



# POSTDOCAL

uniting and representing postdocs

PhD beyond science

**Postdocs**  
**an investment in the knowledge economy**

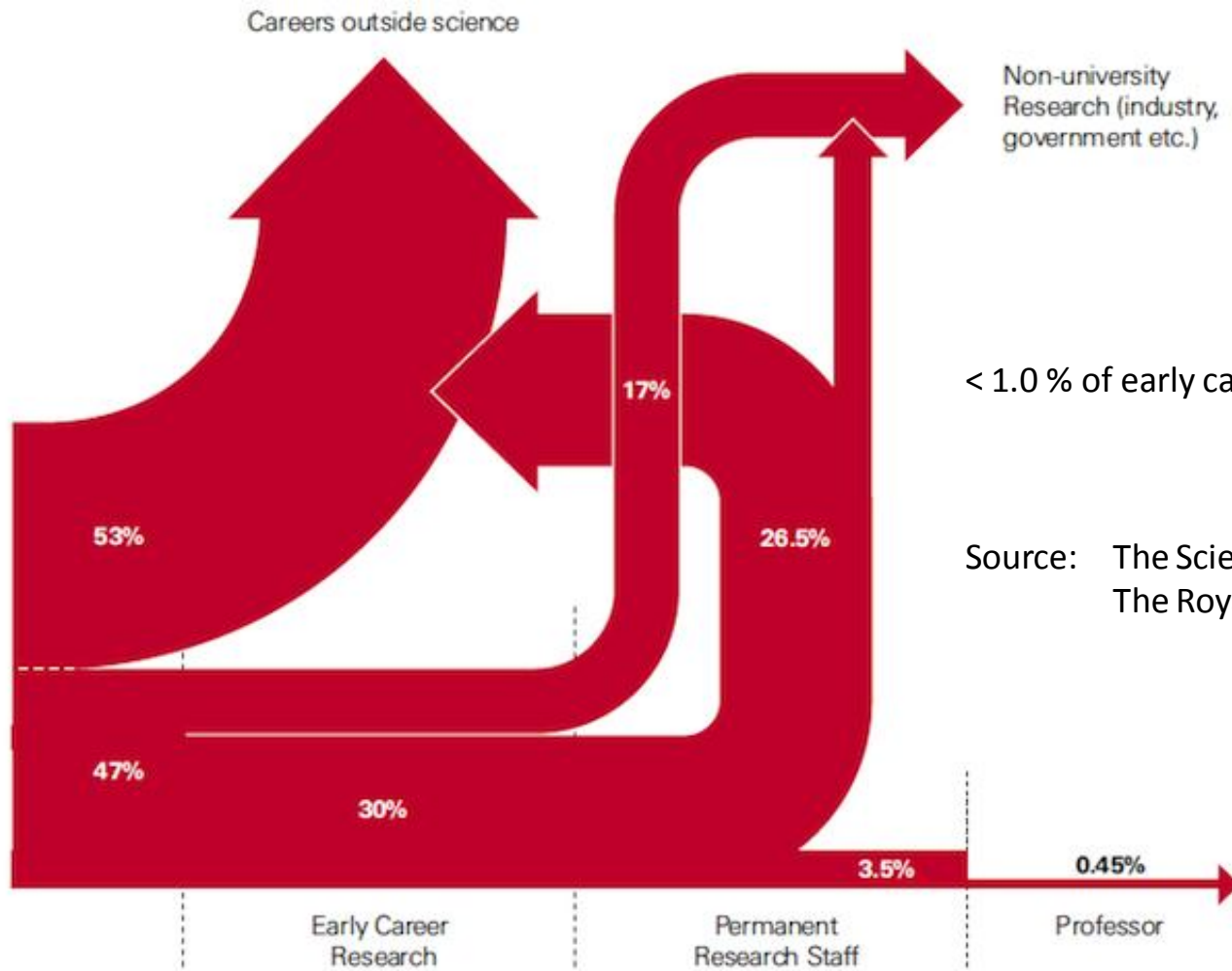
Marjolein Blaauboer – Chair PostdocNL

Why would people choose to become a postdoc?



