



AYALDE·
MUNABE



UNIVERSITEIT
VAN AMSTERDAM



UNIVERSITY
OF LATVIA



Co-funded by
the European Union

REMAP: Reading for Meaning and Purpose

Amsterdam expert-meeting dedicated
to the Companion to Meaningful Reading
October 16 - 18, Amsterdam



Dear colleagues

Welcome to the expert-meeting of the REMAP: Reading for Meaning and Purpose project. Our meeting is held in collaboration with ECOLAS: European Consortium of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

REMAP: Reading for Meaning and Purpose is co-funded by a K220 Higher Education Cooperation grant from the European Union, and runs from 2024-2027. For more information about REMAP, please visit the website: remap-project.eu and newsletter. I particularly encourage you to follow our project on social media!

I am delighted to welcome you to the VU University Amsterdam for the expert-meeting, which is dedicated to advancing our ideas and draft chapters for the Companion to Meaningful Reading. The Companion to Meaningful Reading will become an important educational resource for high school and university practitioners who wish to implement meaningful reading practices in their courses and curricula. During the expert-meeting, we will have sessions on theory, pedagogy, best practices, genres, themes, and meaningful reading in an age of AI.

We will explore these issues through contributions by representatives of all five REMAP-partners: University of Navarra, University of Amsterdam, University of Latvia, Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts, and Ayalde Munabe high school, and experts from different universities. We will also enjoy three keynote speeches by Edward Brooks of the Oxford Character Project, Karen Bohlin of the Abigail Adams Institute, and Olivia Fialho of the Dutch Royal Institute for Sciences.

On Friday night, our dinner is sponsored by Future Universities Alliance. We are grateful for this support. To learn more about Future Universities Alliance, please email info@athosed.com.

A warm welcome to colleagues who have travelled from far and nearby. We hope that this gathering will advance our project and strengthen relationships between the different universities and schools, and continue our productive collaborations.

I wish you all a stimulating and productive expert-meeting.

Emma Cohen de Lara

*Important
information*



DATE

REMAP symposium: Thursday 16 and Friday 17 October, 2025

ECOLAS liberal arts symposium: Friday 17 (afternoon) and Saturday 18 October

LOCATION

VU University Amsterdam, De Boelelaan 1105, 1081 HV Amsterdam, The Netherlands



ROOMS

Thursday 16 October | (9:00-18:00)
in VU main building **HG 14A - 37**

Friday 17 October | (9:00-18:00) in
VU main building **HG 10A - 36**

Saturday 18 October | (9:00-14:00)
in VU main building **HG 14A - 37**

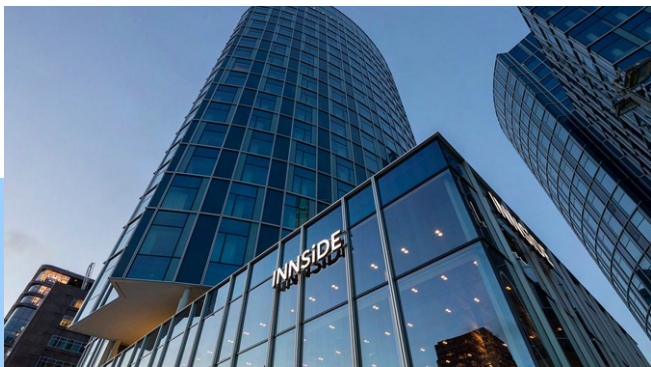


INVITED

All REMAP partners and several associate members

HOTELS

VU University Amsterdam is located in the business district of Amsterdam. There are several good hotels within walking distance. The partners from the University of Navarra are staying at: **Inside Amsterdam Hotel, 4 Eduard van Beinumstraat 40, Amsterdam.**



A great second suggestion is: **Crowne Plaza Amsterdam-South by IHG, George Gershwinlaan 101, Amsterdam.**



TRANSPORTATION

We recommend that you fly to **Amsterdam Schiphol**. From Schiphol, there are regular taxis (outside, in front). There is also Uber in Amsterdam.

Alternatively, there are trains (below the main entrance hall of the airport) which take 6 minutes to train station "Amsterdam Zuid" (Amsterdam South). From Amsterdam Zuid, the VU University and listed hotels are in walking distance.

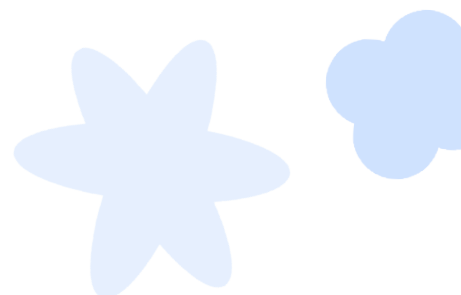


WEDNESDAY, 15 OCTOBER

Optional gathering in Amsterdam – walk around the canals, dinner [activities not funded by UvA - except for keynote speakers]. We will meet at 15:30 in the lobby of Inside by Melia hotel (Zuidas district). Dinner Café Américain, Leidseplein 28 (max. 10 persons)

