VU UNIVERSITY - FOUR PROFILING THEMES

VU UNIVERSITY AMSTERDAM

LOOKING FURTHER

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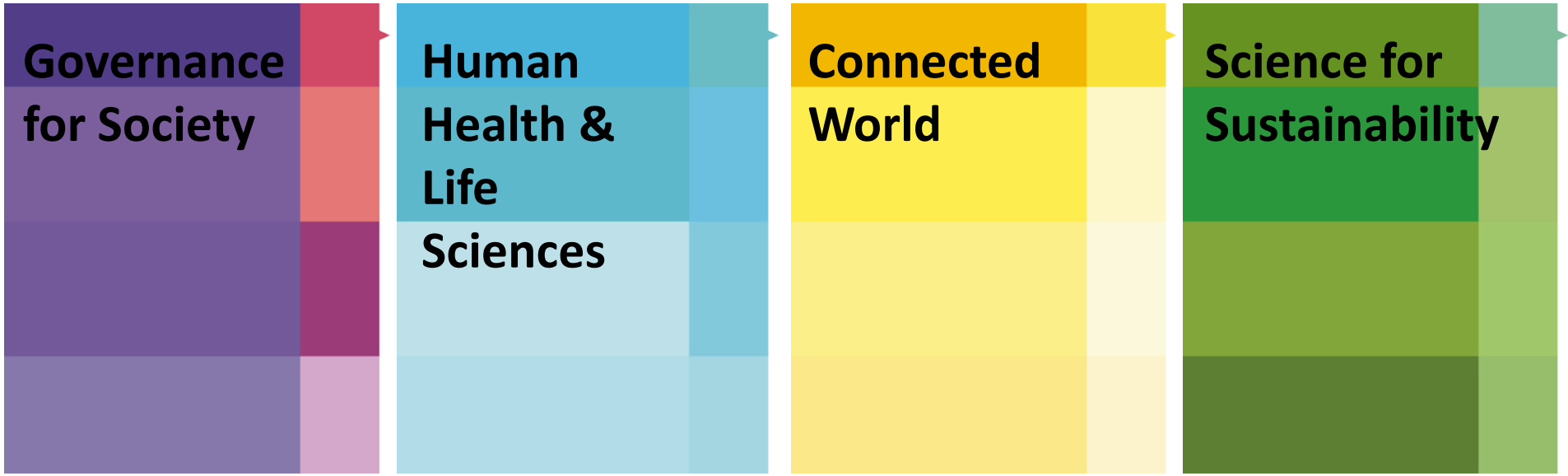
- Our profile expressed in four themes
- Governance for Society
- Human Health & Life Sciences
- Connected World
- Science for Sustainability

OUR PROFILE IS EXPRESSED IN FOUR THEMES (1/2)

VU University is establishing a profile in the quest for solutions to social issues through four themes:



OUR PROFILE IS EXPRESSED IN FOUR THEMES (2/2)

The four profiling themes:

- Are based on our identity and core values;
- Require an interdisciplinary approach;
- Are based on our existing strengths in research and education;
- Substantially strengthen the links between various academic disciplines, within VU University and VU University Medical Center and with our partners in society.

GOVERNANCE FOR SOCIETY

What is the best way to manage the community and its constituent parts and institutions?

GOVERNANCE FOR SOCIETY

- Governance issues are becoming more complex, and society needs new solutions.
- Governance issues on all levels – global, European, national, corporate – call for an interdisciplinary approach.
- The disciplines of law, economics, psychology, philosophy and social sciences are all relevant.

Investigating relevant core values and identifying tensions involved in ‘good governance’

Realizing a complex network of public and private partners to reduce crime in Amsterdam

Exploring what instruments stimulate quality and integrity of governance

Developing a new concept of ‘law’ aimed at European policy

HUMAN HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES

What does it mean to be healthy, and how to become and stay healthy?

HUMAN HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES

- The demand for care that comes from the community is complex.
- The aim with Human Health & Life Sciences is to organize education and research in the medical and human-oriented health, movement and life sciences in such a way as to support underlying social trends.
- We take an integrated approach that extends from molecule to human, and back again to body and mind, and from prevention and health promotion to treatment and follow-up.

Developing imaging techniques to determine when medication is effective in the human body

Recognizing and understanding childhood brain disorders in order to develop effective therapies

Developing efficient solutions for the negative consequences of obesity on health and economy

Improving future perspectives of patients with neurological disorders

CONNECTED WORLD

How are we connected to each other today and tomorrow?

CONNECTED WORLD

- The digitization of society has led to a world in which new social relations arise changing existing relations dramatically.

- Connected World examines the issues of globalization and digitization from a historical, cultural, philosophical, linguistic and social perspective taking into account developments in information technology and linguistic engineering.

- Connected World by its nature requires an interdisciplinary approach and has as key themes: *big data, new patterns of cooperation, new responsibilities.*

Developing a computational ‘newsreader’ to incorporate context in the interpretation of news and information

Analyzing how ‘big data’ can yield applications for society such as cultural and social trends

Investigating borders of responsibility in a world in which individuals are increasingly connected

Investigating how our beliefs of good science change in a globalizing world

SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

How to develop a sustainable society?

SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

- The future of human life on earth demands fundamental new knowledge of all aspects of energy generation and the use of scarce resources.

- It is also vital to gain a better understanding of the aspects that are able to bring about the necessary change in human behaviour and society.

- In Science for Sustainability we link fundamental knowledge to the implementation of societal changes with the key themes: *climate, scarcity, energy*, a*dministration* and *policy*.

Investigating the origin of forest fires and their effects on climate, environment and people

Coordinating research projects to make low-lying coastal cities ‘climate proof’

Pioneering ultra-fast laser techniques to unravel secrets of photosynthesis

Investigating earth system governance for a balanced integration of sustainable development

Drawing explicit parallels between interactions of natural organisms and economic processes

IXA FOR INNOVATION AND KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

http://youtu.be/NFB68ppMSjE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KEY NOTES: