

# **General Staff Meeting**

December 12, 2023

SIMON FISHER



# Agenda, Staff Meeting December 12, 2023

- 1. News from the MD
  - a. Departures and Arrivals
  - b. PhD defenses
  - c. Upcoming events
  - d. Honours and awards
  - e. New call Levelt Award 2024
- 2. News from Data Protection Committee
- 3. News from TG
- 4. News from Research Facilities Committee
- 5. News from Communications
- 6. News from Colloquium Committee
- 7. News from Library Committee
- 8. News from Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee
- 9. News from Research Staff Committee
- 10. News from Equal Opportunities

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End of year Party from 15.30 on...



# Departures and arrivals

#### Research Staff (RS), PhD students, other staff and long-term guests leaving

Joery den Hoed	RS	31.12.23
•		
Willeke Menks	RS	31.12.23
Sonja Vernes	RS	31.12.23
Esther Holl	Support staff	31.12.23
Luise Janssen-Ekat	Support staff	31.12.23
Edith Sjoerdsma	Secretary	31.12.23
Ivy Mok	RA	14.01.24
Danbi Ahn	RS	31.01.24
Talat Bulut	RS	31.01.24
Ambra Ferrari	RS	31.01.24
Laura Giglio	RS	31.01.24
Ashley Lewis	RS	31.01.24
Ann-Katrin Ohlerth	RS	31.01.24
Müge Sertel	RS	31.01.24
Noortje Seydel	RS	31.01.24
Daniel Sharoh	RS	31.01.24
Rinus Verdonschot	RS	31.01.24
Hatice Zora	RS	31.01.24
Marjolijn Dijkhuis	RA	31.01.24
Agnes de Boer	Reception	31.01.24
	•	



# Departures and arrivals

#### New Research Staff (RS), PhD students and other staff (present) Department/Group

Hafeez ur-Rehman	Technical staff	01.09.23	Multimodal Language
Remco Diever	Facility Manager	01.09.23	Operations
Mounika Kanakanti	Technical staff	01.10.23	Multimodal Language
Sachit Misra	Technical staff	01.10.23	Multimodal Language
Thijs Rinsma	Technical staff	01.10.23	TG / Psychology of Language
Arnold Harbers	Support staff	01.10.23	Operations
Esther Apswoude	Reception	15.11.23	Operations
Anne Buizer	RA	15.11.23	Language Development
Marthe Meijer	RA	15.11.23	Language Development

<b>New Research Staff</b>	f (RS) and PhD	students (expected)	Department/Group
Chinmaya Mishra	RS	01.01.24	Multimodal Language

New Guests (present) Host

New Guests (expected) Host

Carmen Ramoser PhD (MPSCog) 01.01.24 Simon Fisher Danielle Naegeli PhD 01.01.24 Limor Raviv



# PhD defenses since last Staff Meeting



Julia Egger on November 16 "Need for Speed? The role of speed of processing in early lexical development"



Naomi Nota on December 6
"Talking faces:
The contribution of conversational facial signals to language use and processing"



# Upcoming PhD defenses

Lyn Eekhof on January 15, 2024 "Reading the Mind: The Relationship Between Social Cognition and Narrative Processing"



Midas Anijs on January 31, 2024 "Probing neuronal and molecular underpinnings of language-related disorders using human stem cell-derived neuronal networks"



# PhD representatives – who are we?



Orhun Uluşahin PoL



Clara Kunst LaDD



Danielle Admiraal L&G



Tianai Dong MLD



Jennifer Sander LaDD External PhD Rep



#### Upcoming Events 2024 – Save the dates

#### June 5 – 7

**IMPRS Conference 2024** 

#### June 17 - 21

**MEDAL Summerschool** 

#### **MPI General Staff Meetings**

March 12 \* June 04 \* September 17 \* December 17

#### **MPI Proudly Presents**

July 04

#### April 3-5

The Neurobiology of Language Department: The Legacy

#### **July 8-11**

Language in Interaction – Highlights in the Language Sciences Conference

#### **Farewell lecture Peter Hagoort**

September 27



# Cold Spring Harbor Course in NY July 25 - August 1, 2024



- Why are children able to acquire highly sophisticated language abilities without needing to be taught?
- What are the neurobiological and neurophysiological processes that underpin human speech and language, and how do they go awry in developmental and acquired disorders?
- Which genetic factors contribute to this remarkable suite of human skills, and are there evolutionary precursors that we can study in other species?
- Genetics & Neurobiology of Language 2024 | CSHL



