Annual Report 2021
Radboud Social Cultural Research

A. Reflections and previews (500 woorden)

-Past year’s accomplishments

In 2021 COVID has restricted many researchers within RSCR. Several staff members faced its consequences in terms of well-being, productivity or difficulties with the collection of data. Despite restrictions imposed by the lockdown, publication rates stayed on its level. Success in honored proposals is reported with ERC-Marie Curie (Glas), NWO-VIDI (Spierings), NWO-Rubicon (Stojmenovska), NWO-RISTEK-BRIN (De Jong), NWO-Teacher (Mutsaers), Ihub (Van Meijl) grants, and smaller fundings from Wilde Ganzen, WODC, Provincie Gelderland and La Guilde. This new research money allows RSCR to attract young talented scholars and facilitates the collection of new data. Organizing the National Election Survey (NKO) in 2021 with an innovative focus on migrant voters resulted in a book Versplinterde vertegenwoordiging that attracted much scientific and public attention. In the NWA-program TRIAL on active living, GAK program on old-age inequality, and the ZonMw grant on inequality in sports under COVID all PhD students and Postdocs started and new data were collected. Noteworthy is also that several RSCR researchers published works that emphasized the consequences of the COVID pandemic for well-being, NGOs, work, sports, and social inequality.

-State of affair research assessments

In 2020 research assessments took place for sociology, and anthropology and development studies (ADS). Both groups participated in so-called disciplinary assessments, because publication strategies, methodological approaches and traditions in both disciplines are rather distinct. Both assessments proved very successful with sociology scoring very positive on quality and relevance (2: very good), and excellent on the criterion viability. Also, the assessment committee for anthropology and development studies (ADS) was very positive on quality, relevance and viability (2: very good).

Future assessments in 2026 will likely follow a new system of research evaluation (SEP) that relies more on substance than on quantity. Within RSCR therefore more attention will be devoted to quality of publications as quantitative rules regarding number of publications have been abolished. Some recommendations from the research assessments have been implemented as it comes to clearer guidelines for postdocs and PhD students, and attention for general training opportunities to further enhance their competencies and career prospects. Also with the yearly conversations more attention is paid to potential later career trajectories. A recommendation that probably will require time is to improve the gender balance and to increase the number of PhDs and Rema-students with a migration background.

With regard to outreach of research it was suggested that RSCR staff could take a more leading role in scientific and societal networks and to extend valorization activities by application of co-creation.

-Vision and mission

National and international research in the social and cultural sciences largely focuses on problems around inequality and cohesion. Research from RSCR contributes to these research lines with well received comparative publications in the fields of gender, migration, cultural diversity, development, family, socio-political attitudes, and educational inequality. RSCR research benefits from innovative work in quantitative research developed in the sociology department, and from theory development, policy research and qualitative ethnographic and focus group research in the gender & diversity and ADS groups.
B. Discussion point University Board
   - Structural positioning of the Gender & Diversity group within RSCR.
   - Recruitment professor of Anthropology and Development Studies within the ADS group.

C. Quality Research Output (250 woorden)
Within RSCR, the sociology department mainly strives for high quality publications in international refereed journals. In Gender & Diversity Studies and in Anthropology and Development Studies books and book chapters with reputed publishing houses are also highly valued. RSCR output figures (2016-2021) illustrate a substantial rise of journal articles; from 81 in 2016 to 91 in 2021. Next to article publications, (contributions to) books constitute a substantial part of RSCR output (2021=19). It is also noteworthy that RSCR staff produces a substantial number of professional publications currently amounting to 88 publications in 2021.

The following examples substantiate RSCR’s quality of research. Research from the ADS group in the highly reputed journal Anthropological Theory criticizes the current approach in The Netherlands of policy strategies to detect early signals of domestic violence. Research shows that these policies, particularly for poor women, and women with a migration background intensify their difficulties. Research from sociology that appeared in Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies investigates the paradox of limited integration of highly educated migrants in Dutch society. It shows that these migrants interpret national belonging in more complex ways, and that exclusion from both Dutch and ethnic communities leads to less integration. A gender and diversity contribution published in Organization, addressed organizational inclusion in lower class labor contexts thereby adding to research that mostly focuses on high-class labor. It is proclaimed that studies should extend their scope on organizational inclusion by taking into account the broader (historical) social order and different stakeholders involved.

D. Societal Impact (250 woorden)
Through various media channels RSCR staff actively shared knowledge with the wider public like in NRC, De Gelderlander, Trouw, Vox, RTL Nieuws, Met het oog op Morgen, NPO 1 Radio, and Sociale Vraagstukken. Also, blogs increasingly are used to actively engage in societal debates (Oxfordblog Border Criminologies, Versvak, Stuk Rood Vlees). Several RSCR staff members have been invited by ministries, municipalities, and (international) organizations to provide advice on relevant policy intentions (on COVID, global challenges, discrimination, radicalization, health care, active living, sustainability and diversity). Co-creation is achieved with the Municipality of Nijmegen in an evaluation study on the “participatie wet”. Koch discussed with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Oxfam Novib on unintended effects of aid, and Batenburg provided the WHO and EU with advice on health service sustainability.

