



Nederlandse Onderzoeksschool Wijsbegeerte (OZSW)

Dutch Research School of Philosophy

Annual report 2014

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Summary

The Dutch Research School of Philosophy (Onderzoekschool Wijsbegeerte – OZSW) is a collaborative enterprise of the philosophy departments and faculties of 11 Dutch universities. Its general purpose is to strengthen the discipline of academic philosophy by (a) organizing courses, summer/winter schools and other types of research training for PhD and Research Master (ReMa) students, and (b) facilitating and encouraging national and international cooperation between researchers active within the field of academic philosophy.

The OZSW was established at the end of 2012, and started its operations in January 2013. The OZSW comprises the former Netherlands School for Research in Practical Philosophy (OZSE), which has become the OZSW section Ethics and Practical Philosophy. The other two OZSW sections are History of Philosophy and Theoretical Philosophy. Erasmus University Rotterdam is the hosting university for the period 2012-2017.

In February 2014, Han van Ruler took over the position of Ingrid Robeyns as scientific director of the OZSW, after she left Erasmus University.

The year 2014 was aimed at establishing the three sections of the OZSW in a clear and recognizable manner and to coordinate and focus on courses (specifically) aimed at ReMa students. Although the complete office staff (secretary, assistant director and director) was changed over the course of 2014, the OZSW has continued to grow in terms of size, activities and visibility.

At the end of 2014, the OZSW had 568 members: 126 Research Master student members, 162 PhD student members, 268 senior members, and 8 international members.

In 2014 the OZSW had its first full year after its establishment in 2013. The main efforts in 2014 consisted of bringing the 'new' sections to an understanding of what was desired and what was needed in order to become a clear and recognizable research school with different sections organizing a number of similar and recurring activities. A further topic which demanded a substantial amount of effort was the OZSW policy towards, and development of an educational program for, ReMa students – both because the national policy with respect to ReMa students has been very complicated, and because in 2014 national and local ReMa policies changed or were abandoned, thus leaving no clear guidance for dealing with ReMa issues. In the course of 2014, the OZSW invested in building a network of ReMa coordinators and a specific section on the OZSW website was dedicated to ReMa students, so that students can find relevant ReMa course information from OZSW member universities.

During the year, multiple educational activities have been organized under the umbrella of the OZSW: 18 courses, winter/summer schools, graduate conference, workshops and seminars. The number of participants in these activities amounted to 279 OZSW PhD students and 72 OZSW ReMa students. The majority of activities were in the field of Ethics and Practical Philosophy, as this section continued in the tradition of the former OZSE, but the sections of Theoretical Philosophy and the History of Philosophy also started to contribute to organizational activities in 2014.

In 2014, the amount of OZSW study groups almost doubled with the establishment of many new study groups on a variety of topics. Study groups have organized research-related activities in which all OZSW members could participate, such as seminars and reading groups. Five research grants were

awarded to five study groups, which allowed them to invite an international guest speaker or to organise full day workshops.

In November 2014, the second OZSW Annual Conference took place. Key note speakers were Catherine Wilson, Howard Caygill and Marya Schechman. The number of abstracts received was 168, of which 135 were presented at the conference. Abstracts underwent a double blind review by senior OZSW members. The number of registered participants was 242. The second edition of the conference was highly instrumental for community building within the new sections and for the recognizability of the OZSW as an established organization.

Financially, the OZSW has made an extra investment for the sake of promoting activities in the two new sections, but the budget was not completely spent. Towards the end of the year, it became clear that the OZSW would receive a compensation for ReMa office costs from the “Regieorgaan Duurzame Geesteswetenschappen”. As a consequence, instead of the anticipated use of 25%, the OZSW spent only 15% of the former OZSE reserve budget.

On all of these topics, further details may be found in the sections that follow.

1. Introduction

The Dutch Research School of Philosophy (Onderzoekschool Wijsbegeerte – OZSW) is a collaborative enterprise of the philosophy departments and faculties of 11 Dutch universities. These are:

- *Delft University of Technology* (Fac. of Technology, Policy & Management, [Philosophy Section](#))
- *Eindhoven Univ. of Technology* (Fac. of Ind. Eng. & Innovation Sciences, [Section Philosophy & Ethics](#))
- *Erasmus University Rotterdam* ([Faculty of Philosophy](#))
- *Free University Amsterdam* ([Faculty of Philosophy](#))
- *Leiden University* (Faculty of Humanities, [Department of Philosophy](#))
- *Radboud University Nijmegen* ([Faculty of Philosophy, Theology & Religion Studies](#))
- *Tilburg University* (Tilburg School of Humanities, [Department of Philosophy](#))
- *Twente University* (Faculty of Behavioral Sciences, [Philosophy Department](#))
- *University of Amsterdam* ([Faculty of Humanities](#))
- *University of Groningen* ([Faculty of Philosophy](#))
- *Utrecht University* (Faculty of Humanities, [Department of Philosophy](#))

The OZSW was established at the end of 2012 by the deans of the 11 faculties involved, and started its operations in January 2013. The hosting institution (“penvoerder”) will be Erasmus University Rotterdam for the period 2013-2018. The OZSW comprises the former Netherlands School for Research in Practical Philosophy (OZSE), which has become one of the three sections of the OZSW (see chapter 2).

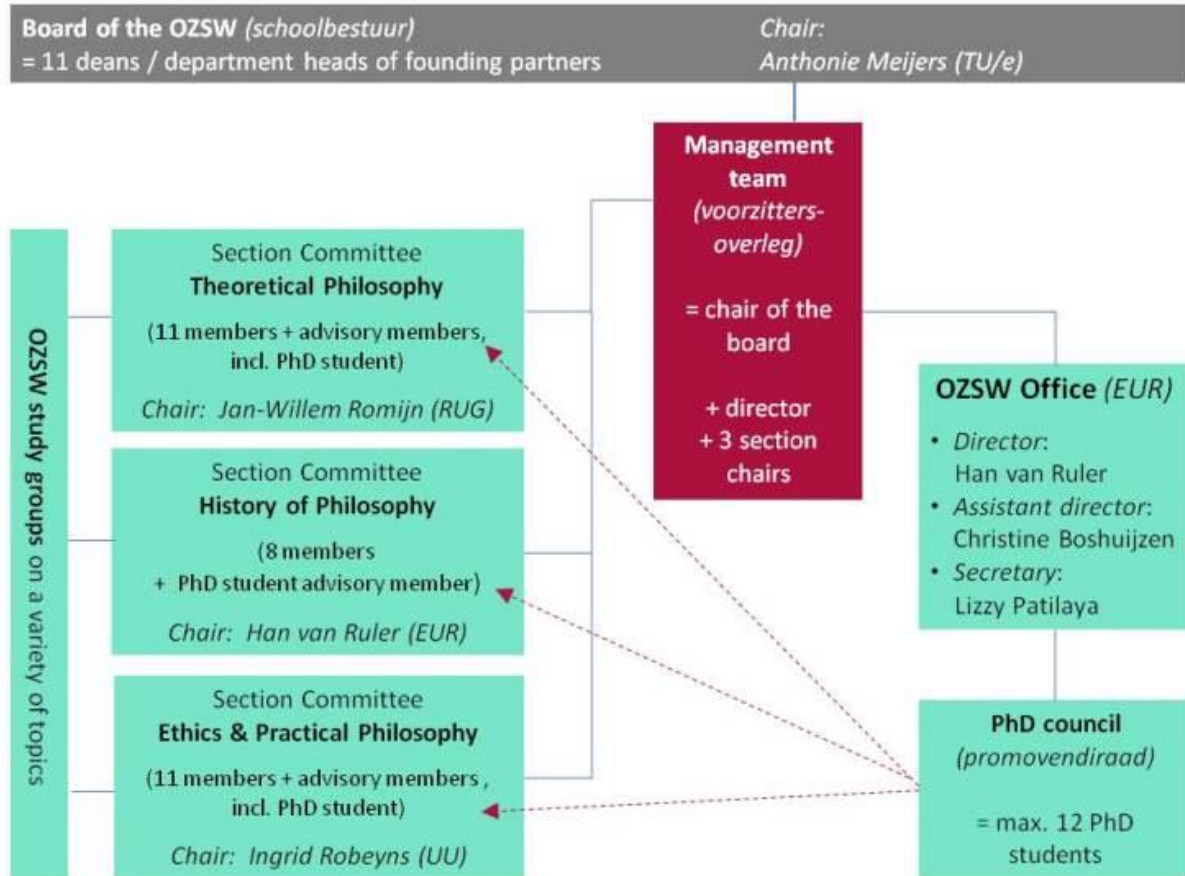
The general purpose of the Dutch Research School of Philosophy (Dutch acronym: OZSW) is to strengthen the discipline of philosophy. It does so by:

- Organizing courses, summer/winter schools and other types of research training for PhD students and ReMa students;
- Facilitating and encouraging national and international cooperation between researchers active in the field of academic philosophy.

2. Organisation and Membership

2.1 Organisation

The following organogram depicts the organization in 2014:



2.2 Members

At the end of 2014 the OZSW had 565 members (of which 126 members were ReMa students).¹ A total of 24 members left the OZSW in 2014. The members can be categorized as follows:

Per partner university

21 Delft University of Technology
15 Eindhoven University of Technology
41 Erasmus University Rotterdam
15 Free University Amsterdam
21 Leiden University
28 Radboud University Nijmegen

12 Tilburg University
12 Twente University
32 University of Amsterdam
37 University of Groningen
55 Utrecht University

Per type

8 international members
21 paying regular members
162 PhD student members
248 free regular members

Per OZSW section

246 E&PF
99 GvdF
170 TF

(some members joined 2 or even 3 sections)

¹ At the end of 2013, the OZSW consisted of 446 members, of which 221 were ReMa students. This means a growth of 27%.

Free membership applies to all faculty members of the 11 founding partners. Other senior researchers in academic philosophy have to pay a membership fee, but their PhD students may subsequently join for free. In 2014, a reduced fee membership option was offered for scholars who do not bring in any PhD students.

More information on membership types and benefits may be found at:

<http://www.ozsw.nl/membership-types-fees/>.

3. Important Developments

Chapter 4 and 5 will describe the activities organized within or supported by the OZSW. This chapter will sketch some general developments.

3.1 OZSW Sections

The OZSW section Ethics and Practical Philosophy (chaired by Ingrid Robeyns) is a continuation of the former OZSE. In 2014, it organized the customary full range of activities and even some new courses were added to the program. The other two sections – History of Philosophy (chaired by Han van Ruler) and Theoretical Philosophy (chaired by Jan-Willem Romeijn) – have initiated a number of novel activities in 2014 and also underwent some changes on the organizational level.

The section Theoretical Philosophy continued its annual "Graduate Conference in Theoretical Philosophy". It was successfully organized by the University of Amsterdam this year, drawing about 100 participants from all over the world. A new development was that, for the first time, a Theoretical Philosophy summer school took place under the flag of the OZSW. On the organizational level, the section committee was expanded to include advising members of the Flemish universities. An important development with regard to achieving a good representation of all philosophical styles in the OZSW was the expansion of the section committee by members with a background in the area of continental metaphysics, phenomenology and philosophical anthropology.

The OZSW section History of Philosophy started its activities in PhD and ReMa-education in 2014 by initiating a variety of separate events, such as the John McDowell Graduate Workshop in Ravestein on 13 June 2014 in co-operation with Radboud University Nijmegen; a Mini Conference in co-operation with the OZSW Study Group Early Modern Philosophy in Leiden on 20 June 2014, attracting people from Nijmegen, Leiden, Rotterdam Amsterdam (UvA) and Groningen, and a Summerschool 'Epistemology and Cognition – Historical Perspectives' (25-29 August 2014), as well as a Conference on the Philosophy of Spinoza ([000]), both organised by the History department of the Groningen Faculty of Philosophy in co-operation with the OZSW.

Meanwhile, all members of the chamber committee agreed in 2014 to structure future events within the OZSW History of Philosophy Section in such a way that, as of 2015, the various departments represented in the Section would all take responsibility in organising a yearly program of PhD-Courses, Summerschools and Masterclasses, the format of which would preferably be harmonized with current practices within the Section EPF.

3.2 Website and mailing lists

In March 2014, the temporary website was replaced by a professional website with a new header and logo. At the end of the year we had an average of 200 website views per day.



In the course of the year, some plug-ins were added to the website and others replaced. A plug-in for the event calendar, for instance, was added to the site. An Erasmus University student assistant has been assigned to add to the calendar all academic events in philosophy in the Netherlands as advertised on Filos-NL, as well as further OZSW events. Other elements added to the site include, for

example, continually updated information about ReMa courses at OZSW universities, as well as an overview of upcoming doctoral thesis defences.

Several mailing lists are in function in order to facilitate communication within the various groups of OZSW members (e.g. among PhD students, or the members of a section), or between members of a specific group within OZSW (mailing lists for section committees, and on request for study groups).

3.4 ReMa students Policy

The national Research Master policies are changing, which causes a lack of clear guidelines on the financial and organizational aspects of ReMa activities. At the end of 2014, it was decided that the OZSW may receive funding from *Regieorgaan Duurzame Geesteswetenschappen* for organizing ReMa student activities. The amount of funding depends on the amount of EC's awarded to individual ReMa students. For each ReMa student who follows courses to the equivalent of 5 EC's, the OZSW will receive €250 funding for personal budgets for ReMa student activities. Accordingly, the OZSW office has put procedures in place to track the amount of EC's awarded to each individual student.

In 2014 the OZSW took up a leading position in providing an overview of all Research Master courses in philosophy and bringing course coordinators together under the umbrella of OZSW. This is reflected on the OZSW website by the special sections that have been set up with a view to providing information for ReMa students. A successful Skype meeting was organized in October 2014 with all ReMa course coordinators, in order to align procedures and get clarity on the current situation.

The third ReMa Autumn/Winter School was organized in December 2014 at the Erasmus University Rotterdam. The OZSW ReMa Autumn/Winter School is now an established event in which ReMa students from several faculties participate. ReMa students also participated in several other activities organized under the umbrella of the OZSW (see § 5.2).

An important new OZSW contribution to Research Master education established in 2014 is the support and facilitation of exchange between courses at different universities. A special page on the OZSW website was designed for ReMa students, where they can indicate which course they wish to follow at another university than their own. The OZSW provides follow-up by connecting the ReMa students to the ReMa coordinators of the respective university.

3.5 PhD council

Over the course of 2014, the composition of the PhD Council has changed, due to the fact that various members graduated. New candidates for the OZSW PhD Council had to be recruited from all three sections. Hedwig Gaasterland took over the position of chair in 2014. In 2014 the PhD Council organized 3 activities (see § 4.2), two of which were seminars (on 'Understanding the Analytic-Continental Division from a Historical Perspective' and 'Interdisciplinary Research', respectively). The seminars were very successful. The PhD Council presented themselves to the OZSW at large at the Annual Conference in Nijmegen. The Council aims to emphasize the importance of good supervision, for which it hands out the Best Supervisor Award. Due to the small number of nominations, the Council decided in 2014 to hand out the Award only bi-annually. The next Award will be granted in 2015.

3.6 Office

In 2014, the OZSW office having been in operation at Erasmus University Rotterdam for only a year, the complete office staff was replaced for a number of different reasons. At the start of 2014, the

office was led by Ingrid Robeyns as scientific director, and staffed by assistant director Ilse Oosterlaken and secretary Catalina Peeters. Student assistant Myrthe van Nus assisted the office with website related tasks. In February 2014, Ingrid Robeyns left Erasmus University Rotterdam, with Han van Ruler replacing her as scientific director. In March 2014, Lizzy Patilaya took over the position of secretary and in September 2014, Christine Boshuijzen became assistant director, while Thijs Heijmeskamp took over as student assistant. Despite the loss of well experienced personnel (and due to a smooth hand-overs) the OZSW office has continued to function to everyone's satisfaction and was able to continue to facilitate the process of the rapid growth of the OZSW in both members and activities.

Main challenges for the office in 2014 included refining and updating procedures for membership registration, for a variety of electronically supported forms of payment, etc., and setting up additional administrative structures (e.g. for keeping track of membership changes and overviews of PhD and ReMa student participation for external purposes). The on-line registration form that automatically creates excel sheets with participants proved to be very helpful in this respect. A significant amount of time and energy was spent on aligning the financial registration system of the hosting university with the financial accounts of the OZSW office. Meanwhile, the financial position of the OZSW has been made even with the hosting university's administration and the way in which financial transactions are accounted for in the records of the hosting university has been clarified and arranged to the satisfaction of both parties. This enables a transparent overview of the financial means at all times and a trouble-free procedure for drawing up financial reports.

4. Educational Program

4.1 Overview of all educational activities

The majority of educational activities are initiated and organized by the members of the respective OZSW sections (History of Philosophy, Theoretical Philosophy and Ethics and Practical Philosophy). In addition, the PhD council organizes educational activities and the research master coordinators organize educational activities under the umbrella of OZSW. In the tables below (Figure 1 and Figure 2), a summary may be found of all activities that formed part of the OZSW educational program over the past year – 18 in total.

These included:

- *Courses*: typically but not always of a length of 5 or 6 days spread over 2 months, taking place at the organizing university;
- *Schools*: events of 3 to 5 days at a stretch, held at an external location;
- *Graduate conferences and workshops*: 1 to 3 day events in which the emphasis is on students presenting their own work;
- *Seminars* minor events organized by the PhD council.

The table mentions the section and university responsible for coordinating the course. It should be noted however, that staff members of other universities often also contribute as co-organisers or guest lecturers.

The number of student participants in OZSW activities in 2014 was as follows:

- 279 OZSW PhD students (172% of the number of PhD student members)
- 72 OZSW ReMa students (56% of the number of ReMa student members)

This excludes participation in the activities of OZSW study groups (see § 5.1), which are in principle open to participation by students as well.

