

What can research institutes do to foster research integrity?

Lex Bouter

Content

- **QRPs are more important than FFP**
- **Researchers need support to prevent QRPs**
- **Research institutes have duties of care**



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ACADEMIC RESEARCH CLIMATE AMSTERDAM

RESEARCH

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Researchers' perceptions of research misbehaviours: a mixed methods study among academic researchers in Amsterdam



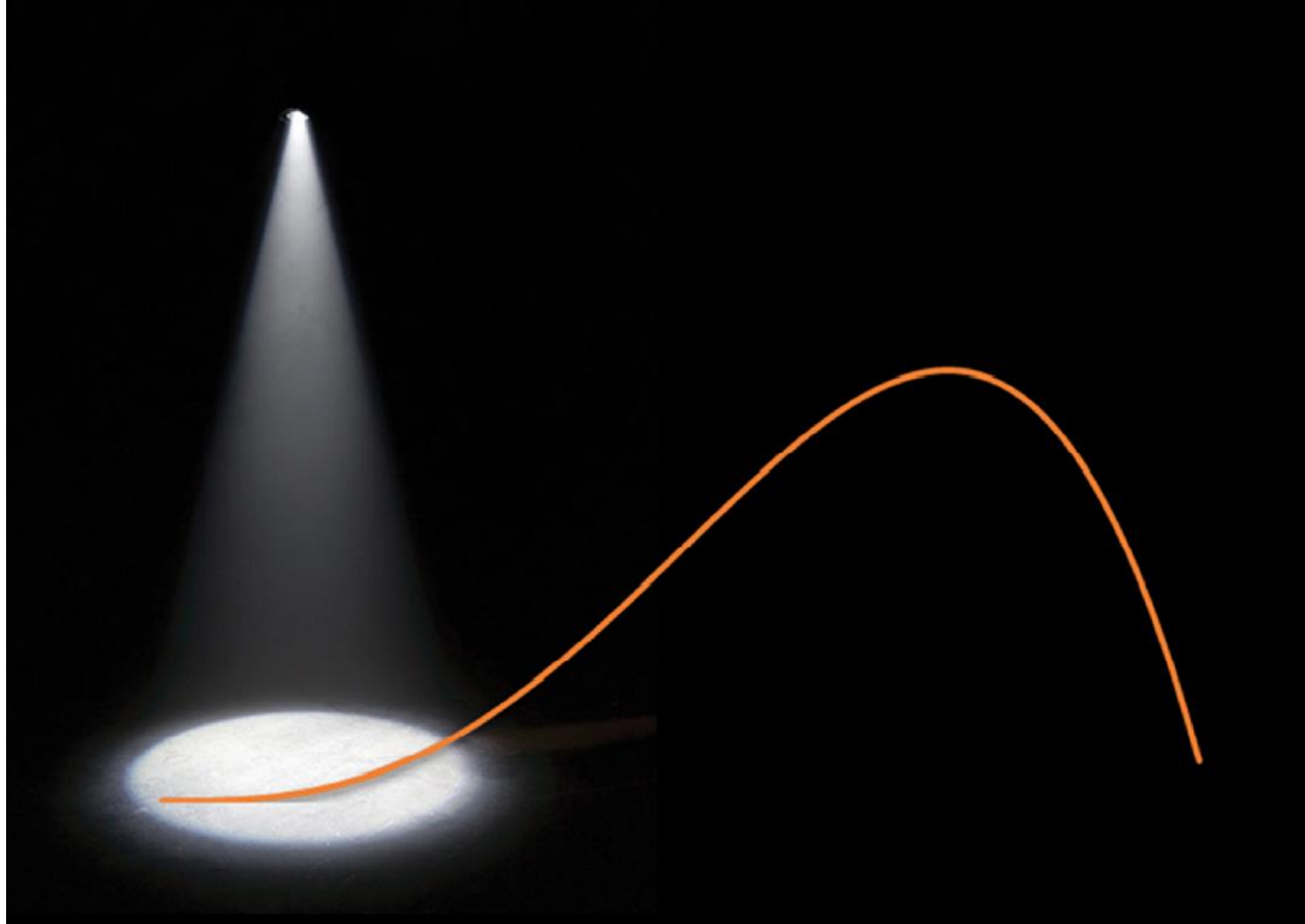
Tamarinde L. Haven^{1*} , Joeri K. Tijdink^{1,2}, H. Roeline Pasman³, Guy Widdershoven², Gerben ter Riet^{4,5} and Lex M. Bouter^{1,6}

