

5 Y O E A R S

Annual  
year  
report

Y 2021

g RUG

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**Floor Kuiper**  
Chair YoungRUG  
2020 - 2021



**Frederiek van Rij**  
Chair YoungRUG

In 2021, YoungRUG had planned to celebrate her first lustrum year. YoungRUG has been working on career development, community building and networking within the University of Groningen for 5 years! We had many amazing plans for our lustrum year: a large lustrum party and a lustrum-week full of activities and events. Unfortunately, the corona crisis hampered our ideas and plans. In the end, we regretfully decided to postpone all our lustrum activities in order to celebrate everything properly in the coming year instead of organising only online alternatives. However, this does not mean that we did not organise anything in 2021; on the contrary! We were still able to organise many events, such as a New Year's lecture, a music bingo and Career and Development workshops.

This year's cherry on the cake has to be the official YoungRUG promo video which is developed by the YoungRUG communication taskforce. We now have a professionally-created video which excitedly promotes the values and merits of YoungRUG. We want to thank the taskforce specifically for creating this masterpiece which showcases that being part of our community is a great way to expand your network within the University.

While writing this introduction, many of the corona measures have been lifted. We are hopeful that we are at the end of the severe corona crisis and that we are able to finally organise our delayed lustrum activities. We look forward to seeing the YoungRUG community once again in person and toast to a new and fruitful year full of amazing (on-site) events and activities. Because that is what YoungRUG is all about: with a fresh and open mindset, we build toward an active YoungRUG community.

Finally, we want to take the opportunity to thank the YoungRUG active members and community for their perseverance and efforts. Once again it has been a challenging year; however, the YoungRUG community has shown that we can stand together through even the toughest of times.

*YoungRUG is a platform for young support professionals from the University of Groningen, where knowledge-sharing and gaining inspiration is key. We focus on professional and personal development. With a fresh and open mindset, we build towards an active YoungRUG community.*

*- Established in 2019*

MISSION

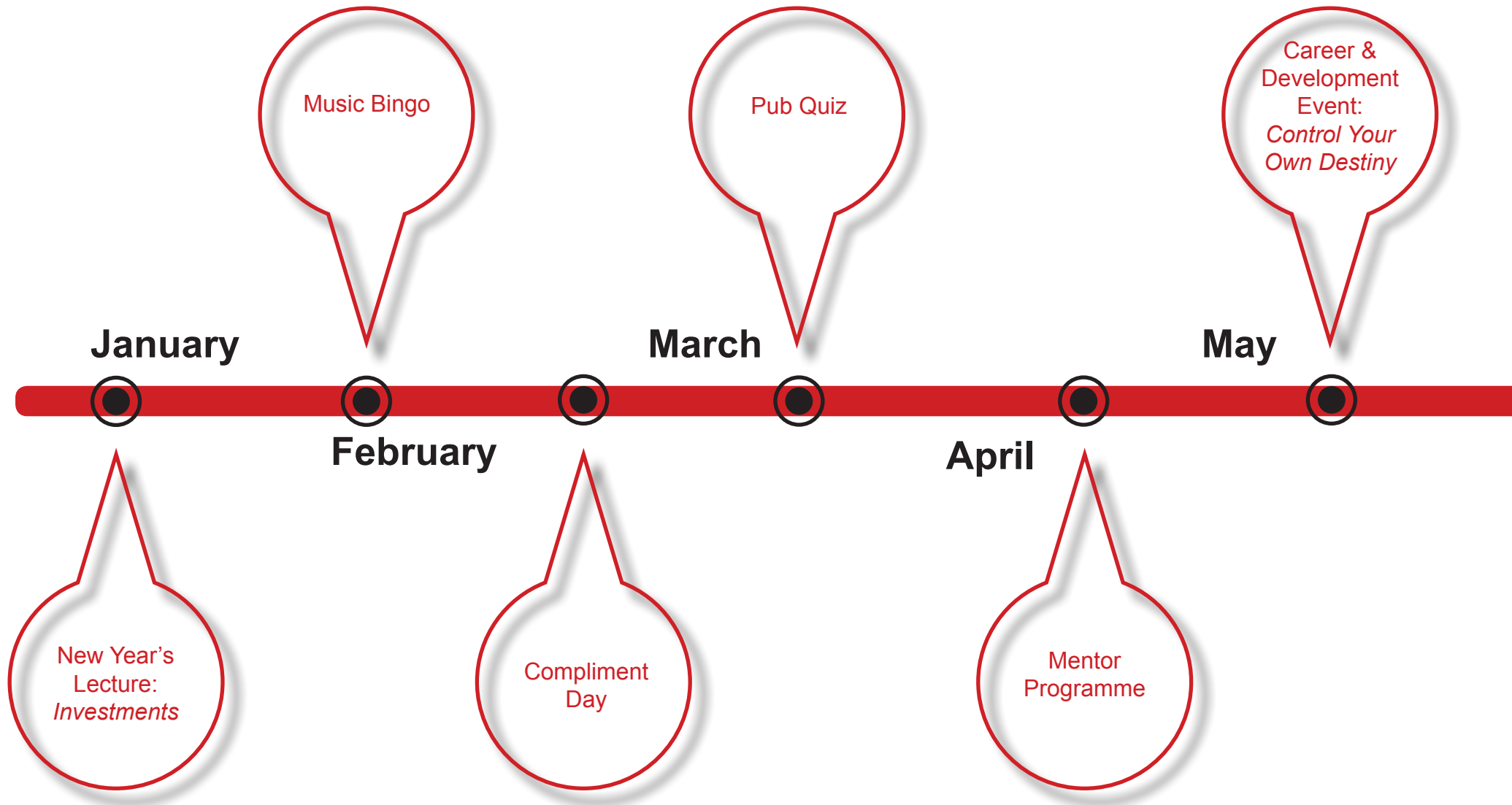
*In five years, YoungRUG is an established network within the University of Groningen and we have become the knowledge platform for young support professionals. YoungRUG is a community where support professionals come together and can learn from each other. Together we organise an inspiring programme of activities where networking and development are central.*