#### MPI – Donders Institute

Donders Sessions & Theme Meetings hosted at MPI in 2024

**January 18, 2024** 

May 16, 2024



# Honours and awards - Congratulations

**Eleanor Huizeling** awarded Honorable Mention at 15th Annual Meeting of Society for Neurobiology of Language



**Letterprins** awarded several prizes





#### New call Levelt Award 2024

2021 Rowena Garcia	LaDD	From syntactic constituents to information chunks: A cross-linguistic study
Yevheniy Skyra	LaDD	
Natalia Levshina	NBL	
2020 Nienke Hoeksema	NBL	Speech, vocal learning, and the laryngeal motor cortex in seals
Laura Verga	Comparative Bioacoustics	
2020 Tineke Snijders	LaDD	Decoding abstract semantics in space and time; evidence from MEG in pre-school children
Francesca Carota	NBL/Group Indefrey	
2019 Christina Bergmann	LaDD	Learning in a noisy channel: Combining fast mapping and non-literal inference through the lifespan.
Laurel Brehm	PoL	
2019 Xiangzhen Kong	L&G	The Brain Speaks: Can Brain Scans Predict Language Skills?
Yingying Tang	NBL	
2017 Dick van den Broek	NBL	From genes to language: how CNTNAP2 affects sentence processing
Marvin Uhlman	NBL	
Midas Anijs	Neurogenetics of Vocal Communication	
2016 Sonja Vernes	L&G	Vocal turn-taking in the pale spear-nosed bat (Phyllostomus discolor)
Kobin Kendrick	Language and Cognition	
2015 Suzanne Jongman	PoL	Attentional support for novel word learning.
Richard Kunert	NBL	

Deadline for submission, May 15, 2024, winners will be announced during Proudly Presents on July 4, 2024.





#### **Data Protection**

**Updates staffmeeting 12 December 2023** 

Patricia Manko



# Team behind privacy@mpi.nl



Patricia Manko Data Protection Coordinator



Tobias van Valkenhoef IT Security Officer



Annelies v. Wijngaarden DPCo Deputy



Reiner Dirksmeyer Head of TG



### Chat GPT 4/ Open Al



#### Minerva messenger/Mattermost

New feature: ChatGPT(Beta)

#### Statement Data Protection Officer Heidi Schuster (headquarters):

- + chat bot does not send personally identifiable information such as names or email addresses to OpenAl during usage; anonymizes user interactions
- **BUT** OpenAl processes the information provided in the course of your use of this service to generate appropriate responses (!)



## ChatGPT 4/ OpenAl



Information Sensitivity do not provide any **sensitive personal information**, **unpublished research data**, or **confidential documents** in your interactions with the ChatGPT Mattermost Bot

Translates to ALL other chatGPT add-ons (e.g. browser extensions) but also all other (US-based) services like Google translate etc.!



### ChatGPT 4/ OpenAl





Please use your common sense when installing browser extensions, using chatbots and other services e.g. anything you can use and install without TG



Think about the what kind of information you are entering in these services and if it is safe to do so (safe = not harmful to your company and participants)

When in doubt: <a href="mailto:privacy@mpi.nl">privacy@mpi.nl</a>



#### Reminders

#### Data breach?

Contact: data-breach@mpg.de & privacy@mpi.nl

#### **Data Protection training**

Mandatory for all employees, also for interns, lab rotation students, guests Haven't received training yet? Contact us!



# TG

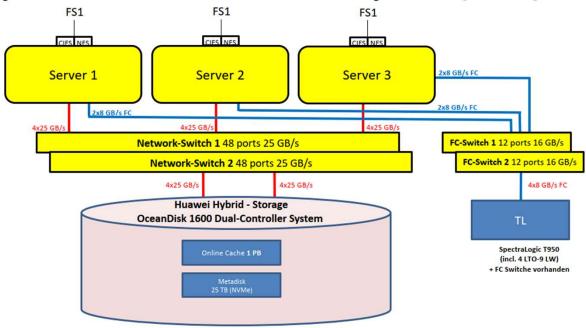
STAFF meeting 12 December 2023



## Short report:

BAR request: New Storage Infrastructure request approved on 05-Dec-2023!

