

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Luxembourg Agency for Research Integrity, a.s.b.l.

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<http://www.lari.lu/>

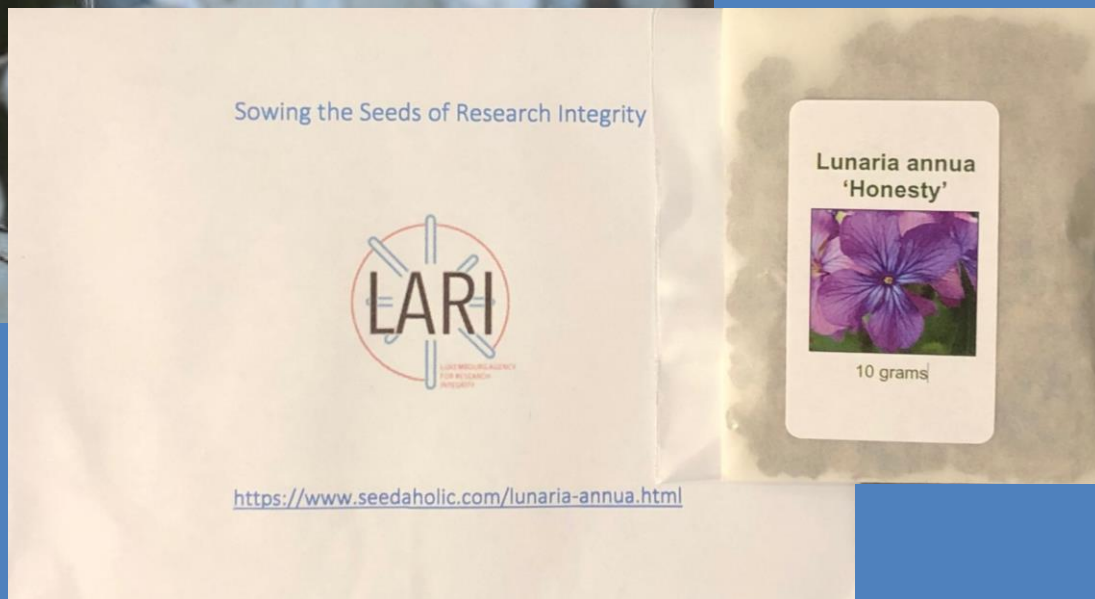
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Approved by LARI Board 17 June 2019;
Awaiting approval by LARI Gen Assy.

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FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL



While in the role of Secretary General for only four months, I've been part of a significant burst of activity by the Luxembourg Agency for Research Integrity (LARI). With 18 meet-and-greet sessions, I've experienced a warm reception from LARI's member institutions, staff, and students. Importantly, it is refreshing to hear comments that express the appreciation of LARI's mission, as well as the high-quality services we are providing.

Robust research is vital to society in many ways, including relief of suffering, improving quality of life, and protection of the planet.

Quality, integrity, and ethics are pillars essential to support innovation, and LARI aims to lend its knowledge and resources. We're thrilled to have 11 research coaches amid our member institutions – a nearby and helpful guide for students and staff who need assistance. And the ethics consult service has already proven itself valuable in a short time! In the near future we will also have a YouTube channel hosting short, entertaining educational videos.

2018 was exciting. LARI will continue to support the researchers of Luxembourg in 2019 with its novel approaches to research ethics and research integrity. We're here for you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katrina A. Bramstedt'.

Katrina A. Bramstedt, PhD
Secretary General
30 Dec 2018

MISSION & VISION

Established in 2016, the Luxembourg Agency for Research Integrity (LARI) is the national agency promoting and investigating research integrity in Luxembourg. LARI is a non-profit organization, and a joint venture between the Luxembourg National Research Fund (FNR), the University of Luxembourg, the Luxembourg Institute of Health (LIH), the Luxembourg Institute for Socio-Economic Research (LISER) and the Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST). As such, LARI intersects with a variety of research disciplines including medicine, behavioral and social sciences, physical sciences and mathematics, engineering and materials sciences, law, and computing.

The **mission** of LARI is twofold:

- To promote responsible conduct of research;
- To ensure an independent inquiry and investigation in cases of alleged scientific misconduct.

How does LARI accomplish its mission? The LARI team uses an innovative approach that blends education and creative sessions, coaching, and consultation to foster research integrity as a value that is built into research (proactive).

LARI's **vision** is to be Luxembourg's go-to organization for questions about research ethics*, research integrity, and allegations of research misconduct. (*Note, LARI is not a research ethics committee; however, we are very concerned about concepts in research ethics because such are foundational to research integrity.)



CORE ACTIVITIES

LARI's work comprises four areas: education, coaching, consultation, and investigations. With the hiring of the new Secretary General in September 2018, LARI's activities launched in all areas and are summarized below. Additionally, LARI keeps its members up-to-date on its activities via its monthly newsletter, *Compass*, which was launched in October 2018. Archived issues are available at this link: <https://lari.lu/best-practice-useful-links/lari-newsletter/>



3 education sessions (lecture/seminar/workshop) were provided to members institutions in 4Q2018 on topics pertaining to research ethics and/or research integrity. LARI avoids boring by using various creative and interactive teaching tools via a method termed CAPRI (Creative Approaches Promoting Research Integrity). These tools include audience e-polling, art analysis, and art creation.

