Dept. of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method
London School of Economics and Political Science
Houghton Street
London, WC2A 2AE
United Kingdom
✉ *r.heesen@lse.ac.uk*
🌐 *remcoheesen.eu*

Remco Heesen

Areas of Specialization

o Philosophy of Science

o Epistemology (especially formal and social epistemology)

o Decision and Game Theory

o Social Structure of Science

Areas of Competence

o Logic

o Ethics

Employment

2025– **Associate Professor**, *London School of Economics and Political Science*

2023–2025 **Assistant Professor**, *London School of Economics and Political Science*

2019–2023 **Senior Lecturer in Philosophy**, *University of Western Australia*

2019–2023 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, *University of Groningen*
Primary Investigator on the project "Understanding Statistical Biases in Peer Review", carried out in the Department of Theoretical Philosophy.

2016–2019 **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, *University of Cambridge*
Primary Investigator on the project "Organizing Science: The Social Epistemology of Scientists and Their Incentives", carried out in the Faculty of Philosophy. Secondary appointment as Junior Research Fellow in St Edmund's College (2017–2019).

Education

2016 **PhD**, *Carnegie Mellon University*, Logic, Computation and Methodology

2013 **MS**, *Carnegie Mellon University*, Logic, Computation and Methodology

2010 **MSc (with distinction)**, *London School of Economics and Political Science*, Philosophy and History of Science

2009 **MSc (cum laude)**, *Tilburg University*, Operations Research and Management Science

2009 **BA (cum laude)**, *Tilburg University*, Philosophy

2008 **BSc (cum laude)**, *Tilburg University*, Econometrics and OR

Peer-Reviewed Publications

23. forthcoming — Marcus Arvan, Liam Kofi Bright and Remco Heesen. "Jury Theorems for Peer Review." *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science.* 🌐 Published
(OA = open access)

22. forthcoming — Mike D. Schneider, Remco Heesen, et al. "Revisiting the Base in Evidence-Based Policy." *Political Studies.* 🌐 Published 🌐 Penultimate
Fourth named out of thirteen authors (the first five authors led the paper).

21. 2025 — Remco Heesen and Liam Kofi Bright. "Publication Bias is Bad for Science if Not Necessarily Scientists." *Royal Society Open Science* 12(4): 240688.
🌐 Published (OA)

20. 2024 — Remco Heesen. "Cumulative Advantage and the Incentive to Commit Fraud in Science." *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 75(3): 561–586.
🌐 Published (OA)

19. 2024 — Remco Heesen, Hannah Rubin, et al. "A Model of Faulty and Faultless Disagreement for Post-Hoc Assessments of Knowledge Utilization in Evidence-Based Policymaking." *Scientific Reports* 14: 18495. 🌐 Published (OA)
First named out of thirteen authors (the first four authors led the paper).

18. 2024 — Emelda E. Chukwu, Remco Heesen, et al. "Examining Self-Described Policy-Relevant Evidence Base for Policymaking: An Evidence Map of COVID-19 Literature." *BMJ Public Health* 2(2): e000694. 🌐 Published (OA)
Twelfth named out of thirteen authors.

17. 2023 — Anne Schwenkenbecher, Remco Heesen, et al. "Epistemology of Ignorance: The Contribution of Philosophy to the Science-Policy Interface of Marine Biosecurity." *Frontiers in Marine Science* 10: 1–5. 🌐 Published (OA)
Third named out of seven authors (the first three authors led the paper).

16. 2023 — Don van Ravenzwaaij, Remco Heesen, et al. "Perspectives on Scientific Error." *Royal Society Open Science* 10(7): 230448. 🌐 Published (OA)
Third named out of fifteen authors (the first five authors led the paper).

15. 2023 — Remco Heesen and Jan-Willem Romeijn. "Measurement Invariance, Selection Invariance, and Fair Selection Revisited." *Psychological Methods* 28(3): 687–690. 🌐 Published 🌐 Penultimate

14. 2023 — Liam Kofi Bright and Remco Heesen. "To be Scientific is to be Communist." *Social Epistemology* 37(3): 249–258. 🌐 Published (OA)

13. 2022 — Remco Heesen. "The Necessity of Commensuration Bias in Grant Peer Review." *Ergo* 8(39): 423–443. 🌐 Published (OA)

12. 2021 — Remco Heesen and Liam Kofi Bright. "Is Peer Review a Good Idea?" *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 72(3): 635–663. 🌐 Published (OA)

11. 2019 — Remco Heesen and Jan-Willem Romeijn. "Epistemic Diversity and Editor Decisions: A Statistical Matthew Effect." *Philosophers' Imprint* 19(39): 1–20. 🌐 Published (OA)