*YoungRUG also acts as a sparring partner on topics related to young support professionals both inside and outside the university.*

*- Established in 2019*

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# Events of 2021



**October**



Escape Room

Active  
Members Day



**November**

**December**



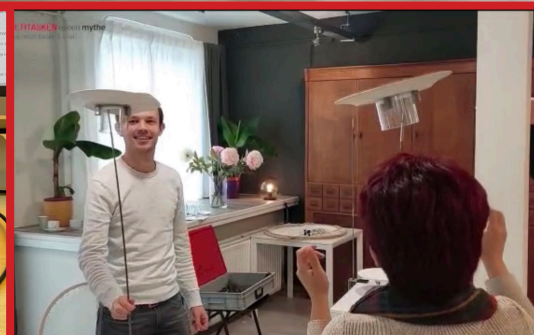
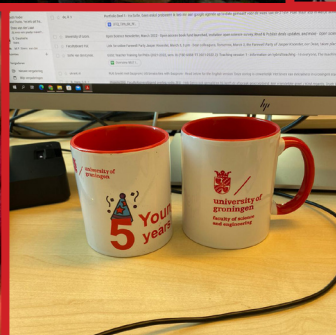
Christmas  
Challenge



I have experienced YoungRUG as one of the most important communities that helps young supporting staff of the entire UG to develop themselves professionally, to build a strong network, and to improve their social cohesion. In doing so, YoungRUG contributes to the personal and professional growth of a sustainable supporting staff.