Top 5 – aggregated impact



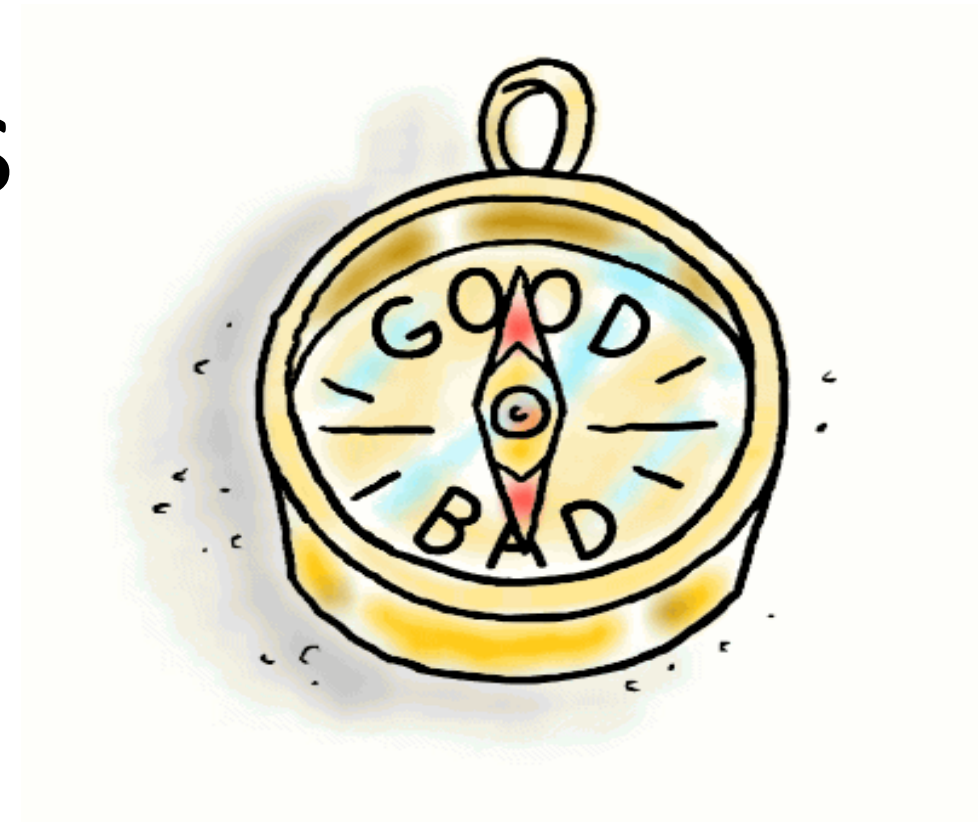
1. Insufficiently *supervise* or mentor junior coworkers
2. Let own *convictions influence* the conclusions substantially
3. Choose a clearly *inadequate* research *design* or using evidently unsuitable *measurement instruments*
4. *Not publish* a valid 'negative' study
5. Give insufficient attention to the *equipment*, *skills* or *expertise* which are essential to perform the study