Recognitions for RSCR staff are worthwhile mentioning. Verbakel provided her inaugural address on informal care which attracted attention in science and society. Geurts received a Christine Mohrman stipendium, Van den Bogert received the Radboud Networks Female Professors Award, and Glas won the NSV Thesis award. Both Van den Bogert and Spierings became member of Radboud Young Academy. Raiber was elected chair of Halkes Women Faculty Network. Elbers is member of the International Advisory Board of Dutch Development Organizations and Spierings is selected as coordinator of the Dutch election survey 2021. Staff was also active in editorial boards among which the Dutch Kwalon, Mens en Maatschappij, Sociaal bestek and Tijdschrift voor Arbeidsvraagstukken, and internationally in Acta Polica, Africa, Border Criminologies, European Journal of Sport and Society, Journal of New Zealand and Pacific Studies, Sites, Work, Aging and Retirement.
E. **PhD Policy and Education (250 woorden)**

In 2021 the number of PhDs (6) that finalized their thesis was lower than expected. The number of PhDs enrolled in RSCR however gradually increased; from XX in 2016, till XX in 2021. Success rates are good for RSCR; all PhD’s who started between 2012 and 2015 are graduated. Employed PhDs receive their education in three national graduate schools, in the Netherlands research school of Gender Studies, the newly founded Netherlands School of Anthropology and the Interuniversity Center for Social Science Theory and Methodology. Additionally, relevant courses are offered within gROW by Radboud University, or specific courses are followed in summer schools. PhDs are closely monitored within RSCR with a yearly inventory. When starting a PhD project an Education and Supervision Plan (ESP) is compiled. This ESP may be adjusted in yearly evaluation meetings. Next to the annual conversations, in 2021 a new official 6 months talk is proposed to discuss topics like work satisfaction, role supervisors, education, and progress with new PhDs. A yearly survey is organized to monitor possible problems and work satisfaction.

It further is prescribed that all RSCR PhD projects have at least two supervisors, a promotor and a daily supervisor. A PhD Supervision Guideline with best practices is established and implemented (see RSCR website). A yearly monitoring of PhDs safeguards that problems are detected in time and progress is ensured. Career perspectives are discussed with PhD students in their supervising teams. The monitoring of external PhD candidates is less developed, because most have more personal relationships with a promotor and the supervising of research takes not uniquely place at the institute. They are, however, also monitored in the yearly assessment of PhD projects.

F. **Academic integrity (250 woorden)**

Within RSCR high standards of academic integrity are believed important. Since 2014, the Institute has established a system that annually archives information of academic publications in so-called publication packages (see RSCR website). This makes replication and verification possible, and incidentally a security check is carried out (by an external scholar) with respect to fraud, plagiarism and data construction. All researchers from RSCR endorse The Netherlands Code of Conduct for Scientific Practice of VSNU (see RSCR website). Furthermore, in 2017 and 2018 RSCR developed a data protocol that explicitly refers to issues of scientific integrity regarding data handling. RSCR is also familiar with the DSW guidelines with respect to ethics for research in the social sciences and research staff is increasingly aware of ethical issues when doing research involving participants. From RSCR, Tonnaer is a member of the faculty ECSW Ethics committee.

In 2021 a new advice is installed referring to authorships. An author is considered anyone who is involved in the initial research design, data collection and analysis, or manuscript drafting. With regard to the order of authors RSCR advances flexibility, but in thesis work a PhD should always be the first author. RSCR also advises to be totally clear on all authors’ contributions in an acknowledgement.

G. **Open Science (250 woorden)**

RSCR promotes all its scientific output to be published Open Access because this is seen as a foundation of science; new research should be able to build on established results from prior studies. An estimated number of more than 75% of all RSCR journals articles in 2021 is Open Access. Among RSCR publications in books this percentage is substantially lower. RSCR policy strives for more awareness among researchers to submit their works to publishers that make open access possible and to reserve budget in grant proposals to finance open access. Data collections of quantitative data are (almost) all submitted to the DANS repository (with DOIs), whereas for qualitative data RSCR is supporting archiving opportunities within the RU repository environment.

Data management regulations are formalized in a data protocol since 2018. This data protocol provides RSCR researchers with the do’s and don’ts of collecting, using, archiving and sharing data information. A starting point of this protocol is that every individual researcher is responsible for adequate, secure and
transparent archiving of data, materials and information and publications. In general, the principles of FAIR data management (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable) apply to all research data in RSCR. Ethnographic, interview and observational research data, however, is less suited to adequately be made open to the scientific community without restrictions (privacy, confidentiality). Since 2021 it is required to include in all PhD thesis a declaration on research data management to ensure secure and ethical usage of research data (see RSCR website). To guide and help RSCR researchers with issues of data management, Eisinga has been appointed as RSCR data officer.