



Spring Symposium 2021

Our speakers and Guests, in order of appearance:

Marieke Eyskoot (moderator) is a sought-after speaker, presenter and consultant, and co-founder of international fair fashion trade show MINT. With almost twenty years of experience, she has an extensive global ethical network. She's featured in several top-women lists and was nominated as Amsterdam Citizen of the Year.

Els Goulmy is an eminent professor of transplantation biology, especially regarding minor histocompatibility antigen, at Leiden University. Goulmy is an expert in the area of tissue typing and belongs internationally to the absolute top of her discipline. She was awarded the Spinoza Prize in 2002. Goulmy was active in many national and international scientific advisory committees, among which the KNAW, the European Research Council and Institut Pasteur. Goulmy was one of the founders of the Dutch Network of Women Professors (2001) and their president from 2001-2012. She is a member of the Royal Holland Society of Sciences and Humanities (KHMW). Since November 11, 2011 Goulmy is an emeritus professor. Following her farewell speech, she was honoured with the distinction 'Knight in the order of the Netherlands Lion'.

Hanneke Takkenberg is professor of Thorax interventions at the Erasmus MC and professor of Management Education focusing on Women in Business at Rotterdam School of Management. She is co-executive director of the Erasmus Centre for Women and Organisations (ECWO). At Erasmus MC, Prof. Takkenberg has worked to improve healthcare for women for patients and working conditions for female medical doctors. For that she was recognised with the 2018 Els Borst award for her scientific and societal efforts. In 2019, she received the Caty Asscher award for her efforts to achieve gender diversity in the Erasmus MC and Erasmus University Rotterdam. This was through the founding of VENA (2006), the Erasmus MC network for women in academia, her work as Chief Diversity Officer for EUR (2015-2018) and her initiation of the Diversity and Inclusion programme for the Erasmus MC in 2018. Hanneke Takkenberg is currently chair of the Dutch Network for Women Professors (LNVH) board.

Thijs Bol is associate professor of Sociology in the Department of Sociology at the University of Amsterdam and the academic coordinator of the Amsterdam Centre for Inequality Studies. Since 2020, he is member of The Young Academy (De Jonge Akademie) of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW). He is also an elected board member to the European Consortium of Sociological Research, a consortium consisting of 90 leading European research institutes and university departments across 26 European countries.

Emily Toth is a Robert Penn Warren Professor of English and Women's Studies at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, is a scholar, novelist, advice columnist, and feminist activist. She earned her PhD from The Johns Hopkins University. Toth's scholarly work includes over 300 articles and papers about academic mentoring, Louisiana literature and culture, women's humor, and music; biographies of the American women writers Kate Chopin and Grace Metalious; a cultural history of menstruation; edited collections of Chopin's papers and last short story collection, and a volume of essays about regionalism in women's writing. Toth's 1990 biography of Kate Chopin was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. Toth's historical novel *Daughters of New Orleans* (1983) was named a "Best Feminist Historical Novel" by *Romantic Times* in 1984. Toth was also the founder and editor of the

journal *Regionalism and the Female Imagination* (formerly *The Kate Chopin Newsletter*) from 1975-1979 and on the editorial board of the journal *Southern Studies*.

Marcela Linková is a researcher at the Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences where she directs the Centre for Gender and Science. She has a doctorate in sociology from Charles University in Prague. Her research focuses on sociology of gendered organizations, research careers, governance of research and research assessment from a gender perspective. Marcela also examines the material-discursive practices through which gender equality policies and initiatives are adopted and implemented at the European and Czech country levels. She is the chair of the ERAC Standing Working Group on Gender in Research and Innovation. She is active in developing policy solutions for gender equality in research at the Czech and EU levels. Marcela has been involved in several EU funded projects; most recently, she is the coordinator of Horizon 2020 GENDERACTION project and participates in GE Academy and Gender-SMART. She has served on expert and advisory bodies of the European Commission and in the Czech Republic. In 2017 she co-edited *Gender and Neoliberalism in Czech Academia* and together with Mary Frank Fox and Kjersten Bunker Whittington contributed to the 4th edition of the *Handbook of Science and Technology Studies*. She is an alumna of the International Visitor Leadership Programme "Women in STEM".

Claartje Vinkenburg (moderator) is an independent expert consultant and researcher on diversity in careers, affiliated with Portia Ltd UK and VU Amsterdam.