SurveyMonkey® feedback analysis finds LARI-provided sessions (all combined) to be rated by learners as either Excellent or Very Good (84.6%). Most raters indicated the sessions were either Extremely Useful or Very Useful (84.6%). Similarly, most raters found the use of creative elements in the sessions to be either Extremely Enjoyable or Very Enjoyable (84.6%), and enhanced their learning (69.2%). Key items of education remain quickly visible to researchers through LARI's FAQ page, <https://lari.lu/best-practice-useful-links/research-ethics-faq/>.

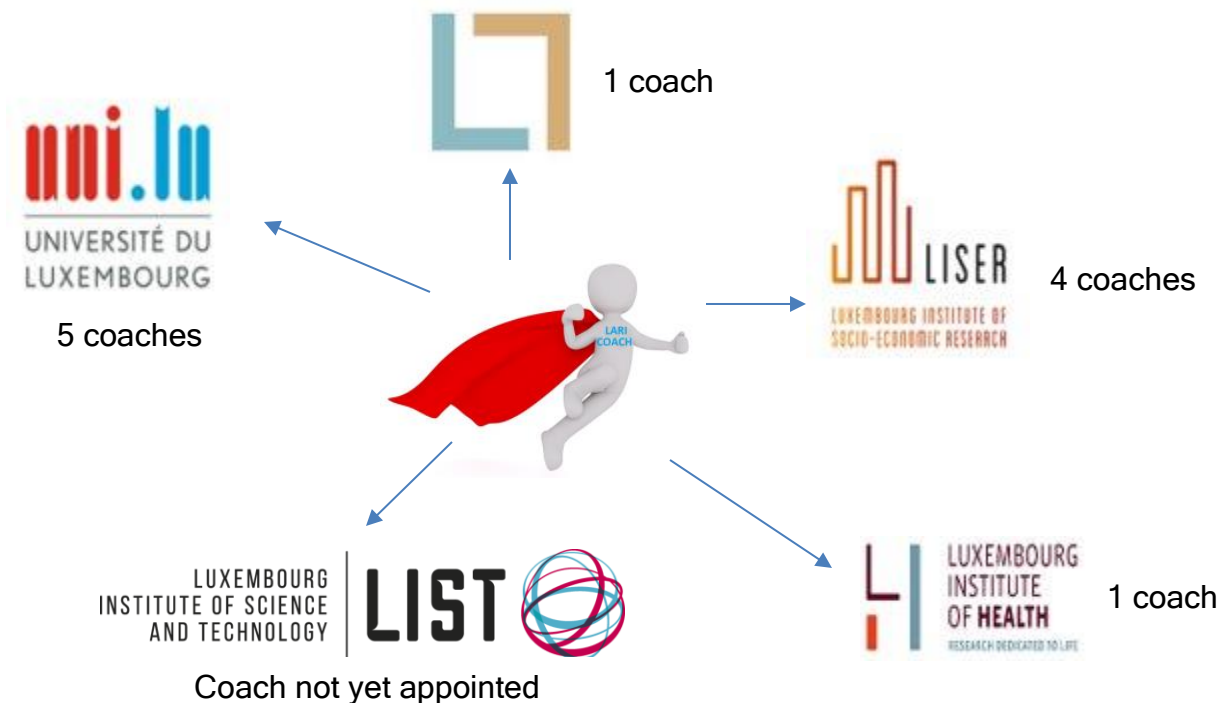


11

LARI peer-coaches were appointed and trained in 4Q2018.

These 11 coaches are working in 4 of 5 of the LARI member organizations (UL, LISER, LIH, FNR). Coaching provides support, encouragement, and guidance as researchers progress along their project path, and helps them produce robust, ethical research. Watch our [2-min video](#) for details.

LARI coaching is adapted from the Philips Research (Eindhoven, NL) experience of global coaches who assist medical device researchers with navigating the research ethics committee process. LARI Coaches go farther and take a longitudinal approach to guiding researchers (in their own Dept/Institute) amid the complexities of designing, conducting, recording, monitoring, auditing, analysis, and reporting of research.



9 research ethics consultations were performed by LARI in 4Q2018. The consultation service is provided free to faculty, students, and staff of the LARI member institutions who are faced with dilemmas in the planning, design, conduct, or dissemination of research, as well as research topics or methods that are ethically sensitive, causing tension between values and proposals.

Of the 9 consults performed, the most common theme pertained to authorship and publishing dilemmas (4 consults). Other areas of consultation were research ethics committee policy, professionalism, law, and copyright/licensing. Feedback from service users has been very positive, as shown by a snapshot of anonymized user comments:

“It was very helpful and I have also learned a lot from it.”

“I learnt a lot of how to handle such a situation in the future.”

“Thank you so much for your time and consideration, and your prompt and detailed answer which was very informative for [us].”

“In few hours you give [sic] me an answer....”

