





International conference peer review

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Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research

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Peer review under pressure

- Over the last 10 years: increase in number of grant proposals
- Burden on shoulders of scientists
- Time spent by researchers on preparing his/her application
- Value of peer review when dealing with economic or societal impact?



Three conferences hosted by NWO

- **April:** national work conference
- **May:** internal NWO meeting
- **June:** international conference



Why these meetings?

- Success rates for applicants are-too low
- Available budget for NWO has increased... but so has the number of applicants!
- Time spent by researchers on preparing his/her application
- Peer review must be critically examined: are the 'traditional' methods still sound methods?
- Request from the Dutch minister of Education, Culture & Research to NWO:
 - think about alternative methods of evaluating research proposals
 - consider the implementation of one or more experiments



Purpose international conference

- Discuss and exchange knowledge and experiences about issues related to peer review:
 - How can we solve the problems concerning the high number of applications?
 - Which ideas are useful?
 - Should we implement them and if so: how?



After this conference

- Summary report on the outcomes
- Network/platform of Research Councils members for a continuing focus of attention and improved methods of evaluation
- NWO will discuss results with the minister of Education, Culture & Research