Rianne Letschert studied Dutch Law and International Law at Tilburg University, the University of Amsterdam and the University of Montpellier and received her PhD in 2005. Her research focuses on the impact of international tribunals on societies and people who are confronted with serious violations of human rights and international crimes. Since 1 September 2016, Professor Letschert is Rector Magnificus of Maastricht University. She is member of the Supervisory Board of Catharina Hospital Eindhoven and the Bonnefanten museum Maastricht. She is member of the Board of Trustees of Redress the Netherlands. In 2019, she was awarded the title *Topwoman of the year* in the Netherlands. One of her main tasks as the administrative leader of a national programme by the VSNU is to implement the position paper 'Room for Everyone's Talent' (Recognition and Reward), not only in Maastricht but in the entire sector.

Halleh Ghorashi is professor in Diversity and Integration at the Sociology department at the VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands. In 1994, she completed her MA degree in Anthropology at the VU University Amsterdam. She received her Ph.D. in 2001 from the University of Nijmegen. Between 2005 and 2012 she held the prestigious position of PaVEM-chair in Management of Diversity and Integration in the Department of Organization Science at the VU. She is the author of *Ways to Survive, Battles to Win: Iranian Women Exiles in the Netherlands and the US* (2003, Nova Science Publishers, New York) and several articles on questions of identity, Diaspora, and Iranian women's movement. She is conducting research, questioning: Why is it important to be culturally sensitive in this culturalist world and how can this cultural sensitivity be created while at the same time avoiding culturalism?. Halleh Ghorashi is a Crown Member of the SER (Sociaal Economische Raad – Social Economic Board) and former board member of the LNVH.

Marian Joëls is professor of Neurobiology, dean of medical sciences at the University of Groningen and member of the Board of Directors of the University Medical Center Groningen. She has previously written books on brain research, including *'Een zeepaardje in je hoofd'* (2009). She recently published her book *'Baanbreeksters'*. For her book, Marian Joëls interviewed twelve 'first women' in politics and government, academia, religion, art, sport and business, about their way to the top and explores the decisive factors in their success.

Anne van Kessel (moderator) is an all-round science journalist, author, speaker and moderator.

Anne Koopmans completed her training as a psychiatrist at the Parnassia Group and started her PhD research during her specialization. She now works as a psychiatrist at i-psy in Utrecht. On May 12, she defended her thesis 'CYP2D6 and CYP2C19, genotyping in psychiatry: Bridging the gap between practice and lab.' key findings and its drivers. The opposition consisted of only female academics, as a statement to promote equal representation of women in academia.

Pauline Meurs is a sociologist and professor of Health Care Governance at the Institute of Health Policy & Management (iBMG) at Erasmus University Rotterdam. She is the scientific director of the Erasmus Centre for Health Care Management, which offers postgraduate and executive programmes for executive staff, professionals, managers and supervisory officers of health care organisations. From June 2007 to February 2013, Meurs was a member of the Dutch Senate and from September 2007 to May 2015 she was chair of the Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development (ZonMw), responsible for research and innovation in health care. She was a member of the Dutch Safety Board from February 2013 to July 2014 and a member of the Scientific Council for Government Policy (WRR) from 1998 to 2008.

Sera Markoff is an American astrophysicist and full professor of theoretical high energy astrophysics at the Anton Pannekoek Institute for Astronomy, University of Amsterdam. She is a member of the Event Horizon Telescope team that produced the first image of a black hole. Sera Markoff studied physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was awarded a Bachelor's of Science in Physics in 1993. In 1996 she gained a Master of Arts from the University of Arizona in theoretical astrophysics, and in 2000 she gained a PhD in the same field. She was an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy in Bonn from 2000 to 2002 and a National Science Foundation Astronomy & Astrophysics Postdoctoral Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 2002 to 2005. In 2006 she joined the University of Amsterdam as an assistant professor, and was promoted to associate professor in 2008 and to professor in 2017. In 2019 she became editor of the journal *Astroparticle Physics*. Sera Markoff is member of the LNVH board.

Naomi Ellemers is university professor at Utrecht University. To investigate the behavior of people in organizations, Naomi Ellemers combines experimental methodologies examining brain activity and stress with observations of people in the workplace. Her aim is to understand how group affiliations impact on individual behaviors in organizations. In her diversity lab, she identifies the work experiences of women, ethnic minorities, and members of the LGBT community. In her integrity lab, she also examines how individuals are guided by the ethical climate at work, for instance in the financial sector. Ellemers was elected member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), and Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy. Among the distinctions she received is the NWO-Spinoza Prize. She is member of the supervisory board of PwC the Netherlands, and chair of the Kurt Lewin Institute. She is one of the initiators of the National Integration Fund and one of Athena's Angels. She currently chairs the KNAW-committee on the prevention of harassment in academia.

[Het Acteursgenootschap](#) (The Dutch Actors Society) is a theatre company with a focus on the community of science and academia.

[Brainy Bunch](#) has been organizing sparkling online meetings for NGO's, governments and governmental organizations and healthcare institutions since 2018 in which all participants actively contribute and talk to each other.

