

NRIN Annual Report 2024 & Plan of Activities 2025

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NRIN Annual Report 2024

Team

Prof. dr. Mariëtte vd Hoven took the role of chair of NRIN in 2022. As of November 2023, Dr. Rita F. Alves dos Santos has been appointed the new NRIN Coordinator, succeeding Dorien van der Schot. Additionally, from November 2023 to August 2024, Joshua Gualtieri served as Project Assistant for NRIN, primarily responsible for managing the webpage and social media. In 2025, T (Taryn) Honeysett will take over from Joshua as the new Project Assistant.

NRIN Team:





Professor Mariëtte vd Hoven Chair



Dr. Rita F. Alves dos Santos Coordinator



T. Honeysett
Project Assistant (from 2025)

➤ NRIN Advisory Board

The NRIN Advisory Board in 2024 consists of the following persons:

- Professor dr. emeritus Lex Bouter
- Dr. Fenneke Blom
- Professor dr. emeritus Ton Hol
- Professor dr. emeritus Evert van Leeuwen
- Professor dr. emeritus Anthonie Meijers

Several members of the NRIN Advisory Board indicated their wish to step down in 2025, also because of their retirement and their longstanding role in the Advisory Board. We agreed that the Advisory Board would remain as it is in 2024 until we knew if NRIN could be continued for the next five years. In 2025, Professor Emeritus Anthonie Meijers, Professor Emeritus Ton Hol, Professor Emeritus Evert van Leeuwen and Dr. Frits Rosendaal will resign from their role as members of the NRIN Advisory Board, and new members will be invited. Professor Emeritus Lex Bouter and Dr. Fenneke Bloom will remain on the NRIN Advisory Board (2025 – 2030).

NRIN independent audit and funding term

The five-year funding scheme for NRIN ended December 2024. Since 2019, NRIN has been supported by 14 Dutch Universities and 37 Universities of Applied Science (Hogescholen), which pay an annual fee. The fee secures NRIN activities, closed group meetings, and the salaries of a 1.0 FTE coordinator and a 0.2 FTE Project Assistant.



During the NRIN Advisory Board meeting in January 2024, the continuation of the funding scheme for NRIN was discussed. After the meeting, it was decided to set up an external audit panel to assess NRIN's mission and activities and provide impartial feedback on the network's achievements.

The audit panel members were carefully selected and invited by the NRIN chair. Some criteria for selecting members included reputation, expertise in research integrity nationally and internationally, and representation of NRIN's target groups (including Hogescholen, policymakers for research integrity, etc.).

The independent audit panel consisted of the following members:

- Professor dr. Keimpre Algra (Chair)
- Dr. Bert Seghers (Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts & ENRIO)
- Dr. Franke van der Molen (Radboud University)
- Susan Berentsen (HAN Hogeschool)
- Dr. Marianne van der Weiden (Secretary)
- Dr. Marieke Schoots (Secretary)

The audit took place on August 29, 2024. The report was later sent to UNL and VH, together with a request for the continuation of funding.

Overall, the audit panel concluded that NRIN fulfils its role as a network and learning platform on research integrity in the Netherlands and that the variety of open and closed meetings serve a broad range of stakeholders involved in research integrity in the Netherlands. The following recommendations were made:

- NRIN should seek active contributions from those involved in the network to plan its activities and keep these aligned with the needs of the community;
- o NRIN should seek alignment of its activities with personal capacity;
- o NRIN should better cooperate and align its activities with Hogescholen;
- NRIN should approach funding agencies to secure funding and/or with a role in the Advisory Board;
- The Advisory Board should be consulted on financial and strategic activities and, if relevant, also with the contribution from the chairs of closed groups;
- NRIN should increase the financial contribution from the Universities to consider the inflation rate;
- Small contributions from participants in certain activities can also be considered, but this is not preferred.



The continuation of NRIN was discussed and decided upon in the board of VH (Vereniging Hogescholen) and at UNL at the SOO (Stuurgroep Onderwijs en Onderzoek) meeting in December 2024. The decisions made in both meetings resulted in an agreement for another five years of funding for NRIN (2025 – 2030).

We are happy that NRIN can continue on the road taken and that its activities are considered relevant and timely. In fact, in 2023 and 2024, we have introduced new types of activities and increased the activities, since after Covid it became possible to organise an onsite symposium again.

Below, we will offer an overview of the main activities and initiatives of NRIN in 2024.

Overview of NRIN activities in 2024

NRIN Happy Hour webinars



In 2024, we implemented the NRIN Happy Hour webinars to offer a space for mutual learning exchange and to promote informal discussions on issues related to good



scientific practices. The NRIN Happy Hour webinars occur every 2nd Thursday of the month (16:00 to 17:00 CET/CEST). Information about each webinar and the recordings of each session can be found on the NRIN Happy Hour 2024 webinar page.

