



To Whom It May Concern

Date	Telephone	Your reference
20 December 2024	+31 (0)6 39348355	-
Contact person	Enclosed	Our reference
Simon Speksnijder	-	2024cu1143

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Subject
Position statement Executive Board – evaluation Anton Pannekoek Institute for Astronomy

L.S.,

The Executive Board of the University of Amsterdam has received the final report of the research review of the Anton Pannekoek Institute for Astronomy or API, as part of the national review of astronomical institutes in the Netherlands and the national institute NOVA, for the period 2016-2021. An international peer review committee, chaired by prof. dr. David Spergel, carried out the evaluation in 2023, following the Strategy Evaluation Protocol 2021-2027. The Executive Board wishes to express its gratitude to the committee for carrying out this evaluation.

The Executive Board is pleased to see that the committee concludes the institute delivers a strong, focused research program with high impact, and is well integrated within NOVA and the Dutch astronomy framework. The committee also remarked the impressive achievements in terms of publications and grants, and recognized the institute's leading role in Open Science both through its work with arXiv and the development and support of software for simulations and instrumentation. The efforts dedicated to public engagement, through the ALTAIR and ASPIRE programs, but also through new, creative approaches by working with artists, are very positively evaluated by the committee, alongside the efforts to build bridges between society and academia. The committee also positively remarked the open, safe, and inclusive academic environment, with a strong focus on equity, diversity and inclusion.



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The Executive Board supports the faculty in using the recommendations of the evaluation report to further strengthen the performance of API. This includes refining the current management structure to accommodate the growing institute, expanding coaching and training for leadership, clarifying and clearly communicating the PhD graduation requirements, continuing the efforts towards EDI by directly involving management, the implementation of regular cultural audits, and conveying this to new hires, and building collaborations across science and data science as a key area for further developments. Pursuing these various recommendations will allow API to further strengthen its well-established position and continue its high-quality research.

Yours sincerely,
The Executive Board

Prof. Edith H. Hooge
President