DWSFund laureates:

Distinguished Women Scientists Fund | DWSF 2020-21

In 2012 the Dutch Network of Women Professors created the Distinguished Women Scientists Fund, a travel grant (max. 1500 euro) for female postdocs - up to 3 years after promotion and working in the Netherlands - who wish to travel abroad in the framework of their discipline.

The LNVH board and bureau are pleased to announce the 2020-21 Distinguished Women Scientists Fund laureates! In celebration of LNVH's 20th anniversary, this year not 6 – but 7 laureates will receive the DWSF travel grant. This travel grant allows the laureates to travel abroad for their research.

Luisa Schneider is an Assistant Professor at VU Amsterdam, where she specializes in the anthropology of intimacy, violence and law. With the travel grant, she will travel to Sierra Leone, to further her collaboration with judges, NGOs and grassroots on a study about the riot that occurred after a man who was tested positively for COVID-19 was brought to the country's central prison for men, Pademba Road to be imprisoned.

Chiara Sironi is a postdoctoral researcher at Maastricht University, Department of Data Science & Knowledge Engineering. With the travel grant, she will be visiting the Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech), Shenzhen, China. During this visit, she will extend her earlier research topic of self-adaptive search algorithms that are able to address a wide variety of (video) games without requiring human intervention or prior, game-specific knowledge. This research will be extended to include automatic generation of new algorithms, with application not only to games, but also to real world problems. This would bring her research closer to Artificial General Intelligence, which aims at creating agents that are able to perform many heterogeneous tasks in a wide variety of domains, of which games are only a subset. (Click for video portrait)

Oihane Abiega is a postdoctoral researcher at the Swammerdam Institute for Life Sciences at the University of Amsterdam. With the travel grant, she will visit the Center for Brain and Disease Research, VIB-KU Leuven (Belgium) to perform single-cell RNA sequencing to molecularly characterize the reactive-neural stem cell (react-NSC) population in the hippocampus of epileptic mice. These react-NSCs lose their neurogenic function and contribute to some of the main pathological hallmarks of Epilepsy. This experiment will be key in her research project and a big step forward in our understanding of what drives the change of normal NSCs into react-NSCs and how to specifically target them, effectively contributing to their use as future therapeutic target

Ona Ilozumba is a postdoctoral researcher/lecturer at the Athena Institute at VU Amsterdam. With the travel grant, she will conduct fieldwork within the context of her existing project at the Uganda Cancer Institute. The project's objective is to develop, implement and evaluate an Interactive Voice System (IVR) for cancer awareness in Uganda. The trip would involve a qualitative evaluation (interviews and focus group discussion with current system users) to understand users' experiences, in order to guide further modification of the system. Additionally, she will explore preferred avenues for the promotion of the IVR system to increase the utilization of the system by the general public. (Click for video portrait)

Noortje Kloos is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Twente and Radboudumc, within the field of positive psychology and long-term care for older adults. With the travel grant, she will be working on two lines of research during a four-month stay at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia. First, she will be testing a gratitude app (developed at the University of Twente) to improve the well-being of nurses. This will consist of an RCT to test the effectiveness and acceptability of the app for nurses from the Austin Hospital Melbourne. Secondly, she will be participating in an ongoing

research on the concept of thriving in older adults: the experienced well-being in the nursing home. Dr. Kloos will join both the analysis of an existing large Swedish dataset, as well as the gathering of new data in two nursing homes in Australia. (Click for video portrait)

Fabiola Müller is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Amsterdam University Medical Centers (department of Medical Psychology) where she conducts research in psycho-oncology. In the Netherlands, individuals from ethnic minority groups are expected to form an increasing proportion of those diagnosed with cancer. However, research on the need for, and efficacy of supportive care in cancer patients from minority groups is scarce in the Netherlands. In the USA, research on ethnic minority groups is much more advanced. With the travel grant, Dr. Müller will visit the Moffitt Cancer Center (Tampa, Florida), which has a large portfolio of research evaluating the role of ethnicity in cancer survivorship and supportive care. Dr. Müller will analyze data on survivorship needs and care in the context of ethnicity, and receive guidance on the challenges and opportunities of assessing ethnicity and socio-cultural factors. She will transfer her gained knowledge and skills to the Netherlands where she aims to conduct research on equity in supportive care in cancer in the Dutch context. (Click for video portrait)

Charlotte Bekker, PhD, is a researcher at Radboudumc, at the department of Pharmacy. With the travel grant, she will visit a research group at the University of Sydney, Australia. Together with the head of the research group, she will work on a new project, focusing on the advancement of research methodologies for medication adherence. The project results will enable researchers to adequately design, conduct and report on high quality studies for medication adherence.

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