The full webinar program, number of participants per webinar and geographic reach are found below:



Date	Title	Presenter	# participants	Geographic range
February/24	Integrating Open and Reproducible Research Practices into Academic Culture one educational resource at a time (February 2024)	Dr. Flávio Azevedo (FORRT)	33	Netherlands, South Africa, Belgium, Germany, France, Georgia, Ireland, UK, Lithuania
March/24	Leaving Academia: PhD attrition and unhealthy research environments	Andrea Kis (PhD candidate, TU Eindhoven)	28	Netherlands, France, UK, Georgia, Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Germany
April/24	Lessons learned: How to navigate the field of research integrity as a PhD – a panel discussion with PhD students	Iris Lechner (VU Amsterdam), Tom van Drimmelen (Leiden UMC), Cristian Mesquida (TU Eindhoven), Nina Schwarzbach (Groningen University)	18	Netherlands, Turkey, Germany, France, Georgia, Belgium, Luxembourg
May/24	Ethics of using AI in research	Dr. Mohammad Hosseini (Northwestern University, USA)	81	Netherlands, Poland, USA, France, Germany, Turkey, Belgium, Georgia, Portugal, Croatia, Ireland, South Africa, Sweden, UK, Lithuania, Italy
June/24	Researchers' perceptions of the ethics and integrity of using GenAl – A study from Denmark	Dr. Serge Horbach (Radboud University)	24	Netherlands, Ireland, Denmark, Sweden, Portugal, USA, UK, Spain, Belgium
September/24	The PREPARED Code - A Global Code of Conduct for Research During Pandemics	Dr. Natalie Evans (Amsterdam UMC)	20	Netherlands, Belgium, Ireland, South Africa, Portugal, Greece, Italy



October/24	Are we in a replication crisis? A perspective	Dr. Michiel de Boer (Groningen	18	Netherlands, USA, Germany,
	from the Dutch Reproducibility Network (NLRN)	UMC & NLRN)		Greece, Ireland, Austria
November/24	Open Data and Policy Frameworks in Health and Environment Research	Pauline Nyakairu (University of Manchester, UK)	15	Netherlands, UK, Ireland, Switzerland, South Africa
December/24	Responsible Supervision: Perceptions from PhD candidates and PhD supervisors	Dr. Tamarinde Haven (Tilburg University)	25	Netherlands, Sweden, Ireland, South Africa, Portugal, USA, Spain, UK



NRIN Masterclass

The NRIN Masterclass aims to promote active learning by the community, where invited experts share findings from their research related to responsible research practices and participants are invited to discuss the topic with the speaker and audience. These meetings take place onsite with no specific periodicity. The sessions are recorded and included on the NRIN Masterclass page (link). The format of the NRIN Masterclass is flexible (e.g. a lecture on a topic, a focus group discussion, or a workshop).

In April/2024, we organised our first **NRIN Masterclass** at VU Amsterdam. In this NRIN Masterclass, Professor Emeritus Lex Bouter gave a presentation about Research Integrity in the Netherlands. This NRIN Masterclass was attended by project partners from the Horizon Europe <u>CATALISI</u> project (as part of the Twinning event taking place at the VU at the same time) and by project partners from the Erasmus+ <u>ETHICS</u> project (as part of the annual Consortium meeting taking place at the same time at the VU). A total of approximately 50 people attended the NRIN Masterclass.

Unfortunately, due to the low quality of the recording, it was impossible to include it on the webpage. In 2025, new NRIN Masterclass sessions will be scheduled, and we will hire Audiovisual technicians from the VU to secure high-quality recordings.

NRIN Symposium





The NRIN Annual Symposium 2024, with the central theme 'Shaping a positive Research Culture at Higher Education Institutions: needs, opportunities and challenges', took place on 25th October 2024 at Geertekerk, Utrecht. The Symposium gathered experts in the field to discuss practical approaches and interventions for catalysing effective transformations in shaping a positive research culture at higher education institutions.

The symposium attracted over 80 participants, including early to senior career researchers, academics, support staff, students and journal publishers. Additionally, we gathered not only the Dutch academic community but also participants from Ireland, the UK, Belgium and Germany. This demonstrates the national and international reputation of NRIN in the field of responsible research practices.



The diversified program (see below) allowed moments of discussion and networking among participants. Each session was recorded and later included on the NRIN Symposium webpage (link).

Program:

09:00 – 10:00	Registration
05.00 10.00	Registration
10:00 – 10:30	Grand Opening
	Professor Mariëtte van den Hoven (NRIN Chair) &
	Dr. Rita F. Alves dos Santos (NRIN Coordinator)
10:30 – 11:15	Keynote 1 – Rethinking research misconduct in an Open Science environment
	Professor Rosemarie Bernabe (University of Oslo, Norway)
	Chair: Professor Marcel Verweij (Utrecht University)
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 13:00	Session 1 - From principles to practices: overview of initiatives to improve research culture at Higher Education Institutions
	Dr. Joeri Tijdink (Amsterdam UMC & VU Amsterdam) - How research culture shapes responsible research practices in academia: current initiatives and future directions
	Dr. Michiel de Boer (Groningen UMC & NLRN) - Changing reproducibility practices means changing research culture: Experiences from the Dutch Reproducibility Network (NLRN) Andrea Kis (PhD researcher at TU Eindhoven) - From surviving to thriving in academia
	Chair: Dr. Niek Brunsveld (University of Amsterdam)
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14:45	Keynote 2: Positive Research Culture - A Partnership Approach
	Dr. Rachel Herries (University of Glasgow, UK)
	Chair: Professor Emeritus Ton Hol (Utrecht University)
14:45 – 15:00	Coffee break
15:00 – 16:30	Session 2 – Stakeholders' role in fostering a positive research culture
	Dr. Tamarinde Haven (Tilburg University) - Towards a Responsible Research Climate:



