

**Self-Evaluation Report for Performance Assessment
2010-2014**



May 2015

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Factsheet NISIS

Established on:	1 January 2010
Name of research school:	Netherlands Interuniversity School for Islamic Studies
Acronym:	NISIS
Governed by:	Joint Regulations (appendix 1)
Financial resources:	Grant of € 3.000.000 by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science for eight years (2010-2017)
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Chair of the board:	Professor Thijs Sunier VU University Amsterdam Faculty of Social Sciences Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology +31 20 598 6730 j.t.sunier@vu.nl
University acting as secretary:	Leiden University, Faculty of Humanities
Universities participating in the research school (9):	University of Amsterdam VU University Amsterdam Utrecht University University of Groningen Tilburg University Radboud University Erasmus University Rotterdam Maastricht University Leiden University

Preface

This report follows a format provided by the Standard Evaluation Protocol 2015-2021 as developed by the Association of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU), the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), and the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW).

The drafting and editing of this report was coordinated by Annemarie van Sandwijk. Drafts were discussed with Petra de Bruijn, executive secretary of NISIS, with Thijl Sunier, chair of the board, and with other NISIS board members whose input and feedback have been instrumental on every level.

Stijn Peeters, account manager at the department of Financial and Economic Affairs of the faculty of Humanities at Leiden University, was very helpful in providing data for the personnel overview and in composing the financial report. Data for tables 2, 3, and 4 were kindly provided by Femke Groeneveld.

Léon Buskens
Academic director

Introduction

In 2009, eight Dutch universities decided to join forces in a national research school for Islamic studies: the Netherlands Interuniversity School for Islamic Studies (NISIS),¹ which was officially established on 1 January 2010. In 2013 Maastricht University joined the partnership. As such, NISIS constitutes the first collaboration of nine universities in the history of Dutch scholarship in Islamic studies.

NISIS is the result of the initial eight board members' decision to collaborate in their commitment to the study of Islam and Muslim societies after the International Institute for the Study of Islam in the Modern World (ISIM), a research institute funded by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science in which four Dutch universities (University of Amsterdam, Utrecht University, Radboud University and Leiden University) participated, was closed in 2009.

The scholars participating in NISIS provide an excellent environment for a flourishing of the study of Islam and Muslim societies, in which history, philology, religious studies, and contemporary social science research receive attention. NISIS joins various academic disciplines related to the study of Islam and Muslim societies, covers a wide range of regional expertise, and by bringing together faculty from different universities creates the conditions for joint research and education initiatives.

NISIS brings together the ambitions of the nine universities and the generous financial support of the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science to advance interuniversity cooperation; (1) to provide high-quality training and research on Islam and Muslim societies in the Netherlands; (2) to reinforce the international profile of Dutch scholarship in Islamic studies; (3) and to link up scholarly excellence with debates in society (4).

All scholars collaborating within NISIS share an understanding of Islam as a historical and socio-cultural phenomenon. This approach is part of an academic tradition of more than two centuries in which a historical-critical approach, which concentrates on the study of texts, has been fused with a social science perspective. This approach does not essentialise Islam as a force in itself, but stresses human agency through ideas and practices. It also emphasises the importance to study Islam in a broad context as a cultural practice, not limited to a narrow definition of Islam as a religion. This non-normative approach is not only most productive in scholarly terms, but also helps to answer major questions arising in society and policy-making, and might be of great value for inter-Muslim debates as well.

Traditionally the study of Islam was rooted in history and philology, an approach to which the Netherlands has contributed considerably. Over the last four decades Dutch academia has become quite strong in the anthropological study of Muslim societies as well. NISIS sees it as one of its main objectives to combine both approaches, and to overcome misleading dichotomies. During the past years NISIS has addressed several of these issues by presenting state of the art scholarship at an

¹ For a list of abbreviations, please refer to appendix 8.

international level. By bringing together scholars from the Netherlands with colleagues from all over the world NISIS explores new directions rooted in this strong European tradition.

