

### Selection of Fellowships :

The main task of the FWO-Expert panels is the ranking of the applications.

The applications that are considered of insufficient quality are not ranked and are excluded from the selection process that follows. The other applications, for PhD and postdoctoral fellowships, are ranked without the possibility of equal ranking.

Pending a final decision on the new distribution system for the fellowships, for the 2016/2017 round (deadline 02/01/2017) this distribution will be carried out on the basis of the average historic distribution of fellowships over the different scientific domains. For the calculations of these percentages the awards during the period 2011-2016 have been used.

Following that procedure, the following distribution has been reached:

Aspirant (Predoc) 2011-2016			Postdoc 2011-2016		
	#	%		#	%
BIO	144	11,4	BIO	138	13,8
CULT	223	17,7	CULT	150	15
GM	228	18,1	GM	154	15,4
INTDIS	29	2,3	INTDIS	29	2,9
MED	323	25,6	MED	241	24,1
WT	315	25	WT	287	28,7
Totaal	1262	100	Totaal	999	100

In 2017 the percentages in this table will be applied to the total number of fellowships to be distributed per domain. The fellowships assigned to each domain, will be distributed between the panels of that domain on the basis of the number of applications submitted in each panel.

As soon as the Board of Trustees has taken the final decision, the candidates are informed about the outcome of their application. The results are also made public on the FWO-website. All the candidates receive more information on the decision taken.

### Selection of Research projects and research Grants :

The FWO-Expert panels decide which applications to rank and which not. The applications for research projects that are considered to be of a high enough quality to be financed are ranked into first- and second- order applications.

The interpretation of the different ranking is as follows:

- 1st order applications are outstanding proposals for research that are playing a pioneering role in the subject concerned and are at a high international level and internationally of top priority in breaking new ground.
- 2nd order applications are very good applications for research that builds upon credible results and moreover are of high international standing.

When ranking the research proposals, the Scientific Committees need to take into account the available budget. The budgets of research proposals can also be reduced. This will happen less for 1<sup>st</sup> order ranked applications compared to 2<sup>nd</sup> order ranked applications.

Applications for research projects belonging to the first and second rank are proposed to the Boards of Trustees to be accepted. So for this type of applications, the host universities do not intervene in the selection process.