	Findings from Academic Researchers in Amsterdam		
	Dr. Bob Siegerink (Leiden UMC) - Improving the research climate in a decentralized organization: lessons from a University Medical Center in turmoil		
	Professor Jonathan Soeharno (University of Amsterdam) - He who pays the piper calls the tune. Is the purpose of research a matter of research integrity?		
	Chair: Dr. Serge Horbach (Radboud University)		
16:30 – 17:15	Panel Session: "Improving Research Culture at Higher Education Institutions – what needs to be considered?"		
	Invited Panel members:		
	- Professor Jeroen de Ridder (VU Amsterdam)		
	- Susan Berentsen (HAN University of Applied Sciences)		
	Dr. Grace van Arkel (TU Delft)Ana Barbosa Mendes (PNN)		
	Chair: Professor Mariëtte van den Hoven (NRIN Chair)		
17:15 – 17:30	Closing ceremony		
	Professor Mariëtte van den Hoven (NRIN Chair) & Dr. Rita F. Alves dos Santos (NRIN Coordinator)		
17:30 – 18:30	Drink reception		

Overall, the feedback received was extremely positive, with participants satisfied with the quality of the presentations, the venue, the catering, the structure of the program and the opportunities to network with other colleagues. We also received suggestions for topics for the NRIN Annual Symposium 2025. Some participants highlighted having more moments for practical interactions during the event (e.g. workshop sessions). We will consider this when developing the program for the symposium next year.

Events organised in partnership with other national networks

NETHICS (National Ethics Council for Social and Behavioural Sciences)

On 14th March 2024, NRIN and NETHICS organised the 1st National Research Ethics Meeting on the topic 'Research ethics across scientific disciplines'. The meeting was held



at the Utrecht Science Park - University Library, where 74 representatives of research ethics committees from across the country and different scientific disciplines gathered to discuss ideas and share best practices. Their relation to ethics primarily stemmed from being a member or chair/secretary of an ethics review committee, but there were also some data stewards, privacy officers and policy advisors.

The afternoon started with a welcome and presentations from existing social sciences and humanities ethics review platforms. For the interactive part of the program, participants gathered around tables to discuss cases. The first round involved briefly introducing cases to identify whether similar or very different key ethical issues would be identified. This round yielded mostly agreement about the issues in the presented cases. Expert presentations, with more elaborate cases, led to lively discussions on the forms of consent, the vulnerability of participants and the respective responsibility for ethical conduct of research between the researcher and ethics committee.

The afternoon ended with a discussion on whether and how to proceed with the collaboration between ethics boards across disciplines. NETHICS and NRIN intend to intensify the partnership to bring human research ethics committees across scientific disciplines together and provide a platform for discussing and sharing best practices in 2025.

NLRN (Netherlands Reproducibility Network)

On 6th December 2024, NRIN participated in the NLRN Annual Symposium 2024 at Groningen UMC with a workshop on concrete ways to intertwine Research Integrity and Reproducibility. During the workshop, over 20 participants were invited to share concrete practices they already see implemented at their institutions, connecting these two concepts from a disciplinary field perspective. Participants were also asked to discuss the challenges and opportunities in bringing these two concepts together and reflect on better integrating research integrity and reproducibility practices in future research. The workshop promoted lively discussions among participants.

International Meetings

NRIN was presented at the 8th World Conference on Research Integrity (WCRI) in Athens (Greece) from the 2nd to the 5th of June 2024.

In collaboration with the National Technological University Athens (NTUA), co-organisers of the WCRI 2024, NRIN organised the 1st Satellite meeting of Research Integrity



Networks. This meeting allowed representatives from national and regional research integrity networks, offices and other similar organisations to share insights about their networks and discuss concrete actions to strengthen cooperation. The meeting had three primary goals:

- 1) Highlight the mission and activities developed by the different research integrity networks;
- 2) Discuss challenges and needs;
- 3) Develop concrete actions to strengthen cooperation among the networks.

Over 15 representatives from national and regional research integrity organisations (including the European Network of Research Integrity Offices (ENRIO), the French Office of Research Integrity (OFIS), the Asian-Pacific Research Integrity Network (APRI), the African Research Integrity Network (ARIN), the Austrian Agency for Research Integrity (OeAWI), the European Network for Academic Integrity (ENAI), the Office of Research Integrity (ORI), the Association of Research Integrity Offices (ARIO), Finnish National Board on Research Integrity (TENK), among others) attended the meeting.

At the end of the meeting, the representatives stated the relevance of strengthening connections among the organisations and agreed to a follow-up meeting to discuss the cooperation strategies further. A new meeting will be set up in 2025.

NRIN Chairs Meeting (closed meetings)

For the first time, on 18th March 2024, a meeting (hybrid) with the chairs of the different closed groups of NRIN was organised. This meeting offered an opportunity to discuss the vision and activities of NRIN for the year, the NRIN Audit and self-evaluation report, and obtain feedback from the chair on their activities and any challenges they faced.

The following groups and chairs were represented in the meeting:

NRIN Group	Chair
RI CWI	Dr. Yvonne Erkens
RI VP	Professor Bert Theunissen
RI Policy Staff	Dorien van der Schot & Dr. Bob Siegerink
Educational Developers	Dr. Giulia Inguaggiato

All chairs agreed to meet at least once a year to discuss and plan the activities and seek ways to increase the relevance of the network within the Dutch Higher Education system.



