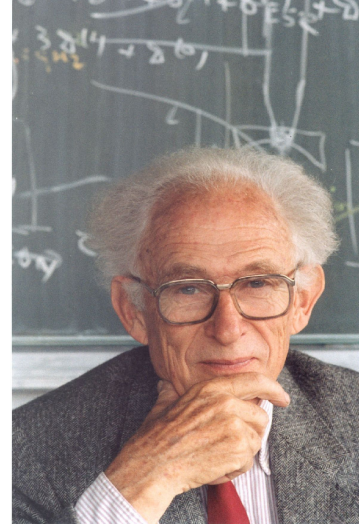


Physics Colloquium named after Joan van der Waals

As a special present for his ninetieth birthday, the Leiden physics colloquium will from now on be called the Joan van der Waals Colloquium. Prof. Van der Waals' frequent presence at the colloquium, his questions and open-mindedness are an example for younger physicists.

Joan van der Waals is one of the pioneers in the interdisciplinary sciences, who in his career fostered close interaction between physics and chemistry in particular. His commitment towards an open-minded, broadly-based scientific attitude is the example that we strive to adopt in the topics presented in the colloquium.



The Van der Waals colloquium is organized by the Leiden Institute of Physics as a bi-weekly colloquium in the areas of physics and physics-related sciences. The colloquium is a platform where physics in its full width is presented to our students, postdocs and staff to get updated on novel developments also outside their specific expertise. One emphasis of topics presented is research at the interface between the disciplines.