Background & History

New media, massive data digitization and information technology *(the Digital Turn)* facilitate new scholarly practices and novel methods of acquisition and encoding of knowledge. The emergence of this trend is commonly referred to as e-research. In 2007 the Erasmus University launched an institute for e-research: the Erasmus Virtual Knowledge Studio, or in short: the Erasmus Studio.

The Erasmus Studio is based at the Woudestein campus and has been carrying out a research programme with researchers from various disciplinary backgrounds, such as social sciences, economics, history, management research, and information science. The research community formed by the members of the Erasmus Studio is firmly rooted in scholarly networks and publication channels. The Erasmus Studio members are also involved in the organization of seminars and conferences for several audiences. (For an overview of the personal profiles of the members, cf. http://www.eur.nl/erasmusstudio/people.)

The Erasmus Studio closely collaborates with the Erasmus University Library and with KNAW's eHumanities Group in Amsterdam which started in January 2011. Since 2014 the Erasmus Studio secretariat is housed by the Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication (ESHCC).

Multidisciplinary Research Themes

- integration of text mining, non-numerical financial data analysis and reputation management
- access to audiovisual libraries
- oral history as basis for a multidisciplinary research agenda
- scientometrics as a tool for analyzing the emergence of new scholarly fields
- online survey methodology
- the integration of aspects of visual culture into the study of public policy making

Digital Methods Training

In collaboration with the University Library, an investigation has been carried out into the need for courses and training of young researchers on how to benefit from the Digital Turn and to use available tools for a.o. network analysis, text mining, visualisation and access to online databases. The findings have been fed into the following tracks:
- Minor at EHSCC
- Course on Data Analysis with Erasmus Graduate School
- Erasmus Honours course; theme: the information society
Erasmus Studio is the initiator of an online registry of Digital Humanities courses taught across Europe.

Open Access

The Erasmus Studio is actively supporting the EUR's Open Access policy and collaborates with the University Library in exploring developing novel approaches for enhancing the access to research results and scientific publications.
In addition:
- The projects CroMe and BiHMe have delivered an infrastructure for the open access publication of large-scale oral history collections of video interviews with personal memories on the Balkan wars. Via DANS the source data will be available for scholarly reuse.
- A proposal is being developed for a H2020 proposal aimed at the creation of a Virtual Research Environment for narrative audiovisual data.
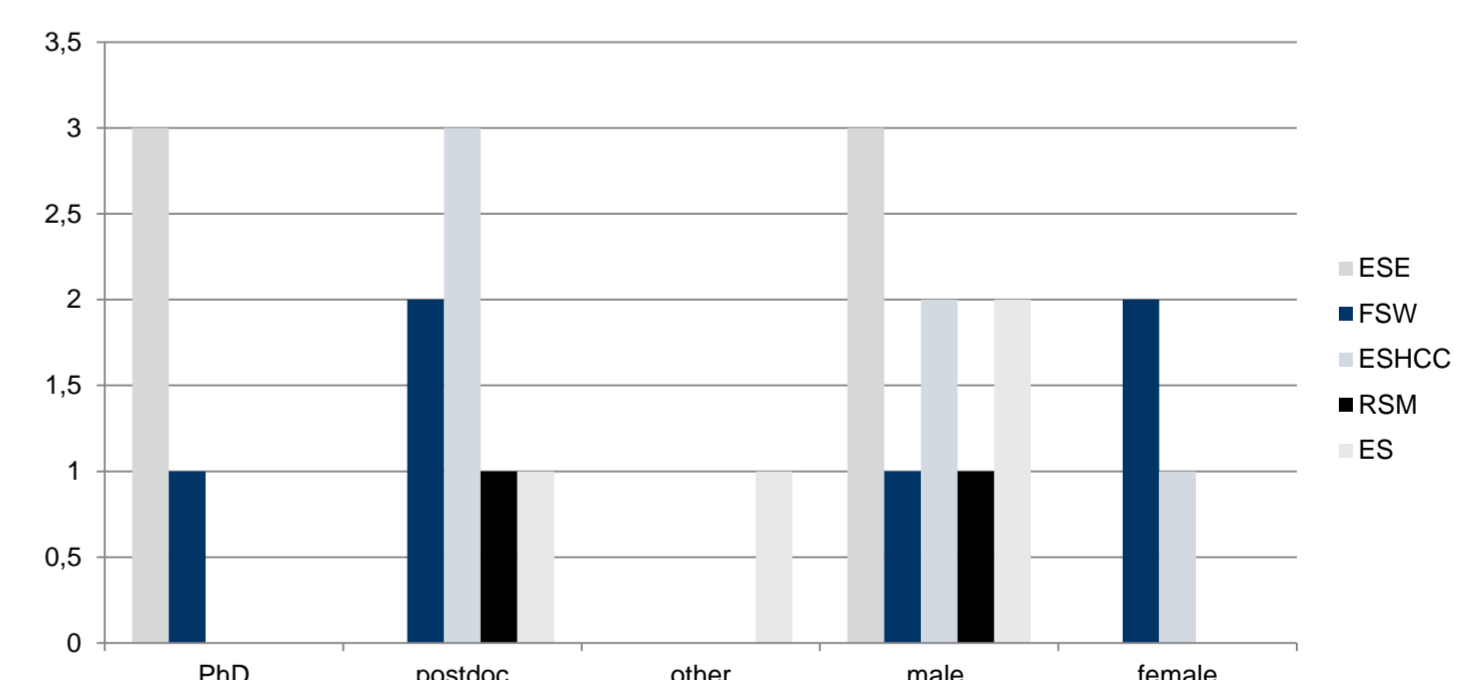
Format of Collaboration

