

Paul Wennekes, PhD

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Education

2014 - 2019 **UNIVERSITY OF READING** (Reading, UK)

PhD Biological Sciences (Competitive PhD funded by the EU under the Marie Curie Innovative Training Framework)

- Designed new research projects, convinced other stakeholders of their merits and set up new collaborations.
- Planned and executed the project management timeline. Adapted plans when needed.
- Specialised in developing and adapting statistical methodology from different fields to solve new problems.
- Designed a Bsc thesis project, recruited a student, supervised their thesis to successful completion.
- Won first prize in presentation competition for all master and PhD students at the faculty.
- Published several articles in peer-reviewed academic journals.

2011 - 2013 **UPPSALA UNIVERSITY** (Uppsala, Sweden)

2011 - 2013 **MONTPELLIER UNIVERSITY II** (Montpellier, France)

Double MSc Evolutionary Biology (A competitive double Msc, funded by the EU, part of the Erasmus Mundus program, with a focus on research and professional development.

- Set up collaboration with new research enabling a 6-month research of Agouti's and Ocelots with camera traps at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Gamboa, Panama.
- Performed high-precision lab-work to extract and analyse DNA from plant material.
- Learned new coding skills in order to analyse large datasets.
- Co-authored two publications in peer-reviewed academic journals.

2005 - 2010 **GRONINGEN UNIVERSITY** (Groningen, The Netherlands)

BSc Ecology and Evolution & BSc Marine Biology, Minor Philosophy

- Won first & second prize in two scientific poster competitions.
 - Published Bachelor thesis in a peer-reviewed academic journal.
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Work Experience

2019 - current **THERPLAYGROUND.COM** (Teddington, UK)

Owner & Editor

- Wrote and maintained blog which engage a lay audience with programming concepts through playful examples.

2018 - current **TRAVELODGE TEDDINGTON** (Teddington, UK)

Night Receptionist

- Managed and prioritised high workload with multiple facets.
- Maintained customer satisfaction under challenging circumstances.
- Balance checks & Billing using Opera.

2014 - 2018 **UNIVERSITY OF READING** (Reading, UK)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Early Stage Researcher

- Acquired this highly competitive salaried EU funding for PhD students, part of a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Training Network. One of only three PhD students in the university to gain a salaried position.
- Attended several high-level training courses on project management, methodology and communication.

2008 **ISIMANGALISA CROCODILE CENTRE** (St. Lucia, South Africa)

Volunteer crocodile handler

- Caught and marked captive yearlings in preparation for release.
- Assisted in handling the mature crocodiles, collected and incubated eggs.

2006 - 2007 **GRONINGEN UNIVERSITY** (Groningen, The Netherlands)

Vice-president of the council of the faculty of philosophy & head of the student party therein

- Oversaw & needed to approve a €4.800.000,- budget, as well as educational yearplan.
- Chaired faculty council meetings in the president's absence.
- Organised the student party to effectively defend student interests within the faculty decisionmaking process.

- 2005 - 2007 **GRONINGEN UNIVERSITY** (Groningen, The Netherlands)
Assistant librarian at the Faculty of Philosophy
- Oversaw reorganisation of library books to comply with the ISBN system.
 - Assisted students and faculty finding relevant books for their research.
 - Facilitated exchanges with other libraries when needed.
- 2004 **SKISCHULE LECHNER** (Zell am Ziller, Austria)
Snowboard instructor
- Instructed & beared responsibility for students aged 4-70 often through language barriers.
 - Maintained high satisfaction rates throughout the season, as evidenced by a 90% rate of follow-up bookings.
 - Enforced adherence to safety standards, maintained an atmosphere of equanimity in crisis situations.
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Leadership Roles

- 2018 **SHEDDINGTON** (Teddington, UK)
Executive secretary
- Setting up an organisation for mending, creating and social responsibility.
 - Designed house-style, set up, designed and ran the mailing list, coordinated meetings effectively.
- 2013 **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY** (Washington, USA)
Photographer and expedition member
- Co-authored grant proposal including research plan, timeline and budget.
 - Grant awarded from the global exploration fund
 - Negotiated sampling access with the appropriate scientific bodies, as well as with stationed military personnel to remote areas of Tajikistan, including around the Afghan border.
 - Collected biological samples throughtout the Pamir and Alai mountain range, including two new species of toads and a new genus of amphipods, and a new species of rat.
 - Photographically documented the trip and the scientific work on behalf of the National Geographic Society.
- 2007 **STUDENT SOCIETY FOR PHILOSOPHY** (Groningen, The Netherlands)
Member of the board & head of internal affairs.
- Oversaw all committees of the society with regards to funding and planning.
 - Handled contact with faculty, lobbied succesfully for a €1250,- sponsorship.
 - Initiated a collaboration between the student societies for philosophy at several major Dutch universities, resulting in a yearly recurring two day conference.
 - Increased membership by 24% compared to the previous year and turnover by 25%.
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Other Skills and Information

LANGUAGES

- Native speaker of Dutch, fluent in English, reading knowledge of German, Spanish, French and Swedish.

COMPUTING

- Progrmming in R & Python, Microsoft Office, Excel, QGIS, Statistical analysis, Data entry, Opera

OTHER SKILLS

- Project Management Course (By Implement Consulting Group). Safety in Microbial Laboratory techniques.

UK STATUS

- Settled status: Right to work in the United Kingdom, no visa needed, no further requirements.