#### Systemaufbau ScoutAM Filesystem (HSM)



Kosten: <u>488.000 EUR</u> für 1 PB Online Cache, Lizenz für max. 5 PB (incl. 5 Jahre Wartung/Lizenz) Stromverbrauch: Typical 2,3 KW, IOPS: 545.685



### Short report:

#### • 2FA:

- mandatory for all SSH and RDP connections from outside
- problems with locked PC's (ticket for GWDG)
- 2FA for VPN and SSLVPN will follow

#### Windows 11:

- about 60 PC already migrated to Windows 11
- 50 PC need to be done
- rest: replace with new PC (until Oct-2025: end of support for Windows 10)

#### GWDG break-in:

- break-in with old hacked account end September
- forensics company was commissioned (Microsoft)
- password hashes were copied
- password of all users managed by GWDG had to be changed
- about 100.000 accounts affected...
- 2FA will help....



## Short report:

#### Lab rebuild actions:

- Motion capture lab (room 144/145) will be ready end January
- Gesture lab (room 148/149): reconstruction ready end January, camera equipment ready Q1/24
- Multi-subject experiment moved from gesture lab to room 070 (video recording) and 066 (TG)
- Experiment room 134 has been demolished and is being refurbished as an office





#### **Research Facilities Committee**

RFC December 2023 meeting summary

**RUTH CORPS** 



## **Short summary**

- Upgrade internet connection from 1 to 10 Gbit/sec:
  - Speed up network to or from the outside
- Purchase Mentimeter software:
  - Software used to create presentations with real-time feedback
  - 2 Licenses ordered for one year for all departments
- ChatGPT4 enterprise for the MPG:
  - GPT-4 is a multimodal language model; capable of taking images as input
  - MPG will negotiate a framework agreement with OpenAI



### Timing issues in Presentation

- Timing is not always accurate in Presentation if using the default settings with audio/video stimuli
  - This is an on-going issue, even if you use scripts created by other researchers

You are here: Home → Research → Experimentation → Technical information → Presentation support

#### **Presentation support**

Presentations is the supported software for hardware configurations in the basic behavioral experiment rooms, EEG lab, and Tobii eye trackers.

For hardware questions contact Johan Weustink or the lab manager.

Presentation is a stimulus delivery and experimental control software system for neuro-science. It was designed for behavioral and physiological experiments that collect fMRI, ERP, MEG, reaction time, and electro physiological data. Presentation has many features that make it applicable to a diverse range of applications Presentation is also completely programmable with help of a description- and a control language. More information on Presentation and on the Pipeline code project can be found on Christian Forkstam's website.

If you need to set up a new experiment you can ask for support from Maarten van den Heuvel. Send him an e-mail and describe your experiment as detailed as possible.

**!WARNING!** If you use **audio or video stimuli** requiring accurate timing, Presentation requires things to be set up in a specific way which may not be intuitive. Please contact Maarten (via a TG-ticket, helpdesk@mpi.nl) to ensure that the settings are correct! See also this document.

#### **Relevant documentation**

- Presentation and system sound settings on a Windows 7 platform
- Audio settings in Presentation



