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The Consensus Conference Team during the PRINTEGER European Conference.
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DEAR READER,

Happily, we got the chance to meet some of you during the PRINTEGER European Conference on Research Integrity in February 2018 in Bonn! Together we discussed why research integrity matters to you. For those of you who could not make it: You find a report in this newsletter. With almost 200 participants from all over the world, we consider the conference a success. And this is not the only success story from the PRINTEGER project as you can read on page 4.

Enjoy reading!



PRINTEGER EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH INTEGRITY

Why Research Integrity Matters to You! February 5-7, 2018 in Bonn (Germany)

Almost 200 people from all over the world came together in Bonn (Germany) during the PRINTEGER European Conference on Research Integrity to discuss why research integrity matters to them. On day one and day two of the conference (February 5-6, 2018), around 60 presenters addressed a huge variety of topics in four parallel sessions. A committee had chosen presentations based on a call for papers process. Several sessions focussed on good science, where participants exchanged on methods of good science, research integrity as integral dimension of good science and scientists' views and understandings of the concept.



Mari-Rose Kenney (Bristol University) and Dirk Lanzerath (DRZE, University of Bonn), discussing good science.
© Mira Zöllner, University of Bonn

“ Talking about #researchintegrity without clarifying what makes ‘good science’ (beyond ‘not cheating’) can feel like a dialogue of the deaf”
– Arnaud Vaganay (@arnaudvag), February 6, 2018

Other sessions addressed the dark side of research and scientific work: misconduct, fraud and questionable research practices. Why do researchers cheat, what is the role of institutions and how can research integrity committees function as an authority? At the same time, presenters in further sessions considered solutions for research integrity issues and preventions from misconduct. PRINTEGER project participant Vincent Coumans from Radboud University Nijmegen presented how to teach scientific integrity, while Rachel Douglas-Jones (IT University Copenhagen) talked about integrity education in Denmark and the institutionalisation of research integrity in Danish higher education. Not only institutions but the whole research community can become engaged in writing a code of conduct for research integrity, as Margit Sutrop (University of Tartu) reported from an Estonian perspective.



Maura Hiney (Health Research Board Ireland), Keynote Speech on February 6, 2018.
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Another spotlight of the conference was Maura Hiney's (Health Research Board Ireland) keynote speech on February 6, 2018, in which she concluded that actions need to happen across all dimensions. Varying perspectives from early-career scientists to senior researchers, politics and research leaders were discussed in the final panel discussion on that day. The official conference was closed with Ellen-Marie Forsberg (Metropolitan University Oslo) presenting the current status of the consensus statement to the participants.



UPRIGHT – Tool Try-Out with Students February 7, 2018

Within the PRINTEGER project, Luca Consoli and Vincent Coumans (Radboud University Nijmegen) are developing an interactive educational tool on research integrity called UPRIGHT. The prototype was ready just in time to try it out with students, early-career scientists and other researchers on day three of the conference (February 7, 2018). The try-out was introduced by Gareth O’Neill (President of the European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers) with an interactive poll: five words you associate with integrity, with “honesty” ranking the highest. When asked which words participants associate with misconduct, students named fraud, falsification and cheating the most. However, context frames your decision, as Gareth pointed out with another poll. Would you rather give back a 100€ bill you found on the ground to a rich banker or to an old lady?



Keynote speech by Gareth O’Neill (European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers) before the UPRIGHT tool try-out.
© Mira Zöllner, University of Bonn (all pictures)

Consensus Conference, February 7, 2018

While students supported the improvement of UPRIGHT in the try-out session, participants of the consensus conference worked hard on the consensus statement next door. The 20 members of the consensus team came from different fields and countries across Europe to finalize the consensus statement that had been development in the past months. PRINTEGER project partner Ellen-Marie Forsberg (Metropolitan University Oslo) led the process together with PRINTEGER policy advisory board member Matthias Kaiser (University of Bergen). Hard work paid off: At 3 o’ clock, Ellen-Marie handed over the statement to Isidoros Karatzas, Head of the “Ethics and Research Integrity” sector at the European Commission.



