

FOUR JOURNALISTS, AN ILLUSTRATOR AND AN EDITOR HAVE THREE HOURS TO FIND OUT WHERE THEY ARE AND WHAT IS HAPPENING AROUND THEM. WITH YOUR INFORMATION AND A HAND CRANKED STENCILING MACHINE THEY PRODUCE A PAPER WITH THE REAL NEWS: THE DAILY ISSUE.



**THE DAILY ISSUE**

EDITION 73 - 5/9/2014

**STI2014**



## REVERSE ENGINEERING EUPHEMISMS

To solve the ongoing discussion about the quality of metrics based evaluation, Diana Hicks wrote a manifesto with seven principles that evaluations should adhere to. For students and policy makers, we provide a translation in italics.

1. Metrics is not a substitute for assessment. Everyone remains responsible for their assessments - *Don't blame it on the metrics*

2. Spend time and money to produce high quality data - *Print your results on glossy paper*

3. Metrics should be transparent and accessible - *Everyone can have a say, even if they don't know shit*

4. Data should be verified by those evaluated - *Be careful not to insult anyone*

5. Be sensitive to field differences - *Use long words to avoid homonyms*

6. Normalize data to account for variations by field and over time - *If your data are useless for one field, make slight adaptations and use them for another field, or try again in ten years*

7. Metrics should align with strategic goals - *Follow the money*

## BREAKING NEWS: KEY-NOTE COPPER THIEF

Day three of the conference. Clothes begin to smell, eyes are getting smaller, facial hair starts to grow. Several questions are to be asked: who danced with whom; who was thrown out of the after-party; who slept in which bed? The Daily Issue however thinks that after the curious accident last night there's only one question that counts: which drunkard decided to steal all the copper from the Dutch railways?

Graham and Amy from Ireland do have an alibi: "We went to the Red Light District in Amsterdam, which was quite nice. Before that we had a chat with a nice girl from England and a guy from Spain. I forgot their names, but I'm sure they will confirm we had a drink with them."

Ayaka and Masa from Japan claim to know nothing about the theft. "Leiden is a very good city," they say. "Nice restaurants. We ate a pancake. I'm happy." As our reporter persists, they blame their ignorance on a jetlag. "We are sleepy."

Paul - also known by his nom de plume 'P. Wouters' - confesses he

has been dancing again. He states that he danced with men as well as with women, adding: "It was rather exuberant." Asked about the theft he laughs nervously. "This conference and that cowardly crime at the same time, that's quite a coincidence, don't you think?" He doesn't like to point out a suspect, but whispers he wouldn't be surprised if one of the key-note speakers is to blame. "They might think: did I really travel all the way to Holland for just one lousy bottle of wine? Screw you, I'll take your copper!"

## COFFEE PASTE

The Daily Issue constantly monitored the consumption of beverages at STI2014. Significant differences can be noticed, as on the first day 230 cups of coffee were consumed, while the second day only 171. This might be explained by the assumption that the lectures were less boring than expected and therefore kept everyone awake. It can also be explained by the fact that in the first hours of the conference not everybody was aware they could as well order special coffees.

To make a fair comparison, we

decided to plot caffeinated against non-caffeinated drinks. We discovered that at the first break - accurately called "coffee break" - a stunning 85.9% of the ordered drinks contained caffeine, while during the other breaks the percentage was only 81.0, 81.3 and 80.2. This makes it quite safe to say that Peter Dahler-Larsen did a good job in energizing his crowd.

Of course we thank the barristas for their kind cooperation and in times of caffeine shortage we would suggest them to hire a Danish professor.

## FAQ

The Daily Issue has been receiving a lot of questions during these couple of days, mainly about our state-of-the-art equipment. If you have a question, please check these frequently asked questions first, to see if the answer is already there.

*Why are you using these laptops?*

Our laptops are much easier to use than typewriters. The characters you type appear directly on the screen. There is no need to use type-ex, characters can be deleted electronically.

*Are there public computers? Can I check my email here?*

Our computers are not connected to the internet. You can, however, make use of our carrier pigeon if you have an urgent message to deliver.

*How does this printer work?*

The mimeograph uses a stencil, a piece of paper with tiny holes in it that together form the characters. Ink is pressed through these

holes onto a sheet of paper. It is a form of silk screen printing. The ink is oil based and does not dry, that is why you all have black fingers after reading the Daily Issue.

*Are PDF versions of the newspaper available?*

Yes, the newspapers are uploaded to [www.dewaan.nl](http://www.dewaan.nl), right after they appear in print.

*Can I put my jacket on your coat rack?*

No.

*Can I use The Daily Issue to publish my research?*

The Daily Issue is renowned for its sloppy peer review. We encourage all authors to send us their papers.

## WINNER POSTER AWARD: "FLABBERGASTED"

3 seconds is all it takes for a spectator to decide if a poster is worth looking at or not. "That's what makes postermaking such a difficult job," the head of the jury informs the public.

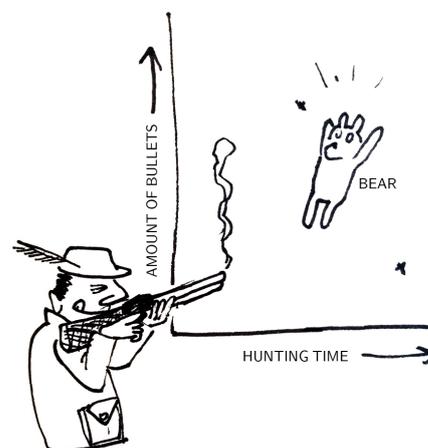
A selection of posters has been on display over the past days in two sessions. The jury went undercover, evaluating the quality of the posters. Doing so they used 3 indicators, which averages one indicator per second.

Of all these 29 posters there was one that stood out in content, design and presentation: Sabrina Petersohn had the great honour to receive the prestigious Poster Award this afternoon. The price, that included a certificate, a week at the CWTS and flowers, came somewhat as a surprise to the re-

searcher, who was going to stay a week longer anyway and therefore is happy to know she is welcome to stay at CWTS.

## THE DAILY PUN

A biologist, a physicist and a statistician go on a hunting trip. Once a bear is spotted, the biologist fires. He is off by exactly three foot to the left side. Then the physicist fires. He too is off by exactly three foot, be it to the right. The statistician starts to cheer.



## INDICATORS OPEN HORIZONS OF NEW EXPECTATIONS

"I was never aware that I should compete with Singapore."

inspired by Peter Dahler-Larsen

## COLOPHON

The Daily Issue is produced and printed on the spot. This edition was brought to you by Harmen Zijp, Diana Wildschut, Oscar Kocken, Claud Biemans and Maaïke Haneveld with the illustrations of Danibal.

[www.spullenmannen.nl](http://www.spullenmannen.nl)