The next sections will provide further details on some of these activities.

4.2 Activities for PhD students

	Title	Section	Dates	Type	EC	Location	PhD students	Host
1	<u>2nd Annual OZSW Conference</u>	OZSW	7-8 Nov. 2014	conference	n/a	Nijmegen	162	
2	<u>Marya Schechtman on "Staying Alive: Personal Identity, Practical Concerns, and the Unity of a Life"</u>	GF	6 Nov. 2014	master class	n/a	Nijmegen	?	
3	<u>State of the Art in Aesthetics</u>	EPF	24 & 31 Oct. 14, 21 & 29 Nov. 2014	course	5	Utrecht	7	
4	<u>Close Readings of the Greatest Hits of Recent Ethical Theory</u>	EPF	13, 15, 17, 19 & 21 Oct. 2014	course	5	Delft	11	
5	<u>Interdisciplinary research</u>	PhD council	1 October 2014	seminar PhD council	n/a	Utrecht	18	
6	<u>Ethiek van Gezondheid en Zorg</u>	EPF	5/12/19/26 Sept. 2014	course	5	Utrecht	4	
7	<u>Epistemology and Cognition</u>	TF/GF	25-29 Aug. 2014	summer school	n/a	Groningen	?	
8	<u>Dilemmas and Dirty Hands: Ethical & Political Perspectives</u>	EPF	25-28 Aug. 2014	summer school	5	Amsterdam	4 (9)	
9	<u>Science and the Big Questions</u>	TF	18-21 Aug. 2014	summer school	n/a	Amsterdam	?	
10	<u>Maatschappelijke Rol van de Academische Filosofie</u>	OZSW	25 June 2014	debate	n/a	Utrecht	10	








11	<u>Theoretical Philosophy</u>	TF	26-28 May 2014	graduate conference		Amsterdam	25	
12	The analytical continental division	OZSW	22 May 2014	PhD Seminar	PhD council	Utrecht	19	
13	<u>McDowell</u>	GF	13 June 2014	workshop		Nijmegen	5	
14	<u>Design for Values</u>	EPF	7-11 Apr. 2014	course		Delft	3	
15	<u>Morality & the Law</u>	EPF	24-28 Mar. 2014	course		Delft	10	
16	<u>Ethical Theory & Applied Ethics</u>	EPF	10-14 Mar. 2014	winter school		Barchum	3 (13)	
17	<u>Environmental Ethics</u>	EPF	20-25 Jan. 2014	course		Eindhoven	1	

Figure 1 - OZSW Educational Program for PhD students and Number of Participants (between brackets the number of non-OZSW students participating)

4.3 Additional Information on Educational Activities

A substantial number of PhD students has participated in mixed activities (see § 4.4). Yet some activities were mainly or exclusively focused on PhD students:

Winter school 'Ethical Theory & Moral Practice' (March 2014)

This 5-day winter school at an external location has been organized several times before under the umbrella of the former OZSE. It is the former OZSE's introductory course, now the introductory course within the educational program of the OZSW section Ethics and Practical Philosophy. As in previous years, this course was organized by Utrecht University (UU). The winter school drew 28 participants this year. More information on the program may be found at <http://www.ozsw.nl/activity/ethical-theory-applied-ethics-2014/>.

Seminars PhD Council (May / October 2014)

The PhD council (see § 3.4) organized 2 seminars in 2014, with a length of ½ a day or 1 day:

- Understanding the Analytic-Continental Division from a Historical Perspective (25 participants)
- Interdisciplinary Research (18 participants)

At the OZSW Annual Conference, the PhD Council organized a meeting with PhD students in order to present themselves and to explain what the PhD Council stands for.

Course 'Morality and the Law' (March 2014)

This 5-day course is also part of the graduate program of the '3TU|Centre for Ethics and Technology' and is hosted by Delft University of Technology.

A total number of 11 students participated in this course. More information may be found at <http://www.ozsw.nl/activity/morality-the-law-2014/>.

Course Environmental Ethics (January 2014)

This course was a joint course with 3TU Center for Ethics and Technology and hosted by Eindhoven University of Technology. Unfortunately, due to a lack of participants, this course was cancelled. Course information was made available at the following website:

<http://www.ozsw.nl/activity/environmental-ethics-2014/>.