CWI Meeting (closed meetings)

NRIN has been organising bi-annual onsite meetings with the chairs and secretaries of Research Integrity Committees (CWI) from Dutch Universities. Due to the sensitive topics, these meetings are only open to members (chairs and secretaries) of Research Integrity Committees. The meetings offer an opportunity to discuss practices, approaches and the challenges encountered when dealing with cases of violations of research integrity. The chairs and secretaries of CWI highly regard these meetings, as they offer a unique opportunity for exchanging knowledge and practices and discussing issues among representatives from other Dutch Institutions. The meetings are chaired by Dr. Yvonne Erkens (Leiden University), and members are invited to propose the topics and cases they wish to see addressed during the meeting.

In 2024, the following CWI meeting took place:

Date	Location	# Attendees
26 th March 2024	Utrecht	32

VPs Meeting (closed meeting)

The meetings with the **Research Integrity Confidential Advisors (VPs)** from Dutch Universities and Universities of Applied Sciences occur twice a year (onsite). These meetings aim to share practices, challenges, and cases among counsellors. The confidential counsellors highly regard the meetings, as they offer a unique opportunity to discuss cases and exchange expertise among VPs from other Dutch Institutions. These meetings are chaired by Professor Bert Theunissen (Utrecht University), and counsellors are invited to propose the topics and cases they wish to discuss during the meeting. These meetings are only open to VPs.

In 2024, the following VP meeting took place:

Date	Location	# Attendees
15 th May 2024	Utrecht	25

Once again, NRIN partnered with Claartje van Sijl (<u>link</u>) and organised a training session tailored to new VPs in the role. Claartje's course included topics such as virtue ethics,



mediation of conflicts and deliberation models, where VPs were invited to practice cases of medication of conflicts. Over 15 VPs attended this training session on the 15th of May before the NRIN VPs meeting. The course was attended by new VPs in the role and those who shared an interest in revising their knowledge. The positive feedback received after the course demonstrated the relevance and need for these types of training. Due to the high rotation of VPs, we will offer this course again in 2025.

WI Policy Staff Meeting (closed meetings)

Since establishing this group in 2023, **Policy Advisors for Research Integrity** from Dutch Universities (central level) have been periodically gathering to exchange practices, discuss challenges in procedures, and discuss new developments in the field (e.g. the implementation of institutions' duties of care mentioned in the Dutch Code of Conduct for Research Integrity). Policy officers highly appreciate these meetings as they offer an opportunity to meet colleagues from other institutions in an informal setting.

The meetings are chaired by Dorien van der Schot (VU Amsterdam) and Dr. Bob Siegerink (Leiden UMC) and are open to RI Policy Advisors from Dutch Universities. Policy advisors are invited to share the topics they wish to see addressed during the meeting, and the meetings usually involve a presentation by one of the group members.

In 2024, the following RI Policy Staff meetings took place:

Date	Location	# Attendees
3 rd April 2024	Twente University	15
25 th October 2024	Utrecht (in parallel to the NRIN Symposium)	10

Educational Developers Meeting (closed meetings)

The meetings of the trainers and developers of educational tools on research integrity and responsible conduct of research occur three times a year. These meetings aim to connect those at Dutch Universities responsible for developing and/or providing educational training on these topics to discuss curricula vision, assessment methods, best practices, new tools, challenges and educational needs on specific topics. In 2024, Dr. Giulia Inguaggiato (Amsterdam UMC) replaced Professor Mariëtte van den Hoven as the group's new chair.



The meetings take place online and are run in English. Members of the group are asked to contribute to the agenda and invited to present on a relevant tool they have developed and/or present their research on a related topic. Members of this group highly appreciate these meetings as they connect with other educators and offer an opportunity to discuss new tools and approaches, learning aims, and curricula vision to empower young researchers in responsible research practices.

In 2024, the following Educational Developers meetings took place:

Date	Location	# Attendees
16 th April 2024	Online	8
9 th September 2024	Online	14
9 th December 2024	Online	6

Other activities

Participation in European Networks and Projects

ENRIO

Since 2016, NRIN has been participating in the European Network of Research Integrity Offices (ENRIO). In 2024, NRIN attended the ENRIO Spring meeting in Rome and the ENRIO Fall meeting in Prague. For NRIN, attending these meetings offers an opportunity to network with similar organisations, share practices, discuss needs in the field, be informed of upcoming developments and initiatives, and be actively involved in the work of a well-established network. After organising the 1st Satellite Meeting of Research Integrity Networks and similar organisations during the World Conference on Research Integrity 2024 in Athens, NRIN and ENRIO assessed the sustainability of this initiative. It was decided that NRIN and ENRIO will host another satellite meeting during the ENRIO Congress 2025. Those who attended the meeting in Athens and were interested in meeting to discuss further synergies and how networks can better support each other will be invited to participate in the ENRIO meeting in 2025.

NERQ (Network for Education and Research Quality)



NRIN has been supporting the NERQ activities since its establishment in 2022. NERQ is an initiative supported by the European Commission that aims to exchange good teaching and learning practices to help increase the quality of training and stimulate research on the impact and learning effects. NERQ strives to increase knowledge and share best practices on research integrity, research ethics and open science through the work of Special Interest Groups (SIG). Currently, NERQ has over 360 members.