During the period under review NISIS has succeeded in effectively translating these ambitions in concrete results, as will become apparent in subsequent paragraphs. Looking back at the past years the overall balance is very positive. Combining the rich diversity of prominent scholars and resources available at the nine participating universities with encouragement and material support by the ministry has led to the renewed flourishing of Dutch scholarship on Islam and Muslim societies. Starting in 2010, NISIS has enabled 11 PhD candidates to pursue their research in Islamic studies and brought together others, it has developed a high-quality training programme for the field, has reinforced the national profile and visibility of the school and the quality and diversity of its research, and has expanded international cooperation with high-quality partners abroad.

This self-evaluation report presents developments of NISIS from 2010 until the end of 2014, and as such presents the data for an external review by a committee of internationally renowned experts. The report offers materials for a fruitful internal debate among NISIS members which will benefit considerably from the advice from esteemed external colleagues. Combining these various forms of input will contribute to yet another positive turn to take in Dutch scholarship in Islamic studies during the next period to come.

1. Strategy and results

NISIS is a collaborative association of nine universities in the Netherlands constituting a national research school in the field of the study of Islam and Muslim societies. The division of tasks between local humanities faculties and national research schools was formalised in an agreement on 1 January 2011, which included the following important points (for the definitive agreement on the implementation of the joint memo DCH – LOGOS “National Research Schools in the Humanities”, please refer to appendix 2).

- PhD programmes are administered by local, single-university graduate schools. These local graduate schools have their own range of courses, at least including general transferable skills (academic writing, oral presentations, career orientation);
- The national research schools safeguard the provision of additional disciplinary and interdisciplinary courses for PhD candidates and research master students.

Against this background, the aims of NISIS are:

- Cooperation on a national basis
- Joining various disciplines
- Educating new generations of PhD candidates and research master students
- International outreach
- Public outreach

The following sections (1.1-1.5) reflect on these aims by listing a few examples of related activities initiated by NISIS from 2010 until 2014. For a detailed overview of activities, please refer to appendix 5.

1.1 Cooperation on a national basis

The main aim of NISIS is to advance cooperation between the nine participating universities. By bringing together the academic expertise of Dutch scholars in the field of Islam and Muslim societies, NISIS offers both junior and senior researchers a forum for interdisciplinary research collaboration and national and international networking opportunities which simultaneously benefits the training of PhD candidates and research master students. Against this background, NISIS is committed to promoting interuniversity and international cooperation, for instance by organising annual Spring and Autumn Schools, each time at another Dutch university, on prominent themes pertaining to Islamic studies, which have attracted both national and international researchers.

Since its founding, NISIS has encouraged both junior and senior researchers throughout the Netherlands to join NISIS as a member. From the beginning, NISIS started to list contact details of

Dutch researchers in the field of Islamic studies in order to collect relevant professional and academic details to be included in the NISIS research portal. Early 2011, NISIS initiated the set-up of a PhD network in order to create a national platform for PhD candidates to encourage cooperation and facilitate the exchange of ideas and research experiences.

Post-doctoral researchers, PhD candidates, and research master students active in Islamic studies and based in the Netherlands are invited to apply for NISIS membership, which offers automatic qualification for participation in NISIS activities in the Netherlands as well as ample network opportunities. Currently, a pool of 50 senior members and 40 junior members is affiliated to NISIS as a member (see appendix 4).

In addition, NISIS acts as the point of reference and exchange for the field for Dutch and foreign academic organisations, especially with regard to the promotion of quality and diversity of research in Islamic studies.

1.2 Joining various disciplines

Another important aim of NISIS is to bring together various disciplines related to the study of Islam and Muslim societies. Scholars of several disciplines have dedicated themselves to the formation of the school, which covers a broad multidisciplinary research area.

Historically, Islam and Muslim societies have been studied from a classical humanities point of view, studying languages and the rich corpus of written sources in fields such as history, philology, Islamic theology, and Islamic law. Since the late 1970s however, critical reflection on the history and practices of the academic study of Islam and Muslim societies has become increasingly important. This critical turn has strengthened an understanding of Islam as a social practice, and paved the way for the social science approach to the field, which engages in empirical research and fieldwork. NISIS is dedicated to combining and joining both approaches, so that they can enhance each other and, as such, provide a comprehensive understanding of Islam and Muslim societies, actively looking for new directions in order to overcome misleading oppositions between approaches.