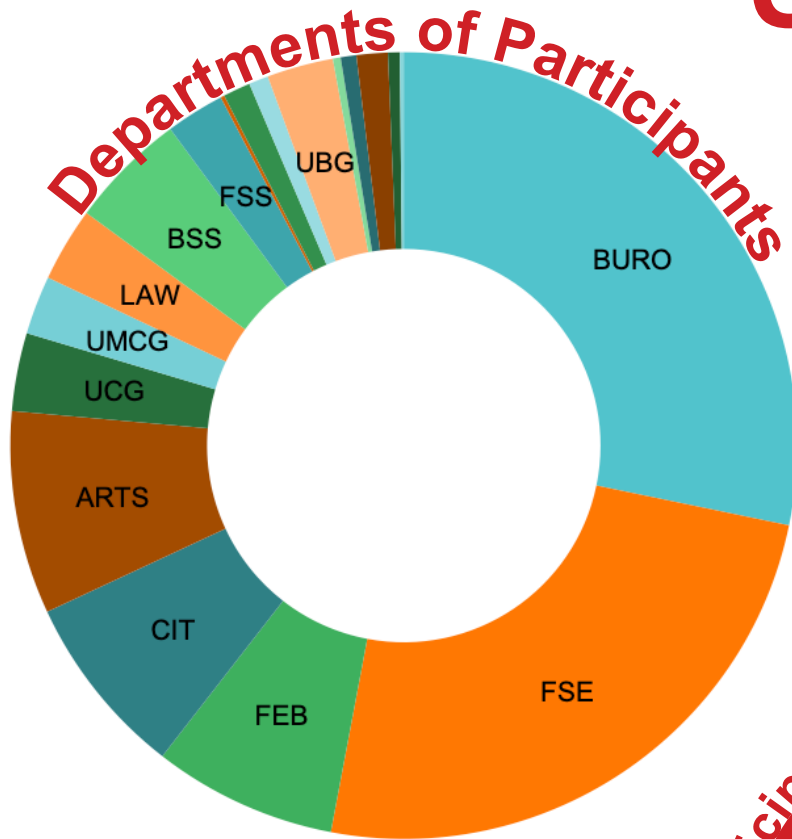
- Bas Teunissen  
*Active Member*







# Statistics



Board Members  
**6**

Active Members  
**10**

Followers on Instagram  
**360**



YoungRUG to me meant really becoming part of the young and fun support staff community at the UG. When I started working in the middle of lockdown I had trouble connecting with colleagues. Through YoungRUG I met colleagues from other faculties whom I still regularly meet up with, and we've become friends and support each other in work and life. It means a lot to me that YoungRUG made it so easy to meet others even during these socially distanced times!

- Claudi Reinicke  
Member YR Community

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Participants of Events 2021  
**296**

Organised Events 2021  
**9**



# Q&A

Community

1st

# How it all started: *The two founders share their story*



The voice of the young generation is of great importance for a sustainable university. This voice ensures that the university remains attractive as an inclusive employer and a working environment where everyone matters. The YoungRUG network can fulfill an ideal bridging function in this: they know what is going on with this generation, have good contacts and surprising solutions and ideas that can help build a community where staff is proud to work.

- Gerald Lier  
*Contact person HR and  
Soundboard*



Let me take you back to December 2015, to the annual Christmas party at the Bureau of the university where 3 young and ambitious support staff colleagues pitched the idea of YoungRUG to Marion Stolp. This is where the thriving community you are a part of today began!

And thriving it is – I am so proud to see that the community is more alive and active than ever. With so many active members and event participants it shows that the need for professional development, and being part of a community of like-minded people, is more important than ever. The importance of YoungRUG also shows in the commitments made during the past two challenging years, where you were still able to find each other digitally and remained focused on your professional development.

This commitment to each other, and YoungRUG, is rooted in the fact that its mission and vision was founded based on YOUR needs and interests. Where the core needs are still as valid as 5 years ago, it has also allowed for the yearly objectives and activities to reflect the changing interests without losing sight of YoungRUG's mission.

Keep on inspiring each other, keep the dynamic mindset alive, and keep prioritizing your development. And I will forever be humbled to have been at the very start of it all.

Love, Charlotte





YoungRUG helps me to learn more about the organisation of the University and it is a wonderful way to connect to (young) colleagues from other departments. I always become very enthusiastic when I meet like-minded people and when new ideas arise while being or working together. It is a great way to expand your network within the University.

- Arlette van Berkel  
*Board Member*

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**5 YoungRUG  
years!**

I remember the very first event really well. It was quite tense but what a high turnout it was! And what a big energy boost we got from it! That energy is what I remember the most. Even if a board meeting took place at the end of a long day, together with the active members we always managed to end it with a lot of enthusiasm, inspiration, and fun. With each event, we saw each other grow, got to know each other even better, and became a real team.

And we achieved a lot! At the time, my personal goals for the network included being able to share experiences, ideas, skills, and knowledge and seizing the opportunity for career development. The possibilities within the UG in terms of professional and personal development were often unclear to young employees. That is how our Career and Development event came into being, and every year it's a huge success. The list of past activities besides that one is long, and I hope that YoungRUG was and will be able to inspire many colleagues.

There is an idea that we never really got round to that I am still enthusiastic about: working on an internal flexible deployment (a sort of database with projects) together with the HR department. This way, there will be an opportunity for young staff members to, for example, be deployed as project leaders or members of different projects within the UG instead of being employed at one fixed spot.

For me, YoungRUG is mainly a possibility for personal and professional development. The network definitely keeps you feeling fresh and lively in your work. I can only recommend joining it!

Hinke



# Goals



Improve  
**Brand Awareness**

Organise  
(Online)  
**Activities**



Contribute to  
**The UG  
Strategic Plan**



Visualise  
**Career Perspectives**

Expand our  
**Network**



Boost  
**Communication**



# Active Members & Board

