



As we continue to refine our communication channels, we're excited to bring you this month's newsletter packed with engaging content and valuable updates from our vibrant research community. Here's what you can look forward to in this issue:

- Call for abstracts - CAPHRI Research Day poster session 2025
- Farewell tribute - celebrating CAPHRI's PhD Representatives
- Pitch success - Jesper Biesmans' award-winning strategy
- Presentation tips - Senne Wijnen shares insights
- Inspiring online workshops on 'navigating the journal jungle' and 'navigating research ethics'
- Get ready for your PhD - UM Language Centre courses available
- Leadership opportunities - personal growth initiatives
- Upcoming courses and events
- A look at the PhD defences for March and April

We hope you find this edition both informative and inspiring. Happy reading!



CAPHRI PhD Poster Session 2025

[Call for Abstracts](#)

All CAPHRI PhD candidates are invited to submit abstracts for the 2025 CAPHRI Research Day poster session, taking place on June 18, 2025.

Submission guidelines

Abstracts (in progress or completed research) must follow the provided templates and be submitted via email to info-phdcaphri@maastrichtuniversity.nl by May 6, 2025. Ensure adherence to formatting and

anonymization requirements.

Evaluation process

The CAPHRI Science Commission will assess submissions based on scientific quality and societal relevance. Top-ranked abstracts (4-8 per Research Line) will be selected for poster development and presentation.

Important deadlines

May 6: Abstract submission deadline.

May 23: Notification of selection.

June 10: Digital poster submission.

June 18: CAPHRI Research Day.

[Download the abstract submission guidelines and form here](#)



A big thank you to CAPHRI's dedicated PhD Representatives

CAPHRI news

Chrissy Moonen, Diogo Leão, and Quincy Merx are stepping down as CAPHRI PhD representatives to focus on the final stages of their doctoral journeys. Their dedication has made a valuable contribution to the CAPHRI PhD community by fostering collaboration, engagement, and camaraderie.

As we express our deepest gratitude for their invaluable contributions, we warmly welcome Anne Verkerk and Nienke de Graef as new representatives.

Additionally, we invite a passionate PhD candidate from the Optimising Patient Care research line to join the team. This is a unique opportunity to shape initiatives, advocate for peers, and contribute to CAPHRI's vibrant academic culture.

Feeling inspired? Reach out to caphri-phdreps@maastrichtuniversity.nl to learn more about this rewarding role.



Jesper Biesmans wins award at ICT & Health Congress

CAPHRI news

We are pleased to announce that PhD candidate Jesper Biesmans, (ATLC), has recently been recognized for his outstanding work at the ICT & Health Congress in Maastricht. Jesper secured third place in the 'Pitch Your Passion' poster competition with his project DEDICATED (Desired Dementia Care Towards End of Life).

The DEDICATED project aims to enhance the quality of palliative care for people with dementia by empowering healthcare professionals. Through specialized training and tools, the project helps professionals to:

1. Familiarize themselves with dementia patients
2. Improve communication about palliative care wishes and needs
3. Facilitate smooth transitions from home to nursing home care

Jesper's research has shown that DEDICATED ambassadors—healthcare professionals who have completed the training—report improved ability to initiate proactive discussions about patients' wishes, leading to more person-centered care. The project is now being implemented across the Netherlands and in the Caribbean Netherlands.

When asked about his success, Jesper offered this golden tip for making an effective pitch: "Grab the attention of your listeners by expressing the necessity of your study and present your work with full enthusiasm!"



Beyond bullet points: Senne Wijnen's strategy for memorable presentations

CAPHRI news

At the recent CAPI Symposium, PhD candidate Senne Wijnen (PHPC) presented findings from the PRIME study on post-COVID-19 condition (PCC), also known as long COVID. This global health concern significantly impacts physical, mental, and social well-being. The study revealed that adults with PCC perceived higher stress levels compared to those without PCC. Various environmental and individual factors, such as work absenteeism, less social support, loneliness, and post-exertional malaise, were associated with perceived stress in both groups. Nearly all stress-associated factors were more prevalent in adults with PCC, highlighting the impact of PCC.

Sharing important research findings requires effective communication. Inspired in part by her recent presentation at the CAPI Symposium and drawing from her experience as a PhD candidate, Senne Wijnen shares her key advice for delivering engaging and effective presentations.

