

Jury report Valorisation prize 2019

The jury, consisting of Marjolein van Asselt, Klaartje Peters, Costas Papadopoulos and Ties van de Werff, was impressed by this year's applications. For years in a row now, the submissions to the Valorisation prize demonstrate the richness of 'valorisation' activities in our faculty far and beyond the narrow understanding of valorisation in terms of dissemination or economic gain. Ranging from monographs and media performances to online journals and societal debates, the submissions were of high quality and exemplary for creative and thoughtful ways of fostering research impact within and beyond academia.

Given the quality of submissions and the diversity of the valorisation activities, it was not an easy task to decide on a winner for the 2019 valorisation prize. We would like to use this report, not only to compliment the winning submission but also to pay homage to each application, thereby showcasing the variety of forms valorisation can take. We would also like to highlight the fact that submission for the valorisation prize is a great means to communicate your usually voluntary investment into valorisation activities, to receive credits for it and to inspire your colleagues.

Kathleen Gabriels' work on the ethical implications of robots and AI found different audiences. Based on her monograph *Regels voor robots. Ethiek in tijden van AI*, published in October 2019 by VUBPRESS, Kathleen wrote policy briefs, gave interviews in national newspapers, and advised both the Belgian and the Dutch parliament on AI. Kathleen clearly puts much effort in finding ways to share her expertise and knowledge to very diverse audiences, taking up the role of a public intellectual. The jury finds it a great achievement to have such a societal impact in this early stage of her career.

The research on the well-being of migrant parents in transnational families by **Karlijn Haagsman, Valentina Mazzucato** and **Bilisuma Dito**, got an unexpected impact. The researchers learnt that their study was used in a Supreme Court case in the US: President Trump vs Hawaii (Case No. 17-965), which has been a vital court case in recent US history. This case assessed whether the controversial 'Muslim Ban' of President Trump violates the Constitution or immigration laws of the United States. The research was used by the opposing party in the court case to argue that family separation resulting from this ban causes irreparable harm and has negative physical and mental health consequences. The jury found this application interesting, as it shows the importance of tracing unintended forms of societal impact.

Ferenc Laczó and **Luka Lisjak Gabrijeleic's** project *The Legacy of Division* experimented with a form of online publication. The researchers curated the Eurozine Focal Point of 2019 "The Legacy of Division. East and West after 1989" and invited experts from different fields to reflect on questions around the 30th anniversary of 1989: how have (mis)perceptions between the two halves of the continent changed over the last three decades? The jury applauds the effort of the researchers to reflect on an important historical milestone and societal event, and to connect it

with the third-year elective course in the BA ES titled *Lifting the Iron Curtain*. The jury would like to have seen some more reflection on the kinds of audiences that were reached with/by the online publication.

In sum, these applications reveal that valorisation ranges from being an active public intellectual to having societal impact, without being aware of it, from policy briefs, to court cases and historical moments and from individual investments to team efforts. Notwithstanding the quality of the different applications, the jury was unanimous in declaring the 2019 prize winner.

The valorization prize 2019 goes to the project *Maastricht Debate*. The Maastricht Debate 2019, which was held on 29th April 2019, was jointly organized by Working on Europe – Maastricht University, the City of Maastricht and the Province of Limburg – as well as the European Youth Forum and the European Journalism Centre. FASoS researchers **Johan Adriaensen, Christine Arnold, Thomas Christiansen, Christine Neuhold, Michael Shackleton**, supported by **Afke Groen** and **Mathieu Segers**, were part of the Steering Committee of the debate. The 90-minute event was attended by a live audience and broadcasted live across the European Union via YouTube, and was accompanied by a range of side events in 19 EU Member States. The jury was impressed by the organisation and reception of the debate, and by the way the organizers included and empowered students as democratic citizens in the debate. Furthermore, the jury applauds the integrated approach towards valorisation in this project. The Maastricht Debate team approached engagement not only as a matter of post-research, but used the debate as both an important societal event, and an object of study and a way of gathering data, linking it to courses and teaching. This approach towards valorisation takes the societal consequences of our scientific expertise seriously. Given the scope of the project and the number of the involved researchers, the jury would like to challenge the prize winners to think about spending their prize as seed money, encouraging colleagues who feel inspired by this large-scale and broad-range valorisation effort. We would like to stress that Maastricht Debate didn't got the prize because of the size and impact, but because of its original and reflexive take to valorisation.

The jury welcomes the diverse range of valorisation activities within our faculty. To make application for the valorisation prize easier for faculty members, the jury has further simplified the application format and procedure this year. The jury therefore encourages all staff to consider sending in their valorisation activities for next year's valorisation prize, as an hour might be sufficient to draft an application. We would also like to publish an interview with this year's winners as well as organize a discussion on valorisation during the Faculty research day to problematise different approaches to valorisation. In that way, the valorisation prize will further increase in being a platform and an annual milestone to reflect on what we do and how we think about valorisation at FASoS.