In the collaboration with other EUR groups, the role of the Erasmus Studio (ES) is to provide suggestions for research themes, funding opportunities, acquisition capacity, co-supervison and a platform for PhDs and postdocs. ES-researchers are by default employed by the department that is bringing in the daily supervision.
Erasmus Studio is partnering with several EUR departments: ESE, ESHCC, FSW and RSM. It also participates in some of the emerging LDE inititaives, such as the Centre for Global Heritage and Development and Medical Delta.

People, budgets, etc.

Over the years, some 15 researchers (11 postdocs, 3 PhDs, other) have been working on projects that were either partially or fully funded with a budget allocated to the Erasmus Studio.
The external funding acquired since 2007 amounts approximately 1.8 M EUR.

Secretariat, management, governance

The institute's premises are with ESHCC in the L-building (L2-34). Several EUR departments as well as the EUR Board have participated in the primary funding.
Prof.dr. Franciska de Jong is acting as the general director of the Erasmus Studio. Since 2014 she is also professor of e-research for the Social Sciences and the Humanities. The researchers are mostly employed and housed within the department to which the research funding is allocated. (Cf. http://www.eur.nl/erasmusstudio/people for an overview and contact details)

Projects, scholarly results and outreach

The activities carried out under the auspices of the Erasmus Studio have resulted in a wide array of outcomes: publications, tools, collaborative links and new projects. For details, see the website and the selected examples below.

From time to time the Erasmus Studio organises events for wider audiences, such as the international conference *Digital Testimonies on War and Trauma 2013* (June 2013), the on-campus audio marathon on 13 May 2013 to commemorate the bombardment of Rotterdam on 14 May 1940, and the workshop on the role of Audiovisual Data sets at the Digital Humanities 2014 conference in Lausanne.

