

Renske Vroomans

Curriculum Vitae

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name dr. Renske Maria Anna Vroomans
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Nationality Dutch
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CURRENT POSITION

David Sainsbury Research Career Development Fellow Sept. 2021
Sainsbury Laboratory, University of Cambridge

CAREER HISTORY

Postdoctoral research fellow 2019-2021
Origins Center, Netherlands
funding: NWO Nederlandse WetenschapsAgenda StartImpuls

Postdoctoral researcher 2018-2019
University of Helsinki

Research assistant 2016-2017
2017-2018
Utrecht University

PhD candidate – thesis defence 6 January 2017 2011-2017
Utrecht University

FUNDING

The Leverhulme Trust funding 2025
Petal patterning and growth coordination, £326,344

Isaac Newton Trust seed funding 2024
Petal pattern evolution, G124011 £49,914

Gatsby Charitable Foundation 2021
David Sainsbury Career Development Fellowship (GAT 3395-CDG) £720,000

Origins Center NL 2019
Postdoctoral Fellowship €95,000

EDUCATION

Master Molecular and Cellular Life Sciences 2010-2011
Utrecht University
cum laude

Bachelor Biology 2006-2010
Utrecht University
cum laude

TEACHING SINCE 2023

Part III Systems Biology <i>University of Cambridge</i> 4 lectures on evolutionary modelling + journal club & practical	2023-current
Part III Systems Biology <i>University of Cambridge</i> Course Coordinator; Data handling and acquisition module organizer	2023-2024
Computational models of evolutionary developmental models <i>masters' course on developmental biology at ENS-Lyon, France</i> Practical session on how (and why) to build evodevo models	2023
Evolutionary simulations in the 21st century <i>EMBO Lecture Course on "The future of evolutionary-developmental systems biology", Venice, Italy</i> How to model macroscale evolutionary patterns, such as novelty	2023

INVITED TALKS SINCE 2023

ICSB <i>Session on evolution of development, Dublin</i>	09-10-2025
EMBO — EMBL symposium <i>Theory and concepts in biology, EMBL Heidelberg</i>	06-05-2025
Evolving Individuality <i>philosophy workshop, Macquarie University</i>	02-12-2024
EuroEvoDevo biennial meeting <i>Minisymposium Evolution of Multicellularity</i>	25-06-2024
BioSB meeting Netherlands <i>Keynote speaker</i>	25-06-2024
BSDB/Genetics Society joint meeting UK <i>Modelling Development session</i>	16-04-2024
Lorentz Workshop <i>Evolution of complex contemporary life</i>	03-04-2024
Lorentz Workshop <i>Simulating Tissue Dynamics with Cellular Potts Models</i>	19-12-2023
University of Vermont Biology Seminar <i>evolutionary models</i>	06-11-2023
Plants Cambridge Festival <i>talk on outreach tool "treevodevo"</i>	30-06-2023
Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Biology workshop <i>Evolutionary transitions in individuality</i>	25-05-2023

OUTREACH

RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2025 <i>Sainsbury Laboratory stand activity: evolve your own digital plant</i>	19-24 May 2025
Cambridge Festival 2025 <i>Activity at the Sainsbury Laboratory: Build your own minigenome in the computer</i>	30-03-2025
Chaos Communication Congress <i>Biological evolution: writing, rewriting and breaking the program of life</i>	29-12-2024
Gatsby Plant Science Education Programme <i>"Train the trainer" program</i>	21-04-2023

Botanic Garden of Cambridge University <i>“Science on Sundays” series</i>	21-04-2023
Systems at Play symposium <i>Centre Leo Apostle, Vrije Universiteit Brussel</i>	18-02-2023
Origins Center, Netherlands <i>Popular science video on my research questions</i>	2019

PHD CANDIDATE SUPERVISION

Steven Oud <i>Petal pattern evolution</i>	2024-current
Alexandre Porcher Fernandes <i>Evolution of multicellularity</i>	2023-current
Pjotr van der Jagt <i>Evolution of shoot apical meristems</i>	2022-current

VISITING PHD STUDENTS

Davey Plugers <i>University of Copenhagen</i>	Oct-Jan 2025
Lars Erik Johnsen Skjogstad <i>University of Copenhagen</i>	Jan-Feb 2025
Csenge Petak <i>University of Vermont</i>	May-Jul 2023

STUDENT SUPERVISION

Sophia Harley <i>Master student, University of Cambridge</i>	2025
Zijao Wang <i>Summer student, University of Cambridge</i>	2025
Sophia Schuber <i>Summer student, University of Edinburgh</i>	2024
Amelia Harvey <i>Summer student, Durham University</i>	2024
Ava True <i>Master student, University of Cambridge</i>	2023-2024
Maciek Źurowski <i>Master student, University of Cambridge</i>	2023-2024
Brychan Thomas <i>summer student, University of Cambridge</i>	2023
Wannes Vandenoeyenbrugge <i>summer student, University of Leuven</i>	2023
Nick van Santen <i>Master student, University of Amsterdam</i>	2023
Steven Oud <i>Master student, University of Amsterdam</i>	2022, 2023
Sean Thompson <i>summer student, University of Cambridge</i>	2022
Abby Cooper <i>summer student, University of Cambridge</i>	2022
Pjotr van der Jagt <i>Master student, University of Amsterdam</i>	2022
Bram Hoogland <i>Master student, University of Amsterdam</i>	2022
Koen Greuell <i>Master student, University of Amsterdam</i>	2020
Coen Honingh <i>Master student, University of Amsterdam</i>	2020
Levi van Doorn <i>Master student, Utrecht University</i>	2020
Wannisa Ritmahan <i>Master student, Utrecht University</i>	2017
Sophia Scheper <i>Master student, Utrecht University</i>	2015

ORGANISATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Company of Biologists Workshop organiser <i>Modelling Plant Stem Cells: Evolution, Development and Regeneration</i>	18-21 May 2025
Organiser EuroEvoDevo minisymposium <i>Highlighting developmental divergence and systems drift</i>	2024
Computational Plant Biology Workshop SLCU	2023, 2025

local co-organiser

Guest Editor

2022

Special issue on Evolutionary Developmental Biology in Essays on Biochemistry

SLCU outreach committee

2021-current

scientific member

SMB Cell and Developmental Biology subgroup

2020 -2022

scientific committee member

Organising committee Origins Center 2021 meeting

2020 -2021

scientific advisory member

IAS art-science group

2019 2021

Co-founder of an informal discussion and experimentation group on the interface between art, science and philosophy.

Secretary of the Dutch Society for Theoretical Biology (NVTB)

2011-2015

Tasks included membership administration and organising the yearly meeting.

JOURNALS REVIEWED FOR SINCE 2023

- Science
- Nature Communications
- BMC Biology
- PLOS Computational Biology (2x)
- Quantitative Plant Biology
- Biological Reviews
- Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology

SKILLS

Software

C/C++, FORTRAN, PYTHON, BASH, L^AT_EX

Modelling

Cellular Potts Model, EmbryoMaker, vertex-based models
agent-based modelling, ODEs, PDEs, CA

Languages

Dutch (native speaker)
English (fluent)

REFERENCES

Henrik Jönsson *Director SLCU*

henrik.jonsson@slcu.cam.ac.uk

Kirsten ten Tusscher *PhD Supervisor*

K.H.W.J.tenTusscher@uu.nl

Edwige Moyroud *Collaborator*

edwige.moyroud@slcu.cam.ac.uk

Jaap Kaandorp *Collaborator*

J.A.Kaandorp@uva.nl