10.	2019	Remco Heesen. "The Credit Incentive to be a Maverick." *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* 76: 5–12. 🌐 Published (OA)
9.	2019	Remco Heesen, Liam Kofi Bright and Andrew Zucker. "Vindicating Methodological Triangulation." *Synthese* 196(8): 3067–3081. 🌐 Published (OA)
8.	2018	Remco Heesen. "Why the Reward Structure of Science Makes Reproducibility Problems Inevitable." *The Journal of Philosophy* 115(12): 661–674. 🌐 Published 🌐 Penultimate
7.	2018	Remco Heesen. "When Journal Editors Play Favorites." *Philosophical Studies* 175(4): 831–858. 🌐 Published (OA) Included in *The Philosopher's Annual* vol. 38 (2018). 🌐 Editorial
6.	2018	Liam Kofi Bright, Haixin Dang and Remco Heesen. "A Role for Judgment Aggregation in Coauthoring Scientific Papers." *Erkenntnis* 83(2): 231–252. 🌐 Published (OA)
5.	2017	Remco Heesen. "Communism and the Incentive to Share in Science." *Philosophy of Science* 84(4): 698–716. 🌐 Published 🌐 Penultimate
4.	2017	Remco Heesen. "Academic Superstars: Competent or Lucky?" *Synthese* 194(11): 4499–4518. 🌐 Published (OA)
3.	2016	Remco Heesen and Pieter van der Kolk. "A Game-Theoretic Approach to Peer Disagreement." *Erkenntnis* 81(6): 1345–1368. 🌐 Published (OA)
2.	2015	Remco Heesen. "How Much Evidence Should One Collect?" *Philosophical Studies* 172(9): 2299–2313. 🌐 Published 🌐 Penultimate
1.	2011	Jan Sprenger and Remco Heesen. "The Bounded Strength of Weak Expectations." *Mind* 120(479): 819–832. 🌐 Published 🌐 Penultimate

Other Publications

2024	Mike D. Schneider, Remco Heesen, et al. "Science-Policy Research Collaborations Need Philosophers." *Nature Human Behaviour* 8: 1001–1002. 🌐 Published 🌐 Penultimate Sixth named out of fifteen authors.
2019	Book review of Thomas Boyer-Kassem, Conor Mayo-Wilson, and Michael Weisberg's "Scientific Collaboration and Collective Knowledge." *Philosophy of Science* 86(1): 192–198. 🌐 Published 🌐 Penultimate

Outreach

Jan 2023	TWS Partners. *Game Changers*, with Remco Heesen. 🌐 Podcast
2021–2022	Maarten van Doorn and Remco Heesen. *On Thinking.* Recurring podcast guest. 🌐 Episode 3 🌐 Episode 4 🌐 Episode in Dutch
Aug 2022	Liam Kofi Bright and Remco Heesen. The Perfect Time to Reform Peer Review. *BJPS Short Reads.* 🌐 Article 🌐 Podcast

Jun 2022	Remco Heesen and Liam Kofi Bright. Article on peer review in the attention economy (in Dutch). *Th&ma Hoger Onderwijs.*
Feb 2022	Marcus Arvan, Liam Kofi Bright and Remco Heesen. Why a Crowd-Sourced Peer-Review System Would Be Good for Philosophy. *Daily Nous.* 🌐 Article
Sep 2021	Should Peer Review Occur Before or After Publication? Invited panelist at Metascience 2021.
Jul 2021	Rob Wilson and Remco Heesen. Hale School Philosopher in Residence.
Jul 2021	Is Peer Review a Good Idea? Africa in Science Lecture. 🌐 Video
Jan 2021	Does Peer Review Live up to its Promise? Invited panelist at APE 2021.
Dec 2020	Brian L. Frye. Heesen and Bright on Peer Review. *Ipse Dixit*, 669. 🌐 Podcast
Nov 2020	Liam Kofi Bright and Remco Heesen. The Head and the Heart: Incentives and Norms. *The Sooty Empiric.* 🌐 Article
Nov 2020	Science, Trust and Misinformation. Philosophical discussion at Mello House.
Mar 2020	Scientific Realism. Guest lecture at Christ Church Grammar School.
Sep 2019	Laura Molenaar. Peer review, reimagined. Interview in **Research.* 🌐 Article
May 2019	Nick Zautra. *Sci Phi Podcast*, ep. 65. Remco Heesen. 🌐 Podcast
Feb 2019	Jan-Willem Romeijn, Remco Heesen and Hendrik Siebe. Article on opinion formation in groups (in Dutch). *Sociale Vraagstukken.* 🌐 Article 🌐 Mirror
Jul 2014	Remco Heesen and Konstantin Genin. Introductory discussion of the St. Petersburg Paradox and decision theory at the Swiss Institute. 🌐 Video
Apr 2011	Remco Heesen and 45 co-authors. *Onze Tijd: Wat is waar?* Exchange of letters on truth, published by Kon. Holl. Mij. der Wetenschappen (in Dutch).
Dec 2010	Remco Heesen and 21 co-authors. *Zelf Vertrouwen.* Report on trust in society, with my contribution focusing on trust in science (in Dutch). 🌐 Report