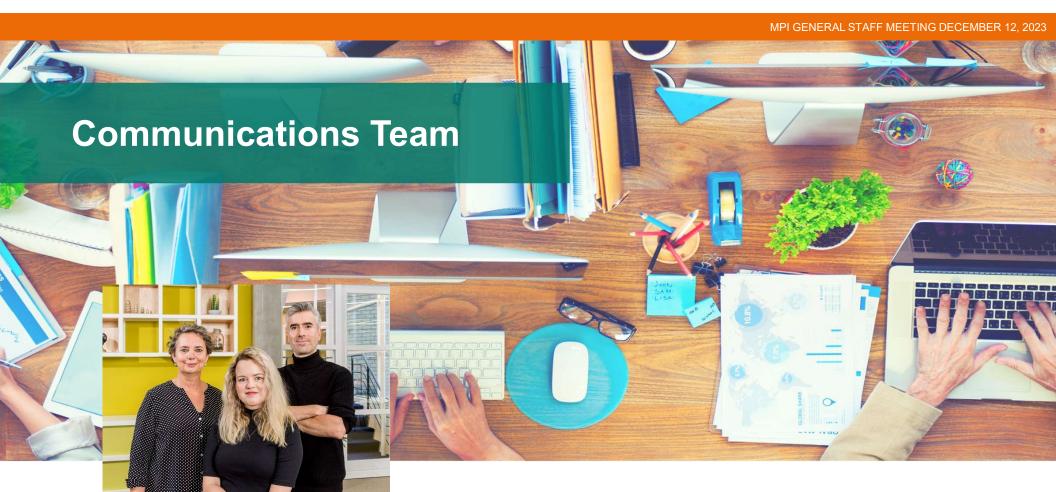


# **Communications**



MARJOLEIN SCHERPHUIS





Marjolein Scherphuis Julia von der Fuhr Ludy Cilissen Communications@mpi.nl



# Support from the Comms Team

- Video's on the website and/or on our socials
- Press releases, media requests, media coaching
- Advice on internal and external communications
- Advice on inclusive writing
- Website
- Templates for participant recruitment flyers
   Templates for your PowerPoint presentations and posters
- Depositphoto image bank
- · Your contributions for the internal newsletter
- Any other question regarding pr, communication and public outreach







# Letterprins awarded in London and Berlin



London Ingrid Szilagyi, L&G



Berlin Esther Steenbeek, RU



Letterprins.nl mpi.nl/letterprins-DNA-onderzoek



# 'Zij zijn ons brein' by Peter Hagoort







# MEDAL @ the MPI







# Empower the next generation of linguistics

MEDAL's mission is to build expertise in data-driven linguistic methodology across the international consortium. We do this by:

- Supporting early-career researchers with mobility grants
- Developing collaborative research projects between the partner institutes
- Providing training in linguistic research methods and soft skills
- Supporting early-career researchers with mobility grants
- Developing collaborative research projects between the partner institutes
- Providing training in linguistic research methods and soft skills



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#### Media Output



The New York Times
Magazine: The animals
are talking. What does it
mean?

The New york Times Magazine

# The Animals Are Talking. What Does It Mean?

Language was long understood as a human-only affair.

New research suggests that isn't so.



One high-profile example came in 2001, when a team led by the geneticists Cecilia Lai and Simon Fisher discovered a gene — called FoxP2 — in a London family riddled with childhood apraxia of speech, a disorder that impairs the ability of otherwise cognitively capable individuals to coordinate their muscles to produce sounds, syllables and words in an intelligible sequence. Commentators hailed FoxP2 as the long sought-after gene that enabled humans to talk — until the gene turned up in the genomes of rodents, birds, reptiles, fish and ancient hominins such as Neanderthals, whose version of FoxP2 is much like ours. (Fisher so often encountered the public expectation that FoxP2 was the "language gene" that he resolved to acquire a T-shirt that read, "It's more complicated than that.")



## Media Output

- International Stuttering Awareness Day: 22 October
- Q&A with Else Eising, Marie-Christine Franken and Lottie Stipdonk



Wereldstotterdag 2023 Q&A | Welke hersengebieden zijn betrokken bij stotteren?

Max Planck Institute...

Max Planck Institute...

53 abonnees







#### VRAGEN EN ANTWOORDEN OVER STOTTEREN

Op 22 oktober 2023 was het Wereldstotterdag. In aanloop naar die dag verzamelden wij bij het Max Planck Instituut voor Psycholinguïstiek jullie vragen over stotteren en over wetenschappelijk onderzoek naar stotteren. Onderzoekers Else Eising van het Max Planck Instituut en d' Marie-Christine Franken en d' Lottie Stipdonk van het Erasmus MC in Rotterdam hebben alle vragen voorzien van een antwoord.

