



K O N I N K L I J K E N E D E R L A N D S E  
A K A D E M I E V A N W E T E N S C H A P P E N

## ACADEMY COMMITTEE ON CITATION PRACTICE: ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

April 2014

### Overview

1. The Committee on 'Citation practice' was set up by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW, 'the Academy'). The resolution inaugurating the Committee is given as Appendix A.
2. The Committee studied the relevant international literature (Appendix B) and codes of conduct (Appendix C). The chairs or secretaries of the Academy's various sections filled in a written questionnaire (Appendix D) regarding the publication culture within their discipline. The Committee also held discussions with various individuals and groups (Appendix E): research integrity officers at universities, the chairs of research integrity committees, the chairs of the National Board for Research Integrity (LOWI) and the College of Rectors of Dutch Universities, a copyright lawyer, publishers of scientific journals, journalists, and experts from the Centre for Science and Technology Studies (CWTS). The latter also provided the Committee with a brief overview of self-citation in various scientific and scholarly disciplines (Appendix F)
3. The seventeenth-century ceiling painting 'Strutting with borrowed plumes' in the Academy's Trippenhuis Building was recently exposed and restored. The restorer, Ruth Jongsma (*bureau voor kleuronderzoek & restauratie*, Amsterdam) and the photographer, Wim Ruigrok (*Fotografie Wim Ruigrok, Amsterdam*), gave their consent for use of the text and the photo of a poster in the Trippenhuis Building showing some of the bureau's work on the restoration (Appendix G).

### Appendix A: Resolution inaugurating the Committee

#### RESOLUTION INAUGURATING THE COMMITTEE ON 'CITATION PRACTICE'

The Board of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW, 'the Academy'), given Section 8 of the Regulations governing the Academy [*Reglement van de KNAW*], having taken note of the broad public debate on 'self-plagiarism', and considering that there would appear to be confusion regarding the transitional area between plagiarism and self-citation, has resolved to appoint the Committee on 'Citation Practice', referred to hereinafter as 'the Committee'.

Amsterdam, April 2014

### **Section 1. Task of the Committee**

The Committee's task is to clarify how issues in the transitional area between plagiarism and self-citation should be interpreted and assessed. To illustrate this, the Committee will discuss a number of examples (whether or not hypothetical) taken from various different scientific and scholarly disciplines. The result must provide an assessment framework that can be applied by research integrity officers, integrity committees and the boards of universities and research institutions.

Specifically, the Committee will prepare an advisory document that the Board of the Academy will send – in the form of an advisory memorandum [*briefadvies*] – to the Minister and State Secretary for Education, Culture and Science, the boards of the universities, university medical centres and scientific/scholarly institutes and institutions, and scientific organisations in the Netherlands.

The Committee will ensure that the draft of its advisory memorandum can be submitted to the Board of the Academy in March 2014.

### **Section 2. Composition of Committee and Appointment Period**

The following persons have been appointed (in their private capacity) to membership of the Committee:

Prof. J. M. (Jozien) Bensing (chair)

Prof. A. A. M. (Arthur) Wilde

Prof. W. T. S. (Wilhelm) Huck

Prof. K. A. (Keimpe) Algra

Prof. L. (Lex) Bouter

Prof. J. J. (Jan) Sixma

The Committee's term will conclude on 1 April 2014. The Committee will receive support from the Academy's Staff Department in accordance with the instructions of the Director General.

### **Section 3. Quality Assurance**

Prior to being appointed, the members of the Committee have taken note of the Code to Prevent Improper Influence due to Conflicting Interests [*Code ter voorkoming van oneigenlijk beïnvloeding door belangenverstrengeling*]; they also filled in and returned the statement that it contains before the first meeting of the Committee.

The members of the Committee have taken note of the Academy's guidelines on advisory reports and foresight studies, as adopted by the Board of the Academy on 21 May 2013. The review policy is described in Appendix A to those guidelines. In deviation from that policy, no review will take place, given that the advisory memorandum involved has a correspondingly short lead time.

### **Section 4. Follow-up and Communication**

The Committee will follow up and provide for communication concerning its findings, in particular with a view to a possible new version of the *Netherlands Code of Conduct for Scientific Practice* drawn up by the Association of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU). The results of the work of the Committee may also play a role in the programme for a symposium planned by the National Board for Research Integrity (LOWI) for the second half of 2014, to celebrate LOWI's tenth anniversary.

### **Section 5. Costs and Remuneration**

Pursuant to Section 18(2) of the Regulations governing the Academy, the members of the Committee will receive a travel allowance.

