulder** (LUMC): 3D anatomy using echography in the curricular education (Theme: Free theme – the entire scope of Fit for the Future)

## Senior Fellows (€100.000)

- **Alexandr Sramek** (LUMC): Connecting to the (future) job market. (Theme: Free theme – the entire scope of Fit for the Future)
- **Joni Reef** (Law): Transformative Learning Behind Bars (Theme: Transdisciplinary collaboration)
- **Paz González** (Hum.): A way to collaborative learning in Humanities: A student journal (Theme: Free theme – the entire scope of Fit for the Future)

# Call 2023



**COMENIUS**  
**P R O G R A M M E**

# The Comenius Programme

## Aim

To give impetus to educational innovation and improvements by professionals in higher education

## Three tiers

- Teaching Fellow
- Senior Fellow
- Leadership Fellow

# Available fellowships **(pending call 2023)**

## Teaching Fellows

2+ years experience

12-18 months

€45-50.000

impact: course level

## Senior Fellows

5+ years experience

24-30 months

€90-100.000

impact: faculty level

## Leadership Fellows

7+ years experience

36-42 months

€450-500.000

impact: university level

Note that the years of experience required per tier are a *minimum*, not a *maximum*!

THEME	TEACHING	SENIOR	LEADERSHIP
Theme 1: Accessibility in higher education	4	2	Themes n/a Projects should align with the institutional vision on and ambitions re. education.
Theme 2: Well-being in higher education	4	2	
Theme 3: Working on the challenges of the future	4	2	
Theme 4: Open theme – The entire breadth of ‘Fit for the future’	8	5	
Total	<b>20</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>

# Themes Call 2023

THEME	AIM
Theme 1: Accessibility in higher education	Strive to make higher education <b>more accessible</b> , to research the educational needs of students who encounter specific obstacles and to properly support and guide them during their studies.
Theme 2: Well-being in higher education	Strive for the prevention, early identification and guidance of students who experience performance pressure and loneliness in order to <b>increase their mental well-being and functioning</b> . This could include changes in the design of the curriculum, didactics and testing, or attention to the connection of students among each other and with the program and educational institution
Theme 3: Working on the challenges of the future	Focus on the question of how students can be educated so that they can contribute to solving <b>national and global challenges</b> of the future. This may involve for example internships or other forms of education, but also how universities of applied sciences and universities can learn from each other or cooperate.
Free theme: entire scope of 'Fit for the future'	Projects matching the topics/ambitions set out in the national Strategic Agenda for HE and research. Applicants use their experience to reflect on which innovations will make the <b>greatest contribution</b> to HE.

# Teaching Fellow: Objectives

**(pending call 2023)**

1. Impact own students within single course/defined study program
2. Supported by a team of direct colleagues, advisers and students
3. Potential to serve as best practice example within and outside the institution

**No limit** to the number of proposals per university.

Expected experience: 2+ years

Project duration: 12-18 months

Budget: €45-50,000

Impact: course level

# Senior Fellow: Objectives

**(pending call 2023)**

1. Impact on education in one or more master/bachelor programs or at Faculty level
2. A team proposal with a combination of experts and leadership in teaching and research
3. Contribute to the educational knowledge base

Maximum of **one proposal per Faculty** (or interfaculty institute), process for internal selection by each Faculty.

Expected experience:	5+ years
Project duration:	24-30 months
Budget:	€90-100,000
Impact:	faculty level



# Leadership Fellow: Objectives

**(pending call 2023)**

1. Impact on education in multiple Faculties or the entire institution
2. Team proposal of experts in education and management that, together, have the mandate to implement the proposed innovation. The team is supported and enabled by the Board of the University
3. Gives an impulse to the institution's education strategy and herewith take a pioneering role at national or even international level

Maximum of **one proposal per university** (pending outcome of 2021), first selection via faculties, final selection centrally by rector.

