# Fred van Leeuwen, PhD

Division of Gene Regulation, B4 Netherlands Cancer Institute (NKI) Plesmanlaan 121, 1066CX Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Phone: +31-20-5121973, Fax: +31-20-5121989

fred.v.leeuwen@nki.nl Website & Publications



2010- present: Staff Member NKI-AVL, Tenured

2004 – 2010: Antoni van Leeuwenhoek Fellow (Tenure Track), The Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam 1998-2003: Post-doctoral fellow, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Res. Center, Seattle, USA. Lab: Dr. Daniel E. Gottschling;

Histone methylation and gene silencing

**Education** 

1993-1998: PhD student Division of Molecular Biology, Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam. Advisor: Dr. Piet

Borst, Location, conservation and biosynthesis of J, an unusual DNA base in African trypanosomes.

1987-1992: BSc&MSc Biomedical Sciences, University of Leiden Medical School, The Netherlands. Cum Laude

## **Summary of research interests**

The Van Leeuwen lab uses biochemical and genetic approaches to study mechanisms and principles of epigenetic regulation. Our general strategy is to develop new tools and technologies, taking advantage of yeast as a powerful model system. These novel tools enable us to discover and explore new areas of chromatin biology (e.g. histone dynamics) and to dissect specific chromatin processes in high molecular detail (e.g. histone methylation). In parallel, we are developing tools in mice and cultured human cells to translate our findings in yeast to mammals.

### **Career Development Funding**

2013 VICI grant NWO Innovational Research Incentives Scheme

2005 Newly Established Team member of the EU Epigenome Network of Excellence

2003 Career Development Fellowship, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, USA (LLS 3409-04)

2003 VIDI grant NWO Innovational Research Incentives Scheme

1999 Long term EMBO fellowship (ALTF178-1998) & Dutch Cancer Society Fellowship (1999)

## **Recent professional activities**

- Board of Nucleic Acids study group of NWO-CW (2010-2013)
- Dean of NKI postdoctoral affairs (2013-present)
- Member of the NKI Faculty Council Board/Stafraadbestuur (2009-present)
- Member of NKI Education Committee (2011-present)

#### **Selected Publications**

- Stulemeijer IJE, De Vos D, van Harten K, Joshi OK, Blomberg O, van Welsem T, Terweij M, Vlaming H, de Graaf EL, Altelaar AFM, Bakker BM, and van Leeuwen F (2015). Dot1 histone methyltransferases share a distributive mechanism but have highly diverged catalytic properties. Sci Rep 5: 9824.
- Vlaming H, Van Welsem T, De Graaf EL, Ontoso D, Altelaar AFM, San-Segundo P, Heck AJ, and <u>van Leeuwen F</u> (2014). Flexibility in crosstalk between H2B ubiquitination and H3 methylation in vivo. **EMBO Rep** 15: 1077-1084.
- Radman-Livaja M, Verzijlbergen KF, Weiner A, van Welsem T, Friedman N, Rando OJ, and <u>van Leeuwen F</u> (2011). Patterns and mechanisms of ancestral histone protein inheritance in budding yeast. **PLoS Biol** 9: e1001075.
- De Vos D, Frederiks F, Terweij M, van Welsem T, Verzijlbergen KF, lachina E, de Graaf EL, Altelaar AFM, Oudgenoeg G, Heck AJ, Krijgsveld J, Bakker BM, and <u>van Leeuwen F</u> (2011). Progressive methylation of ageing histones by Dot1 functions as a timer.
   EMBO Rep 12: 956-962.
- Verzijlbergen KF, van Welsem T, Sie D, Lenstra TL, Turner DJ, Holstege FCP, Kerkhoven RM, and <u>van Leeuwen F</u> (2011). A barcode screen for epigenetic regulators reveals a role for the NuB4/HAT-B histone acetyltransferase complex in histone turnover. **PLoS Genet** 7: e1002284.
- Verzijlbergen KF, Menendez-Benito V, van Welsem T, van Deventer SJ, Lindstrom DL, Ovaa H, Neefjes J, Gottschling DE, and van Leeuwen F (2010). Recombination-induced tag exchange to track old and new proteins. **Proc Natl Acad Sci USA** 107: 64-68.
- Frederiks F, Tzouros M, Oudgenoeg G, van Welsem T, Fornerod M, Krijgsveld J, and van Leeuwen F (2008). Nonprocessive methylation by Dot1 leads to functional redundancy of histone H3K79 methylation states. Nature Struct Mol Biol 15: 550-557.
- van Welsem T, Frederiks F, Verzijlbergen KF, Faber AW, Nelson ZW, Egan DA, Gottschling DE, and <u>van Leeuwen F</u> (2008). Synthetic
  lethal screens identify gene silencing processes in yeast and implicate the acetylated amino terminus of Sir3 in recognition of the
  nucleosome core. Mol Cell Biol 28: 3861-3872.