### **Section 6. Confidentiality**

The members of the Committee will observe confidentiality in respect of all information that can be considered to be of a confidential nature in the context of the implementation of this resolution.

Adopted in Amsterdam by the Board of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences on 28 January 2014.

On behalf of the Board of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences,

## Appendix B. International literature

1. Aksnes, D.W. (2003) *A macro study of self-citation*. *Scientometrics*, 56 (2) pp 235–246
2. Anderson, M.P. (2006) *Plagiarism, Copyright Violation, and Dual Publication: Are you guilty?* *Groundwater*, Vol. 44, No. 5, p 623
3. Bretag, T. and S. Mahmud (2009) *Self-Plagiarism or Appropriate Textual Re-use?* *J. Acad. Ethics* 7, pp 193–205
4. Bretag, T. and Carapiet, S. (2007) *A Preliminary Study to Identify the Extent of Self-Plagiarism in Australian Academic Research*. *Plagiary: Cross-Disciplinary Studies in Plagiarism, Fabrication, and Falsification*, 92-103.
5. Baserga, R. (2011) *Self-plagiarism in music and science*. *Nature - correspondence* no. 470 (39) (Internet publication)
6. Carley, S., A. L. Porter and J. Youtie (2013) *Toward a more precise definition of self-citation*. *Scientometrics* 94 pp 777–780
7. Chamblis, M., M. Bong, B. Greene, D. Kauffman, S. Loyens and P. van Meter (2010) *Building trust by eliminating plagiarism*. White paper from the ad hoc committee on plagiarism. *Contemporary Educational Psychology* 35, pp 103–107
8. Costas, R., T. N. van Leeuwen and M. Bordons (2010) *Self-citations at the meso and individual levels: effects of different calculation methods*. *Scientometrics* 82 pp 517–537
9. Engqvist, L. and J. G. Frommen (2008) *The h-index and self-citations*. *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*, 23 (5) pp 250–252
10. Falagas, M.E. and P. Kavvadia (2006) *'Eigenlob': self-citation in biomedical journals*. *The FASEB Journal* vol. 20 pp 1039–1042
11. Foley J. A. and S. Della Sala (2010) *The impact of self-citation*. *Cortex* 26, pp 802–810
12. Fowler, J.H., and D. W. Aksnes (2007) *Does self-citation pay?* *Scientometrics*, 72, (3) pp 427–437
13. Ithenticate (2011) *The ethics of self-plagiarism*. Ithenticate, Oakland, CA (Internet publication)
14. Kovačić, N. and A. Mišak (2004) *Author self-citation in medical literature*. *JAMC*, 22 June 2004; 170 (13), pp 1929–1930
15. Lancet, The, editorial (2009) *Self-plagiarism: unintentional, harmless, or fraud?* 374, p 664
16. Lievers, W.B. and A.K. Pilkey (2012) *Characterizing the frequency of repeated citations: The effects of journal, subject area, and self-citation*. *Information Processing and Management* 48 (2012), pp 1116–1123
17. Lowe, N.K. (2003) *Publication ethics: Copyright and self-plagiarism*. Editorial, *JOGNN* 32 (2) pp 145–146
18. Martin, B.R. (2013) *Whither research integrity? Plagiarism, self-plagiarism and coercive citation in an age of research assessment*. *Research Policy* 42 (2013) pp 1005–1014
19. Meinel, C. (2013) *'Selbstplagiat' und gute wissenschaftliche Praxis*. Universität Regensburg (Internet publication)
20. O'Connor, S.J. (2010) *What do duplicate publications; self-plagiarism and the monotony of endless descriptive studies signify: publication pressures or simply a collective lack of imagination?* *European Journal of Cancer Care*, 2010, 19, pp 281–283
21. Posner, R. A. (2007) *The Little Book of Plagiarism*. Pantheon
22. Reich, E.S. (2010) *Self-plagiarism case prompts calls for agencies to tighten rules*. *Nature news-in-focus* no. 468 (Internet publication)
23. Samuelson, P. (1994) *Self-plagiarism of fair use?* *Communications of the ACM* 37(8), pp 21–25
24. Scanlon, P. M. (2007) *Song From Myself: An Anatomy of Self-Plagiarism*. *Plagiary: Cross-Disciplinary Studies in Plagiarism, Fabrication, and Falsification*, pp 57-66.
25. Shafer, S. (2011) *You will be caught*. *Anesthesia & Analgesia* 112(3) pp 491–493
26. Shema, H. (2012) *On Self-Citation*. *Scientific American* July 24, 2012 (Internet publication)
27. Tweehuysen, R. J. den Haan, K. Berkhout and P. A. G. van Bergeijk (2012) *Replication and (auto)plagiarism in the social sciences*. Working Paper No. 550. The Hague: Institute of Social Studies
28. Vinken, P.J. (1982) *Onjuiste toeschrijvingen in de wetenschappelijke literatuur: plagiaat, cryptomnesie, palimpsestie, en hyperloyaliteit*. *Ned. T. Geneesk.* 26 (1), pp 14–19
29. Wright, A. (2011) *Stop me if you think you've read this before: self-plagiarism 'misconduct'*. *Times Higher Education* (Internet publication)
30. Zirkel, P.A. (2010) *A study of self-plagiarism*. *Inside Higher-ED* (Internet publication)