# Why would people choose to become a postdoc?

- Striving for an academic career



< 1.0 % of early career researchers becomes a professor

Source: The Scientific Century (2010)  
The Royal Society - UK



# Why would people choose to become a postdoc?

- Striving for an academic career
- Become a more all round knowledge worker
  - Analytical
  - Independent
  - Responsible
  - Persistent
  - Creative
  - Proactive
  - Knowledgeable
  - Committed
  - Accurate
  - ...

# Why are postdoctoral alumni useful?

## Supervisors:

- Possible collaborators for future private-public consortia

## Institution:

- Important spokesman for institution in society

## Society:

- Workers with valuable skills



# Thus: Postdocs are a great investment!

Invest in:

- Career guidance
  - Before starting a postdoctoral position
  - During the postdoctoral period
- More connections between science and society
  - And involve postdocs in this as well!



# PostdocNL – national postdoc platform – aims to

improve the position and career opportunities for postdocs within the academic institutes and the knowledge economy by striving for:

- more support for career development within and outside academia
- finding a solution for short-term contract issues together with unions like VAWO
- a clear voice for postdocs at a institutional and national level

Committees: Policy | Legal | Local Networks | Public Relations  POSTDOCNL

# How does PostdocNL contribute?

- Connect initiatives at local institutes  
to collect and spread good practices (example: handbook for local networks)
- Lobby at national level  
to address the money-issue  
to develop national postdoc policy
- Formulate opinion pieces  
to help people help postdocs



# Career development programme

## Three elements

1. Scientific development plan
2. Personal development plan
3. Career orientation plan

*Tools:* scientific mentor, tutor group, career coach, scientific and transferable skill courses, alumni network including mentoring program, company visits

*Partners:* HR, TTO, career centre, alumni network, graduate/doctoral schools

*Supported by:* professorial staff, board



# Current collaborators

## Locally

- Erasmus MC
- Radboud U / UMC
- AMC
- Leiden U / UMC
- RUG / UMC Groningen
- UMC Utrecht
- TU Delft
- Maastricht University
- VU / VUmc
- Sanquin

## Nationally

- OCW
- NWO
- VSNU
- HR directors
- Sofokles
- Federa
- VAWO
- PNN
- PCDI

## Internationally

- Euraxess  
new focus on career  
development for  
research staff



Take home message:

Postdocs are a great investment!



# Where to find our platform

- LinkedIn group: PostdocNL
- Website: [www.postdocnl.com](http://www.postdocnl.com)

Always looking for additional board or committee members!

For questions, suggestions or advice on the postdoc perspective:  
[info@postdocnl.com](mailto:info@postdocnl.com)





# Our board

You can find us at your institute:

- Dr. Jozien Helleman  
*Erasmus MC Postdoc Network - chair*
- Dr. Marjolein Blaauboer  
*Policy Advisor Education VU -secretary*
- Dr. Julitta Boschman  
*Postdoc Network AMC*
- Dr. Monique van der Voet  
*Radboud Postdoc Initiative at Radboudumc*
- Dr. Christina Helbig  
*Sanquin*
- Dr. Patrick Forbes  
*TU Delft PostDoc network*
- Dr. Noel de Miranda  
*Young Faculty Network at LUMC*
- Dr. Geeske Langejans  
*Leiden University*
- Dr. Sara Schaafsma  
*UMC Utrecht*
- Dr. Jelger Lycklama a Nijeholt  
*RUG*
- Dr. Fareeba Sheedfar  
*UMC Groningen*
- Dr. Sander Bosch & Dr. Francesca Arici  
*Radboud University*
- Dr. Damanik Febriyani  
*Maastricht University*