This mission is reflected in various ways. First, the NISIS board consists of members of various disciplinary backgrounds (see appendix 4.2), including religious studies (Beck/UvT, Landman/UU, Wiegers/UvA), Islamic law (Berger/UL, Buskens/UL, Rutten/MU), anthropology (Buskens/UL, Buitelaar/RUG, Van Nieuwkerk/RU, Sunier/VU), history (Beck/UvT, Douwes/EUR, Wiegers/UvA); and of various regional expertises, including the heartlands of the Arab world (Berger/UL, Douwes/EUR, Van Nieuwkerk/RU), Indonesia (Beck/UvT, Buskens/UL, Douwes/EUR), Morocco (Beck/UvT, Buitelaar/RUG, Buskens/UL, Rutten (MU), the West (Berger/UL, Buitelaar/RUG, Landman/UU, Sunier/VU, Rutten/MU), Turkey (Landman, Sunier).

Second, PhD candidates funded by NISIS and supervised by NISIS board members are engaged in various disciplines related to Islamic studies (see appendix 4.1), including religious studies (Coppens/UU, Pall/UU), anthropology (Van Geel/RU, Nuril Huda/UL, Istiqomah/RUG,

Sahin/VU, Sunarwoto/UvT), history and Arabic studies (Colominas Aparicio/UvA, Kateman/UvA, Kruithof/EUR), and law (Van Huis/UL).

Third, the themes of the Spring and Autumn Schools and the variety of keynote speakers who participated (see appendix 5), show how the NISIS board values a multidisciplinary approach to the study of Islam and Muslim societies. A number of false dichotomies hampering the study of Islam were selected as subjects for the schools. Famous scholars shared their views with students and colleagues on state of the art understandings of central issues in the study of Islam and Muslim societies.

1.3 Educating new generations of PhD candidates and research master students

One of the primary aims of NISIS is to educate new generations of scholars in the field of Islam and Muslim societies. Since its founding, NISIS has therefore made available 70% of its total resources for 12 PhD candidates to pursue their PhD projects under the supervision of NISIS board members (table 1). One PhD candidate, appointed at Groningen University in September 2011, resigned after a year.

Name	Univ.	Start date	(working) Title PhD thesis	Supervisors	PhD defense (expected)
Mònica Colominas Aparicio	UvA	1 Jan. 2012	Mudejars and the Politics of Identity: Authority, Loyalty and Religious Polemics in Late-Medieval Iberia	Wiegers, v. Leeuwen (UvA) & García Arenal (Madrid)	Jan. 2016
Pieter Coppens	UU	1 Sept. 2011	Crossing Boundaries: Encounters with God and the Otherworld in Mystical Commentaries on the Qur'ān	Lange (UU)	Sept. 2015
Annemarie van Geel	RU	1 Jan. 2011	Women-Only Public Spaces on the Arabian Peninsula: Comparing Discourses on Islam, Gender and Modernity in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait	v. Nieuwkerk & Versteegh (RU)	First quarter 2016
Ahmad Nuril Huda	UL	1 Dec. 2010	Projecting Islam on Screen: The Indonesian Muslims' Negotiations with Modernity	Spyer & Barendregt (UL)	Dec. 2015
Stijn van Huis ²	UL	1 Sept. 2010	Access to Justice for Women in Divorce Cases in Indonesia: Islamic Court Reasoning under Global, National and Local Influences	Otto (UL)	June 2015
Istiqomah	RUG	1 Sept. 2013	The Hadrami Arabs of Ambon: An Ethnographic Study of Diasporic Identity Construction in Everyday Life Practices	Von Stuckrad & Buitelaar (RUG)	Sept. 2016
Ammeke Kateman	UvA	15 Nov. 2010	Defining Islam as a Modern Religion. Muhammad 'Abduh (1849-1905) and his Interlocutors	Wiegers, v. Leeuwen (UvA)	Dec. 2015 / Jan. 2016

² Funded by NISIS until 1 October 2012.

