

POSITION STATEMENT EXECUTIVE BOARD TU DELFT REGARDING ASSESSMENT APPLIED PHYSICS

The Executive Board of Delft University of Technology has commissioned an assessment of the research carried out by the research units in the field of Applied Physics at the Faculty of Applied Sciences. The assessment was carried out in 2016 by an international peer review committee, using the Standard Evaluation Protocol 2015-2021 (<a href="www.vsnu.nl/sep">www.vsnu.nl/sep</a>). Chair of the peer review committee was prof. dr. Albert Polman (FOM Institute AMOLF, Amsterdam, The Netherlands). The full report of the peer review committee is available on the TU Delft website.

The Executive Board wishes to express its gratitude to the peer review committee for their work and final report. Together with the fruitful discussions with the Faculty during the site visit the committee has provided comprehensive and informative insights that the Faculty can use to its advantage.

The Executive Board is pleased that the committee assessed the level for both scientific quality and societal relevance of the research conducted in the field of Applied Physics as mostly world leading/excellent. The committee listed a number of examples in their report which, according to the committee, testify to an excellent strategic ingenuity of the TU Delft in (re-)defining its research portfolio. Another key strength that is mentioned is the strong combination of scientific and engineering research which are both carried out at a very high level.

In its report the committee also touched upon a number of subjects that might require attention. The committee expressed concern regarding the strong gender imbalance for both staff and students. The Executive Board recognizes these concerns across the university and they have the university wide attention of the Board. Regarding the collaboration with QuTech and/or the new Microsoft Institute the Executive Board will discuss with the Faculty the possible need for specific management modes. With regard to RST, the committee advices to have a strategic discussion at the level of the Executive Board on the future of nuclear research of RST and its relation with the reactor facility. Together with the Faculty the Board will explore the opportunities and wishes for such a strategic discussion.

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

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