# Local postdoc networks

## Existing and new initiatives

- Radboud Postdoc Initiative at Radboudumc (since.., Monique@ )
- Postdoc Network Erasmus MC (since 2012, j.helleman@erasmusmc.nl)
- Young Faculty Network at LUMC (since .., noel@..)
- Postdoc Network AMC (since 2015, Julitta@)
- starting initiatives at RUG (Jelger@), TU Delft PostDoc network (Patrick@)
- Is dit compleet?? Mschn ook nog checken met Julitta



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# Career development program

Local initiatives starting at

- Erasmus MC
- LUMC
- VU

National/EU initiative

- Euraxess – new focus on career development for research staff



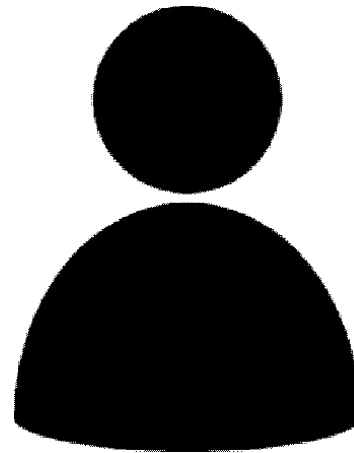
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## Person

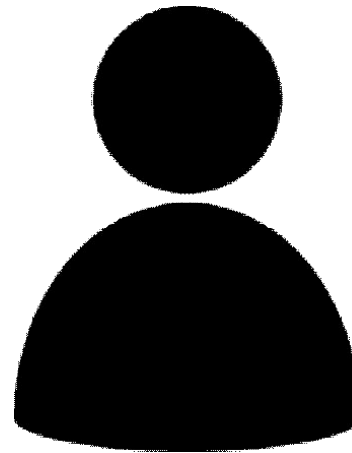
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- working as a researcher
- at a knowledge institution
- on a temporary contract



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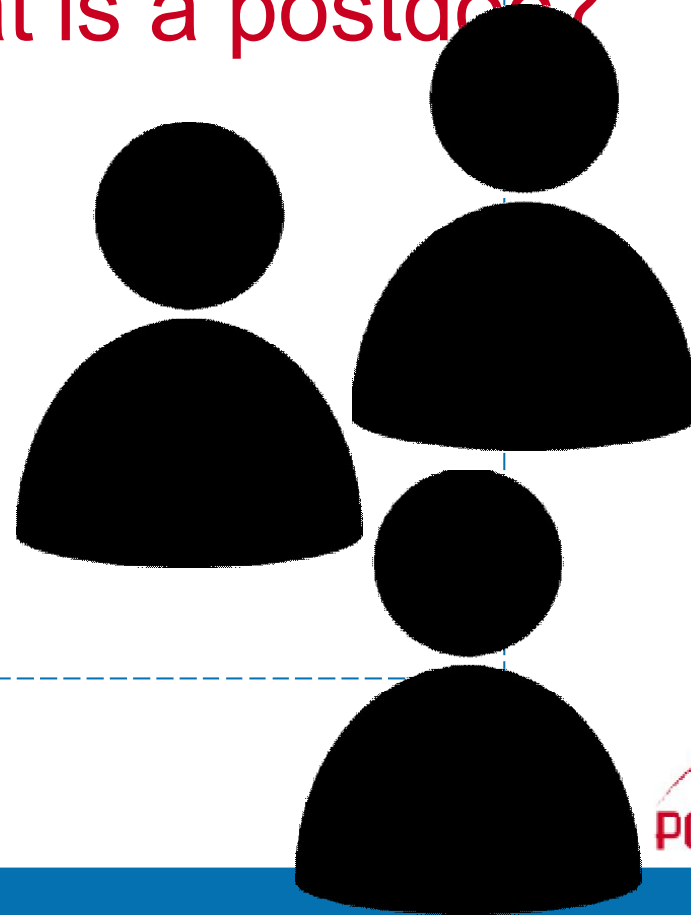
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