Maryse Kruithof	EUR	1 Oct. 2010	<i>Shouting in a desert: Dutch missionary encounters with Javanese</i>	Douwes (EUR)	Defended 11 Dec. 2014
Omnia Mehanna ³	RUG	1 Sept. 2011	Virtually virtuous. A study on the impact of the internet on women's sexuality in Egypt	Von Stuckrad & Buitelaar (RUG)	n/a
Zoltan Pall	UU	1 Mar. 2011	<i>Salafism in Lebanon. Local and Transnational Resources</i>	Van Bruinessen (UU)	defended 14 Jan. 2014
Sunarwoto	UvT	1 Oct. 2011	Da'wa Radio: Making Muslim Public Sphere and Religious Authority in Indonesian Islam	Beck & Blommaert (UvT)	Oct. 2015
Mehmet Şahin	VU	1 Sept. 2011	The golden generation: Islam, inspiration, ethical techniques of binding within the Gülen Movement	Sunier (VU)	Dec. 2015

Table 1. PhD candidates funded by NISIS

In addition, NISIS has developed a high-quality training programme in the field of Islamic studies. This programme, with which NISIS contributes to successful completion of individual research master and dissertation projects, consists of a yearly Spring School abroad, a yearly Autumn School in the Netherlands, a yearly Islamic Studies Network Day in the Netherlands, and additional courses offered by the participating universities. A prospectus on the NISIS website offers an overview of course descriptions, objectives, assessment methods, and requirements. Quality control is guaranteed by continued involvement of the NISIS board members in the content of the programme, and through regular evaluations of the NISIS courses by its participants.

The schools are aimed at advanced research master students and PhD candidates, and consist of keynote lectures by internationally renowned speakers in the field, and workshops which bring together international experts and students in a setting which requires an active role of students. The Islamic Studies Network Days provide an excellent opportunity for PhD candidates and research master students to acquaint themselves with the latest developments in the field and to exchange ideas and experiences with colleagues and specialists.

The format of both the Schools and the Network Day – keynote lectures, interactive workshops, informal networking – is designed in such a way that there is ample opportunity for junior and senior researchers to exchange ideas and to discuss new insights in the field. These meetings have also proved useful as a means to anchor the research of PhD candidates and research master students in a broad national and international network. For more detailed information about the NISIS activities, please refer to appendix 5.

The table below lists the number of participants of major NISIS activities during the evaluation period. The numbers refer to keynote speakers, board members, and PhD students presenting their research in the workshops, which usually amounted to the maximum which could be permitted in order to have a fruitful discussion. The (higher) numbers of participants during the public lectures of the Spring and Autumn Schools have not been registered.

³ Funded by NISIS until 15 September 2012; resigned.

NISIS activity		# participants	
27-30 Oct 2010	1 st Autumn School: Texts and Practices	Keynote speakers: 6 Board members: 6 Workshop participants: 13	Total: 25
21-25 March 2011	1 st Spring School: Studies on Islam and Muslim Societies and its Social Values	Keynote speakers: 10 Board members: 3 Workshop participants: 19	Total: 32
25-28 Oct 2011	2 nd Autumn School: Classical and Modern	Keynote speakers: 6 Board members: 5 Workshop participants: 14	Total: 25
26-30 Mar 2012	2 nd Spring School: Islam and the Non-Muslim Other: Doctrines, Attitudes, and Practices	Keynote speakers: 8 Board members: 6 Workshop participants: 38	Total: 52
14 Sept 2012	1 st Islamic Studies Network Day	Keynote speakers: 1 Board members: 4 Participants: 8	Total: 13
23-26 Oct 2012	3 rd Autumn School: Centres and Peripheries. Networks connecting Muslim Societies in Past and Present	Keynote speakers: 6 Board members: 3 Workshop participants: 17	Total: 26
18-22 Mar 2013	3 rd Spring School: The State in the Muslim World	Keynote speakers: 6 Board members: 4 Workshop participants: 34	Total: 44
22-25 Oct 2013	4 th Autumn School: Islam: Culture or Religion?	Keynote speakers: 5 Board members: 5 Workshop participants: 18	Total: 28
31 Jan 2014	2 nd Islamic Studies Network Day	Keynote speakers: 2 Board members: 3 Participants: 13	Total: 18
17-21 Mar 2014	4 th Spring School: Languages in Muslim Societies	Keynote speakers: 6 Board members: 4 Workshop participants: 32	Total: 42
21-24 Oct 2014	5 th Autumn School: The Religious/Secular Divide in the Muslim World	Keynote speakers: 6 Board members: 5 Workshop participants: 17	Total: 28

Table 2. Number of participants in major NISIS activities

Since September 2012, successful participation in the Schools and the Network Day and fulfillment of related requirements (presentation, acting as a discussant, paper assignments) have been awarded with credits. Until now, a total of 93 EC have been awarded to PhD candidates and research master students.