“When preparing a presentation, prioritize visual engagement by using minimal text on slides. This keeps your audience focused on your spoken words rather than reading from the screen. For inspiration, explore creative design ideas and animations on social media from presentation experts. To leave a lasting impression, start and end your presentation with impact—whether through a strong statement, surprising fact, or thought-provoking question. Deliver it with deliberate variations in pace and well-placed pauses to emphasize key points.”

Interactive lecture by Dr. Marlot Kruisbink

Navigating the Journal Jungle

Are you navigating the complexities of academic publishing? Don't miss the interactive lecture, "Navigating the Journal Jungle: choosing the right publication in the age of open access & predatory journals," led by Dr. Marlot Kruisbink.

We'll cover essential topics for early-career researchers:

- Open access publishing explained
- Selecting the right journal for your work
- Avoiding predatory publishers
- Understanding embargoes

This lecture offers valuable insights to help you make informed decisions about publishing your research. Whether you're preparing your first manuscript or refining your strategy, this event is for you. Enhance your knowledge, boost your confidence, and set yourself up for publishing success! Register now to secure your spot and equip yourself with the tools to make your research shine.



24-04-2025



15:00 - 16:30 (CET)



Online

[Register now!](#)



Webinar by Dr. David Shaw

Navigating Research Ethics

Enhance your understanding of research ethics with our upcoming webinar, "Navigating Research Ethics," led by Dr. David Shaw, Chair of FHML-REC. This interactive session will cover essential principles, vital information for ethics committees, and real-world ethical challenges. Open to all CAPHRI PhD candidates and junior researchers, it's a must for those committed to ethical research practices. Don't miss the opportunity to discuss practical examples and bring your questions!

Elevate your research ethics knowledge and ensure your work aligns with the highest standards.





22-05-2025



14:00 - 15:30 (CET)



Online

Register now!



Get ready for your PhD

Interesting courses

As a PhD candidate, you are expected to follow certain courses and training programmes in the context of your training as a researcher. The communication courses and training programmes at the Language Centre will help you conduct your research and write your dissertation.

There are still some places left for PhD students in the course on academic writing & presenting.

The PhD writing and presenting course is designed for PhD candidates to enhance their academic writing skills. You'll practice:

- Developing your own texts
- Conducting literature reviews
- Refining your work and that of your peers

By the end of the course, you'll have improved your writing efficiency and quality. A certificate of participation will be awarded upon successful completion.

Already confident in your writing skills but struggling with presentations? Try the Effective Presenting for PhD candidates course! This 10-week course helps you craft a clear, compelling scientific narrative in English for multilingual audiences. Suitable for all disciplines and both online and face-to-face presentations. You'll master:

- Conference presentations
- Lay audience presentations
- Poster presentations

For more information and to see if you are eligible for funding [click here!](#)



Personal Leadership opportunities for CAPHRI PhDs

Unlock your potential

You may have already noticed: posters and cards everywhere on the topic of Personal Leadership. See the attached photo with one of the themes. The goal is to make everyone within UM aware to stand still and ask themselves 'What about me?' What about my vitality, my place in the organization, my relationship with others and me, taking my responsibility?

With this awareness, we want to encourage everyone to be a Personal Leader. What steps can I take in this regard?

It would be great if you as a PhD candidate will become a Personal Leader! On the [UMployee page 'Personal Leadership'](#) you will find all support options and background information.

Questions? [Ask Danielle Townsend](#), Learning & Development Advisor of the Talent Development Team.

[Save the Date and Register](#)

Events and Courses

Navigating the journal jungle: choosing the right publication in the age of open access & predatory journals - Online

April 24, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

International (Bio)Medical Student Conference - Leiden

May 14-18, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Participatory Research - CCC Workshop Day - Düsseldorf

May 15, 2025



- [Click to explore the details](#)
- [Register and enhance your skills](#) (deadline April 11)

**Secondary data and linkage with primary data - CCC Workshop Day
- Düsseldorf**

May 16, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)
- [Register and enhance your skills](#) (deadline April 11)

Navigating Research Ethics by David Shaw - Online

May 22, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

FHML Spring Session - Maastricht

May 22, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

EHMA 2025 Conference - Rennes

June 4-6, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

CAPHRI Research Day - Maastricht

June 18, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

AWO-L Symposium - Maastricht

June 19, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Pélerin symposium - Maastricht

