



## **In these Notes on WTMC (April 2015):**

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## **Wetenschapsagenda – send in questions until 1 May**

By now, you should be aware of the current exercise to set the Dutch research agenda for the coming years – either via the emails I (Sally Wyatt) have sent in the past 10 days, or via other channels. It is important to submit questions, as I have encouraged you to do via email. But of course, the whole exercise is completely fascinating for members of WTMC, and certainly warrants further analysis and discussion. The questions will remain public, so they provide an amazing source of data about what Dutch society, industry and academia thinks are important research issues. The process also raises many questions, such as how to reconcile the commitment to interdisciplinarity with the requirement to allocate your questions to one or more of five pre-defined fields; how to understand a process that shifts between bottom-up and top-down mechanisms for reaching decisions; the role of traditional and digital media in facilitating the process; and the tension between national and international research practices.

**Completed dissertations.** Congratulations to the ‘new doctors’ who successfully defended their dissertations in recent months:

- Rosanne Edelenbosch. *Deliberating Neurotechnologies for Education. Facilitating frame reflection.* 16 December 2014. VU University. (Supervisor: Jacqueline Broerse)
- Ivo Maathuis. *Technologies of Compliance? Telecare Technologies and Self-Management of Chronic Patients.* University of Twente. 22 January 2015 (supervisor: Nelly Oudshoorn)
- Marijke Hermans. *Engaging with Risks. Citizens, Science and Policy in Mobile Phone Mast Siting Controversies.* Maastricht University. 6 February 2015 (supervisors: Marjolein van Asselt & Wim Passchier)
- Dirk Haen. *The Politics of Good Food. Why food engineers and citizen-consumers are talking at cross-purposes.* Maastricht University. 13 March 2015 (supervisor: Tsjalling Swierstra)

**Congratulations are also due to various (past & present) WTMC members who have recently received prizes, acknowledging their work and contributions.**

Just after the last WTMC newsletter was prepared, we heard the excellent news that **Gerard de Vries** was appointed a Knight of the Order of the Lion of the Netherlands on Tuesday 16 December 2014 for his exceptional achievements for the sciences, social sciences and humanities. His contribution to the establishment and success of WTMC was part of the citation. See the WTMC website for more details.

**Felix Schirrmann**, a WTMC PhD who completed his PhD last year is one of the five winners of Stichting Praemium Erasmianum, for his PhD entitled, *The Good, the Bad, and the Brain: Theory and History of the Neuroscience of Morality*. (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen) The prize will be awarded at the [KNAW in Amsterdam on 11 May 2015](#).

**Huib Dijkstra**, member of the WTMC Board, gave his inaugural lecture on 6 March 2015, entitled '*Het publieke oog als privédetective*'. For those who missed it, or would like to see it again, you can do so, [with the appropriate plugins](#).

WTMC members have also enjoyed success with NWO:

**Koen Frenken**, member of the WTMC Board, has been awarded a Vici, for a project called, 'The Genealogy of Novelty: An evolutionary explanation of breakthrough inventions in science, technology, and the arts'.

Several members of WTMC were successful in the latest round of projects awarded under the auspices of the 'socially responsible innovation' programme, including (in alphabetical order of last name of main applicant): **Wiebe Bijker, Marianne Boenink, Frans Brom, Tsjalling Swierstra, Geert Verbong, and Henny van der Windt**. The full list and brief descriptions of the projects can be [found on the NWO website](#).

#### **Forthcoming events:**

- **Huib Dijkstra** (UvA) is organizing a workshop about 'border surveillance and counter-surveillance' on 28-29 May in Amsterdam (with support from WTMC).
- **Nelly Oudshoorn** (Twente) retires in 2015. To mark this important transition, there will be a workshop on the afternoon of 28 May at Universiteit Twente, called 'How users still matter. Reflections on user-technology relations'. This event is open to all. [Full details of the programme](#). In order to register for the event, contact Evelien Rietberg ([e.rietberg@utwente.nl](mailto:e.rietberg@utwente.nl)) preferably before 1 May.
- **Amade M'charek** will give her inaugural lecture on Friday 18 September at the University of Amsterdam. The title of her chair is 'Anthropology of Science'.

- Our UK colleagues are launching AsSIST-UK (Association for Studies in Innovation, Science and Technology-UK). The official launch will take place on 25 August, at SPRU in Brighton.

**Annual meeting:**

The WTMC annual meeting will take place on Friday 11 December, at De Balie in Amsterdam. The programme will include presentations from the people who have new projects in 'socially responsible innovation' (see above), and a discussion of a new book called, *Science and Democracy. Making Knowledge and Making Power in the Biosciences and Beyond*. (Routledge, 2015), edited by Stephen Hilgartner, Clark Miller and **Rob Hagendijk**. More details and the registration form will be distributed in June.