Expected experience:	7+ years
Project duration:	36-42 months
Budget:	€450-500,000
Impact:	university level

# Timeline: from idea to proposal



# Deadlines (t.b.a.) & procedures

## (pending call 2023)

### Teaching Fellow

- No internal pre-selection
- Please inform Leiden University's Comenius coordinator on intention to apply (so we may reach out to you for relevant information and support)
- Letter of intent: **beginning of September**
- Preliminary application: **beginning of October** (summary, problem outline, innovative character, expected results)
- Internal deadline for advice/guidance: **beginning of December**
- Full application: **January** (project plan, budget, statement)

# Deadlines (t.b.a.) & procedures

**(pending call 2023)**

Senior Fellow:

- Internal pre-selection by Faculty Board: 1 project per Faculty/inter-faculty institute
- Application to your Faculty Board: internal deadlines apply (**June/July**)
- Letter of intent: **beginning of September**
- Preliminary application: **end of September** (summary, problem outline, innovative character, expected results, statement)
- Internal deadline for advice/guidance: **beginning of November**
- Full application: **December** (project plan, budget)

# Deadlines (t.b.a.) & procedures

## (pending call 2023)

### Leadership Fellow

- Internal pre-selection by Rector: 1 project is selected for application on behalf of Leiden University
- Pilot for 2023 selection on basis of longlist discussed by vice-deans – process already started (announced in April, deadline was in May)
- Letter of intent: **beginning of September** (summary, project team, suggestions for referents)
- Full application: **beginning of October**

# Assessing your proposal

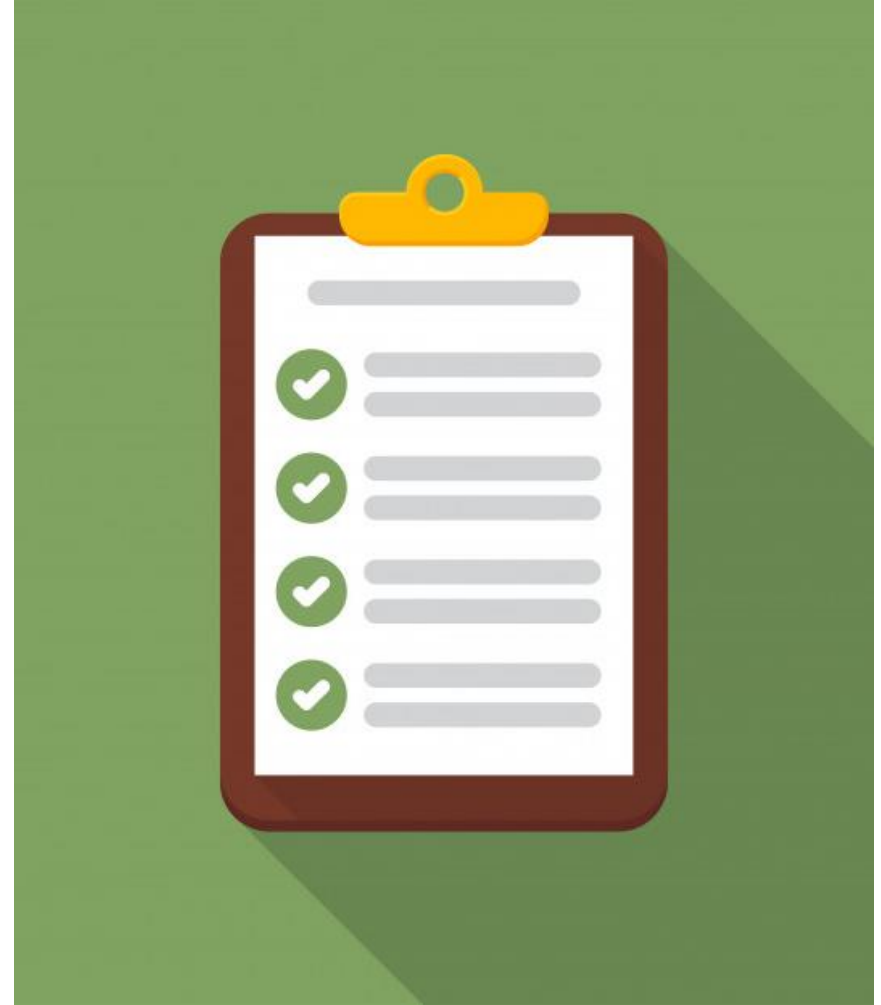
(pending call 2023)

## Criteria:

1. Innovative nature (30%)
2. Expected result (20%)
3. Quality of project plan (20%)
4. Teaching experience and vision of the applicant (30%)

## Reviewing committee:

- Thematic experts
- Educational researchers
- Experienced innovators
- Students!