EC obtained by PhD candidates		EC obtained by research master students
Spring School 2012	8	4
Autumn School 2012	20	-
Network Day 2012	7	4
Spring School 2013	8	5
Autumn School 2013	12	-

Spring School 2014	8	5
Autumn School 2014	12	-
Network Day 2014	?	-
Total	75	18

Table 3. Number of EC obtained

The number of credits obtained by research master students is still low, because formal incorporation of NISIS training activities has proven difficult as a result of the division of research master students between faculties of humanities and social sciences. In the next term, NISIS will better attune its training programme to existing curricula provided in the local graduate schools (see section 5, “Strategy for the future”).

To guarantee quality assurance, the training activities of NISIS have been evaluated since 2012, and the resulting feedback of these evaluations were taken into consideration in the development of new training activities. The general tendency of the evaluations was very satisfactory to excellent.

The table below shows the number of people to whom NISIS contributed in terms of education, by offering training activities during the Spring and Autumn Schools, and the Network Days.

PhD candidates and research master students based in the Netherlands: participation in the Spring & Autumn Schools and Network Days	53
PhD candidates based in France: participation in the Spring Schools	47
Local PhD candidates: participation in the Spring Schools based in Morocco, Turkey, Tunisia and Spain	21
Foreign PhD candidates, funded by NISIS: participation in the Spring & Autumn Schools	38

Table 4. Number of PhD candidates and research master students
who included NISIS activities in their training programmes

Two PhD candidates who were appointed in 2010 have already obtained their doctorate during the evaluation period: Zoltan Pall (UU) with a dissertation entitled *Salafism in Lebanon. Local and Transnational Resources* (14 January 2014), and Maryse Kruithof (EUR) with a dissertation entitled *Shouting in a desert: Dutch missionary encounters with Javanese Islam, 1850-1920* (11 December 2014).

In 2010, NISIS and Amsterdam University Press agreed to set up a peer-reviewed publications series entitled “NISIS studies”, consisting of edited volumes to make the Spring and Autumn Schools’ findings and results available to researchers and other interested stakeholders. Initially, the idea was to publish a volume as a result of each school with contributions by the keynote speakers. Over the years, however, it proved difficult to engage the speakers to transform their lectures into articles. NISIS therefore decided in 2013 to compile all available papers of the previous Autumn Schools (2010, 2011 and 2012) into one volume entitled *Surveying Islamic Studies: Transformations and Continuities*. This volume, edited by Léon Buskens and Annemarie van Sandwijk, contains contributions by Brinkley Messick, Jonathan Berkey, Kevin Reinhart, Marion Katz, Dorothea E.

Schulz, Christian Lange, Abdulkader Tayob, Muhammad Khalid Masud, Knut S. Vikør and Pnina Werbner, and will be published in 2015.

The research output of senior NISIS members is considerable, but falls outside the scope of this report as it is a separate responsibility of each participating university.

1.4 International outreach

As a national platform for Islamic studies, NISIS aims at strengthening the international outreach of Dutch expertise on Islam and Muslim societies. To further the international profile of Dutch scholarship on Islamic studies, the policy of NISIS has focused on the mutual reinforcing effect of attracting Dutch junior and senior researchers to participate in the Spring Schools abroad, and to invite various renowned international speakers and junior researchers from abroad to participate in the yearly Autumn School in the Netherlands. This has resulted in a considerable strengthening of the international profile of Dutch scholarship, and enlargement of individual and institutional networks.

With the organisation of five Autumn Schools in the Netherlands, successively at the University of Amsterdam (2010), VU University Amsterdam (2011), Leiden University (2012), Utrecht University (2013) and Radboud University (2014), NISIS has facilitated the presentation of international expertise in Islamic studies to a Dutch academic audience. It has offered research master students and PhD candidates active in the Netherlands the opportunity to meet renowned international scholars and to discuss their work with them, and has shown the excellent scholarly environment in the Netherlands to an international audience. Apart from junior researchers from the Netherlands, participants also included PhD candidates from abroad – each time about ten – for whom NISIS made available funds to cover their travel and accommodation expenses.

