

## Preface

This annual report presents an overview of the research activities of the Psychology Research Institute of the University of Amsterdam in 2008.

The research activities of the Institute are clustered into six research programs, headed by a program director. The program directors regularly meet with the director of the Institute and the other members of the management team, and discuss content and form of their research program. In keeping with this setup, this annual report presents an overview of the research topics of the six programs, the staff involved and the scientific output.

According to the recent report of The Netherlands Observatory of Science and Technology ([www.nowt.nl](http://www.nowt.nl); 2008), the Psychology Research Institute has the highest citation impact scores within The Netherlands, and performs well above world-average level. Since the impact of a research institute is largely determined by the impact of the work of its researchers, the Introduction presents the citation scores of the 20 most-cited researchers of our Institute over the period 2004-2008. As compared to the results in the Annual Report 2007, the total number of citation scores has increased with 15 percent. Since it is anticipated that citation scores will come to play a role in the allocation of budget to the institutes, our increased score may prove a valuable asset to the financing of our future research efforts.

As of Summer 2008 the Research Institute has started the publication of MindOpen, a 'digizine' presenting pithy interviews with colleagues who recently published high-quality papers, have been awarded a research grant or have productive (inter-)national collaborations. MindOpen gives the opportunity to get a quick glimpse 'over the fence' between the program groups, draws attention to the original publications, and stimulates to have a corridor chat or e-mail contact with the author concerned, or even may give a suggestion for one's own research. By publishing two numbers of MindOpen each year, the Research Institute intends to contribute to the dissemination of the science of psychology, stimulate the interchange of ideas and promote new contacts.

Amsterdam, June 2009

Gerard Kerkhof  
Director

## Introduction

### **Mission**

The research carried out in the Psychology Research Institute is strongly oriented towards a basic empirical approach of the major themes in psychology. Research predominantly focuses on theoretical, mechanistic explanations of normal and abnormal human behavior. Although on a smaller scale, most research programs also address issues in more applied contexts. This long-standing research orientation is also characteristic of the teaching programs offered by the School of Psychology. One of the consequences of this research orientation is the need for adequate methodological and technical facilities. Therefore, substantial financial efforts are invested in maintaining and upgrading the extensive laboratory infra-structure of the Institute. A major advantage of this up-to-date infra-structure is the attraction on other research groups, inside and outside of the Institute. In this way intra- and interdisciplinary cross-links already have been established and still are developing between our research programs and those of (neuro-) biology, medicine, environmental sciences and mathematics.

### **Research programs**

The Institute participates in four nationally acknowledged research schools: EPOS (experimental psychology), KLI (social psychology and its applications), EPP (experimental psychopathology), and IOPS (psychometrics and sociometrics), and in the Cognitive Science Center of the University of Amsterdam (CSCA). The Institute supports the research schools by financing positions for 27 PhD students, by providing advanced postgraduate courses and by offering travel funds to PhD students so as to enable them to present their work at international conferences. Recent developments in the specific lines of research and in the faculty of the six program groups are considered in the program reports further on in this booklet.

### **Research output**

Researchers worldwide are increasingly being assessed by the citation rates of their papers. These rates are taken to reflect the relative impact of the authors' publications on the research questions in the relevant field of research, and provide additional insight into the momentary status of a research institute.

Such an overview is presented in Tables 1 - 4. The citation scores have been calculated as the totals of the citations over the period 2004-2008 (a 5-year citation window has been shown to give reliable results). Tables 1 and 2 present the scores for the 10 percent (i.e. approximately 20) most-cited researchers of the Institute. These tables give three citation scores: the scores based on all publications included in the ISI databases and the scores based on first-authored publications only, before and after correction for self-citations.

Table 1: *Citation scores 2004-2008*  
(all publications)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Citation score</b>
Neil Aaronson (NK)	4973
Russell Spears (R)	1060
Paul Emmelkamp (PMG)	1047
Ben Schmand (BA)	990
Victor Lamme (VAF)	986
Richard Ridderinkhof (KR)	951
Maurits van der Molen (MW)	934
Carsten de Dreu (CKW)	575
Jeroen Raaijmakers (JGW)	562
Joop van der Pligt (J)	501
Bertjan Doosje (EJ)	447
Gerard Kerkhof (GA)	445
Roel Verheul (R)	422
Conor Dolan (CV)	397
Jens Förster (JA)	392
Annette de Groot (AMB)	362
Ger Ramakers (GJA)	361
Merel Kindt (M)	341
Hilde Geurts (HM)	333
Reinout Wiers (RWHJ)	296