# Results Call 2022: universities

## Teaching Fellows:

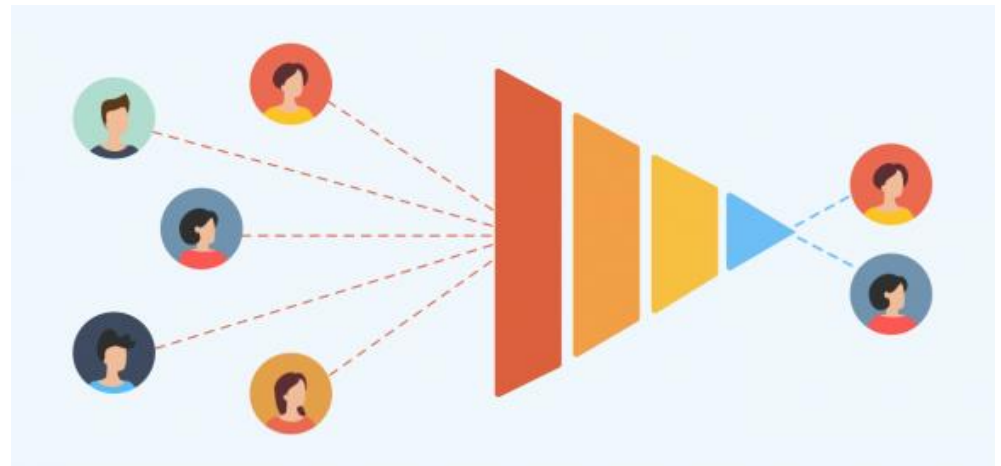
- 100 submitted Letters of Intent
- 80 preliminary proposals
- 36 final proposals
- 20 projects granted
- Success rate of 56%

## Leadership Fellows:

- 5 submitted Letters of Intent
- 4 final proposals
- 3? interviews
- 2 projects to be granted
- Success rate of 50%

## Senior Fellows:

- 39 submitted Letters of Intent
- 33 preliminary proposals
- 19 final proposals
- 11 projects to be granted
- Success rate of 58%



# Available external support: NRO

- [NRO Online Information meetings](#): 22nd June 13.30-15.00h (English) and 24th June 10.00-11.30h (Dutch) - *registration via NRO website*
- [Online video clips](#) with 7 tips for a successful application (Playlist YouTube Kennisclips Comenius)
- Call for proposals Teaching, Senior, Leadership fellows (New calls for upcoming round 2023 available June 2022)
- Information [brochure](#) for applicants
- [Infographic](#) 'the route to a successful Comenius application'
- [NRO FAQ](#)-page
- Members of the [Comenius Network](#)
- Overview [previously granted Comenius projects](#) on NRO website
- **And again: please read the calls!**

**Third party support:** Writing sessions via FacultyFruit (fee applies), information via Anna Terra Verhage (NB not endorsed by university).



# Available support: central coordination

Coordinated by [Anna Terra Verhage](#), Strategy and Academic Affairs

- Coordination involvement of the Executive Board
- Educational Council involved throughout the Comenius Call's cycle
- Communication with NRO
- Coordination of information to applicants
- Information/feedback related to Leiden University's Vision on Teaching and Learning and Strategic Plan
- Internal references and guidance within Leiden University

# Available support: grant advise from SOZ/SEA

Carine de Wilde, Senior International Relations Officer (during absence of) Kathelijne Smits, Subsidy Advisor for Education, Student- and Educational Affairs

Jesca Zweijtzer, Subsidy Officer for Education, Student- and Educational Affairs

- Check of assessment criteria
- Questions about the grant conditions and procedures
- Feedback on draft versions: textual & project design, through suggestions, track changes/comments
- Internal **deadlines for advice** on full application:
  - Teaching Fellows: **December** (tba)
  - Senior Fellows: **November** (tba)
  - Leadership Fellows: as from internal nomination & selection
- Leiden University webpage on the Comenius programme