External Research Funding

2023	**ZiF Research Group**, *Bielefeld University*, €300,000
	Grant for a five-month research group titled "The Epistemology of Evidence-based Policy", awarded to Anne Schwenkenbecher, Remco Heesen, and Chad Hewitt.
2019–2023	**NWO Veni**, *Dutch Research Council*, €250,000
	Grant for the project "Understanding Statistical Biases in Peer Review".
2016–2019	**Early Career Fellowship**, *The Leverhulme Trust*, £162,000
	Grant for "Organizing Science: The Social Epistemology of Scientists and Their Incentives", including matching funding from Cambridge's Isaac Newton Trust.

Prizes and Fellowships

2019	**Included in *The Philosopher's Annual*, vol. 38, 2018**
	"When Journal Editors Play Favorites" selected among the ten best articles of 2018.

2019	**SILFS Prize for Philosophy of Science**, *Italian Society for Logic and the Philosophy of Science*
	Best philosophy of science paper by any scholar under 40, for "The Necessity of Commensuration Bias in Grant Peer Review".
2017	**Emanuel Miller Prize**, *St John's College (University of Cambridge)*
	Best philosophy of science paper by any member of the University of Cambridge, for "Why the Reward Structure of Science Makes Reproducibility Problems Inevitable".
2014–2015	**Visiting Fellowship**, *Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy*
	Funding for a three-month visit to Munich.
2010	**Imre Lakatos Prize**, *London School of Economics*
	Best master's thesis on philosophy of science of the academic year 2009–2010.
2009	**Master's Thesis Award**, *Tilburg University*
	Best master's thesis of the academic year 2008–2009 (university-wide).
2009–2010	**HSP Talent Programme**, *Dutch ministry of education*
	Scholarship awarded by the Huygens Scholarship Programme to excellent students continuing their education abroad, covering tuition and living expenses.
2009–2010	**VSB Fund Scholarship**, *VSB Fund (Dutch charity)*
	Scholarship for studying abroad, awarded based on motivation.
2009	**Excellence Scholarship**, *Tilburg University*
	Scholarship for graduate studies awarded to *cum laude* undergraduates.

Research Presentations (selected)

65 listed, of which 34 were invited (marked with ∗) and 31 at peer-reviewed conferences. 5 presentations were given with a coauthor (marked with †).

The Division of Cognitive Labour under Poisson Productivity

Apr 2025	Applied Phil. of Science and Epistemology seminar, University of Vienna. ∗
Feb 2025	Choice Group, London School of Economics. ∗

Why Scientists Should not Show and Tell, with Jingyi Wu

Aug 2025	European Philosophy of Science Association, University of Groningen.
Nov 2024	Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, New Orleans. †

Modelling and Evaluating the Credit Economy in Science

Jun 2024	Summer School in Philosophy of Economics, Lake Como. ∗

Peer Review Errors and the Gender Productivity Gap

Nov 2023	Choice Group, London School of Economics. ∗
Sep 2023	European Philosophy of Science Association, University of Belgrade.

Understanding Disagreements: Applications to Evidence-Based Policymaking, with twelve coauthors

Jul 2025	PPE Society London First Annual Meeting, King's College London.
Dec 2023	Forum on the Future of Evidence-Based Policy, University of Bielefeld. ∗