In 2024, NERQ organised a symposium and a reception during the World Conference on Research Integrity in Athens. NRIN supported these initiatives with logistics and financial support for the reception. Over 50 people attended both the symposium and the reception. In October 2024, NERQ organised its first Train-the-Trainer event on Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) and SIG meeting. These events were held in Brussels with the support of the European Commission. Over 30 participants attended the Train-the-Trainer event on RCR. The positive feedback encouraged NERQ to continue this initiative. In 2025, two NERQ trainings will take place, one in Tirana (Albania) and another in Lisbon (Portugal). NRIN will continue to support NERQ with the logistics.

In 2024, the following NERQ meetings, in partnership with NRIN, took place:

Date	Meeting	Location
2 nd – 5 th June 2024	NERQ Symposium &	Athens (Greece)
	Reception	
17 th -18 th October 2024	NERQ Train-the-Trainer on	Brussels (Belgium)
	RCR and NERQ SIG meeting	

Erasmus+ ETHICS project

The chair and coordinator of NRIN and colleagues from the Department of Ethics, Law and Humanities at Amsterdam UMC are participating in the Erasmus+ project <u>ETHICS</u> (2023-2027). In this five-year project, NRIN will share its expertise from the Netherlands with the Georgian partners, host a site visit in Amsterdam in 2024 and help develop a massive open online course (MOOC) for Georgian early career researchers.

Financial Report

To be developed

(The financial overview will be provided later in 2025)



NRIN Advisory Board (2025 – 2030)

With the resignations of Professors Ton Hol, Evert van Leeuwen, Anthonie Meijers, and Dr. Frits Rosendaal, new members will join the NRIN Advisory Board in 2025. The NRIN chair and coordinator have carefully reflected on the list of new members to invite to the advisory board. Some criteria included more gender balance, a representation of early career researchers (including PhD candidates and assistant professors) and a member from a University of Applied Science. Also, work in the field of research integrity was considered when drawing the list of potential members.

The following members were invited and accepted the invitation to be part of the NRIN Advisory Board for the period 2025 - 2030:

- Dr. Serge Horbach (Radboud University)
- Claudia Pallise Perello, MSc (Amsterdam UMC)
- Professor dr. Marcel Verweij (Utrecht University)
- Dr. Niek Brunsveld (UvA)
- Dr. Gerben ter Riet (Hogeschool van Amsterdam; MD, PhD)

Professor Emeritus Lex Bouter will remain on the new NRIN Advisory board for another 1 to 3 years, depending on his availability and wishes to be an advisor for the network. Dr. Fenneke Blom will also remain on the advisory board for one more year. A meeting of the new NRIN Advisory Board will happen in March 2025 to reflect on the mission and activities of the network for 2025.

Plan of Activities 2025

NRIN Happy Hour webinars





In 2025, we will continue hosting our **NRIN Happy Hour** webinars, building on the success achieved in 2024. The NRIN Happy Hour webinars will again occur every 2nd Thursday of the month (16:00 to 17:00 CET/CEST). Changes to this schedule may arise depending on the availability of the speaker.

The program for 2025 is below and detailed information can be found on the NRIN Happy Hour webinars 2025 page (link). More webinars will be announced during the year.

We also aim to align our webinar program with similar initiatives at Dutch Universities. We will discuss with Radboud University a joint session between NRIN and their Research Integrity Rounds initiative.

NRIN Happy Hour 2025 Program:

Date	Title	Presenter	Notes
February/25	Transparency vs. Equity: Ethical Dilemmas in the Responsible Use of AI Tools in Science.	Dr. Tomáš Foltýnek (European Network for Academic Integrity)	43 people attended this webinar
March/2025	Gender Equality in Academia: from Knowledge to Change	Dr. Lotta Snicker (Royal Institute of Technology,	

20



		Sweden & University of Oslo, Norway)
May/2025	Funding through lottery? What does it mean for Research Integrity?	Dr. Serge Horbach (Radboud University); Professor Marcel Levi (President of NWO), and Professor Matthias Egger (former President of the Research Council of the Swiss National Science Foundation)
June/2025	How to start, scale, and sustain culture and behaviour change	, ,

NRIN Masterclass



In 2025, NRIN will organise periodic onsite sessions where invited experts share insights on their research. We aim to build on the initiative we started in 2024 and expand to host experts in different topics at the VU. The **NRIN Masterclass** are open to the Dutch academic community and aims to create a space of mutual learning and dialogue on the needs in the field of research integrity and responsible conduct of research. Each masterclass will be recorded and added to the NRIN Masterclass page (link).



Our first NRIN Masterclass took place on 13th January 2025 at VU Amsterdam. This masterclass was part of a research symposium on capacity building for open science, jointly organised by NRIN and NLRN. In this first NRIN Masterclass, Dr. Tim Errington (Senior Director of Research at the Center for Open Science, USA) delivered a talk titled *'Facilitating Research Culture change: tools, removing barriers, incentives, and norming'*. Professor René Bekkers (VU Amsterdam), Professor Mariska Leeflang (Amsterdam UMC) and Dr. Ewout Meijer (Maastricht University & NLRN Steering Group member) were invited to reflect on Tim's talk. We then opened the discussion with over 30 onsite participants. The masterclass was recorded and can be watched here (link).