Too much focus on FFP

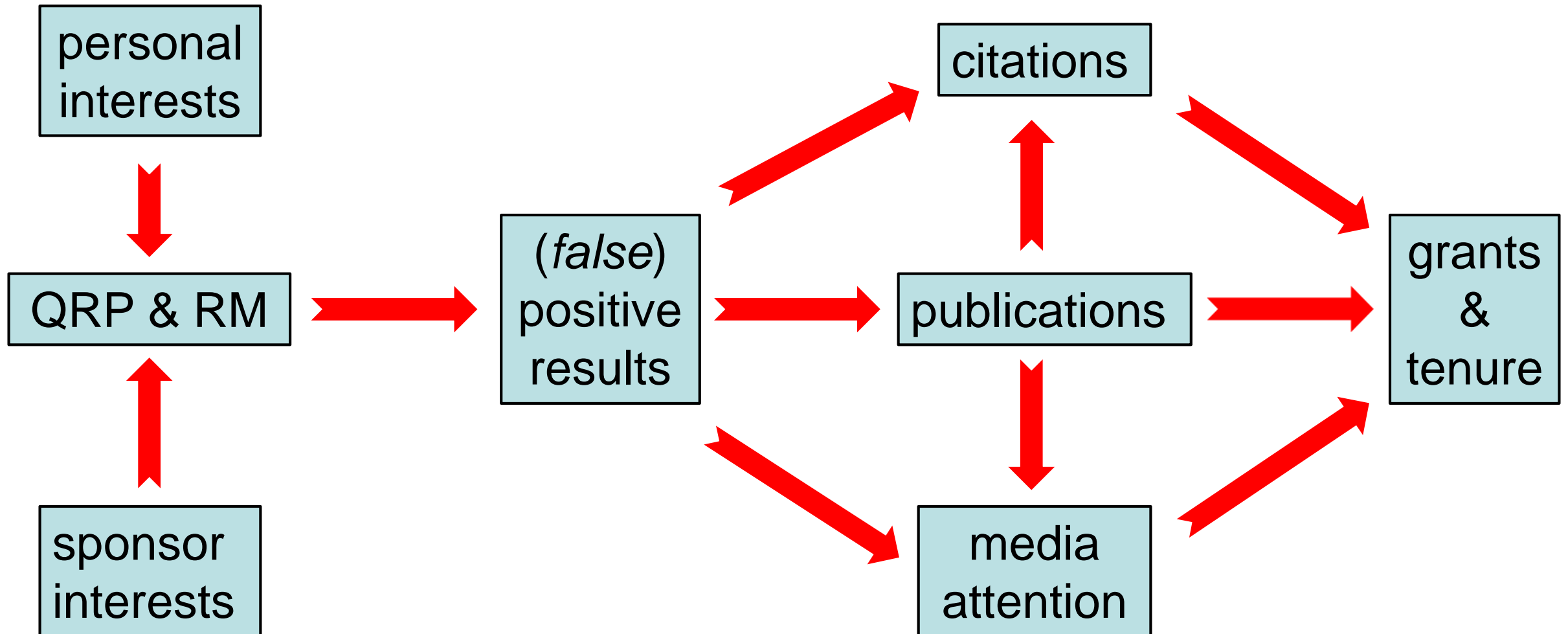


Functioning of moral compass depends on:

- Individual virtuousness
- Research climate
- Perverse incentives



How things can go wrong

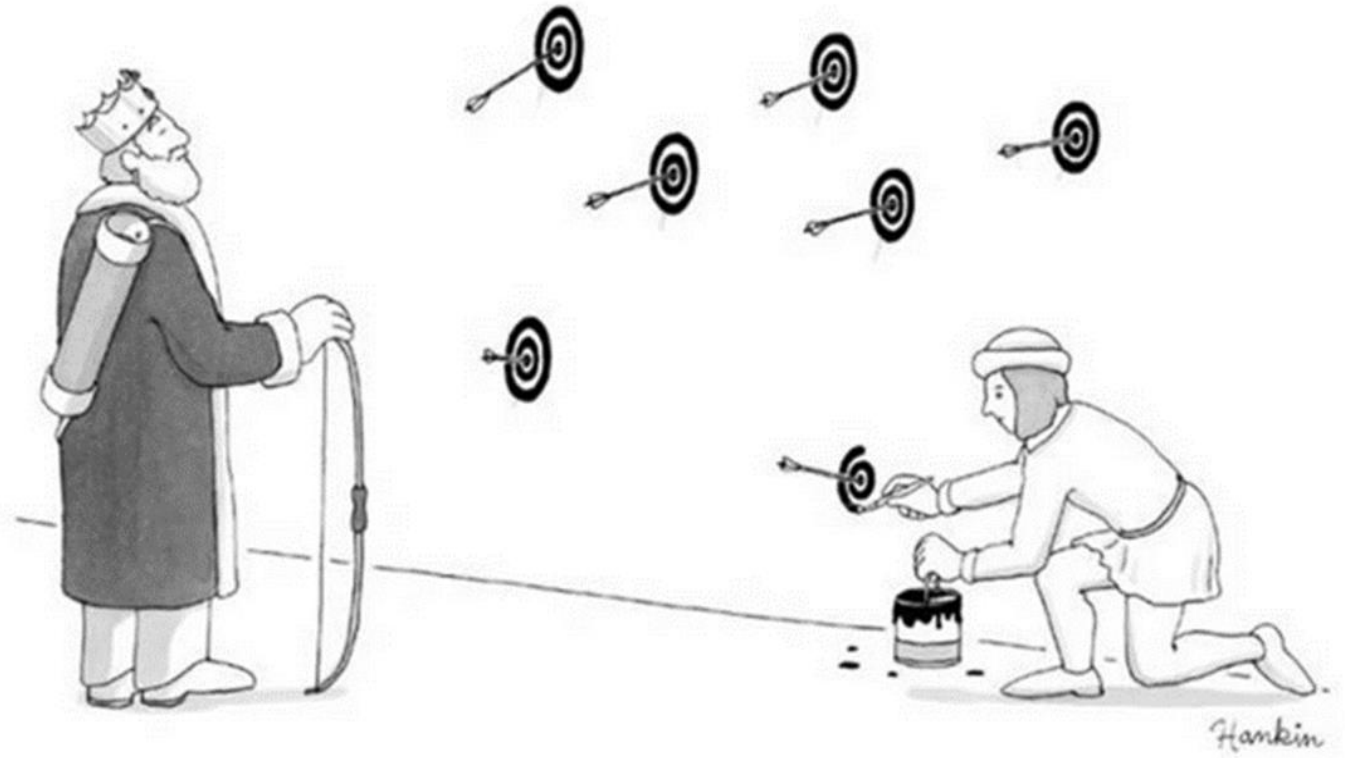


Important tools to get positive results

- Selective reporting
- Low power
- P-hacking
- HARKing



**Hypothesizing After
Results are Known**



Degrees of Freedom in Planning, Running, Analyzing, and Reporting Psychological Studies: A Checklist to Avoid *p*-Hacking

Jelte M. Wicherts, Coosje L. S. Veldkamp, Hilde E. M. Augusteijn, Marjan Bakker, Robbie C. M. van Aert and Marcel A. L. M. van Assen*

34 Researcher Degrees of Freedom that can be used to get Positive Results

1. Have clear codes, guidelines and SOPs

That explain what is expected behaviour in operational terms



**The European
Code of Conduct for
Research Integrity**

REVISED EDITION



**Leitlinien zur Sicherung
guter wissenschaftlicher Praxis**

Kodex

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

**Responsible Epidemiologic Research Practice: a guideline developed by
a working group of the Netherlands Epidemiological Society**

Gerard M.H. Swaen^{a,*}, Miranda Langendam^b, Joost Weyler^c, Huibert Burger^d, Sabine Siesling^e,
Willem Jan Atsma^f, Lex Bouter^g