Ellen-Marie Forsberg (Metropolitan University Oslo) handing over the consensus statement to Isidoros Karatzas (Head of Ethics and Integrity Sector, EC).
© Mira Zöllner, University of Bonn



Two Times: PRINTEGER Selected as Success Story

With its wide reach-out and magnificent preliminary results, the PRINTEGER project is about to be published as a success story not only one but two times!

The Network of National Contact Points for Science with and for Society publishes successful projects online. With the publications, the network wants to promote excellence in European research that is linked to responsible research and innovation. PRINTEGER is soon to be listed among other elaborated projects like RRI Tools - Forstering Responsible Research and Innovation and TRUST - Ensuring global research collaboration without ethics dumping.

Soon to come here: <http://www.sisnetwork.eu/about/success-stories/>



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Furthermore, Prof. Dr. Hub Zwart (Radboud University Nijmegen), coordinator of the PRINTEGER project, gave an interview to DG Research and Innovation, European Commission about addressed challenges in the project, social and economic benefits, key results and their use. The success story is going to be published here:

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/newsroom/achievements/>

https://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/index_en.cfm

Final Round of Local Stakeholder Panels

Local experts from all project partners met between November 2017 and February 2018 for the last time to discuss PRINTEGER's results and last steps.

In Estonia (University of Tartu), the panel took place as a part of the symposium "Research integrity: individual and collective responsibility" held in Tallinn on November 1, 2017. The symposium was organized by the Centre for Ethics, University of Tartu, in cooperation with the European Commission, the Estonian Research Council, and the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research. As the panel met just before the research institutions were to sign the Estonian Code of Conduct for Research Integrity Agreement, the discussion focused on the value of this type of documents for a researcher.

In Oslo (Metropolitan University Oslo), the panel expressed support for PRINTEGER, including the progress made in the project so far. The discussions were mostly related to the two working papers provided useful input for the Oslo team to develop the papers further before presenting them at the PRINTEGER conference.

The Local Stakeholder Panel set up by Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) celebrated its third meeting. The meeting was held under the title 'Policy recommendations on research integrity and scientific misconduct: Which priorities?'. It brought together the VUB research teams involved in PRINTEGER research and the members of the Local Stakeholder Panel, featuring different backgrounds and disciplines. During the discussion, and in the final closing round of remarks, the following recommendations were brought forward by the participants:

- The need to further encourage and facilitate dialogue between organisations, avoiding policies that conduct to mistrust, and thus have an indirect negative impact on transparency;
- the importance of remembering that individuals are embedded in organisations, the condi-

tions of which will have a direct impact on their adherence to research integrity, and in this sense pursue not just a change of specific conducts by a change in culture;

- the usefulness of embracing failure and the possibility of failure, for instance through so-called 'pre-registration' schemes;
- the interest of policy-makers in hearing the voices of researchers and their concrete experiences and problems, in order to better understand what needs to be done to effectively promote research integrity;
- and that answers to the pending practical questions should be pursued.

The most prominent theme discussed in Bristol (Bristol University) was structural problems that can create situations in which research integrity may be compromised. There were a number of ideas about how this could be addressed.

In Leiden (University of Leiden), professors, editors of journals, and members of the academic and scientific integrity bodies from the university were participating. On the area of educational tools the panel members discussed the various approaches from their experiences as lecturers, advisers, and students.

Local experts in Bonn (University of Bonn) agreed that structural issues are among the main issues that lead researchers to questionable research practices. They supported the idea of using tools in self- and other education while emphasizing that structural problems like pressure and economic incentives need to be resolved by policy makers as well.

At Trento University, the local panel members all agreed that a Code for Research Integrity should be put in place, followed by an appropriate training not only for PhD students and young researchers, but also for senior researchers and professors.

Stakeholders also pointed out that opportunities for an open debate on this topic should be strongly encouraged within the University.