The following NRIN Masterclasses are envisioned for 2025:

Topic/title	Speaker	Date
Facilitating Research Culture change: tools, removing barriers, incentives, and norming	Dr. Tim Errington (Center for Open Science, USA)	13 th January 2025
Research Integrity training at Hogescholen	Heleen Wellner (Hogeschool van Amsterdam), Susan Berentsen (HAN)	31 st October 2025
Fostering a positive research culture – perceptions, experiences and needs from the research community at Amsterdam UMC and VU Amsterdam	Dr. Miriam van Loon (Amsterdam UMC) & Dr. Rita F. Alves dos Santos (Amsterdam UMC)	December 2025

NRIN-on-Tour





As mentioned in our report last year, NRIN will go on tour in 2025 to bring visibility to the work on responsible research practices by the Dutch scientific community. The **NRIN-on-Tour** will host onsite sessions across Dutch Universities and Universities of Applied Sciences, with online streaming to those outside the Netherlands and those unable to travel to the host institution of each session. In each session, experts from the host institution will present a relevant topic related to Research Integrity, Open Science, and Responsible Conduct of Research and discuss with the audience the challenges and opportunities related to the topic presented. The onsite and online participants will be invited to ask questions and interact with the speaker and audience. Each session will be recorded and included on the NRIN-on-Tour webpage (link).

The following on-tour sessions are scheduled for 2025:

Location	Title	Presenter	Date	Notes
TU	Hackathon on	Dr. Daniel Lakens,	30th	20 participants
Eindhoven	Sustainability in Academia	Dr. Krist Vaesen	January	(16 onsite + 4
	(in celebration of Andrea	and Professor	2025	online) attended
	Kis' PhD defense)	Wybo Houkes		our first NRIN-on-
				Tour
Maastricht	From the Dutch	Professor Rianne	9 th April	
University	Recognition & Rewards	Letschert	2025	
	Programme to CoARA –			
	new developments and			
	opportunities	Panel members:		
		Dr. Krishma Labib		
		(VU), Robbert		
		Hoogstraat		



	Panel session: Diversity and inclusion in researchers' assessment – new initiatives and needs	(University of Humanistic Studies), Andrea Reyes Elizondo (Leiden University), Dr. Bruna Calado (Maastricht University)	
Ghent University (Belgium)	Academic freedom	TBC	8 th May 2025
HAN Hogeschool	Research Integrity training at Hogescholen	ТВС	31 st October 2025

Our first NRIN-on-Tour session occurred on 30th January 2025 at TU Eindhoven and held a Hackathon on Sustainability in Academia. This hackathon was inspired by the themes of Andrea Kis' PhD thesis, who successfully defended her PhD titled 'Surviving academia - Studies on the sustainability of science and academic careers' on the same day.

The hackathon started with short presentations on the following topics by Andrea Kis' supervisory team:

- o The under-usage of open research data, by Dr. Krist Vaesen
- o Improving the PhD experience in Academia, by Dr. Daniel Lakens
- o Responsible hiring, by Professor Wybo Houkes

After these presentations, 20 participants (16 onsite + 4 online) were invited to reflect further on these topics and split into different groups. For 1h30, onsite and online participants shared their thoughts on the issues. Unfortunately, it was not possible to record this session. However, the positive feedback demonstrated the relevance of organising these on-tour sessions.

NRIN Symposium



The **NRIN Annual Symposium 2025** will take place in the fall of 2025. The NRIN chair and coordinator are already planning this event, which is one of the year's main highlights and well attended by the Dutch academic and research community.

We have already started to inquire about the central topic of the symposium with the community. With no surprise, AI has been the most requested topic, from its ethical use in education and research to its impact on research integrity committees, the work of confidential advisors for research integrity and research integrity policies. Therefore, we can already foresee that AI will be the central theme for the NRIN Symposium 2025.

With the revised Dutch Code of Conduct on Research Integrity available in early 2026, we are considering including a plenary session to highlight the new developments in the code and how AI is embedded in it. Given the EU AI Act (link), we also think it would benefit the community to discuss its implications for the Dutch higher education ecosystem. Following up on the suggestions received after the NRIN Symposium 2024 for more practical sessions and from the audit panel to actively seek the involvement of the NRIN chairs in the planning of the NRIN activities, for this year's symposium, we aim to organise parallel focus group sessions, chaired by the NRIN chairs and tailored to the NRIN closed groups (members of CWI, VP, Policy Advisors for RI and Educational Developers on RCR). These parallel sessions would focus on AI and its specific implications for the different target groups. This way, we aim to fulfil the NRIN stakeholders' need to debate the usage and implication of AI at various levels.

The NRIN coordinator will actively involve the NRIN chairs in planning the symposium and their sessions. We will advertise the NRIN Annual Symposium 2025 through social media and the NRIN community.

Events organised in partnership with other national networks

NRIN & NLRN Joint Research Symposium – Capacity Building for Open Science





NRIN, in partnership with the Netherlands Reproducibility Network (NLRN), organised on 13th January 2025 a 1-day research symposium on capacity building for open science (link). This event, which gathered over 35 onsite participants, involved a morning workshop on open science guidelines by Professor Julia Priess-Buchheit and Marie Alavi (Kiel University, Germany), a keynote presentation (and NRIN Masterclass) on Facilitating Research Culture Change by Dr. Tim Errington (Senior Director for Research from the Center for Open Science, USA) and an afternoon workshop for PhD candidates on preregistration, chaired by Dr. Tim Errington and Dr. Joeri Tijdink (Amsterdam UMC & VU).

Professors René Bekkers (VU Amsterdam) and Mariska Leeflang (Amsterdam UMC), and Dr. Ewout Meijers (Maastricht University & member of the NLRN Steering Committee) were invited to reflect on Dr. Tim Errington's talk. The recording of the talk and presentation slides are available (link).