“I would like to thank you for your very efficient and quick handling of this matter.”

“Thank you for this detailed and careful answer! Very useful.”

1 misconduct investigation was initiated in 2018. This case was received in November 2018 and was still under investigation by LARI’s Commission for Research Integrity (CRI) at the end of the calendar year. The CRI aims to complete its analysis and opinion in early 2019.

1 publication was co-authored by LARI in 2018:
 Alieva A, Nadimi C, Bramstedt KA, Hadjar A, Powell JJW. Code of Ethics. Luxembourg Educational Research Association. 2018.

Analytics – web & social media

Website Traffic (www.LARI.lu)

LARI launched its website in September 2018. Below is a traffic summary from September through December 2018. Overall, the LARI website has been viewed by visitors from 34 countries.

Total views: 1,789



Top 5 countries (visitors)

Country	Views
 Luxembourg	1,051
 United States	182
 France	113
 Netherlands	96
 Italy	71

Top 3 referrers: search engines, FNR, Twitter

Top 3 pages (excluding home page/main page): Contact Us, Useful Links, Peer Coaching

Social Media Traffic (Sept 2018 – Dec 2018)



[@LARIluxembourg](https://twitter.com/LARIluxembourg)

Profile visits: 761

Followers: 68

Mentions: 32

Impressions: 59,200



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/11853217>

Page views: 142

Unique visitors: 72

Followers: 36

Shares: 7

Likes: 28

EVENTS

ENRIO Membership

In October 2018, LARI was granted membership in the European Network of Research Integrity Offices (<http://www.enrio.eu/>). ENRIO is a network of 31 members from 23 European countries, all working to promote good scientific practice and research integrity.

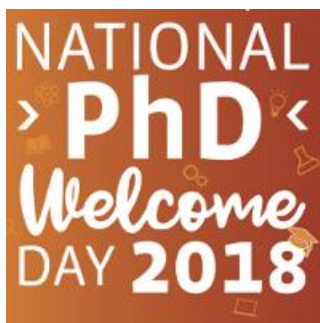
Conference Presentation

LARI's Katrina Bramstedt gave an invited presentation, "Fears and Thrills of Data Sharing," at the Open Science Forum (16 Nov 2018, Belval). Research is a community good that should be shared in order to maximize its benefit to society, but how does a researcher successfully navigate these waters and ethically share its data treasury? The session explored this dilemma, and offered guidance and ideas for data sharing that can add reward to the research experience. The slides are available for view: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1491670>



PhD Welcome Day

LARI's Katrina Bramstedt gave a presentation about the role of LARI to Luxembourg's incoming PhD students (22 Nov 2018, Belval). 110 students attended this session and learned about importance of robust, ethical research, as well as LARI's services.



PEOPLE

LARI BOARD

LARI was supported by its Board, a group of 3 with significant research backgrounds in physics, finance and economics, and mathematics and informatics.



Dr Marc Schiltz,
Secretary General & Exec Head of the FNR



Prof Aline Muller,
CEO of LISER



Dr Fernand Reinig,
Chief Executive Officer ad interim of LIST

Commission for Research Integrity

The investigative work of LARI is conducted by an independent group of scholars, the Commission for Research Integrity (CRI).



Torkild Vinther [Chair, CRI] -
Director, The National

Commission for the Investigation of Research
Misconduct, Norway



Mylène Deschenes [Vice-Chair,
CRI] - Directrice des affaires

éthiques et juridiques au Fonds de recherche
du Québec, Canada



Daniele Fanelli - Fellow in
Quantitative Methodology,

Department of Methodology, London School
of Economics and Political Science, United
Kingdom



Vedran Katavić - Associate

Professor of Human Anatomy,
University of Zagreb, School of Medicine,
Croatia; Ethics expert at the European
Commission, Belgium



Daniela N. Männel - Professor
of Immunology, Universität

Regensburg, Germany.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2018 (EUR)

ASSETS	2018	2017
FIXED ASSETS		
• Tangible fixed assets	10 393.29	0.00
CURRENT ASSETS		
• Debtors	1 916.21	0.00
• Cash at bank	408 221.82	466 186.32
• Prepayments	1 126.67	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	421 657.99	466 186.32
LIABILITIES	2018	2017
CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
• Profit brought forward	461 533.40	0.00
• Result for the financial year	(60 475.95)	461 533.40
CREDITORS		
• Trade payables	20 600.54	4 652.92
TOTAL LIABILITIES	421 657.99	466 186.32

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

As at 31 December 2018 (EUR)

	2018	2017
Gross profit	(15 873.02)	462 212.37
Staff costs	(42 553.24)	0.00
Value adjustments	(1 358.64)	0.00
Other operating expenses	(662.20)	(679.09)
Other interest receivable and similar income	0.00	0.12
Interest payable and similar charges	(28.85)	0.00
Loss for the financial year	(60 475.95)	461 533.40



This report is available for download on
<https://lari.lu/best-practice-useful-links/annual-reports/>

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For further information, please visit our website
www.LARI.lu
or send an e-mail to secretarygeneral@lari.lu

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