



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:

- Introducing Maud Hamers - Newest Member of the CAPHRI PhD Reps
- We 're Looking for You - Join the CAPHRI PhD Reps
- Public Health Strategy Seminar in the Spotlight
- CAPHRI PhD Academic Year Kick-Off Meeting 2025 - Careers Beyond Academia
- Make your Literature Review Easier with Covidence
- Run or Walk for the Ronald McDonald House Maastricht
- Upcoming courses and events
- A look at the PhD defences for September and October

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



Introducing Maud Hamers: Newest Member of the CAPHRI PhD Reps Team

[CAPHRI news](#)

A warm welcome to Maud Hamers, the newest member of the CAPHRI PhD Representatives team. Maud is a PhD candidate at the Department of Health Services Research, working within the Ageing and Long-Term Care (ALTC) research line and the Living Lab in Ageing and Long-Term Care at Maastricht University (FHML).

Her doctoral research focuses on improving dementia care in nursing homes. She is integrating two evidence-based interventions — STA OP! with family, which enhances pain recognition, meets basic needs and addresses challenging behaviour, and EXBELT/PRITAH, which reduces involuntary treatment for people with cognitive impairments in both home and nursing home care — into one cohesive approach. By aligning their principles, Maud aims to promote more person-centred care and increase overall effectiveness. This approach is currently being evaluated in a cluster-randomised controlled trial with 3- and 6-month follow-up, as well as in a 12-month implementation study.

Reflecting on her new role, Maud says: “I look forward to supporting my fellow PhD candidates and contributing to a strong community within CAPHRI. Please don’t hesitate to reach out!”



Join the CAPHRI PhD Representatives Team

[CAPHRI news](#)

Inspired by Maud's commitment and her call to connect? This is your chance to also take an active role in the CAPHRI community!

Are you a PhD candidate at CAPHRI with a passion for building a strong and supportive community? Do you want to represent your fellow PhDs and help shape the PhD journey at our institution? We are currently looking for new members to represent the OPC and FPR research lines.

As a PhD Representative, you'll be the voice for your peers, acting as a crucial link between PhD candidates and the CAPHRI leadership. This is an excellent opportunity to gain experience in communication, advocacy, and organisation, all while making a tangible impact on the PhD community.

If you're enthusiastic and motivated to help us build an even more vibrant community, we want to hear from you! Please get in touch with the current representatives to learn more about the role and how you can get involved.

Don't hesitate to reach out to us at caphri-phdreps@maastrichtuniversity.nl. We look forward to hearing from you!

[Find out more](#)

Public Health Strategy Seminar for CAPHRI PhD Candidates

CAPHRI news

CAPHRI, together with the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) and the Open Medical Institute (OMI), has set up a Public Health Academy to provide high-level training opportunities. As part of this collaboration, CAPHRI PhD candidates are invited to apply for the seminar Public Health Strategy, taking place from 28 June to 4 July 2026 in Salzburg, Austria.

Outline seminar

The seminar Public Health Strategy includes:

- Seminar on PH in a nutshell with the introduction to PH Law and PH Leadership.
- Advanced Seminar on PH Law
- Advanced Strategy executive seminar for the PH leaders who will work on introducing change and implementation of legal solutions and change in their work context

Seminar leaders

Prof. Dr. Kasia Czabanowska is a professor of public health leadership and workforce development and a Chair of the Department of International Health, CAPHRI Institute, Maastricht University, the Netherlands.

Dr. Timo Clemens, is an associate professor at the department of International Health, CAPHRI Institute, Maastricht University, the Netherlands.

Scott Burris, JD is Professor of Law and Public Health at Temple University, where he directs the Center for Public Health Law Research.

Fee

€300. Including dinners and hotel accommodation. For your travel expenses, there will be a reimbursement up to €200 (after submission of original receipts).

Please register by 31 January 2026 via caphri-phdcourses@maastrichtuniversity.nl, after consulting your supervisor.

[Find out more](#)



CAPHRI PhD Academic Year Kick-Off: Careers Beyond Academia

[CAPHRI PhD event](#)

On 8 October 2025 (13:00–17:00) we will kick off the new academic year with our annual PhD meeting, this time dedicated to careers beyond academia.

Since many PhD candidates continue their careers outside the university, we have invited a diverse panel of professionals to share their experiences and answer your questions about career opportunities beyond academic research.

After the career event, there is the possibility to connect with fellow PhDs during some drinks and snacks and test your knowledge during a pub quiz!

Program

Career Event: Work After Academia

13:00–15:00 📍 on-site @ UNS60 Co Greep-zaal or online via Teams

Networking, Pub Quiz, and Drinks

15:00–17:00 📍 on-site @ UNS60 Co Greep-zaal

[Make sure to sign up here!](#)



Make your Literature Review Easier with Covidence

[UM news](#)

Will you be working on a literature review this year? If so, it is good to know that Covidence is now available to the entire UM community. What is Covidence?