Course Design for Values (April 2014)

This course was a joint course with 3TU Center for Ethics and Technology and hosted by Delft University of Technology. Only 3 participants were registered through the OZSW website and no information is available about additional participants. Course information was made available at the following website: <http://www.ozsw.nl/activity/design-for-values-2014/>

Graduate Conference in Theoretical Philosophy (May 2014)

This 2-day Graduate Conference, organized by the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU), was a successful follow-up of the Graduate Conference in 2013, an activity of the OZSW section Theoretical Philosophy. Around 20-25 OZSW PhD and ReMa students participated. There were presentations of PhD students both from the Netherlands and abroad, as well as a number of other participants. As this section is still in its start-up phase and the guidelines for the organisation of the Conference were not yet clear, the website for this event was placed at <http://www.gctp14.com/>

Summer School 'Dilemma's and Dirty Hands' (August 2014)

The annual 5-day Ethics and Practical Philosophy Summer School 's theme this year was 'Dilemma's and Dirty Hands'. The Summer School was organized by the University of Amsterdam (UvA). It drew 18 participants. More information on the program may be found at <http://www.ozsw.nl/activity/summer-school-2014-dilemmas-and-dirty-hands-ethics-politics/>.

Summer School 'Epistemology and Cognition' (August 2014)

This Groningen Summer School in fact consisted of two separate Summer Schools, one co-organised by the OZSW Theoretical Philosophy Section, presenting an analytical approach to the theme, the other on historical questions, co-organised by the OZSW History of Philosophy Section.

More information can be found at http://www.ozsw.nl/ai1ec_event/summerschools-epistemology-cognition/.

Course Close Readings of the Greatest Hits of Recent Ethical Theory (October 2014)

This course was newly developed and successfully delivered at Delft University of Technology. It drew 12 participants. More information about the course can be found at:

<http://www.ozsw.nl/activity/course-close-readings-of-the-greatest-hits-of-recent-ethical-theory/>.

Course Ethics of Care and Health (September 2014)

This course was held in cooperation with UMC and Erasmus MC. It drew at least 5 OZSW participants. More information can be found at <http://www.ozsw.nl/activity/ethiek-van-gezondheid-en-zorg-2014-ozsw-cursus-i-s-m-umc-erasmus-mc/>.

Masterclass Marya Schechtman (November 2014)

As a pre-conference event prior to the annual OZSW conference, the section History of Philosophy organized a masterclass with Marya Schechtman called "Staying Alive: Personal Identity, Practical Concerns, and the Unity of a Life". The number of participants is unknown.

Course State of the Art in Aesthetics (November 2014)

This new course was a course at the brink of arts and philosophy and drew 7 participants. More information can be found at:

<http://www.ozsw.nl/activity/state-of-the-art-aesthetics-2014-ozsw-and-uu-graduate-course/>.

4.4 Activities for ReMa students

	Title	Section	Dates	Type	EC	Location	ReMa students	Host
1	Philosophy, Policy, and Social Science	OZSW	11-13 Dec. 2014	ReMa winter school	2	Rotterdam	19	
2	State of the Art in Aesthetics	EPF	24 & 31 Oct. / 14, 21 & 29 Nov. 2014	course	5	Utrecht	0	
3	2nd Annual OZSW Conference (with ReMa poster session)	OZSW	7-8 Nov. 2014	conference	n/a	Nijmegen	16	
4	Marya Schechtman on "Staying Alive: Personal Identity, Practical Concerns, and the Unity of a Life"	GF	6 Nov. 2014	master class	n/a	Nijmegen	?	
5	Close Readings of the Greatest Hits of Recent Ethical Theory	EPF	13, 15, 17, 19 & 21 Oct. 2014	course	5	Delft	1	
6	Ethiek van Gezondheid en Zorg	EPF	5/12/19/26 Sept. 2014	course	5	Utrecht	1	
7	Epistemology and Cognition	TF/GF	25-29 Aug. 2014	summer school	n/a	Groningen	?	
8	Dilemmas and Dirty Hands: Ethical & Political Perspectives	EPF	25-28 Aug. 2014	summer school	5	Amsterdam	5	
9	Science and the Big Questions	TF	18-21 Aug. 2014	summer school	n/a	Amsterdam	?	