Source: Institute for Scientific Information  
(Web of Science)

Table 2: *Citation scores 2004-2008*  
(first author publications)

<b>Name</b>	<b>First author</b>	<b>corrected<sup>1</sup></b>
Neil Aaronson (NK)	1952	1911
Victor Lamme (VAF)	656	635
Richard Ridderinkhof (KR)	620	589
Carsten de Dreu (CKW)	427	390
Ben Schmand (BA)	334	318
Russell Spears (R)	325	307
Roel Verheul (R)	324	307
Jeroen Raaijmakers (JGW)	301	298
Paul Emmelkamp (PMG)	298	279
Jens Förster (JA)	247	230
Bertjan Doosje (EJ)	245	236
Annette de Groot (AMB)	223	219
Ger Ramakers (GJA)	211	202
Reinout Wiers (RWHJ)	200	166
Eric-Jan Wagenmakers (EM)	172	153
Alfred Lange (A)	170	166
Denny Borsboom (D)	168	161
Simon Rietveld (S)	147	141
Conor Dolan (CV)	146	123
Joop van der Pligt (J)	140	135

<sup>1</sup>The number refers to the 1<sup>st</sup> author citation score, corrected for self-citations.

Table 3 contains the scores for former program directors, now retired but still actively engaged in research.

Table 3: *Citation scores 2004-2008 former program directors (all publications and first author publications)*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Citation score</b>	<b>First author</b>	<b>corrected<sup>1</sup></b>
Nico Frijda (NH)	1244	1046	1044
Albert Kok (A)	1073	392	385
Walter Everaerd (WTAM)	613	51	45
Don Mellenbergh (GJ)	572	105	102
Jan Elshout (JJ)	115	26	25

Source: Institute for Scientific Information (Web of Science).

<sup>1</sup>The number refers to the 1<sup>st</sup> author citation score, corrected for self-citations

In citation analyses junior researchers tend to be at a disadvantage, simply because they have not been able to accumulate as much publications as their senior colleagues. In order to gain insight into their relative positions, we have calculated the scores for those junior researchers (date of birth in 1968 or later) who obtained ‘all publications’ scores of 75 or higher. Table 4 presents the results.

Table 4: *Citation scores 2004-2008 junior researchers (all publications and first author publications)*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Citation score</b>	<b>First author</b>	<b>corrected<sup>1</sup></b>
Roel Verheul (R)	422	324	307
Hilde Geurts (HM)	333	102	91
Eric-Jan Wagenmakers (EM)	268	172	153
Mark Powers (MB)	202	23	19
Denny Borsboom (D)	172	168	161
Wery van den Wildenberg (WPM)	163	54	50
Titia van Zuijlen (TL)	124	32	31
Bianca Beersma (B)	102	80	76
Jelte Wicherts (JM)	98	64	59
Bernard Nijstad (BA)	93	58	47
Birte Forstmann (BU)	84	45	39
Gerben van Kleef (GA)	83	72	58
Raoul Grasman (RPPP)	83	6	3

Source: Institute for Scientific Information (Web of Science).

<sup>1</sup>The number refers to the 1<sup>st</sup> author citation score, corrected for self-citations



## Key data

- 1. University** Universiteit van Amsterdam
- Faculty** Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences  
*Faculteit der Maatschappij- en Gedragwetenschappen*
- Department** Department of Psychology  
*Afdeling Psychologie*
- 2. Research groups**
- Clinical Psychology
  - Developmental Psychology
  - Psychological Methods
  - Psychonomics
  - Social Psychology
  - Work & Organizational Psychology
- 3a. Research schools** (commissioner)
- EPOS (Experimental Psychology)
  - KLI (Social Psychology and its applications)
- 3b. Research schools** (participant)
- EPP (Experimental Psychopathology)
  - IOPS (Psychometrics and Sociometrics)
- 4a. Income in 2008**
- direct funding : k €5,456
- NWO / KNAW : k €2,006
- contract research : k €0,666
- 4b. Costs in 2008**
- personnel costs : k €6,249
- other costs : k €1,879

**5. Human resources in 2008**

academic staff	: 101.29
support staff	: 15.61

**6. Input of academic staff in 2008 (fte)**

1. Psychological dysfunction and health	17.05
2. Cognitive development	21.50
3. Validity of empirical research in psychology	15.72
4. Brain and cognition	16.28
5. Social cognition, emotion and identity	15.92
6. Groups and individuals at work	14.81
<b>Total</b>	<b>101.29</b>