Apr 2023	Philosophy of Science Seminar, University of Bielefeld. ∗ †
	How to Measure Credit
Nov 2022	Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, Pittsburgh.
Feb 2022	Perspectives on Science seminar, University of Helsinki. ∗
	Cumulative Advantage & Incentive to Commit Fraud in Science
Dec 2023	*Keynote speaker*, Explaining Research Misconducts, Nancy. ∗
Sep 2021	European Philosophy of Science Association, University of Turin.
Aug 2021	Philosophy Society, University of Western Australia. ∗
	Publication Bias is Bad for Science if not Necessarily Scientists, with Liam Kofi Bright
May 2021	Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science Annual Meeting, University of Alberta.
	Jury Theorems for Peer Review, w. Marcus Arvan and Liam Kofi Bright
Dec 2020	Research Forum, University of Bayreuth. ∗
Nov 2020	Philosophy & Ethics Group Seminar, Eindhoven University of Technology. ∗
	Modelling Peer Review and the Credit Economy
Aug 2020	Workshop on the History and Philosophy of the Social Sciences, University of Western Australia. ∗
	Frustrating Policy without Lying
Oct 2019	Challenges of Translating Science into Public Policy, Murdoch University. ∗
	Changing Peer Review to Open Science
Sep 2019	Philosophy Seminar, Murdoch University. ∗
Sep 2019	Building Better Epistemic Networks, Australian Catholic University. ∗
	The Necessity of Commensuration Bias in Grant Peer Review
Jun 2019	*Keynote speaker*, SILFS Postgraduate Conference, University of Urbino. ∗
Jun 2019	Asian Conference on the Philosophy of the Social Sciences, Nankai University.
	Is Peer Review a Good Idea?, with Liam Kofi Bright
Jul 2023	The Social Epistemology of Philosophy Journals, University of Leeds. ∗
Nov 2021	Association for Interdisciplinary Metaresearch and Open Science (AIMOS) conference. ∗
Jun 2021	ReproducibiliTea Online, Erasmus University Rotterdam. ∗
Apr 2021	Colloquium Science and Technology Studies, Wuppertal University. ∗
Sep 2020	Center for Science and Technology Studies Seminar, Leiden University. ∗
Nov 2018	Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, Seattle. †
	Why Should Scientists Do Good Science?
Jun 2018	*Keynote speaker*, Computational Modeling in Philosophy, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich. ∗

May 2018	Formal Social Epistemology Workshop, University of California Irvine. ∗
	Statistical Biases in Peer Review
Apr 2018	HPS Departmental Seminar, University of Cambridge. ∗
Nov 2017	Choice Group, London School of Economics. ∗
Jun 2017	Brown Bag Seminar, RAND Europe. ∗
Jun 2017	Mini-workshop Social Epistemology, University of Groningen. ∗
	Epistemic Diversity and Editor Decisions: A Statistical Matthew Effect, with Jan-Willem Romeijn
Mar 2018	PEERE International Conference on Peer Review, Rome.
Jul 2017	Formal Models of Scientific Inquiry, Ruhr-University Bochum.
Jun 2017	Progress in Science and Society, University of Hannover.
May 2017	Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Bristol. ∗ †
	The Credit Incentive to Be a Maverick
Apr 2017	Risk and the Culture of Science, University of Cambridge. ∗
	The Incentive to Share in the Intermediate Results Game
Jul 2017	European Meeting on Game Theory, Paris Dauphine University.
Mar 2017	EIPE Twentieth Anniversary Conference, Erasmus University Rotterdam.
	Why the Priority Rule Does Not Exist, with Kevin Zollman
Sep 2017	European Philosophy of Science Association, University of Exeter.
Mar 2017	Philosophy of Science Seminar (CamPoS), University of Cambridge. ∗
Sep 2016	Formal Approaches in Social Epistemology, University of Bristol. ∗
	When Journal Editors Play Favorites
Jun 2017	Inclusion and Exclusion in Philosophy, University of Hannover.
Nov 2016	Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, Atlanta.
Jun 2016	Congrès de la Société de Philosophie des Sciences, University of Lausanne.
	Judgment Aggregation in Medical Science, with Liam Kofi Bright and Haixin Dang
Mar 2016	Medical Knowledge in a Social World, University of California Irvine.
	Communism and the Incentive to Share in Science
Sep 2015	European Philosophy of Science Association, University of Düsseldorf.
Aug 2015	Logic Colloquium, University of Helsinki.
Jul 2015	Bristol-Groningen Conference in Formal Epistemology, University of Bristol.
	Why the Reward Structure of Science Makes Reproducibility Problems Inevitable Presented as "Expediting the Flow of Knowledge Versus Rushing into Print".
Jun 2016	Formal Epistemology Workshop, University of Groningen.