	Title	Section	Dates	Type	EC	Location	ReMa students	Host
10	Maatschappelijke Rol van de Academische Filosofie	OZSW	24 June 2014	Debat		Utrecht	5	 Universiteit Utrecht
11	McDowell	GF	13 June 2014	workshop	2	Nijmegen	8	 university of groningen faculty of philosophy
12	Theoretical Philosophy	TF	26-28 May 2014	graduate conference		Amsterdam	2	 vrije Universiteit amsterdam
13	The analytical continental division	OZSW	22 May 2014	Phd Seminar		Utrecht	6	 Universiteit Utrecht
14	Design for Values	EPF	7-11 Apr. 2014	course		Delft	0	 TU Delft
15	Morality & the Law	EPF	24-28 Mar. 2014	course	5	Delft	0	 TU Delft
16	Environmental Ethics	EPF	20-25 Jan. 2014	course	3	Eindhoven	0	 TU/e

Figure 2 - OZSW Educational Program for ReMa students and Number of Participants (between brackets the number of non-OZSW students participating)

4.5 Additional Information on Educational Activities

A substantial number of ReMa students (111) has participated in mixed activities (see § 4.4) and a total of 109 EC's were awarded to ReMa students who participated in OZSW activities. A total of 46 EC's was awarded to ReMa students who followed courses at a different university than their home university, under the current OZSW exchange program.

The OZSW organizes a yearly Autumn/Winter School, which exclusively focuses on ReMa students.

ReMa Winter School (December 2014)

The ReMa winter school was organized for the third time², by Erasmus University Rotterdam. The theme was: **Philosophy, Policy, and Social Science**.

The 3-day event drew 18 participants. See http://www.ozsw.nl/activity/2014_rema_winter_school/ for more information on the program.

4.6 Mixed activities

OZSW Conference (November 2014)

The second annual OZSW conference (see § 5.2) was organized by Nijmegen University. This year, special attention was given to ReMa students: a total number of 8 ReMa students presented a poster

² The first time was formally still under the umbrella of the former OZSE.

at the conference. The poster presentations were well visited and received by the audience. ReMa students could attend this conference at a reduced price, due to a special OZSW subsidy.

Summer School 'Science and the Big Questions' (August 2014)

More information can be found at http://www.ozsw.nl/activities-for-phd-students/summer-seminar-on-science-and-the-big-questions/?instance_id=1719.

State of the Art in Aesthetics (October/November 2014)

This course was given at Utrecht University and drew a total of 7 participants.

More information may be found at: <http://www.ozsw.nl/activity/state-of-the-art-aesthetics-2014-ozsw-and-uu-graduate-course/>

5. Research Collaboration and Outreach

5.1 OZSW Study Groups

The purpose of an OZSW Study Group is to develop collective research-related activities in a particular area of philosophy or on a specific philosophical topic. These activities consist of seminars, discussion sessions, reading groups and the like (see <http://www.ozsw.nl/study-groups/>).

At the end of 2014, the OZSW hosted 19 studygroups, which means that in the course of 2014 five new study groups were established. At the end of 2014 the following study groups were registered:

- [Analytical Philosophy](#)
- [Aesthetics / Philosophy of the Arts](#)
- [Business Ethics](#)
- [COIN \(Contemporary Ontology Investigation Network\)](#)
- [Comparative & Global Philosophy](#)
- [Early Modern Philosophy](#)
- [Ethics and Philosophy of Technology](#)
- [Ethics of Care & Health](#)
- [Environmental Philosophy](#) (including sub-group on animal ethics)
- [History of Metaphysics: The Greek, Arabic, and Latin Traditions](#)
- [Klassieke Duitse Filosofie en haar Actualiteit](#)
- [Meta-Ethics & Moral Psychology](#)
- [MetaMetaphysical Club, The](#)
- [Philosophy and Psychiatry](#)
- [Philosophy around 1900](#) (including sub-group on phenomenology)
- [Philosophy of Responsibility](#)
- [Philosophy of Statistics](#)
- [Political Philosophy](#)
- [Theological Ethics](#)

5.2 OZSW conference

The OZSW's second Annual Conference took place on 7 and 8 November 2014, was organized by Paul Bakker and Chantal Bax and hosted by Nijmegen University. Key note speakers were:

- [Marya Schechtman](#) (University of Illinois at Chicago): "Living like we do: The metaphysics and practicalities of personhood and personal identity"
- [Catherine Wilson](#) (University of York): "'Managing expectations: The 'limits' theme in Locke"
- [Howard Caygill](#) (Kingston University): "A political theology of resistance"

The number of abstracts received was 168, 135 of which were presented at the conference. Abstracts underwent a double blind review by senior OZSW members. The number of registered participants was 242.

Participants belonged to the following categories:

Per university

- 21 Delft University of Technology
- 15 Eindhoven University of Technology
- 41 Erasmus University Rotterdam
- 15 Free University Amsterdam
- 21 Leiden University
- 28 Radboud University Nijmegen
- 12 Tilburg University
- 12 Twente University
- 32 University of Amsterdam
- 37 University of Groningen
- 55 Utrecht University

Per registration category

- 248 free regular members
- 21 paying regular members
- 162 PhD student members
- 8 international members

Per OZSW section

246 Ethics and Practical Philosophy section members

99 History of Philosophy section members

170 Theoretical Philosophy section members

? Undetermined

The conference was a meeting place for OZSW members, and besides the presentation of research, the program included a plenary OZSW member meeting, meetings of the 3 OZSW Section Committees with their section members, and a meeting of the OZSW PhD Council with PhD student members. The conference was highly instrumental for community building, as well as for the recognizability of the OZSW as a whole.

