The Executive Board of Utrecht University has discussed the report as prepared by the Review Committee of the Research Institute for History and Culture (OGC) over the period 2005-2011 (QANU Review Report Research Institute for History and Culture, 27 September 2012). The Board would like to thank the committee members for the work they put into this assessment, and to issue a brief reaction to their conclusions.

The Board is pleased with the overall very positive evaluations, which clearly show that the Research Institute for History and Culture houses a considerable number of talented researchers across the board. The committee’s additional recommendations concerning research policies and concerning individual programmes will of course be seriously considered within the general context of the financial constraints and of the overall research policies of Utrecht University. In the first half of 2013 the Executive Board, the Board of the Faculty of Humanities and the director of the Research Institute for History and Culture will discuss the relevant suggestions and recommendations made by the review committee. On the basis of these discussions a follow-up plan will be drawn up which will include the appropriate measures and which will lead up to a midterm review in 2015.

Independently of this process, the Board of the Humanities Faculty will devise a new model for the allocation of research time over its tenured staff on the basis of an assessment of the individual research output of staff members, using a set of quality indicators established by the Faculty Board.

On behalf of the Executive Board.

Utrecht, May 2013