Selected Publications

- **Moniz, A**. and **de Jong, F.** (2014) F. "Predicting the impact of central bank communications on financial market investors' interest rate expectations." ESWC/LNCS, Vol. 8416, Springer.
- **Jong, F.M.G. de**, van Hessen, A.J., Petrovic, T. and **Scagliola, S**. (2014), Croatian Memories: speech, meaning and emotions in a collection of interviews on experiences of war and trauma. In: *Proceedings of (LREC'14)*, Reykjavik
- **Scagliola, S. & F.M.G. de Jong** (2014), Clio's talkative daughter goes digital', in: R. Bod et al (eds.),*The Making of the Humanities*, Volume III. Amsterdam University Press.
- **Kemman, M., Kleppe, M**. (2013), "PoliMedia - Improving Analyses of Radio, TV and Newspaper Coverage of Political Debates" In: Proceedings of 17th International Conference on Theory and Practice of Digital Libraries, Malta
- **Suchecki, K**., Salah, A.A.A., Gao, C., Scharnhorst, S. (2012). "Evolution of Wikipedias Category Structure". Advances in Complex Systems 15 .
- **Kemman, M., Kleppe, M., & Scagliola, S**. (2014). Just Google It. In C. Mills, M. Pidd, & E. Ward (Eds.),*Proceedings of the Digital Humanities Congress 2012*. Sheffield, UK: HRI Online Publications.
- **A Hogenboom, F Hogenboom,** F Frasincar, **K Schouten**, O van der Meer. (2014) "Semantics-based information extraction for detecting economic events". In: Multimedia Tools and Applications 64 (1), 27-52
- **Levallois, C**., Smidts, A., **Wouters, P.F**., Clithero, J. and Huettel, S. (2012). "Translating upwards: Bridging Neural and Social Sciences with Neuroeconomics". Nature Reviews Neuroscience
- **Bekkers, V.J.J.M**., **Moody, R.F.I.** and Edwards, A. (2011). "Social media driven focusing events and coping strategies of policy makers". Policy and Internet. Vol. 3. No. 4.
- **Neffke, F**., Henning M., Boschma R. (2011). "How do regions diversify over time? Industry relatedness and the development of new growth paths in regions". Economic Geography 87(3):237-265.
- **Levallois, C., Steinmetz, S.M.** and **Wouters, P.F.** (2012). "Sloppy Data Floods or Precise Social Science Methodologies? Dilemmas in the Transition to Data-Intensive Research in Sociology and Economics". In **P.F. Wouters et al**, (Eds.). Virtual Knowledge. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Website

The Erasmus Studio hosts a website with information on mission, projects, publications, workshops, current and former members, etc.:
www.eur.nl/erasmusstudio

Acquired projects since 2007 (selection)

AXES
- 2011-2014; funding: FP7
- teams involved: ES + ESHCC

CroMe
- 2010-2013; funding: BuZa
- teams involved: ES + ESHCC

BiHMe
- 2011-2013; funding: BuZa;
- teams involved: ES + ESHCC

Balkan Memories
- 2012-2013; funding: The Hague Institute of Global Justice
- teams involved: ES + ESHCC

COMMIT/Infiniti
- 2011-2015; funding FES
- teams involved: ES + ESE

NESSHI
- 2011-2014; funding FP7+ NWO
- teams invovled: ES + ESE

Elite Network Shifts
- 2012-2015; funding: KNAW Computational Humanities Programme
- teams involved: ES, ESHCC and FSW

WebDataNet
- 2011-2013; funding: EU COST
- teams involved: FSW

Oral History Today,
Oral History Today+,
Polimedia and
Talk of Europe
- 2013 - 2015; funding: CLARIAH (NWO Roadmap project)
- teams involved in the 4 projects: ES and ESHCC

Awards, Prizes, Recognition for ES Members

- Best paper award for Andy Moniz MSc(RSM) at the ESWC workshop (Greece, 2014) on text mining and financial analysis
- PoliMedia - a collaborative project with TU Delft, VU Amsterdam and the Nederlands Instituut voor Beeld en Geluid, led by EUR - to win the international LinkUp Challenge 2013
- Dr. Stef Scagliola (ESHCC) nominated for the Dutch Data Prize 2012
- Dr. Clement Levallois (RSM) invited as key note speaker for meeting the NWO programme Complexity. Title: Data Visualization. September, 2012,
- Dr. Martijn Kleppe (ESHCC) winner of NWO Bessensap. Spring, 2010