PUBLISHABLE SUMMARY REPORT

Monday April 18th

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER. INSTITUTIONAL PRESENTATIONS. FRANS VAN NIEUWPOORT AND PIETER DE KONING (ADVISORS EU RESEARCH GRANTS. DIRECTORATE OF RESEARCH. LUMC)

They are very active in medical research, especially in drugs.

They have the European Research Council's recommendation not to include large equipment in the ERC grants.

The coordination of H2020 projects is a priority for their institution. They see **coordination as a strategy** since it means; direct relation with the officer/E.C to know and to influence future research lines and calls, to have more control of the project and the money, to have the direct contact with all the beneficiaries (not only with the coordinator) as potential partners in future calls.

They have an **internal call of 15.000€** to encourage the coordination in H2020 projects. They simply ask for the submission of the proposal with LUMC as coordinator, not for a minimum score in the evaluation. The idea is to encourage the coordination but also to give extra money to improve the proposal in case that this doesn't get the funding.

They talked about the Junker's plan: **European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)**. It will mobilize additional investments in the real economy in areas including infrastructure, education, research, innovation, renewable energy and energy efficiency. It will also focus on SMEs and mid-cap companies (companies with between 250 and 3000 employees). The EFSI should target projects that promote job-creation, long-term growth and competitiveness.

They mentioned "**Strategic alliances**" such as **Eurolife**, a network of seven prestigious European universities which aims to facilitate collaborative research, the exchange of researchers and research students and the creation of new research opportunities.

***Webinars*.** They make a reservation of a room for the webinars in order not to be disturbed. Webinars are part of their training and they try to identify other colleagues that could be interested on the topic. This is also a good way to share the lessons learned and experience after the seminar.

LUMC GRADUATED SCHOOL. TON RAAP (COORDINATOR)

Being enrolled in the "Graduated School" is like applying for a job from them. Grades are important but also an interview with the supervisor/s is needed for the admission. They don't believe in credits. In fact, they don't have it.

They have an internal software tool (called "Converis") to collect and supervise all the courses, reports, information and to follow up the mandatory "transferable courses". The training and supervision plan must be uploaded there by the students.

3 mandatory "transferable courses":

1. Introductory meeting for PhD students. Director's presentation about the values of the institution.
2. BROK course (Basis Regulations in the Organization of clinical Research). General regulations. Integrity and ethics. Exam is mandatory for all PhD students.
3. Basic Methods and Reasoning in Biostatistics

They don't give grade for the courses. The most important is a good portfolio with nice publications.

They have special programme for excellent Bachelor's and Master's students.

They prioritise exchanges with partners; for example, from the *League of European Research Universities** LERU. He mentioned this alliance as a very nice and active lobby with publications and advice papers.

*Alliance of 20 research-intensive universities sharing the values of high-quality teaching within an environment of internationally competitive research. The LERU publishes position papers to influence the policy development in the area of research and education in Europe.

Tuesday April 19th

- **DIRECTORATE OF RESEARCH COORDINATORS MEETING.** TEAM MEMBERS (DIRECTORATE OF RESEARCH. LUMC)

I took part in the coordinators' meeting that the office holds once per month.

It should be noted that they control the research productivity of their faculties. They have an agreement setting the minimum for teaching, research and other activities. Therefore, they check that they are accomplishing this agreement. Having any research project has no penalisation on the salary but they can give some warning. Although there is no minimum of research funding they control the funding requested and get it. They are working on improving this control to see who is applying for funding to know, for example, why they are not applying in case that they are not active on asking for funding. They don't have a tool to register the proposals yet. So, for them is difficult to do this control without any register.

They are working on an INFOGRAPHIC to show how the office works, which services can this provides and who is responsible for each task.

- **INTEGRITY AND GOOD LABORATORY PRACTICE.** YVONNE MEES'T OEVER (ADVISOR)

They have a body to promote the importance of integrity in all research carried out at, and in partnership with, the LUMC.

Some strategies to reach this aim are, for example, the compulsory workshops on integrity and etical protocols that the students must to do. They are also using plagiarism checker software to verify the originality of the written work. Tools like *iThenticate* and Turnitin.

Wednesday April 20th

- **NATIONAL GRANTS.** MARIELLE KROON (RESEARCH POLICY ADVISOR. DIRECTORATE OF RESEARCH. LUMC)

Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research. National agency with a success rate of 10%.