October 22, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Public Health Strategy I Seminar - Salzburg

October 26 - November 1, 2025

Application Deadline: May 31, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)
 - [Register and enhance your skills](#)
-

April and March 2025

Judith Veugen | HISP

11-03-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"Sight Under Siege: Understanding Corneal Infections and Ocular Health"

Dajana Roshi | VHC

11-03-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Pharmaceutical Policies in Post-Communist Albania"

Stijn de Joode | FPR

13-03-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"Secondary shoulder surgery in brachial plexus birth palsy patients: Long term results and novel insights"

Niklaus Stefan Bernet | ALTC

13-03-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Fair and meaningful comparison of inpatient fall rates in acute care hospitals"

Caroline Gurtner | ALTC

13-03-2025 | 16:00 (CET)

"Exploring Shared Decision Making in Swiss Acute Psychiatric Care"

Hanneke Goense | HISP

18-03-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Implementing home-based sexual health care in public health: An evidence-based integrated care approach for ending the HIV epidemic"

Laurens Holst | VHC

20-03-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Exploring Health Insurance Literacy in the Netherlands, Citizens' Skills and Needs in Choosing a Health Insurance Policy"

Anouk Baghus | PHPC

01-04-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Learning shared decision making in postgraduate medical education"

Ibrahim Elsiddig Elsheikh Ahmed Badr | PHPC

01-04-2025 | 16:00 (CET)

"Improving uptake of Prevention of Mother to-Child Transmission services in Sudan"

Linda Klaassen | PHPC/VHC

16-04-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Which route to take? Supporting the decision-making process of



*Good luck and congratulations
to the CAPHRI PhD's*

curatively treated breast cancer patients concerning their aftercare trajectory"

Lucie Bastiaens | HISP

17-04-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

'Local context as compass: public health care in Maastricht 1900-1940'

Olga Gershuni | VHC

22-04-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"Public Health Workforce Development and Professionalization The Implications for Ukraine"

Maarten Voorhaar | OPC

24-04-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"Tailored self-management support for people living with COPD"

Demi Pagen | HISP

24-04-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"The spectrum of COVID-19 epidemiology: from public health alarm state to long-term struggle"

Filippo Zimbile | PHPC

24-04-2025 | 16:00 (CET)

"Using Stepped Care to Strategically Organize Ehealth and Promote Self-care: Experiences From Public Sexual Health Care in the Netherlands"

Marlena van Munster | VHC

28-04-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"Defining and Professionalising the Role of Parkinson Nurses: Competency Development for Personalised Parkinson's Care"

David Hageman | OPC

29-04-2025 | 16:00 (CET)

"Optimization of Diagnosis and Conservative Treatment of Intermittent Claudication in the Netherlands"

[Watch the PhD Defences Live](#)



Share your research story

Have you recently contributed to a podcast, given an interview, or presented at a conference? Reached a significant milestone in your research? Perhaps you're organizing an event or have an exciting project in the pipeline?

We want to hear from you! Your innovative work and achievements deserve recognition. [Contact our Communications Officer Charlotte Pabst](#) to explore opportunities for featuring your work on our social media channels, website and in our newsletter.

[Share your story!](#)

UMployee

CAPHRI PhD Community

Have you already discovered our CAPHRI PhD community group on UMployee? In this group you will find the latest news, events and other relevant internal information.

[Follow us now!](#)

Navigating through the PhD Journey

CAPHRI PhD Guide

In the CAPHRI PhD Guide you will find information on all aspects of doing a PhD at CAPHRI, ranging from the training programme, guidelines for supervision, and the PhD defense. It contains valuable information for current and prospective PhD students as well as for supervisors.

[Check out the CAPHRI PhD Guide](#)

Support

Contact persons for PhD candidates

Please check out the [CAPHRI website](#) for information and contact persons for PhD candidates.

Communication

Your project, publication or event in this newsletter?

Note: You cannot reply to this email. For questions, newsletter topics, ideas, announcements, feedback and more please email info-caphri@maastrichtuniversity.nl.



Maastricht University



Maastricht UMC+



©2025 - Maastricht University