The Fryske Akademy (FA) conducts scientific research on the Frisian language, multilingual society, and regional history of Fryslân. With multidisciplinary research, the FA makes innovative contributions to international scientific debate and the academic climate in Leeuwarden and Fryslân, and generates inspiring fundamental and applied knowledge for and about the community. In this way, the FA works on scientific research at a high level, with an eye for social impact and based on strong engagement with Fryslân and the Frisians. The FA is firmly rooted in the region of Fryslân and is affiliated with the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen – KNAW). The institute shares the knowledge gained with numerous scientific institutions and social parties, at both the national and international levels, such as the Instituut voor de Nederlandse Taal (INT – Dutch Language Institute), the KNAW Humanities Cluster (HuC), Campus Fryslân/the University of Groningen (RUG), and the Centre for Language and Speech Technology (CLST – Radboud University).

The Mercator European Research Centre on Multilingualism and Language Learning (Mercator) was founded in 1987 on the initiative of the European Commission. The mission of Mercator – part of the FA – endorses and strengthens the overarching mission of the FA, through a specific focus on researching, disseminating, and applying knowledge in the field of multilingualism and language learning. Mercator focuses mainly on the area of minority languages in Europe and uses Fryslân as a multilingual laboratory. This work includes not only autochthonous minority languages, but also migrant languages. By bringing scientific results to practice, Mercator also fulfils a bridging function. A subsidy from the provincial government of Fryslân and project grants from EU programmes make Mercator’s work possible. In other words, Mercator brings Europe to Fryslân and Fryslân to Europe!

Because of the retirement of the current project manager of the Mercator European Research Centre on Multilingualism and Language Learning in December 2023, we are looking for a

**Project manager Mercator**

38 hours p/w / 1.0 FTE

As project manager at the Mercator European Research Centre, you are in a dynamic role between research, education, and policy, both regionally and internationally. In this position, the project manager has the opportunity to establish new collaborations that contribute to developing solutions to questions regarding minority languages and multilingualism for various stakeholders, such as the European Commission, government bodies, and education and research institutions. The project manager also fulfils an important social function. Being able to network well in a (inter)national context is therefore essential. Business trips abroad are part of the function.

The project manager of Mercator coordinates and monitors the activities and projects of the research centre, taking into account the context of the general research agenda and policy plans of the FA, and is responsible for the successful completion of projects. The candidate is an (inter)national networker and a team player, and is at home in the applied side of science. The candidate is a senior researcher in one of Mercator’s research areas, such as multilingualism, education, language transfer, language learning, language attitudes and ideologies,
sociolinguistics, language policy, language documentation, and new technologies. The candidate is flexible, sees research opportunities, and knows how to turn them into concrete project plans.

Job description

• Functional management of Mercator
• Coordinate research projects
• Initiate new research projects, often in international consortia, write project applications, and encourage colleagues in that area
• Publish and present research results in (inter)national academic and public contexts
• Translate/transfer research results into practical applications (valorisation)
• Support both junior and senior researchers
• Bear responsibility for administrative relations with external parties and funding
• Actively participate in the objectives of the FA – all goals and tasks fall under the responsibility of the FA

Job requirements

• PhD on a topic related to the research themes of Mercator
• Track record of scientific publications in that field
• Able to make contacts easily and have a large international network
• Experience with minority languages and multilingualism
• Highly developed writing and communication skills
• Excellent skills in Frisian and English, or willingness to learn Frisian
• Experience working in a team on scientific and applied projects
• Experience with European grants and writing applications
• A multidisciplinary mindset, politically sensitive, and strategic abilities
• Have a vision for the future of Mercator as part of the FA

Terms of employment

We are offering a contract that starts as soon as possible, initially until 31 December 2024. The gross monthly salary is a maximum of €6,181, depending on your relevant experience, for a full-time position of 38 hours (UFO profile of project manager 3, scale 12, collective labour agreement of Dutch Universities CAO NU). This salary excludes holiday payment and an end-of-year bonus. You will be offered a Frisian language course to help you develop your Frisian skills. The workplace is the FA in Leeuwarden. We offer excellent research facilities in a stimulating and friendly, multidisciplinary work environment, where you will be encouraged to develop your talents.

More information

For more information about this vacancy, you can contact drs. Cor van der Meer, project manager of the Mercator European Research Centre. Email: cvdmeer@fryske-akademy.nl. For background information, visit www.fryske-akademy.nl and www.mercator-research.eu.

Application
You can send your cover letter and CV to Mr Anne Mulder, HR advisor, at wurkje@fryske-akademy.nl, with reference to ‘Project manager Mercator’, before 21 August 2023. Interviews with the selected candidates will take place on August 30, 2023.