5.3 Outreach activities

The OZSW organizes outreach activities, by facilitating a platform for discussion of societal issues or issues that concern broad developments in academia on a societal and political level. In 2014 the OZSW organized a debate called “The Societal Role of Academic Philosophy”. During the OZSW conference a conference debate was organized with a panel discussion on “The state and future of Academia”. The OZSW also supported the “Dag van de Milieufilosofie” (Environmental Philosophy Day).

In November 2014 the Dutch government announced her future scientific vision called “Wetenschapsvisie 2020”. The OZSW took up an active role in generating a critical response from academic philosophy in the Netherlands, with follow-up activities in 2015.

6. Finances

6.1 General

At the end of the year, with the making of the annual financial report, it became clear that there had been insufficient synchronization between the financial department of the Erasmus University and the OZSW's internal financial system. This problem is now solved and the financial situation of OZSW has been aligned with the hosting university.

6.2 Financial Statement

The full OZSW Financial Report for 2014 may be obtained from [assistant@ozsw.nl] at the OZSW office in Rotterdam.

6.3 Extra Costs

The OZSW planned to run a small loss in 2014 due to start-up costs of the two newly established sections and a delay in the new website project. This loss was to be covered by the reserves which the OZSW inherited from the former OZSE.

6.2 Budget Plans for 2015-2017

In the wake of ongoing discussions with the *Disciplineoverleg Geesteswetenschappen* (DLG) as well as the *Regieorgaan Geesteswetenschappen* about new guidelines for financial and organizational aspects of ReMa-activities, and in view of the possibility that OZSW might not fit the criteria for financial support of ReMa-educational programs and office costs, both the OZSW Schoolbestuur and the OZSW Voorzittersoverleg have, in the course of the year, discussed long term financial policies. These discussions were also prompted by new guidelines for financial support of *onderzoeksscholen* from SODOLA and VSNU, as well as new estimates concerning the staffing of the OZSW office. As for the latter, it is the view of the scientific director that, with the fast growing numbers in OZSW membership and activities, the workload of the assistant director in particular may call for a reconsideration of her appointment.

The outcome of these discussions have been the following: (1) over the next year, the scientific director and the assistant director will reassess the office workload in order to present a reasoned proposal with regard to the necessary operating hours for 2016; (2) for the period 2015-2017, all possible extensions of office appointments, as well as other minor financial deficits, will be complemented by calling on the OZSE financial reserves; (3) on the basis of all relevant information, a new proposal for annual contributions by the OZSW founding partners will be presented to the Schoolbestuur in the spring of 2017, in order to safeguard a healthy financial situation for the 2018-2022 period.

7. Conclusion and Future Vistas

The OZSW looks back on an exciting and very fruitful year of academic philosophy events in the Netherlands. Due to the hard work and excellent preparations of the office during the start-up of the OZSW in 2013, the OZSW could broaden its activities in 2014 and grow both in numbers and in

organised events. The OZSW, moreover, has moved towards a genuine community of academic researchers with very diverse backgrounds in philosophy. The OZSW is now an established organization, recognizable for third parties inside and outside the Netherlands.

In order to make full use of the momentum that the OZSW is currently gaining, both inside and also outside its own organization, more needs to be invested in the OZSW than was previously anticipated. With the growing of the organization both in terms of members and in terms of activities, on top of current developments in the academic landscape in the Netherlands (for example, Research Master policy and Wetenschapsvisie 2025), the daily routine of the OZSW office is getting under pressure. This hinders the full potential of the OZSW. For example, more could be invested in creating a sound internal evaluation policy for educational activities, assisting the developing sections in setting up a structure for organizing courses, performing a self-evaluation or self-study (for the purpose of SEP or other evaluative bodies) and working visits amongst junior and senior OZSW members in the Netherlands, in order to gain insights in the needs and aspirations of the OZSW members with regard to education and research collaboration.

In 2015 and the years thereafter the OZSW plans (1) to pursue a further harmonisation of the educational programs in the various Sections; (2) to encourage of ReMa student exchange; (3) to contribute to the visibility of Research in Philosophy and its justification to external parties; (4) to improve the evaluation procedures of OZSW related educational events.