

MANON KNAPEN

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EDUCATION

- 2019 **Ph.D. in Science Communication** (graduating on May 11). University of Otago, New Zealand. Thesis "How do homeopathy users perceive homeopathy?" Supervised by Dr Fabien Medvecky & Assoc. Prof. Jesse Bering.
- 2014 **Postgraduate diploma in Science Communication** with Distinction. University of Otago, New Zealand.
- 2012 **Master of Science** (Biology of Organisms and Ecology) with High honours. University of Namur, Belgium. Thesis "The desiccation phenomenon in Bdelloid Rotifers: DNA double strand breaks." Supervised by Prof. Karine Van Doninck.
- 2010 **Bachelor of Science** (Biological Sciences) with Distinction, 2010. University of Namur, Belgium.

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Research Fellow (Jan - Aug 2019) Otago Business School, University of Otago, New Zealand.

- Qualitative data analysis and preparation of research manuscripts for the Science for Technological Innovation National Science Challenge.

Research Assistant (Sep - Dec 2018) Centre for Science Communication, University of Otago, New Zealand.

- Literature review and data analysis for the publication of research manuscripts.

Ph.D. Researcher (Feb 2015 - Sep 2018) Centre for Science Communication, University of Otago, New Zealand.

- Design and implementation of a mixed-methods project to investigate the importance of evidence and sources of information in health decision-making. The study used homeopathy as a case study due to its "controversial" nature and the amount of (mis)information available online.

Guest Lecturer (2017 - 2018) Centre for Science Communication, University of Otago.

- Developed and lectured course material for lectures at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- University of Otago Doctoral Scholarship, \$25,000 per annum (2015-2018).
- University of Otago Postgraduate Travel Grant, \$3,000 to attend an International Conference (2018).
- Centre for Science Communication bursary, \$500 to attend an International Conference (2018).
- SCANZ bursary, \$500 to attend the Australian Science Communicators' Conference in Brisbane (2016).
- Winner "Otago Institute Postgraduate Travel Award", \$1000 (2018).
- Winner "Best Poster for a Lay Audience", \$250 (2017 and 2018). Research Poster Competition, University of Otago, New Zealand.

PUBLICATIONS

- Hespels, B., **Knapen, M.**, Hanot-Mambres, D., Heuskin, A. C., Pineux, F., Lucas, S., Koszul, R., & Van Doninck, K. (2014) Gateway to genetic exchange? DNA double-strand breaks in the bdelloid rotifer *Adineta vaga* submitted to desiccation. *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* 27, 1334-1345.
- **Knapen, M.** (2019) How do homeopathy users perceive homeopathy? Ph.D. Thesis, available at <https://ourarchive.otago.ac.nz/handle/10523/9003>
- Sima, E., **Knapen, M.**, & Rock, J. (abstract accepted) Public Perceptions of the Ocean: A New Dichotomy. *The Proceedings of the International Conference on Communication and the Environment*.

- **Knapen, M.**, & Medvecky, F. (under review, *Public Understanding of Science*) Homeopathy and evidence: A mixed-methods investigation of what people value when making health decisions.
- **Knapen, M.**, & Medvecky, F. (in prep, will be submitted to *Health Communication*) Health communication, how to reach the disengaged? The case of homeopathy.
- **Knapen, M.**, Tan, J., & O'Kane, C. (in prep, will be submitted to *Research Policy*) Challenges and drivers to spin-off development.

SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

Research skills

- Quantitative: Survey questionnaire design: SurveyMonkey, Qualtrics; Data collection: Online targeted, snowball, and street-intercept survey; Data analysis: Descriptive statistics, R and SPSS.
- Qualitative: Interview questionnaire design; Data collection: Semi-structured interviews; Data analysis: Deductive and inductive analysis in NVivo.

Others

- Independently designed projects that resulted in high international interest (see media highlights).
- Presented at multiple national and international conferences (e.g. ESOF2018; PCST2018; SCANZ 2015, 2016, 2017; see presentations for full list).
- Demonstrator for undergraduate health science laboratories at the University of Otago, New Zealand from 2015 to 2018.