## Appendix C. Codes of Conduct

1. American Psychological Association (APA) (2014) *Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct*—including 2010 Amendments. APA WWW publication
2. American Psychological Association (APA) (2013) *Publication Manual of the APA*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition.
3. Australian government (2007) *Australian code for the responsible conduct of research*. Revision of the joint Australian government (2000) Code of Conduct for Research - Governing Policy.
4. Brazilian government (2011) *Ethics and Integrity in Scientific Practice* Report of the Commission of Integrity Research
5. Chinese government (2007) *Statements on the notion of science*. Chinese Academy of Sciences. Presidium of the CAS academic division, pp 6–13
6. Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (1998) *Vorschläge zur Sicherung guter wissenschaftlicher Praxis*. Empfehlungen der Kommission „Selbstkontrolle in der Wissenschaft“; *Sicherung guter wissenschaftlichen Praxis*. Wiley-VCH, Weinheim
7. ESF/ALLEA (2011) *The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity*. Strasbourg: ESF
8. Estonia (unknown) *Code of ethics of Estonian Scientists*
9. Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity (TENK) (2012) *Responsible conduct of research and procedures for handling allegations of misconduct in Finland*. Helsinki: TENK
10. Inter Academy Council (IAC) (2012) *Responsible conduct in the Global Research Enterprise*. Amsterdam–Washington DC: IAC
11. KNAW, NWO, VSNU (1995) *Notitie inzake Wetenschappelijk Wangedrag*, Amsterdam: KNAW
12. KNAW, NWO, VSNU (2003) *Notitie Wetenschappelijke Integriteit, over Normen van Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek en een Landelijk Orgaan voor Wetenschappelijke Integriteit*. Amsterdam: KNAW
13. NWO (2005) *Reglement Wetenschappelijke Integriteit*, The Hague
14. KNAW (2005) *Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek, Dilemma's en verleidingen*. Amsterdam: KNAW
15. KNAW (2005) *Wetenschap op Bestelling, over de Omgang tussen Wetenschappelijk Onderzoekers en hun Opdrachtgevers*. Amsterdam: KNAW
16. KNAW (2012) *Zorgvuldig en integer omgaan met wetenschappelijke onderzoeksgegevens*. Amsterdam: KNAW
17. KNAW (2013) *Vertrouwen in Wetenschap*. Amsterdam: KNAW
18. NAS (1995) *On being a scientist*, National Academy of Sciences (NSA). 1<sup>st</sup> ed. 1989, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 1995, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. 2005, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. 2012.
19. National Science Foundation (NSF) (1982) Part 689 *Research Misconduct*. Washington DC: NSF
20. Nature (2013) *Guide to publication policies of the nature journals*. Nature WWW publication
21. Nederlandse Federatie van Universitair Medische Centra (NFU) (2010) *Kwaliteitsborging van mensgebonden onderzoek*. Utrecht: NFU
22. OECD (2007) *Best Practices for ensuring scientific integrity and preventing misconduct* Paris: OECD
23. Office of Research Integrity (ORI), M. Roig (2006) *Avoiding plagiarism, self-plagiarism, and other questionable writing practices: A guide to ethical writing*, Washington DC: ORI
24. Plos (2014) *Editorial and publishing policies*. PLOS One WWW publication
25. Research Councils UK RCUK (2009, 2011) *Policy and Code of Conduct on the Governance of Good Research Conduct. Integrity, Clarity and Good Management*. Swindon, Wiltshire, United Kingdom: RCUK
26. Science Council of Japan (SCJ) (2006) *Code of Conduct for Scientists*. Statement of SCJ
27. Science Council of Japan (SCJ) (2006) *Scientific misconduct and its prevention*
28. South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions SACNSP (unknown) *Code of conduct*
29. The Danish Committees on Scientific Dishonesty (2009) *Guidelines for Good Scientific Practice with special focus on health science, natural science and technical science*
30. UK Research Integrity Office UKRIO (2009) *Code Of Practice For Research. Promoting Good Practice And Preventing Misconduct*. London: UKRIO
31. United States Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) (2000) *Federal Policy on Research Misconduct*. Washington DC: Executive Office of the President
32. VSNU (2012) *Nederlandse Gedragscode Wetenschapsbeoefening*. The Hague: VSNU
33. Wagner, E., Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) (2011) *How should editors respond to plagiarism?* COPE WWW publication
34. World Conference on Research Integrity (WCRI) (2010) *The Singapore Statement on Research Integrity*. WCRI WWW publication
35. World Medical Organization (1996) *Declaration of Helsinki*. British Medical Journal (7 December) 313(7070):1448–1449.