#### ONTSTAAN VAN STOTTEREN





Dr. Else Eising >





## Media Output & Media Coaching

#### **Het Parool**



Julia Egger

- Het Parool
- **Trouw**
- **NewScientist**

Waarom het ene kind makkelijker leert praten dan het andere: 'Het taalgebruik van de ouders speelt mee'

Plus Achtergrond









# Media Output



- Het Klokhuis with Linda Drijvers
- Lichaamstaal (Body Language)





https://hetklokhuis.nl/tv-uitzending/5321/lichaamstaal



#### **Press Procedure**

#### Communicating fundamental insights to the world



Media coaching on using embargo time and handling press attention

https://maxintra.mpi.nl/operations/information-from-a-to-z/press-procedure



## **Questions?**







# **Colloquium committee**

Staff meeting December 2023

**BARBARA MOLZ** 



# Upcoming colloquia 2024





•	January 16 <sup>th</sup>	Riccardo Fusaroli (Aarhus University, Denmark)	MLD
•	February 20 <sup>th</sup>	Anna Kuhlen (RWTH Aachen University, Germany)	POL
•	March 19 <sup>th</sup>	Aniruddh Patel (Tufts University, Boston, USA)	L&G
•	April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Aoju Chen (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)	LaDD
•	May 21 <sup>st</sup>	TBA	
•	September 10 <sup>th</sup>	TBA	
•	October 15 <sup>th</sup>	Claudia Maennel (MPI for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences; Leipzig)	LaDD
•	November 19 <sup>th</sup>	Kathy Rastle (Cognitive Psychology at Royal Holloway, University of London )	PoL

#### As always...

#### Please send us any suggestions for future Colloquium speakers!!



Barbara Molz (L&G)

Barbara.Molz@mpi.nl

Candice Frances (PoL)



Sergio Soares (LaDD)



Ezgi Mamus (MLD)



Rinus Verdonschot (NBL)

Candice.Frances@.mpi.nl Sergio-Miguel.Pereira-Soares@mpi.nl Ezgi.Mamus@mpi.nl Rinus.Verdonschot@mpi.nl





# Library Committee Report incl. Open Science Ambassadors

Staff meeting December 2023

LIBRARY COMMITTEE / OPEN SCIENCE AMBASSODORS



#### Notes from the Future

Organised together with the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, the Bruner Library workshop 'Notes from the Future' took place from 13 to 16 November 2023. Four days of talks, discussions and of course exploring the library itself.

- In the first part (November 13th-14th) we use Bruner's library as a prism to look at the scientific production in psychology and social science over the twentieth century, as well as analyze the role of the archive and libraries in the research practices.
- In the second part (November 14th-16th), we focus more specifically on the paradigm shifts from behaviorism to cognitive science to neuroscience.

Missed the workshop?
All info, program as well as recordings of the talks are here: <a href="https://maxintra.mpi.nl/library/notes-from-the-future-workshop-13-16-nov-2023">https://maxintra.mpi.nl/library/notes-from-the-future-workshop-13-16-nov-2023</a>









#### Recent publications on display

Recent publications are displayed on 3 publication stands throughout the building: Common Ground, First floor Landing, and Second floor landing.

#### On display:

- Three most recent News Items based on publications together with their respective papers.
- Two publications of each department/research group from our quarterly the Staff Meeting publication list. After each staff meeting a new selection is being made.

Visit <a href="https://www.mpi.nl/page/recent-publication-display">https://www.mpi.nl/page/recent-publication-display</a>
Scan the **QRcode** (on the stand) to get the list of publications on your mobile device.







#### Elsevier Agreement live

We are now able to access all current content of Elsevier journals!

In addition, as corresponding author you can now publish open access via MPG funding in Elsevier journals.

You article has to be accepted after 16 October 2023.

Please <u>see here</u> for all the details.

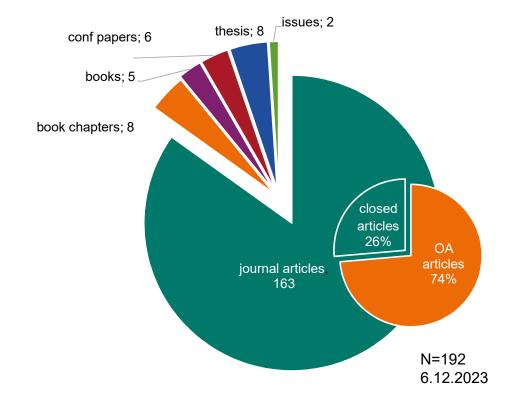
Please contact the librarians at <u>library@mpi.nl</u> if you have questions.





