Erik Arnold – Rapporteur

Erik Arnold is co-founder and Chairman of the Technopolis Group, Adjunct Professor in Research Policy at the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm, and a Visiting Academic at the University of Manchester.

He is a Trustee of the Fraunhofer-ISI institute, was a member of the scientific committee of the Institut für Qualitätssicherung und Forschungsinformation of the DFG (2007-13) and is a member of the editorial board of the journal Research Evaluation.

He has worked in research and innovation policy and evaluation since 1980, covering work in a wide range of disciplines handling research and innovation policy. His work spans over 30 countries as well as the European Commission and a range of international organisations including the OECD, World Bank, Nordic Council of Ministers, ESF and COST. He is expert in the design, management and implementation of large- as well as smaller-scale evaluations of research and innovation organisations, programmes and policies. He has particular expertise in integrating peer review and social-scientific evaluation methods.

List of most relevant projects in the field of “Performance Based Funding Systems”

- Czech research system audit and design of the proposed new RPBF in the Czech Republic (2014) – the exercise involved extensive consultation, review of international experience, detailed RPBF design and piloting, links to research information systems
- Evidence review of the effects of the REF RPBF in the UK and identification of redesign options. The projects listed span all types of RPBF across most of the countries that use them.
- Review of research assessment and the potential use of metrics for the UK Russell Group of universities
- Supervised the national research assessment exercise in Lithuania
- Review of research assessment and integration into wider performance metrics for the European Parliament
- National research assessment exercise in Latvia
- Extensive experience of managing peer review processes in national research assessments, programme and discipline evaluation for the last 25+ years

Gunnar Sivertsen – Expert

Gunnar Sivertsen is Research Professor and Head of bibliometric research at the Nordic Institute for Studies in Innovation, Research and Education (NIFU) in Oslo. His expertise is in studies of scholarly communication and publishing and in the development and use of bibliometric indicators for statistics, evaluation, funding, and science policy. He has advised the development of new systems for research assessment and monitoring in the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Flanders (Belgium), Norway, Portugal, Sweden and South Africa. He has provided expert advice on research performance indicators for the institutional funding schemes on a regular basis to the Ministry of Education and Research in Norway (since 2004) and the Ministry of Higher Education in Denmark (since 2009).

Since 2010 he has been the initiator of three projects for Nordforsk resulting in a Nordic network for bibliometrics with shared development of indicators and with biannual reports on the performance of the Nordic countries and their universities.

List of most relevant publications

Dorothea Sturn – Expert

Dorothea Sturn was Managing Director of the Austrian Science Foundation (FWF), Austria’s central funding organisation for basic research, comparable with DFG in Germany or ANR in France, from 2011 until August 2016. In this context, she was involved in different international projects comparing peer review practices in national funding bodies. Her main areas of expertise revolve around research funding and proposal assessment by peer-review as well as strategy building and evaluation of research performance.

Previously, she worked at the University of Vienna as Head of the Quality Assurance and Evaluation Unit where she developed an informed peer review scheme for the appraisal of research quality in different institutional settings. At the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG), she was responsible for various schemes fostering the co-operation between research and economy and earned her particularly strong expertise in programme management. In addition to her management skills, her fields of research are the development of Universities and research institutions in an international environment, Peer-review and Research Evaluation, R&D and innovation policy as well as economic development questions relating to research and technology. She holds an MA and a PhD in Economics and has lectured on public economics and on political economy.

List of most relevant publications:


Jack Spaapen - Expert

Dr Jack Spaapen is senior policy advisor at the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences He has been working on issues dealing with the evaluation of scientific research, and of the societal impact in particular, since the mid 1980s. His main expertise is in methods for societal impact evaluation, and in research and innovation policy. He has coordinated many Academy projects in these areas, and several EU projects, among others the FP7 SIAMPI project on productive interactions between science and society and the assessment of societal impact of research (2009-2012), and on Responsible Research and Innovation, RRI (2014). Furthermore, he conducted an OECD project on the role of scientific advice regarding controversial issues in society (2015). He is now vice chair of ENRESSH, a COST action reviewing comprehensive evaluation of research in the social sciences and humanities. He represents the Academy in several national and European networks on R&D evaluation. He initiated the national project on developing methods for the assessment of the societal relevance of research (Evaluating Research in Context - ERiC project). He co-designed the Standard Evaluation Protocol (SEP) 2015 – 2021, the Dutch national evaluation protocol for publicly funded research. He is currently working on the development of an assessment framework for the humanities research in the Netherlands.
List of most relevant publications


- Jack Spaapen, The new Standard Evaluation Protocol 2015 – 2021, more suitable for the social sciences and humanities, in Social impact @ sciences, the end of the ivory tower, Peter A.G. van Bergeijk and Linda Johnson, ISS / Erasmus University Rotterdam, 2014

- Jack Spaapen and Leonie van Drooge, Introducing ‘productive interactions’ in the assessment of social impact of research, Research Evaluation, Volume: 20 Issue: 3 Special Issue on Social Impact, pp: 211-218, September 2011

- With all members of the ERiC project, Evaluating the Societal relevance of Academic Research: A Guide, ERiC publication 1001 EN, June 2010, The Hague

- Meulen, B. van der, F. Daemen, L. van Drooge, S. de Jong, J. Spaapen, F. Wamelink, P. van den Besselaar, Pilot study at Faculty of Architecture TU Delft, ERiC publication 1002, March 2010, The Hague