VICI grant for Jeroen Smeets

NWO granted prof.dr. Jeroen Smeets (FBW) with a VICI grant for his research project ‘Making movements: optimal and thus inconsistent?’. See for more information the website of NWO (www.nwo.nl/nwohome.nsf/pages/NWOA_7MDEAC).

Best Thesis Award 2008 for Aviral Vatsa

The ‘Nederlandse Vereniging voor Calcium en Botstofwisseling’ granted Aviral Vatsa (ACTA) with the Best Thesis Award 2008. See for more information the website of ACTA (www.acta.nl).

Research Master for FBW

In January 2009, the NVAO (Nederlands-Vlaamse AccreditatieOrganisatie) approved the Research Master application of the FBW. From September 2009, the Research Master ‘Fundamental and Clinical Human Sciences’ will start. The aim of the FBW to have a yearly inflow of maximally 30 students.

VU Mediakomeet for Ivo van Hilvoorde

On January 6, Ivo van Hilvoorde won the VU-Mediakomeet. With this prize, the VU wants to encourage scientists who suddenly got a lot of media attention in 2008. Ivo van Hilvoorde is a sport philosopher who publishes on themes as fair play, drugs use, sport injuries, fitness and the lack of movement. In 2008 the book ‘Fitter, Harder & Mooier’, written by Ivo and Ruud Stokvis was published. See for more information the website of the VU (www.vu.nl).
New PhD students in MOVE program and projects

In the MOVE program and 2 MOVE projects, the following PhD students recently started:

**MOVE-program ‘Pre-operative training in elderly orthopedic patients’**
- Petra Juffer (Supervisors: Jenneke Klein Nulend, Paul Lips, Astrid Bakker, Richard Jaspers)
- Regula Furrer (Supervisors: Arnold de Haan, Paul Lips, Karin Gerrits, Nathalie Bravenboer)
- Marcel Toebes (Supervisors: Jaap van Dieën, Joost Dekker (EMGO), Marco Hoozemans)

Barend van Royen and Marjolein Visser (EMGO) also participate in the program.

**MOVE-project ‘Quantification of spinal segment stiffness: a clinical tool for evaluating disc degeneration’**
- Susanne van Engelen (Supervisors: Jaap van Dieën, Barend van Royen, Theo Smit)

**MOVE project ‘The BATRAC-CIMT trial: Contrasting the clinical effects and underlying mechanisms of unilateral and bilateral upper limb training after stroke**
- Lex van Delden (Supervisors: Peter Beek, Gert Kwakkel, Lieke Peper)

**VUmc PhD-call 2008**

The Research Committee of MOVE, who received 3 proposals, granted the research proposal of Paul Lips (‘Extrarenal 1α-hydroxylation of 25-hydroxyvitamin D: stimulation by 25-hydroxyvitamin D and by mechanical forces).