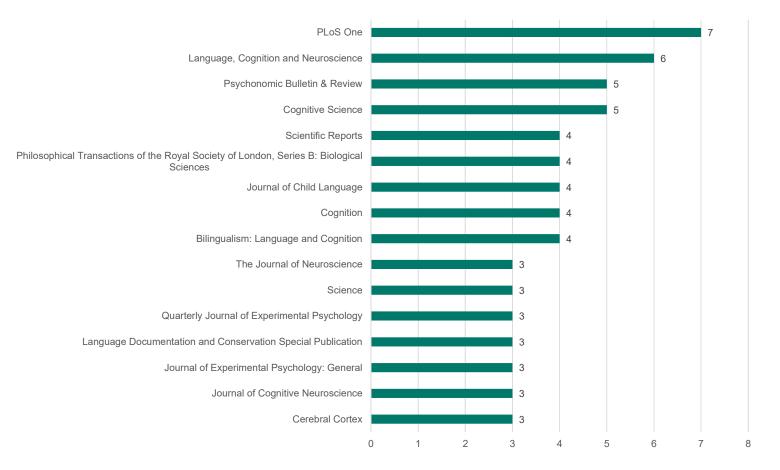
#### Publication overview 2023







### The journal in which we published in 2023



163 journal articles 120 open access

92 different journal titles



# **Library Committee Members**

#### http://maxintra.mpi.nl/representation/Library%20committee



Andrea Martin (chair) Language and Computation in Neural Systems



Mubeen Khan Language and Genetics Department



Eleanor Huizeling Neurobiology of Language Department



Chih Yeh Language Development Department



Library staff Karin Kastens; head of library Meggie Uijen; assistant librarian

email: library@mpi.nl



### **Open Science Ambassadors**



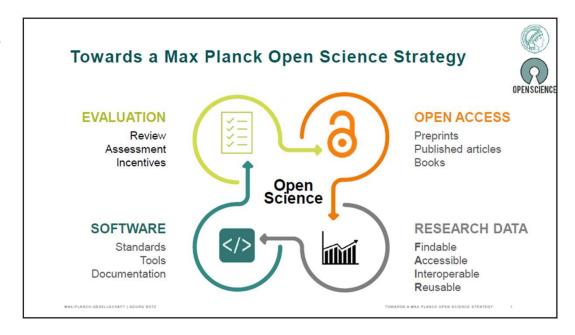
Julia Chauvet

Psychology of Language Department



Ingrid Szilagyi

Language and Genetics Department



#### Open Science is high on the agenda of research politics

• UNESCO, European Commission (Horizon Europe, and ERC) • USA: Year of Open Science • European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) • National Research Data Infrastructure (NFDI) • Future Research Data Act (Germany)

#### Max Planck Position re Open Science (G6 statement on Open Science):

- Future research assessment should incentivize the provision of Open Access, FAIR data, software, tools, and active contributions to Open Science, and in this way enable the appreciation of the work involved.
- Researchers and support staff must gain the knowledge and skills required to embrace new open science practices, and new roles must be introduced in the RPOs staff.



# **Open Science Ambassadors**

Open Science Practices Survey:







# **Diversity & Inclusion at MPI**

Staff Meeting 12 December 2023

CANDICE FRANCES - D&I CHAIR



#### Who we are

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee (Candice Frances)

Our goal is to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion at MPI in three key areas:

- Attracting Diversity to MPI-PL (Julia von der Fuhr)
- Diversity and Inclusion at MPI-PL (Sandra Bethke)
- Diversity in our Science (Barbara Molz)