Covidence is a web-based software platform that

streamlines the process of systematic and scoping literature reviews. It supports:

- Title and abstract screening
- Full-text screening
- Risk of bias or quality assessment
- Data extraction

[Read more about Covidence and how to access the tool on the UM license](#)

Unsure if Covidence is right for you?

If you are not certain whether Covidence is the right tool for your needs, or if you would like to discuss other steps in the review process, our [Systematic Literature Review Support Team](#) is happy to help you! You can choose from:

- Self-study resources: online training material (e.g. on [screening](#))
- Workshops
- Personal support: walk-in support hours (students and staff) or 1-to-1 support meetings (staff only)

Information Session about Trade Unions

Events

With the budget cuts and other changes in Dutch education and research, we know that many PhD candidates and early career researchers are worried about their future in the coming years. This is why we would like to provide this opportunity to learn more about your rights, who is protecting those rights, and the process behind them.

The session is open to everyone, and will take place on Wednesday, September 17th, from 16:00 to 17:30 at UNS50 K0.420.

There will be a short presentation about labour rights and what trade unions can do for you. We have invited the local consultative body members to represent their union and answer questions from the audience. It will be in person at Randwyck, but you can join online as well in case you can't attend in person.

Trade Union Month: September-October is the best period to join trade unions, as you can get some discounts as a cashback of your contribution. If you are considering to become a member of a trade union, joining this session may be a good time to find out if which union represents you best.

You can sign up here.



Run or Walk for the Ronald McDonald House Maastricht

Events

Want to improve your health and support a good cause? Join us on October 9, 2025, for the third edition of the Campusrun Maastricht! This fun run takes place on the Brightlands Maastricht Health Campus, with a scenic route through and around the buildings of Maastricht University, MECC Maastricht, Medtronic, Maastricht UMC+, Ronald McDonald House, Brightlands Maastricht Health Campus, and more.

New this year is a 10-kilometer route for avid runners looking for an extra challenge. The popular 5-kilometer fun run features three waves, with the third wave being a light wave: participants are encouraged to decorate themselves with lights and reflective accessories for a festive and atmospheric run.

Will you join us?

Get ready for your PhD!

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 of the Language Centre will help you conduct your research and write your dissertation. Would you like to learn how to communicate the impact of your research to a broad and varied audience? Or how to defend a proposal, get your message across and keep your audience engaged during a presentation? See our website page '[Communication in scientific English](#)' with everything we have to offer for PhD candidates and register for one of our courses

Find out more

[Save the Date and Register](#)

Events and Courses

SCAIRY: Sustainable Climate-Change Action via Interdisciplinary Research in YUFE - Online

September 16, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Information Session about Trade Unions - Online

September 17, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Academic Year Kick-Off Meeting CAPHRI PhD Candidates - Maastricht/Online

October 8, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Campus Run 2025 - Maastricht

October 9, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Pélerin symposium - Maastricht

October 22, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

CAPHRI Research Day 2026 - Maastricht

June 10, 2026

Public Health Strategy Seminar June 2026 - Salzburg

June 28 - July 4, 2026

Application Deadline: January 31, 2026

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



PhD Ceremonies

September and October 2025

Sarah Anne Cassidy-Seyoum | HISP

04-09-2025 | 09:45 (CET)

"Implementing Safe and Effective Treatment for Plasmodium vivax Malaria in Pre-Elimination Endemic Settings: A Case Study of Cambodia"

Yamuna Ana OPC



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

04-09-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"The association between sedentary behavior and obesity, during pregnancy and early childhood: Physical activity and Health"

Joris Hermus | FPR

05-09-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"The pathway to optimal ankle replacement surgery: The pursuit of solutions"

Joseph Piscopo | VHC

15-09-2025 | 16:00 (CET)

"Health expenditures, outcomes, and efficiency in the EU"

Christian Preissner | PHPC

16-09-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"Rethinking mindfulness in health promotion: from trait to targeting eating"

Olabayo A.R. Ojeleke | VHC

30-09-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Health outcomes and health service use during armed conflicts A comparison of conflict and non-conflict areas in Northern Nigeria"

Dennis Cornelissen | VHC/FPR

08-10-2025

Lianne Zondag | PHPC

09-10-2025

"The midwife as influencing factor in clinical decision-making: Exploration of the relationship between personal and professional factors and midwives' clinical decisions about childbirth interventions"

Jeffrey Chan | HISP

16-10-2025

Laura Damen | VHC

27-10-2025

[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.



Maastricht University



Maastricht UMC+