Last but not least, local stakeholders at Radboud University Nijmegen discussed the early consensus conference statement. The statement has been received highly positively by the stakeholder panel, especially the complementarity of the statement to other and existing codes, including ALLEA. The Stakeholder Panel advised us to use this statem-



PROJECT RESULTS



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WP IV: A Multinational Survey on Research Misconduct and Integrity: A Work Floor Perspective

Summary: To date, most of the public and academic attention on scientific misconduct and integrity is based on an assumption that misconduct is carried out by individual researchers, the “bad apples”. There has been less recognition that also social and organisational structures may influence how researchers conduct their research. This latter perspective is often referred to as the “bad barrel” approach.

Our objective is to analyse the relations between workplace factors and research misconduct and integrity. To do this, we collected survey data (n=1126) for eight European Universities in seven European countries and covered all academic

positions and major science fields. We mainly present descriptive results in this report, but we have also done multivariate analysis of the associations between research misconduct and organisational variables and demographics. Our main findings suggest that a systematic focus on researchers’ well-being, work environment, identity-building, and open discussions on research misconduct and integrity can prevent scientific misconduct and foster integrity.

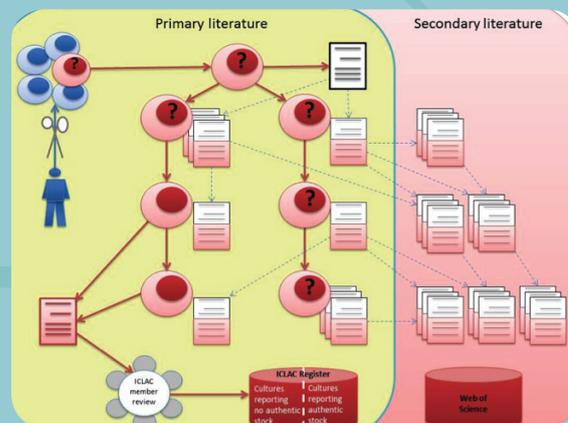
The whole report is available online: <http://printeger.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/D4.2.pdf>

The Ghosts of HeLa: How Cell Line Misidentification Contaminates the Scientific Literature in the Global Media

By Willem Halffman

The misidentification of cell lines has been a problem in biomedical research for decades. First noted for HeLa cells, cell lines get mixed up or contaminated with other cells. As a result, researchers publish results based on other cells than they assume. Sometimes this does not affect research results, sometimes it fundamentally flaws the findings. Important efforts have been made to prevent these problems, such as journals requiring genetic verification of cell cultures prior to publication.

But what about the research of the past? We used the ICLAC database of cell lines known to be misidentified to estimate the number of articles in Web of Science using misidentified cells. We found 33.000 publications, currently about 1.200 per year, with no signs of improvement. The articles in this ‘primary contamination’ are in turn cited by 500.000 papers, constituting a ‘secondary contamination’ of the scientific literature.



© Willem Halffman, Serge Horbach, Radboud University Nijmegen

We suggest publications that base results on misidentified cells should get a warning label, allowing the expert reader to assess the consequences for validity.

Horbach, S., & Halffman, W. (2017). The Ghosts of HeLa: How cell line misidentification contaminates the scientific literature. PLOS ONE. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0186281. (12 October 2017, open access)

Editors note: Not only are we thrilled by this very interesting publication but also by the media impact that was created out of it: <https://halffman.org/media/our-plos-cell-lines-paper-in-the-media/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

> June 5, 2018

PRINTEGER Final Dissemination Workshop, Brussels (Belgium)

> June 2-5, 2019

6th World Conference on Research Integrity (WCRI 2019), Hong Kong

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Horbach, S.P.J.M., & Halfman, W. (2017). The Ghosts of HeLa: How cell line misidentification contaminates the scientific literature. PLOS One. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0186281. (online 12 October 2017).

Koretsky, Zahar, & Halfman, W. (2017 – submitted). Designing smart grids with a household perspective. Energy Research and Social Science?

Horbach, S.P.J.M., & Halfman, W. (2018, submitted), “The changing forms and expectations of peer review.” Minerva.

Halfman, W., & Ragas, AMJ. (2017, in preparation). “Beyond the Horizon: Uncertainty in environmental policy for emerging hazards.” Env Sci Pol?

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