### New things since September

- SAP/SAT (Social Activity Planning/Team)
  - Monthly Friday drinks (VrijMPlbo) at 16:30
  - TBD monthly game nights (depending on interest)
  - Wanna propose/plan an event? Hit us up!
- Survey report!
  - Finally (almost ready)
  - · Will be up on MaxIntra
  - Will post bits and pieces on the Newsletter
  - Prize winner! Dick Schijven





### How to get involved in the D&I movement

- Join the Committee (or subcommittees)
  - Email <u>diversityinclusion@mpi.nl</u> (note these emails are received by all committee members)
  - Email <u>candice.frances@mpi.nl</u> (chair)
- Email ideas and suggestions to the committee
- Do/support diverse and inclusive science!
  - Collection of articles from Nature Human Behavior: <u>https://www.nature.com/collections/daficfhiff</u>







#### **Research Staff Committee**

YAYUN ZHANG



### Purpose of the Committee

- Forge connections between research staff members across departments (e.g., organizing social events or workshops).
- Provide support for research staff members with issues that are broader than those that can be addressed within their department (e.g., COVID policies, administration issues, training opportunities, or career planning).
- External staff representative represents the scientific staff of our institute at MPG-wide meetings



### Research Staff Committee Representatives



Yayun Zhang (Chair) Research Staff Rep. LaDD



Joery den Hoed Research Staff Rep. **L&G** 



Nienke Rulkens-Dijkstra Research Support Staff Rep. LaDD



Sharice Clough Research Staff Rep. MLD



Kyla McConnell Research Staff Rep. PoL



#### Research Staff Committee Representatives



Yayun Zhang (Chair) Research Staff Rep. LaDD



Joery will leave the RSC soon big thank you for all the hard work!



Nienke Rulkens-Dijkstra Research Support Staff Rep. LaDD



Sharice Clough Research Staff Rep. MLD



Kyla McConnell Research Staff Rep. PoL



### Research Staff Committee Representatives



Yayun Zhang (Chair) Research Staff Rep. LaDD



Danielle Houwing Research Staff Rep. L&G



Nienke Rulkens-Dijkstra Research Support Staff Rep. LaDD



Sharice Clough Research Staff Rep. MLD



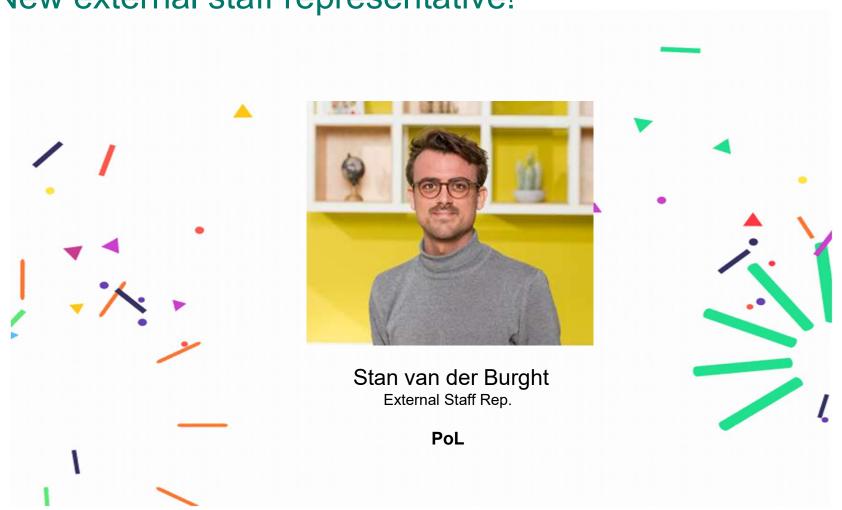
Kyla McConnell Research Staff Rep. PoL



# New external staff representative!



New external staff representative!