2. Have fair procedures for handling allegations

That protect both the whistleblowers and the scientists they accuse

ACCOUNTABILITY IN RESEARCH

2017, VOL. 24, NO. 6, 359–366

<https://doi.org/10.1080/08989621.2017.1327814>



Taylor & Francis

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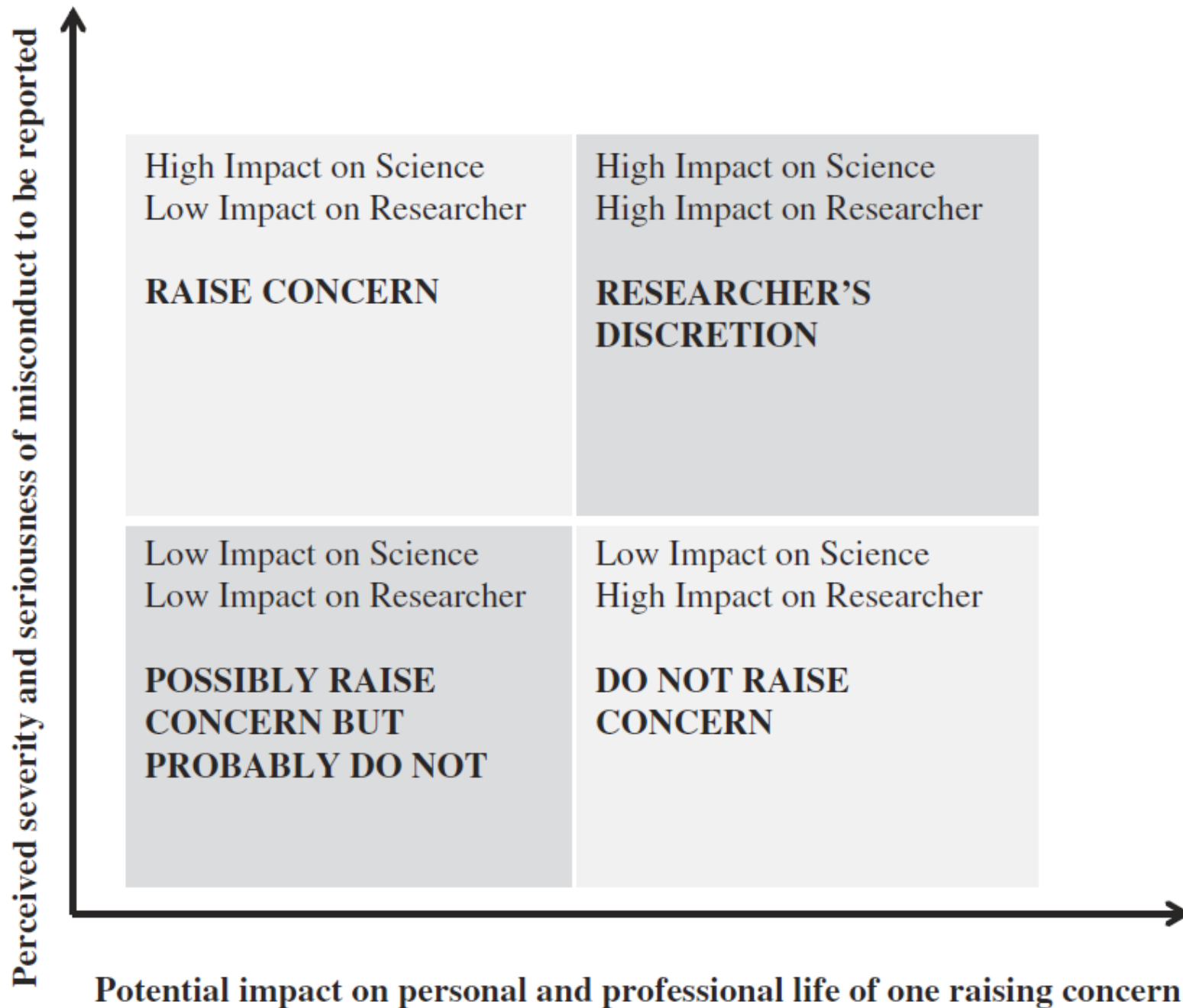
COMMENTARY



Both Whistleblowers and the Scientists They Accuse Are Vulnerable and Deserve Protection

