



To all PhD candidates in the Natural Sciences, Physical Sciences, Informatics, Medicine, or Dentistry at the University of Amsterdam (UvA), Vrije Universiteit (VU) Amsterdam, and other research institutions in Amsterdam such as NKI-AVL, Sanquin, AMOLF, and CWI.

Amsterdam, October 2025

This is an invitation to become a candidate member of the Society for the promotion of Natural Sciences, Medicine, and Surgery (Genootschap ter bevordering van Natuur- Genees- en Helkunde, hereinafter: GNGH), a renowned scientific society. The Society (founded in 1790) organizes scientific lectures and public lectures, provides grants and travel grants, manages eight endowed chairs at the UvA, VU Amsterdam, and AUMC, awards scientific honors, and serves as a forum for discussion between various disciplines (medical scientists, natural scientists, mathematicians, computer scientists, and dentists), essential for multidisciplinary research. Further information can be found on our website www.gngh.nl

What to expect?

1. A lecture and discussion meeting twice a year on new developments in your own and related fields, where you can speak with colleagues, explore the boundaries of disciplines, and make new contacts.
2. During the annual meeting (the next one is scheduled for Friday, March 13, 2026), scientists will be awarded medals, followed by a lecture by the laureate.
3. As a candidate member, you can also use all other facilities of the Society, such as obtaining a travel grant.
4. Speed dating sessions after a lecture can lead to mentorship by experienced researchers.
5. Prospective members can also play a role at GNGH meetings, such as chairing a meeting.

You can become acquainted with the Society at the scientific meetings or at the annual meeting. The scientific program of these meetings can be found on our website. Associate membership is free and is highly recommended by the deans of the Science and Medical faculties of the UvA and VU Amsterdam, as well as by the dean of ACTA.

You can easily become a candidate member by clicking the red button on the website www.gngh.nl. You will then receive confirmation of your candidate membership and invitations to various meetings in the future.

Kind regards,

Prof. Dr. Ton van Leeuwen, Chair of GNGH

Prof. Dr. Pernette Verschure, Secretary of GNGH