# Available support: educational expertise from ICLON

Coordinated by [Maarten van de Ven](#), Graduate School of Teaching, involving ICLON colleagues that have expertise on the project's topic

## Teaching fellow:

Answer questions on educational topics

- Provide feedback on the draft document

## Senior & Leadership fellow:

- Provide feedback on the draft document with track changes and comments
- Bring in educational expertise, for example, as project partner
- Provide literature references in educational sciences

# Available support: educational expertise from Centre for Innovation

Coordinated by [Uli Botzjorns](#), Innovation Manager, involving [CFI](#) colleagues that have expertise on the project's topic

- Learning Experience Design or Design Sessions
- Didactic Advice
- Tooling Advice
- Media and Extended Reality Expertise (animations, videos, podcasts, AR and VR)
- Responsible Data Use and Data Privacy

# Tips & tricks

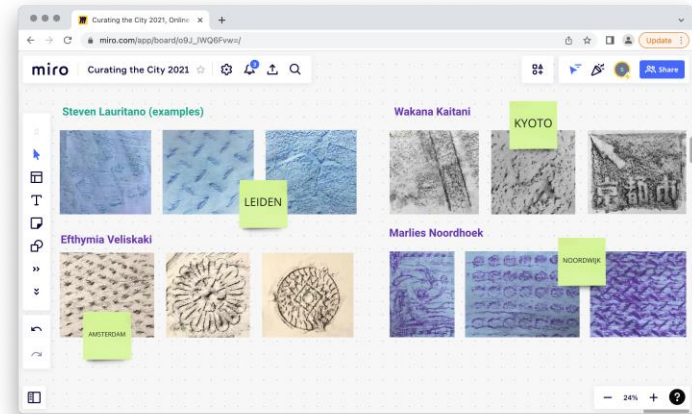
- **Students** should **directly benefit**! Include students in every aspect of your application: problem, innovation, project team, evaluation, impact
- **Innovation** is the starting point: pay enough attention to innovative nature
- Write **evidence-based**: show, don't tell
- Think **problem-based**: do you provide a solution for a real problem? Is it clear what specific problem you seek to address?
- Define your **intended results** as clearly as possible
- Be very specific to **translate your vision into activities**: concrete action plan
- Make a clear distinction between activities in **project phases**
- Plan the timeline and methods of **evaluation** and **dissemination** ahead
- Developing teaching material and/or conducting educational research can be part of a project, but may not be the ultimate goal.
- Show your personal vision: what do **you** think?

Experience & advice from  
Teaching Fellow 2022

**Steven M. Lauritano**

# New Ways of Seeing Together

- The Core Belief: object-based learning stimulates student engagement.
- The Problem: existing hybrid teaching tools do not support object-based learning.
- Proposed Solution: the objects themselves must become “hybrid.”
- The Strategy: Find a way to incorporate 3-D digital models and photogrammetry into existing white board software.
- The Goal: set up a “Hybrid Object Lab” – an online environment where remote and local learners can examine and comment on the same object, in its physical and digital formats, at the same time.



# Recommendations

- 1) Think carefully about the theme.**
- 2) Share your preliminary ideas with colleagues and students.**
- 3) Start planning the budget early!**



Experience & advice from  
Senior Fellow 2022

**Paz González**

# A way to collaborative learning in Humanities: A student journal

Problem: two educational gaps

- the lack of collaborative learning
- the lack of publishing opportunities for students

Goal: creation of two learning environments

- a structural collaborative learning environment
- a learning environment aiming at academic publishing skills.

Deliverables: instruments to promote collaborative learning

- a course contribution to the thesis seminars on collaborative learning and publishing skills
- a Faculty level multidisciplinary academic student journal

→ ensure an excellent insight for students to academic research and publishing

# Recommendations

- **Make use of the facilities the Faculty and SEA/SOZ/ICLON offers to guide you in the process**
- **Make contact with previous laureates. Their feedback was splendid**
- **Make sure you have a strong team that is committed to the project**
- **The final decision was made on my reactions to the first feedback. Be confident and make sure you tackle all the feedback, both positive and negative in you reaction**

# Any questions?



# Contact

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