Once again, this partnership with the NLRN proved fruitful in connecting the open science and research integrity community in mutual knowledge sharing and debating strategies to improve institutional research culture.



NETHICS (National Ethics Council for Social and Behavioural Sciences)

On the 17th April 2025, NRIN & NETHICS will host a research symposium on AI & Research Ethics. This event will take place at TU Eindhoven and aims to bring together human research ethics committees across scientific disciplines and provide a platform for discussing and sharing best practices. The program 'AI & Research Ethics' includes:

- Interactive training for ethics committee members and other interested parties about ethical considerations in AI applications in research;
- Expert presentations and discussions on the role of AI in research ethics, research integrity and societal implications of AI with active participation of the audience;
- Ample opportunity to connect and network.

International Meetings

NRIN is supporting NERQ in organising a training event on RCR in Lisbon (Portugal) in November 2025. Together with the Bioethics Institute from the Catholic University Lisbon, NRIN and NERQ aim to train early career researchers from the humanities and social science scholarly fields in responsible research practices. This will be a 2-day training event, where participants will be invited to reflect on topics such as the ethical use of AI, open science, dilemma cases in research, responsible supervision, etc.

NRIN will attend the ENRIO Spring Meeting (Oslo) and ENRIO Congress 2025 in Ljubljana. The ENRIO Congress 2025 will focus on Research Integrity, Power Dynamics and Safe Institutional Culture. The NRIN Coordinator will submit an abstract with the findings from the research she is leading on researchers' perceptions, experiences, and needs to foster a positive research culture at VU Amsterdam and Amsterdam UMC. This research is being conducted under the goals of the Horizon Europe CATALISI project. Additionally, the NRIN Coordinator, with support from ENRIO, will be hosting a 2nd Satellite Meeting of Research Integrity Networks. This meeting aims to extend from the initial meeting held in Athens and develop concrete plans to strengthen collaboration among those involved in research integrity networks and similar initiatives.

NRIN Chairs Meeting (closed meeting)



We are keeping our annual meetings with the **chairs of NRIN's** closed groups, which were initiated in 2024. These meetings represent an opportunity to discuss the NRIN activities for the year and actively involve the chairs in this planning. Additionally, it offers a chance to discuss any issues or actions pointed out by the members of the different closed groups where NRIN's involvement is perceived as relevant (e.g. some members of NRIN's closed groups suggested NRIN could be the forum to collect views from the scientific community on the revised Dutch Code of Conduct on Research Integrity).

The chairs of the NRIN closed groups met with the NRIN chair and coordinator on the 4th of February 2025. The following topics were discussed in the meeting:

- Feedback from the NRIN Audit Panel
- NRIN Funding 2025-2030
- NRIN Advisory Board (new members)
- NRIN closed group activities (overview from each chair)
- Overview of the NRIN Activities in 2025
- Term for the NRIN chairs and co-chairs
- Periodicity of meetings
- AOB

The following groups and chairs were present at the meeting:

NRIN Group	Chair	
RI CWI	Dr. Yvonne Erkens	
RI VP	Professor Bert Theunissen	
RI Policy Staff	Dr. Bob Siegerink	
Educational Developers	Dr. Giulia Inguaggiato	

The NRIN coordinator will actively involve the chairs in planning the NRIN Symposium 2025.

CWI Meeting (closed meeting)

The next meeting of the chairs and secretaries of **Research Integrity Committees (CWI)** will be on 11th March 2025 in Utrecht. The meeting will promote the discussion of topics and developments of specific interest to CWIs, as well as the discussion of specific case studies. The meeting chair will disseminate the agenda in advance. A second meeting is planned to take place in the fall of 2025, with the potential presence of Flemish colleagues from research integrity committees.



VPs Meeting (closed meeting)

On the 28th January 2025, 12 **Confidential Advisors on Research Integrity (WI VPs)** from the Dutch Universities and Universities of Applied Sciences attended a meeting in Utrecht to discuss cases brought up by the confidential advisors and issues in their work settings. These meetings allow confidential counsellors to share experiences and differences in approaches and are highly regarded by participants.

We plan to organise another meeting in early Fall 2025. Similar to the last two years, we aim to organise a training session (in the morning) for new VPs, which Claartje van Sijl will facilitate. We will then have the meeting in the afternoon, which will be chaired by Professor Bert Theunissen.

WI Policy Staff Meeting (closed meeting)

On 15th January 2025, **Policy Advisors for Research Integrity** (central level) met at TU Delft to discuss new developments in the field and share practices and issues. For the first time, policy advisors from the Universities of Applied Sciences joined the meeting. The meeting started with a get-to-know-each-other followed by a discussion on research integrity policies at the Universities of Applied Sciences. In the afternoon, policy advisors from Dutch universities joined the meeting to discuss current issues in policies.

A new meeting is yet to be planned for Fall 2025.