SPINOZA PRIZES: The Government identify directly the excellent researchers. Is not necessary apply for it.

ZonMW: Special national programme for Health projects.

The NWO gives funding to projects that has been almost funded in EC calls. It depends the money could be to fund part of the project or, if it is few money, to improve the proposal for a resubmission.

2 Interesting national programnes:

- **TALENT SCHEME.** Similar to the ERC Grants. 3 schemes:

  - **VENI:** Have recently obtained the PhD. Maximum grant is 250.000 euros (3 years project);
  - **VIDI:** PhD obtained within the last 8 years. Maximum grant is 800.000 euros;
  - **VICI:** Phd 15 years. Maximum grant is 1.5 million euros.

This program has gender advantatges and researchers from everywhere can apply but doing their research in Holland.

This program helps the office to identify good candidates to apply for ERC grants. This is also a seal to proof the excellent research profile of the applicants for the evaluators.

- **GRAVITATION;** Collaborative projects for Dutch institutions. 10 years projects.

Thursday April 21st

- **PROJECTENBUREAU.** JACO DE GRAAF (PROJECT CONTROLLER AT LUMC)

The auditors has to see where the money goes. Showing your research results helps to have a better audit report.

The MSCs in Holland have some problems regarding their contracts. In this country all Post-docs have a contract with a fixed amount. So they had problems with the auditors because they were paying less than the amount set in the G.A. although they were correcting the difference in the last payment. The auditors identified this as a sistematic error and now they do an annex to these concrats to solve this issue.

According their internal auditors, Annex 5 of the AMGA seems to be not consistent with the financial rules on regards the declaration for the full time personnel when the persons are working exclusively for the action and without time records.

BESTPRAC COST PROJECT. He insisted in the work that this COST project is doing regarding the promotion of best practices among project managers from different european countries. http://www.bestprac.eu/home/

- **ETHICS IN HORIZON 2020** FRANS AND PIETER (ADVISORS EU RESEARCH GRANTS. DIRECTORATE OF RESEARCH. LUMC)

Do you have the approval at the moment of the submission of the proposal? If you don't have it, who will ask for? Has this person/entity previous experience?

Situation of each partner separately. Data management protection /security/clinical data.

There is no need to give a top science ethics section but you must show that you are aware of these matters and how you will deal with.

- **VISIT TO LURIS (LEIDEN UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AND INNOVATION SUPPORT)** ANKE KLERKX (DIRECTOR OF THE GRANT DEVELOPMENT TEAM) & MATHIAS HAVENAAR (KNOWLEDGE BROKER)

LURIS is the knowledge exchange office of Leiden University and Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC). They do training and presentations. Ex; how to write a MSC proposal, interviews for the second stage ERC; peer reviewing of the proposals (basically ERC proposals). Factsheets with some highlines.

They insisted also in the importance of the LERU as a network (already mentioned by Tom Raap).

- **MEETING WITH PROF. DR ALBERT DAHAN,** CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE MEDICAL ETHICS AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE LUMC SCIENCE COMMITTEE.

Very interesting talk about BIG DATA. He is a good contact for future proposals on this topic.

Fryday April 22nd

- **CLINICAL STUDIES AND PROCEDURES** LOUISE VELTROP-DUITS (ADVISOR FOR GOOD CLINICAL PRACTICE. LUMC)

In case of a national multicentre study:

- One ethical approval for the complete study
- Approval of all Board of the local sites

In case of an international multicentre study:

- In every country approval of ethical commission (and competent audthority) according to the rueles of the country

Education	Mandatory for all reseachers who will be part of the clinical trial. (e-learing with all the Dutch universities)
Privacy	Notification of database with identifying data
Electronic Patient file (if is necessary)	Costs (not for the patient/insurance)
Database	ProMISe (LUMC database)
Registration in a national trial register http://www.trialregister.nl/trialreg/index.asp	Important and mandatory for publications

LUMC's clinical trials process:

Aproval of scientific board of the department(s)	Each department has a Scientific Board. When different departments are involved in the same clinical study, all those departments have to give their approval. This way allows them to know and control all the LUMC's projects.
Financial approval	
Approval of the legal depatment	
Approval of the Ethical Commission	
Approval of the Competent Authority	Only mandatory for medicine trails
Approval of the Board of the LUMC	

In 2017 will be a new EU directive for clinical studies with medication. One approval of the competent authority combined with and ethical approval for the whole study in Europe.