Aug 2015	Congress of Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science, University of Helsinki.
Mar 2015	Research Seminar in Epistemology and Philosophy of Science, Tilburg University. ∗
	Vindicating Methodological Triangulation, with Liam Kofi Bright and Andrew Zucker
Jan 2015	Scientific Discovery in the Social Sciences, London School of Economics.
Jan 2015	Colloquium in Mathematical Philosophy, Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy. ∗
	A Game-Theoretic Approach to Peer Disagreement, with Pieter van der Kolk
Oct 2014	Central States Philosophical Association, Northwestern University.
	Academic Superstars: Competent or Lucky?
	Presented as "Three Ways To Become an Academic Superstar" and "Interaction Networks with Imperfect Evidence".
Dec 2014	Agent-Based Modeling in Philosophy, Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy.
Jun 2014	Society for Exact Philosophy, California Institute of Technology.
Sep 2013	Philosophy and Theory of Artificial Intelligence, University of Oxford.
Sep 2013	Congress on Logic and Philosophy of Science, Ghent University.
	The Bounded Strength of Weak Expectations, with Jan Sprenger
Sep 2010	Formal Epistemology Workshop, University of Konstanz.
Jan 2010	Choice Group, London School of Economics. ∗ †

Teaching Experience

2024	**FHEA**: I am a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy in virtue of having completed LSE's teaching qualification course, the Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education.

Courses taught

2023–2025	**BSc Dissertation Seminar (x2)**, *London School of Economics (LSE)*
2023–2025	**Philosophy of Economics (BSc/MSc) (x2)**, *LSE*
2019–2022	**Decision Theory (x3)**, *University of Western Australia (UWA)*
2022	**Philosophy of the Social Sciences**, *UWA*
2022	**Social and Political Philosophy (Honours)**, *UWA*
2019–2021	**Logic (Advanced) (x2)**, *UWA*
2020	**Logic (Intro)**, *UWA*
2020	**Analytic Philosophy (Honours)**, *UWA*
2019	**The Evolution of Social Behavior (MA)**, *University of Groningen*

2017	**Conditionals and Counterfactuals**, *University of Cambridge*
2013–2016	**Epistemology (x2)**, *Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)*
2012	**Logic (Intro)**, *CMU*

Postgraduate supervising

2024–	**PhD Dissertation Supervisor (x4)**, *LSE*
2024–	**MSc Dissertation Supervisor (x5)**, *LSE*
2020–2022	**PhD Dissertation Co-Supervisor**, *UWA*, Jorge Piaia Mendonca Junior
2022	**MSc Dissertation Co-Supervisor**, *UWA*
2020	**MA Dissertation Supervisor**, *Groningen*
2019	**Honours Thesis Supervisor**, *UWA*
2017–2018	**MPhil Essay Supervisor (x4)**, *Cambridge*

As teaching assistant

2012–2014	**Medical Ethics, Continental Phil., Introduction to Phil. (x2)**, *CMU*
2006–2008	**Linear Algebra (x3)**, *Tilburg University*

━━━━ Service

reviewer	*Philosophy of Science, The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Mind, Analysis, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Noûs, Philosophical Studies, Philosophers' Imprint, Ergo, Philosophical Quarterly, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Synthese, Erkenntnis, Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, Episteme, European Journal for Philosophy of Science, Journal for General Philosophy of Science, Australasian Philosophical Review, Economics and Philosophy, Social Epistemology, Minds and Machines, Royal Society Open Science, Quantitative Science Studies, European Journal of Operational Research, Academia Letters, Collabra: Psychology, Review of General Psychology, BA / Leverhulme Small Research Grants, Cultural Evolution Society.*
program committees	British Society for the Philosophy of Science (Glasgow, 2025), European Philosophy of Science Association (Turin, 2021), Formal Epistemology Workshop (Irvine, 2020 and Turin, 2019), Biases in Science (Munich, 2019), Formal Models of Scientific Inquiry (Bochum, 2017), Games, Interaction, Reasoning, Learning and Semantics (Lund, 2016).
2023–	Programme Director of LSE's BSc in Philosophy and Economics.
Mar 2023, May 2023, Jun 2023, Dec 2023	Organizer (with three co-organizers) of three workshops and a conference ("Forum on the Future of Evidence-Based Policy"), all funded by the Center for Interdisciplinary Research (ZiF) in Bielefeld in the context of our research group "The Epistemology of Evidence-based Policy".

Aug 2021	Organizer (with four co-organizers) of "Perspectives on Scientific Error: Parsing History and Comparing Viewpoints", a workshop at the Lorentz Center in Leiden (including € 18,500 in competitive funding).
2020–2021	Member of UWA's Humanities Research and Research Training Committee.
2019–2021	Mentor (x3) on the Philosophers' Cocoon Job-Market Mentoring Program.
2017–2018	Convenor of reading group "Formal Social Epistemology" at Cambridge.
2013–2015	Graduate student representative to the faculty at CMU.
2012–2016	Organizer of graduate student colloquia at CMU.