## Appendix D: Chairs and secretaries of the Academy's sections consulted

Behavioural sciences and social sciences	Prof. C.W.A.M. Aarts
Philosophy/theology	Prof. L.W. Nauta, Prof. W.J. Hanegraaff
Law	Prof. N.J. Schrijver, Prof. drs. M.J. Sieburgh
Language and literature	Prof. A. Lubotsky, Prof. A. Quak
History	Prof. K. Berkel, Prof. K.A. Ottenheym
Biology	Prof. P.J.J. Hooykaas, Prof. C.M.J. Pieterse
Technical sciences	Prof. P.M. Sarro, Prof. M.C.M. Van Loosdrecht
Medicine	Prof. D.E. Grobbee, Prof. P. Scheltens
Chemistry	Prof. T.T.M. Palstra, Prof. W.T. S. Huck
Physics and astronomy	Prof. W. van Saarloos, Prof. C.W.J. Beenakker
Mathematics	Prof. H.W. Broer, Prof. J.A. Bergstra
Earth sciences	Prof. H.J.W. De Baar, Prof. J.S. Sinninghe Damsté

## Appendix E: Discussions held

Focus group of research integrity officers and integrity committees	Prof. M.J. van den Hoven Prof. T.A. de Roos Prof. I.M. Tieken Prof. A. Hol Prof. J.H. Nieuwenhuis Prof. R.P. Hortulanus Prof. J.C. de Haes
Publishers focus group	T. Welschot, Manager Publishing Operations, Springer Science+Business Media E. Staal, Publisher, Uitgeverij Atlascontact C. Fennell, Director Publishing Services, STM Journals, Elsevier
Dialogue with authors who write for a general readership	Prof. J.L. van Zanden Prof. F.P. van Oostrom
Interviews	Prof. C.J.M. Schuyt (LOWI) Prof. L.L.G. Soete (College of Rectors of Dutch Universities) D.W.F. Verkade (copyright specialist) Prof. P. Wouters (CWTS) Dr L. Waltman (CWTS)

Discussion within the journalists focus group took place under the Chatham House Rule. The names of the journalists who took part are therefore not given.

## Appendix F: Brief overview by CWTS of self-citation in various scientific/scholarly disciplines

Table 1. Worksheet: 'Citation window length' (explanation in text below)

Discipline	% self-citation									
	# pub. 2005	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY	289369	48%	35%	28%	23%	20%	17%	15%	14%	12%
CULTURE	22557	30%	26%	19%	15%	13%	10%	10%	9%	8%
EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES	69377	51%	34%	25%	21%	19%	16%	15%	13%	12%
ECONOMICS, MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING	18365	29%	21%	14%	11%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%
ENGINEERING SCIENCES	90449	58%	40%	30%	23%	19%	16%	14%	12%	11%
HEALTH SCIENCES	21861	38%	24%	17%	14%	12%	11%	10%	9%	8%
INFORMATION AND COMP. SCIENCES	3384	38%	22%	16%	11%	9%	7%	6%	5%	5%
LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE	9779	32%	28%	22%	16%	14%	12%	10%	9%	8%
LAW	5119	17%	17%	15%	12%	11%	10%	9%	8%	8%
LIFE SCIENCES	175782	34%	24%	20%	18%	16%	14%	13%	12%	11%
MATHEMATICS, STATS. AND COMP. SCIENCE	80978	53%	41%	31%	25%	20%	17%	15%	13%	11%
MEDICAL SCIENCES	301294	29%	20%	17%	15%	13%	12%	11%	10%	9%
MULTIDISCIPLINARY JOURNALS	9957	19%	15%	14%	13%	12%	11%	10%	10%	9%
SOCIAL SCIENCES	42235	34%	26%	19%	15%	13%	11%	10%	9%	8%

