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Subject Reaction to the final report of the research review of the Physical and Chemical Sciences 2010-2015

LS,

We have recently received the final report of the research review of the Physical and Chemical Sciences 2010-2015 Utrecht University from the External Review Panel. The report includes the assessment of research in Physics and Chemistry within the Faculty of Science and in the four research institutes: the Debye Institute for Nanomaterial Science (DINS), the Institute for Marine and Atmospheric research Utrecht (IMAU), the Institute for Theoretical Physics (ITP), and the Institute for Sub-Atomic Physics (SAP).

We have accepted the report and the researchers involved have been informed. The report will be made public and posted on our website. In the upcoming months, we will discuss the concrete follow-up of the recommendations.

We are very impressed with the panel's meticulousness in fulfilling this assignment, which has resulted in a thorough analysis of each programme. The conclusions and recommendations of the panel will be of great value in defining a research strategy for our faculty. The report includes valuable recommendations to insure that the present strengths of the research units and the fruitful cooperation between them remain at the highest level. The committee also made encouraging remarks upon the initiatives that were presented for the near future, such as Biophysics, or Complexity. And last but not least, we are very grateful for the valuable suggestions the committee made concerning issues like financial viability within the allocation system, or gender balance. We will take serious note of all these recommendations and anticipate to implement them in the near future.

We also wish to take this opportunity to thank the committee for their work.

Yours sincerely,

Prof.dr. J.C.M. Smeekens
Dean Faculty of Science
Utrecht University