Lex M. Bouter, Ph.D.^{a,b} and Sven Hendrix, M.D., Ph.D.^c





3. Provide adequate mentoring and training in RCR

Which is likely to be important not only for PhD students

- PhD and postdoc RI courses are common
- No '*Licence to Supervise*'
- Insufficient mentoring is QRP #1
- Good role models are important
- Integration of mentoring skills + RI skills

← Onze opleidingen



Superb supervision junior – a course for junior PhD supervisors

 3 dagen

Inschrijven →

4. Provide methodological and statistical support

Because many QRPs have to do with poor methods

5. Have a system of internal audits

Which is so often ignored in academia

6. Have good facilities for data-management and storage

Using web-based solutions for being transparent and accountable

FAIR Principles

**Research data are
Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable**

7. Remove the perverse incentives in the reward system

And do not only count publications and citations



The Leiden Manifesto
for research metrics



THE HONG KONG PRINCIPLES FOR ASSESSING RESEARCHERS



FOSTERING RESEARCH INTEGRITY



What are the HKP?

The Hong Kong Principles (HKP) were developed as part of the 6th World Conference on Research Integrity. They were developed to reinforce the need to ensure that researchers are rewarded for specific behaviors that promote trustworthy research.

Hong Kong Principles

1. Assess responsible research practices
2. Value complete reporting
3. Reward the practice of Open Science
4. Acknowledge a broad range of research activities
5. Recognize essential other tasks like peer review and mentoring




8. promote an open research climate

With open discussion of dilemmas and learning from mistakes



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Perceptions of research integrity climate differ between academic ranks and disciplinary fields: Results from a survey among academic researchers in Amsterdam


Tamarinde L. Haven ^{1*}, Joeri K. Tjeldink^{1,2}, Brian C. Martinson ³, Lex M. Bouter ^{1,2}

Research Integrity Climate

- **junior researchers** perceive the research integrity climate **more negatively** than senior researchers
- **junior researchers** note that their **supervisors are too little committed** to talk about key research integrity principles
- **PhD students** perceive **more competition and suspicion** among colleagues than associate and full professors
- researchers from the **natural sciences** have a **more positive perception** of the research integrity climate
- Researchers from **social sciences** as well as from the **humanities** perceive **less fairness** of their departments' expectations in terms of **publishing** and **acquiring funding**



What Research Institutions Can Do to Foster Research Integrity

Lex Bouter^{1,2} 

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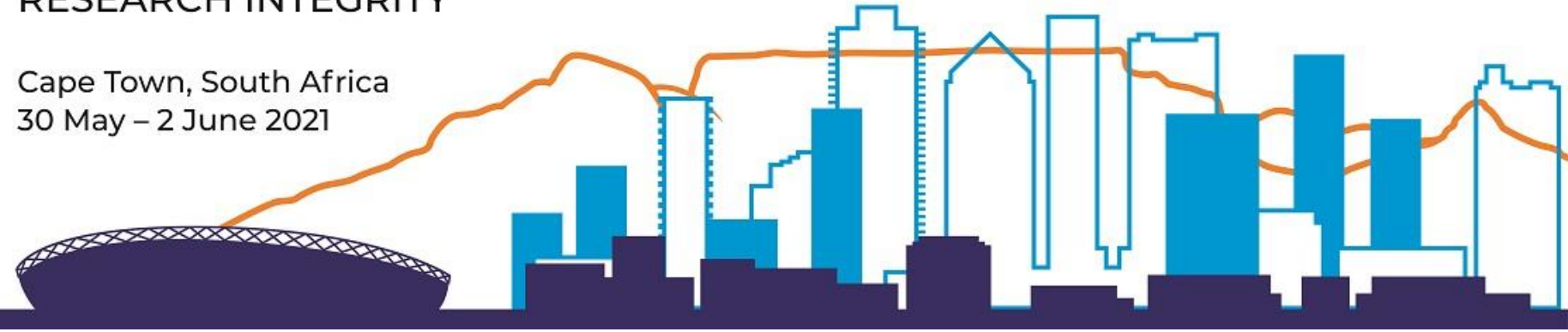
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