Table 2. Worksheet: 'Trend analysis – top table' (explanation in text below)

Discipline	% self-citation (4 year citation window)										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY	33%	32%	32%	31%	30%	29%	29%	28%	27%	27%	26%
CULTURE	21%	21%	20%	19%	19%	20%	19%	20%	20%	21%	22%
EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES	28%	28%	28%	28%	27%	27%	26%	26%	26%	26%	26%
ECONOMICS, MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING	16%	17%	16%	16%	15%	14%	14%	14%	14%	14%	15%
ENGINEERING SCIENCES	36%	35%	34%	33%	32%	31%	29%	28%	27%	26%	26%
HEALTH SCIENCES	20%	20%	20%	19%	18%	18%	18%	18%	19%	19%	19%
INFORMATION AND COM. SCIENCES	19%	20%	19%	19%	16%	16%	17%	16%	17%	17%	18%
LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE	24%	22%	23%	22%	22%	21%	21%	20%	21%	23%	22%
LAW	14%	15%	16%	16%	15%	15%	14%	16%	17%	16%	16%
LIFE SCIENCES	22%	22%	21%	21%	21%	21%	21%	21%	21%	21%	21%
MATHEMATICS, STATS. AND COMP. SCIENCE	35%	34%	33%	32%	32%	32%	30%	29%	29%	28%	29%
MEDICAL SCIENCES	19%	19%	18%	18%	18%	17%	17%	17%	17%	18%	18%
MULTIDISCIPLINARY JOURNALS	13%	13%	13%	13%	14%	14%	14%	14%	14%	15%	16%
SOCIAL SCIENCES	21%	22%	21%	20%	20%	19%	19%	20%	20%	20%	20%

Table 3. Worksheet: ‘Trend analysis – bottom table’ (explanation in text below)

Discipline	Average self cit. per pub. (4 year cit. window)										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3
CULTURE	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.0
ECONOMICS, MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
ENGINEERING SCIENCES	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3
HEALTH SCIENCES	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2
INFORMATION AND COM. SCIENCES	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
LAW	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5
LIFE SCIENCES	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
MATHEMATICS, STATS. AND COMP. SCIENCE	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1
MEDICAL SCIENCES	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
MULTIDISCIPLINARY JOURNALS	3.4	3.7	3.9	3.6	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.6
SOCIAL SCIENCES	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

### Explanation of the Excel file (Tables 1–3) provided to the Citation Committee by CWTS

The Excel file provides statistics on self-citations in the scientific/scholarly literature. All the statistics were calculated on the basis of the Web of Science database. In calculating the statistics, a self-citation was defined as a citation in the case of which the publication giving the citation and the publication to which the citation refers have at least one author in common. To determine whether that was the case, we worked on the basis of the authors' names as given in each publication. This method can lead to minor inaccuracies, for example because there may be several authors with exactly the same name, so that it may wrongly appear as if there is a case of self-citation. Where the statistics that we calculated are concerned, however, the effect of inaccuracies of this kind is negligible.

The Excel file consists of two worksheets: ‘Citation window length’ and ‘Trend analysis’. We will discuss each of these in turn.

The ‘Citation window length’ worksheet shows, for 14 broad scientific disciplines, a steady decline over time in the extent to which publications benefit from self-citations. The analysis is based on publications from 2005. For publications from 2005 in the discipline ‘CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY’, for example, we can see that 48% of the citations that they received in 2005 were self-citations. In 2010, however, self-citations made up only 17% of the citations that these publications received. The longer the ‘citation window’ used, the lower the percentage of self-citations. This trend is apparent in all 14 disciplines.