COMMUNICATION CAPABILITIES

Presentations

- **Knapen, M.** (2018) Why do people choose to use homeopathic remedies despite the lack of robust evidence? EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF), Toulouse, France.
- **Knapen, M.** (2018) The Value of Evidence in Health Decision-Making. Presentation at the Otago Museum, Dunedin, New Zealand, for the final of the Otago Institute postgraduate student travel award.
- **Knapen, M.**, & Medvecky, F. (2018) The (pseudo)science of homeopathy, where is the miscommunication? PCST Conference 2018, Dunedin, New Zealand.
- **Knapen, M.** (2018) Asking Complex Questions: Using mixed methodology to explore the use of homeopathy in New Zealand. Seminar at the Centre for Science Communication, University of Otago, New Zealand.
- **Knapen, M.**, & Medvecky, F. (2017) Homeopathy and Science, where is the miscommunication? SCANZ Conference 2017, Auckland, New Zealand.
- **Knapen, M.**, & Medvecky, F. (2016) How do homeopathy users perceive homeopathy? SCANZ Conference 2016, Dunedin, New Zealand.
- **Knapen, M.**, & Medvecky, F. (2015) Homeopathy and the language of Science. SCANZ Conference 2015, Wellington, New Zealand.

Posters

- **Knapen, M.**, & Medvecky, F. (2018) Why do people choose to use homeopathic remedies despite the lack of robust evidence? Poster presented at the EuroScience Open Forum, Toulouse, France (July 2018).
- **Knapen, M.**, & Medvecky, F. (2017) Homeopathy use in New Zealand – an explorative study. Poster presented at the University of Otago Research Symposium, New Zealand (August 2017).
- Hespeels, B., Li, X., **Knapen, M.**, Flot, J.-F., Koszul, R., & Van Doninck, K. (2011) Is the genome integrity of Bdelloid rotifers preserved following desiccation? 13th Congress of the European Society for Evolutionary Biology (ESEB), Tübingen, Germany (August 2011).

Media highlights

- Profiled in the popular science magazine "Science & Avenir" [French] https://www.sciencesetavenir.fr/sante/pourquoi-les-gens-utilisent-ils-l-homeopathie-malgre-l-absence-de-preuve-scientifique-de-son-efficacite_125801
- Featured scientist in the UK-based science podcast "Pythagoras' Trousers" [English] https://www.mixcloud.com/pythagoras_trousers/pythagoras-trousers-episode-428-engineering-diversity-and-climate-change/
- Quoted in the newspaper Deutsche Welle in an article focusing on the status of homeopathy in Europe [German]: <https://www.dw.com/de/braucht-es-neue-eu-gesetze-gegen-die-hom%C3%B6opathie/a-44661270>
- Article focused on my Ph.D. project published in the popular women magazine "Metropolitaine" [French] <https://www.metropolitaine.fr/l-oeil-de-metrop/lhomeopathie-la-medecine-douce-peut-etre-trop-douce/2018/07/18/>

SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS

- 2019- Member of the International Scientific Review Committee for the new independent multidisciplinary project "Homeopathy Object of Controversy in the Social Sphere" investigating people's perception of homeopathy in France and Poland.
- 2018-present, Member of the International Network for Government Science Advice (INGSA).
- 2017-present, Member of the Otago Institute for the Arts and Sciences.
- 2016-present, Member of the Public Communication of Science and Technology network (PCST).
- 2015-present, Member of the Science Communication Association of New Zealand (SCANZ).
- Conference organiser for the 2016 SCANZ conference. Involved at all level of the organisation of the conference held in Dunedin, from choice of location to budget management, program development, abstracts ranking and volunteer coordination.
- Member of the local organising committee for the 2018 PCST conference. Main contribution was the coordination and management of the conference's opening gala ceremony.
- Panel member: "*Science communication education and training: How are we preparing the next generation of science communicators?*" held at the 2016 SCANZ Conference in Dunedin, New Zealand.
- Initiation of networking opportunities between the Otago Museum Science Engagement team and the Centre for Science Communication postgraduate students by establishing bi-monthly events at the museum (2017). These events brought the science communication practitioners and researchers together to focus on specific exhibits, followed by feedback sessions about their effectiveness.
- Ph.D. representative (Centre for Science Communication, University of Otago, 2016-2018).
 - Initiation and organisation of the Ph.D. Seminars Series (2017). The seminars involved monthly schedule of presentations from Ph.D. students where they obtained feedback from staff and students from the Centre for Science Communication.
 - Mentoring of Masters' students with focus on developing a research question, research design, appropriate methodology, and flow of the final the thesis structure.