THURSDAY, 16 OCTOBER

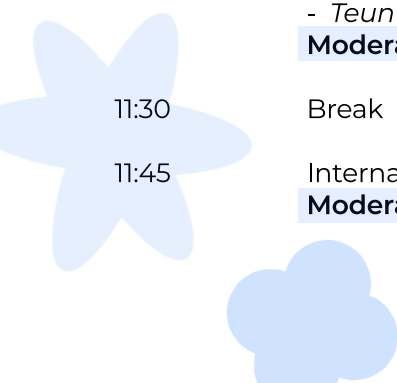
- 8:30 An Amsterdam representative will meet you in the lobby of Inside by Melia hotel to walk to the symposium venue
- 9:00 Start expert meeting / Welcome
- 9:15 Keynote: *Edward Brooks* | Meaningful Reading and Leadership
Moderator: Emma Cohen de Lara
- 10:45 Coffee / tea
- 11:15 Panel 1: Theoretical foundations of meaningful reading
- *Emma Cohen de Lara* | Theory and Concepts of Meaningful Reading
- *Rosalía Baena* | Techniques of Meaningful Reading (Literary Competence)
- *Álvaro Sánchez Ostiz* | Meaningful Reading and Great Books Seminars at Universities: Means and Goals
Moderator: Patrick Overeem
- 12:45 Lunch catering
- 14:00 Keynote: *Karen Bohlin* | Formative Pedagogies
Moderator: Rosalía Baena
- 15:30 Panel 2: Pedagogical approaches and experiences
- *Sanita Baranova and Svetlana Surikova* | Towards Meaningful Reading: An Educational Framework
- *Tania Santiago and Lucía Larraga* | Cultivating Meaningful Reading: A Journey from Text to Transformation
- *Sara Martín Huemes* | Meaningful Reading at the High School Level
Moderator: James Thompson
- 17:00 Plenary discussion
- 17:30 Break
- 18:30 Take Uber to restaurant
- 19:00 Dinner at *Ysbreeker*, Weesperzijde 23, Amsterdam (max. 25 persons)



FRIDAY, 17 OCTOBER

- 8:30 An Amsterdam representative will meet you in the lobby of Hotel Inside by Melia to walk to the symposium venue
- 9:00 Steering committee meeting: steering committee members only
- 10:00 Panel 3: Genres
- *Patrick Overeem* | Biographies and Moral Education
- *James Thomson* | Meaningful Reading and Historical Texts
- *Beatriz Gómez Baceiredo* | We Read Because We Are Not Alone
Moderator: Sanita Baranova, University of Latvia
- 11:30 Coffee / tea
- 12:00 Keynote: *Olivia Fialho* | The Applied Experience of Transformation Reading
Moderator: Emma Cohen de Lara
- 13:15 Lunch catering
- 14:00 Panel 4: Themes and Reading for Life course
- *Rosalía Baena and Álvaro Sánchez-Ostiz* | The Reading for Life course at the University of Navarra
- *Emma Cohen de Lara, University of Amsterdam* | The Reading for Life course at Amsterdam University College
Moderator: Marianne Riphagen
- 15:00 Break
- 15:15 Panel 5: Meaningful education in an age of AI [co-organized by ECOLAS]
- *Panos Kanelos, University of Austin*
- *Iris van der Tuin, Utrecht University*
- *Samuel Abrahám, BISLA/ECOLAS*
Moderator: Teun Dekker, University of Maastricht
- 16:30 Plenary discussion / final reflections / future steps
- 17:00 Break
- 19:00 Dinner at Loetje Amsterdam Zuidas, Parnassusweg 1021, Amsterdam (max. 25 persons)

SATURDAY, 18 OCTOBER

- 10:00 Panel 6: Liberal arts education and liberal democracies [organized by ECOLAS]
- *Hans Adriaansens, Utrecht University, professor emeritus*
- *Larry Boetsch, ECOLAS*
- *Teun Dekker, University of Maastricht*
Moderator: Paul Sterzel, Freiburg University College
- 11:30 Break
- 11:45 International accreditation - a roundtable discussion [organized by ECOLAS]
Moderated by Pano Kanelos
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*List of
attendants*

LIST OF ATTENDANTS REMAP EXPERT MEETING

Samuel Abrahám, Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts / ECOLAS

Rosalía Baena, University of Navarra

Sanita Baranova, University of Latvia

Karen Bohlin, Abigail Adams Institute

Edward Brooks, University of Oxford

Andrej Cierny, Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts / ECOLAS

Emma Cohen de Lara, University of Amsterdam / Amsterdam University College

Teun Dekker, University of Maastricht

Yagmur Ercan, Amsterdam University College

Olivia Fialho, Royal Dutch Institute of Sciences

Jonathan Gill, Amsterdam University College

Beatriz Gómez Baceiredo, University of Navarra

Pano Kanelos, University of Austin

Lucía Larraga, Colegio Ayalde-Munabe

Sara Martín Huemes, University of Navarra

Patrick Overeem, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Marianne Riphagen, Amsterdam University College

Álvaro Sánchez-Ostiz, University of Navarra

Tania Santiago, Colegio Ayalde Munabe - COAS

Svetlana Surikova, University of Latvia

James Thompson, Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts

Iris van der Tuin, Utrecht University

Gerard Versluis, Pascal Institute

Laurent Boetsch, ECOLAS

Demetrios Paraschos, Lux Mundi

Ehab Abdel-Rahman, American University in Cairo

Dan Robinson, Pharos Foundation, Oxford

Paul Sterzel, University College Freiburg

Jordi Wiersma, Pascal Institute