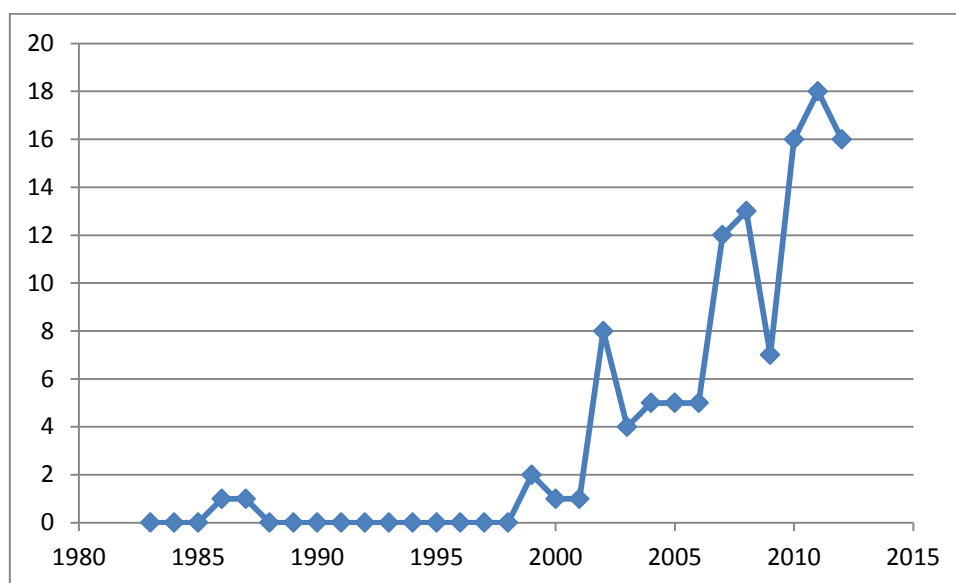
The ‘Trend analysis’ worksheet shows the extent to which researchers have cited themselves more or in fact less during the past ten years. The bottom table on this worksheet shows that in absolute terms, the number of self-citations has increased in all 14 disciplines. Publications from 2000 in the discipline ‘CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY’, for example, received an average of 1.8 self-citations in the first four years after their appearance. For publications from 2010 in the same discipline, the average number of self-citations increased to 2.3. The top table shows self-citations as a percentage of the total number of citations received. Whereas the bottom table generally shows a rising trend in absolute numbers of self-citations, the top table shows that, relatively speaking, the number of self-citations is stable or even falling slightly. That trend is fairly consistent in all 14 disciplines.

### Manipulation of journal impact factors by publishing editorials with large numbers of citations referring to one's own journal

The graph below shows how journals increasingly publish editorials with large numbers of citations referring to their own publications. That trend began about ten years ago. For each year from 1983 on, the graph shows the number of editorials in the Web of Science database that meet the following two requirements:

- 1 The editorial cites at least 50 publications that appeared in the journal itself in the past two years;
- 2 Of all the publications from the past two years that are cited in the editorial, at least 75% appeared in the journal itself.

It should be noted that the total number of editorials in the Web of Science database that meet these two requirements is relatively small, namely 115, but that total has increased greatly in recent years. The 115 editorials are almost all to be found within medical disciplines, although a few can also be found within other disciplines. Journals can profit considerably from editorials of this kind. There is, for example, a journal (*Cortex* in 2010) for which the impact factor has doubled (from approximately 3.5 to approximately 7.0) due to the publication of a few such editorials.



### Appendix G. Poster showing restoration of ceiling paintings in the Trippenhuus Building (3 pages with photos)

The photo and quotation reproduced in this advisory memorandum are taken from a poster produced – in collaboration with the ‘Zoele Haven’ design/text/consultancy firm – on the occasion of the restoration work in the Trippenhuus Building (see above). The photographer is Wim Ruygrok and the authors are Annefloor Schlotter and Ruth Jongsma. The authors based their text on a number of sources, including:

- Paarlberg, S. (2011) *Pronken met andermans veren*. Bulletin Dordrechts Museum, October 2011, pp 4-8
- Vondel, J. van den (1682) *Vorstelijcke warande der dieren* [...]. S. Wybrandsz [et al.], Amsterdam
- Wepler, L. (2010–2011) *Fabulous birds. Melchior d’Hondecoeter as storyteller*. In: Willem de Rooij – *Intolerance* Exhibition catalogue Nationalgalerie Berlin 2010–2011, vol. 3, *Melchior d’Hondecoeter 1636–1695*, pp 38–49

A full explanation can be found in the separate PDF document ‘Poster restauratie plafondschilderingen Trippenhuus’, accessible (in Dutch) at [https://www.knaw.nl/shared/resources/actueel/publicaties/pdf/140402\\_pronken\\_met\\_andersmans\\_veren\\_briefadvies\\_citeren\\_highres.pdf](https://www.knaw.nl/shared/resources/actueel/publicaties/pdf/140402_pronken_met_andersmans_veren_briefadvies_citeren_highres.pdf).