Educational Developers Meeting (closed meetings)

We will continue hosting periodic sessions with those involved in **developing and/or delivering training in RCR** at Dutch universities. These meetings will occur online and engage educators and researchers from Dutch universities in discussions around curricula design and approach, learning goals, recently developed innovative teaching tools, etc. In 2025, the following meetings are planned:

- o 24th February 2025
- o 16th June 2025
- o 3rd November 2025

A proposal was made to the group to map the current Research Integrity training offer for PhD candidates at Dutch universities. The group welcomed this proposal and



highlighted the relevance of such an initiative to centralise information currently scattered on the type of training in Research Integrity offered at Dutch institutions. Dr. Giulia Inguaggiato (chair of the group), together with the NRIN coordinator and NRIN chair, is developing a survey for collecting information on each course regarding the learning objectives, pedagogical approach, topics and themes covered, structure, format and quality assessment, among other items. We will inventory course coordinators from each Dutch university and rely on the group members and extended NRIN network to disseminate the survey. The findings from this study will be published in a report that will be made available on the NRIN webpage and to all universities. We will also organise an event to disseminate the findings from this study and engage educators in a dialogue on curricula reforms and quality assessment.

Network of RI trainers at Hogescholen (closed meetings – new group!)

We have recently been approached by the chairs of the Network of Research Integrity trainers at Hogescholen to strengthen cooperation with NRIN. We have decided to join forces, and from 2025, NRIN will support the network by 1) organising periodic meetings with educators on research integrity from hogescholen and 2) centralising information at the NRIN webpage on available training materials, policies and guidelines, with a specific focus on hogescholen. This way, NRIN is following the advice of the audit panel and the NRIN advisory board to cooperate further with universities of applied sciences, as this group has been underrepresented in NRIN activities.

We will also organise an NRIN-on-Tour on RI training at Hogescholen in October 2025.

Communication

Website

The NRIN webpage has been completely refurbished (link). The new website offers more comprehensive information about the NRIN activities. We have also added information about our closed group meetings, which was unavailable on the previous webpage. The Project Assistant and the NRIN coordinator manage the website content daily. It continues to be the principal channel through which information about our activities and events is disseminated.



Since the launch of the new website in December 2024, we have received over 600 visits from users in the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, UK, Ireland, USA, China, Brazil, South Africa, Canada, India and Morocco, among other countries.

Social Media

NRIN's <u>LinkedIn</u> and <u>YouTube</u> channels will continue to promote NRIN's activities and events. We will also share announcements of calls, resources and relevant events from the community.

In 2025, NRIN will leave X and move to BlueSky, following various networks and organisations in the Netherlands and internationally who have also moved to BlueSky to share their news. The Project Assistant will actively feed NRIN's social media.

Newsletter

We will continue using Mailchimp to develop our newsletter and disseminate our activities and events. Our newsletters will be released every two months and available in our dedicated webpage section (<u>link</u>). We will invite the Dutch and international scientific community to announce any relevant news and activities in our newsletters.

We currently have over 1000 subscribers to the NRIN newsletter.

Calendar of events 2025

	Date	Location	Details
NRIN & NLRN Joint Research Symposium –	13 th January 2025	VU	More
Capacity Building for Open Science		Amsterdam	information
			<u>here</u>
WI Policy Staff meeting (closed meeting)	15 th January 2025	TU Delft	
NRIN Masterclass - Facilitating Research Culture	13 th January 2025	VU	Recording
change: tools, removing barriers, incentives, and		Amsterdam	<u>Available</u>
norming (Dr. Tim Errigton, Center for Open			
Science)			
NRIN VP meeting (closed meeting)	28 th January 2025	Utrecht	
NRIN-on-Tour – Hackathon on Sustainability in	30 th January 2025	TU	20
Academia (in celebration of Andrea Kis' PhD		Eindhoven	participants
defence			



NRIN Happy Hour - Transparency vs. Equity: Ethical Dilemmas in the Responsible Use of Al Tools in Science (Dr. Tomáš Foltýnek, ENAI)	6 th February 2025	Zoom	43 participants; Recording available
NRIN Educators Group (closed meeting)	24 th February 2025	Zoom	
NRIN CWI meeting (closed meeting)	11 th March 2025	Utrecht	
NRIN Happy Hour - Gender Equality in Academia: from Knowledge to Change (Dr. Lotta Snicker, Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden & University of Oslo, Norway)	13 th March 2025	Zoom	Registration
NRIN-on-Tour - From the Dutch Recognition & Rewards Programme to CoARA – new developments and opportunities (Professor Rianne Letschert, CoARA chair and President of Maastricht University)	9 th April 2025	Maastricht University	More information here
NRIN & NETHICS Symposium – AI & Research Ethics	17 th April 2025	TU Eindhoven	More information here
NRIN Happy Hour - Funding through lottery? What does it mean for Research Integrity? (Dr. Serge Horbach – Radboud University; Professor Marcel Levi – President of NWO; Professor Matthias Egger – former President of the Research Council of the Swiss National Science Foundation)	1 st May 2025	Zoom	Registration
NRIN-on-Tour – Academic freedom	8 th May 2025	University of Ghent (Belgium)	More information here
NRIN Educators Group (closed meeting)	16 th June 2025	Zoom	
NRIN Happy Hour – How to start, scale, and sustain culture and behavior change (Professor Brian Nosek, Center for Open Science, USA)	18 th June 2025	Zoom	Registration
ENRIO Congress 2025	22 nd – 24 th September 2025	University of Ljubljana, Slovenia	More information here
NRIN-on-Tour: Research Integrity training in Hogescholen	31 st October 2025	HAN	More information here
NRIN Educators Group (closed meeting)	3 rd November 2025	Zoom	
NRIN-on-Tour – Mental Health in Academia (Dr. Joeri Tijdink, Amsterdam UMC & VU Amsterdam)	12 th December 2025	VU Amsterdam	More information here