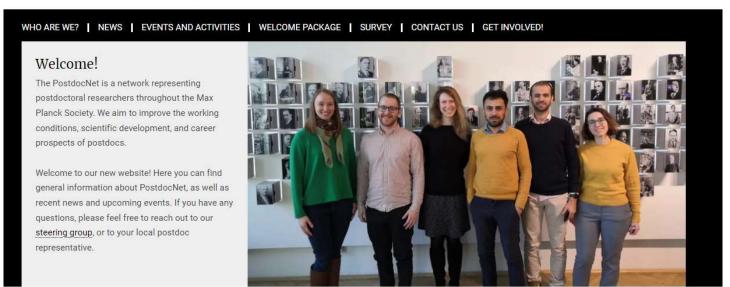




### Elections new PostdocNet External Representative



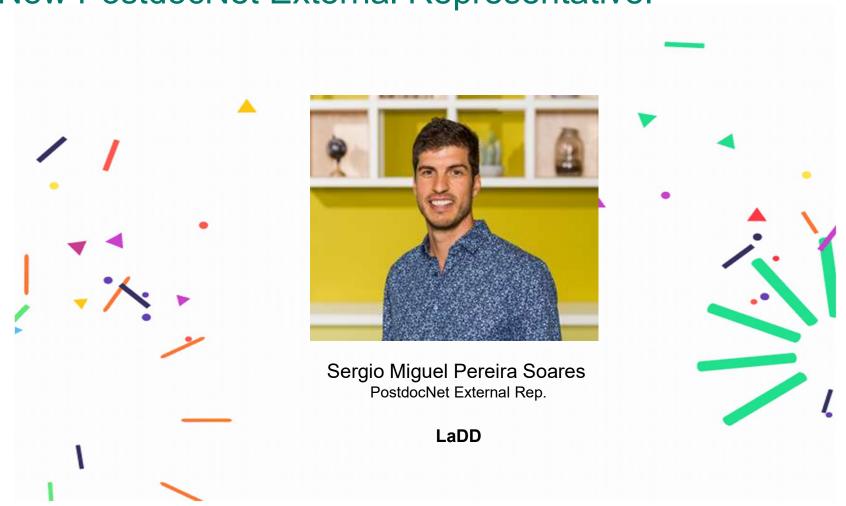




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New PostdocNet External Representative!





#### MPI now full member of Donders Institute

#### Network organisation

The Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour is a network organisation of the Radboud University, consisting of six partnering institutes:



- Donders Centre for Cognition (DCC);
- Donders Centre for Cognitive Neuroimaging (DCCN);
- Donders Centre for Neurosciene (DCN);
- Donders Community for Medical Neuroscience (DCMN);
- Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics (MPI);
- Centre for Language Studies (CLS).



# More postdoc events!

Month/Year	Event Theme
January 2024	Academic (CV tailoring, job negotiations, conflict resolution)
March 2024	Grants – which grants are available, where to get funding for different purposes (staff, equipment etc.)
May 2024	Grant writing + narrative CVs (persuasive writing styles)



# Academic + social event in spring!

• RSC and PhD reps will have the first planning meeting on **Jan 16th** 





#### **Contact information**

To all staff: Don't hesitate to contact any of us if you have issues or questions!

RSC@mpi.nl





# **Gender Equality Officer**

Staff meeting 12 December 2023

KARIN KASTENS



#### **Gender Equality Officer (GEO's)**

#### Who are we?

- Every Max Planck Institute has Gender Equality Officers.
- We support everyone!

#### What do we do?

- Point of contact for employees for concerns/issues about inequality, discrimination, harassment
- Structural involement
  - Increase visibility of Gender Equality Work and Support channels
  - We closely work together with the Diversity & Inclusion Committee, participate in projects like the Vitality Event
  - Regular meetings with MD, HR, COO, & the other support channels







#### Information for Newcomer Events 2024 – 10am

- February 1
- May 23
- September 12
- November 28



#### **Gender Equality Plan 2024-2026**

The current plan needs to be updated. That's an obligation from the MPG.

If there is an issue / problem who think we should address in the new plan, please come or send an email.



### **Contact Equality Officers**

#### Info:

Equal Opportunities on MaxIntra <a href="http://maxintra.mpi.nl/representation/EqualOpportunitiesOfficer">http://maxintra.mpi.nl/representation/EqualOpportunitiesOfficer</a>

Equal Opportunities on mpi.nl <a href="https://www.mpi.nl/page/equal-opportunities">https://www.mpi.nl/page/equal-opportunities</a>

Contact:

Email: equality@mpi.nl



### Short break



Followed by:

**End of year party** 



M A X | MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR PSYCHOLINGUISTICS | N C K | WWW.MPI.NL