The CLHC is an interdisciplinary center within the University of Amsterdam to advance forensic science and medicine in the Netherlands. Partners in the network include the Netherlands Forensic Institute (NFI), Faculties of Science of the UvA and the VU, the Amsterdam University Medical Centers (Amsterdam UMC), the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (HvA), Avans University of Applied Sciences Breda and the Faculty 3mE of Delft University of Technology (TU Delft).
The CLHC was established in 2013 by the Faculty of Science and the Academic Medical Center of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) in collaboration with the Netherlands Forensic Institute. The center has a strong connection to the Master's Program in Forensic Science, a unique 2-year MSc curriculum offered by the Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies of the UvA. This boosts both forensic science and forensic education in the Netherlands. Nowadays the CLHC represents a comprehensive forensic academic network of institutes and researchers from a wide variety of disciplines (also including the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, Delft University of Technology and Avans University of Applied Science, Breda). Through this network a comprehensive portfolio of forensic scientific projects is maintained across a wide range of forensic scientific domains. The academic connections provide the latest scientific insights while the forensic connections ensure that projects are relevant and that results can be used in the criminal justice system.

**History**

The CLHC is named after the famous Dutch forensic pioneer Christiaan Jacobus (Co) van Ledden Hulsebosch. Co, born in Amsterdam in 1877, studied Pharmacy at the University of Amsterdam, graduated in 1902, and started his forensic career in that same year. In the Netherlands, he was the first to introduce the scientific approach for investigating physical traces left at the scene. In 1914, he founded the first school for scientific policing and two years later he became the official police chemist for the Amsterdam police. In 1923, he started lecturing on ‘the science of forensic research’ at the University of Amsterdam. In 1929, he was one of the founding members of the ‘Académie Internationale de Criminalistique’ in Vienna showing that Van Ledden Hulsebosch was also internationally recognized as one of the leading forensic scientists to develop this new field. In 1945 he published his memoirs in the very popular book ‘Forty Years of Detective Work’. Co died in 1952 at the age of 75.

**ARISTA**

Within the CLHC network, the Amsterdam University Medical Centers, location AMC, offers unique facilities and capabilities for post-mortem forensic medical research. ARISTA (Amsterdam Research Initiative for Sub-surface Taphonomy and Anthropology) is the first forensic test site for the study of subsurface human taphonomy under northern European climatological conditions. The body donation program of the Amsterdam UMC also provides options to perform valuable forensic medical and scientific studies under relevant conditions involving human biological material. These capabilities are available to international research and law enforcement teams and are essential to advance forensic medicine and scientifically support forensic case work.

**Forensic Science & Education**

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Scientific institutes and departments participating in the CLHC

Van 't Hoff Institute for Molecular Sciences (HIMS), Faculty of Science, UvA
- Forensic Chemistry and Forensic Analytical Chemistry, Art Forensics (in collaboration with the NFI)

Institute for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Dynamics (IBED), Faculty of Science, UvA
- Forensic Biology, Non-human Biological Traces, Wildlife Forensics, Sewer Epidemiology, Forensic Environmental Studies

Informatics Institute (IvI), Faculty of Science, UvA
- Digital Forensics, Forensic Data Science, Forensic Big Data Analysis, AI in Forensic Science, Multimedia Forensics, Cybercrime (in collaboration with the NFI)

Institute of Physics (IoP), Faculty of Science, UvA
- Forensic Physics, Blood Pattern Analysis

Swammerdam Institute for Life Sciences (SILS), Faculty of Science, UvA
- Forensic Biology, Human Biological Traces, Genetics, Epigenetics, Next Generation Sequencing (in collaboration with the NFI)

Korteweg-de Vries Institute for Mathematics (KdVI), Faculty of Science, UvA
- Forensic Statistics, Bayesian Statistics, Bayesian Networks, Decision Theory, Reasoning (in collaboration with the NFI)

Department of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, Amsterdam UMC
- Forensic Radiology, Child Abuse Investigations (in collaboration with the NFI)

Avans University of Applied Sciences, Breda
- Forensic Analytical Chemistry, Forensic Toxicology

Department of Medical Biology - Section Clinical Anatomy and Embryology, Amsterdam UMC
- Taphonomy, Anthropology, ARISTA Department of Pathology, Amsterdam UMC
- Forensic Pathology (in collaboration with the NFI)

Department of Social Medicine, Amsterdam UMC
- Forensic Medicine (in collaboration with Public Health Service Amsterdam)

Biomedical Engineering and Physics, Amsterdam UMC
- Forensic Biophysics, Hyperspectral imaging, Detection and Dating of Biological Traces, Crime Scene Technology, PMI estimation

Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (HvA)
- Criminalistics, Criminology, Human Factors, Crime Scene Investigation

Division of BioAnalytical Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- Forensic Analytical Chemistry and Forensic Bioanalysis

Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- Forensic Statistics, Mathematics for Forensic Genetics

Earth Science, Faculty of Science, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- Forensic Isotope Geochemistry and Human Provenancing

3mE, Delft University of Technology
- Forensic Engineering, Forensic Biomechanics, Forensic Physics, Art Forensics

Avans University of Applied Sciences, Breda
- Forensic Analytical Chemistry, Forensic Toxicology

Netherlands Forensic Institute (NFI), Ministry of Justice and Security
- Forensic Case Work, Criminalistics, Forensic Science, Forensic Medicine, Court Registered Forensic Experts

For more information on the Forensic Science Master’s program of the University of Amsterdam, see www.uva.nl/mfs

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