To advance international cooperation, NISIS organised four Spring Schools abroad, successively in Morocco (Rabat, 2011, and again in 2015), Turkey (Istanbul, 2012), Tunisia (Hammamet, 2013) and Spain (Madrid, 2014). Each time, the schools were organised in close cooperation with our French partners of the Institut d'études de l'Islam et des sociétés du monde musulman (IISMM, Paris) and the Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD, Marseille).

Other successful and enduring partnerships have been formed with the Freie Universität Berlin (Institut für Islamwissenschaft/Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies), which was involved in the Spring School in Istanbul where professor Gudrun Krämer delivered a keynote lecture, with the Dutch Institute in Turkey (NIT) and the Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes (IFEA), and with the Centre Jacques Berque, whose involvement has been vital for the organisation of two Spring Schools in Rabat. The success of the Spring Schools is also to a large part the result of the great efforts of local academic institutions who were very helpful in providing their local infrastructure and know-how. Apart from these formal partnerships, informal contacts with a number of other European institutes, including the Erlanger Zentrum für Islam und Recht in Europa (EZIRE) and the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies in Exeter, have been established.

Because the organisation of the Spring Schools always constituted a collaborative effort of at least three institutions from different countries, the setting of the schools was pre-eminently international which allowed for fruitful exchange and networking between junior researchers from various countries including Belgium, France, Germany, Scotland, Estonia, Spain, Hungary, Romania, Turkey, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, India, China, Japan and the US.

In addition, the NISIS director has consistently pursued collaboration with prominent institutional and individual scholarly partners, especially in Europe, Morocco and Indonesia. Buskens is a member of the international advisory board of the Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies, and a member of the conseil scientifique of the Institut d'études de l'Islam et des sociétés du monde musulman in Paris.

From 7 until 19 January 2015, a delegation of NISIS represented by Herman Beck (UvT), Léon Buskens (UL), Dick Douwes (EUR) and Thijl Sunier (VU) visited Indonesia to advance cooperation between Islamic higher education institutions on the one hand, and the nine participating universities of NISIS on the other.

The rationale behind this mission has been a strong interest on the part of Indonesian alumni who graduated at various Dutch universities to renew cooperation with the Netherlands in the field of Islamic Studies. This readiness was strengthened by a considerable increase in available Indonesian resources, as well as by a mutual wish to re-activate the scholarly network which has been established in the past 25 years with programmes such as the Indonesian-Netherlands Islamic Studies Programme and the Training Indonesia's Young Leaders Programme.

More specifically, the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, which funds several Islamic State Universities (UINs), Islamic State Institutes (IAINs), and Islamic State Colleges (STAINs), intends to make available funds to send 30-35 Indonesian PhD candidates currently working at the various UINs, IAINs and STAINs to the Netherlands to do research. During a visit of a delegation of the Ministry to Europe in February 2015, further arrangements have been made to prepare this. In addition, plans for the exchange of lecturers and post-doctoral researchers, the creation of joint degree programmes, and the offering of master classes by NISIS lecturers in Indonesia have been discussed extensively.

In the context of these cooperation plans, NISIS envisages that it will particularly have a supporting role as a national research school of which future Indonesian PhD candidates will be invited to become a member. Given the formal requirements for registration of PhD candidates at Dutch universities, NISIS does not intend to take up any formal coordinating role, but first and foremost aims to join efforts to enable national cooperation with Indonesia.

This intended bilateral partnership will be further explored and developed from 26 until 30 August 2015, when a summer school themed "Islam in Indonesia" will be organised at Leiden University. Under the supervision of Dutch and Indonesian lecturers, PhD candidates from Indonesia, the

Netherlands, and from other countries will then have the opportunity to gain more in-depth knowledge of the available resources and expertises in the Netherlands. Colleagues who hosted the NISIS delegation in January will be invited to lecture during this summer school.

1.5 Public outreach

In an era in which Islam and Muslims dominate the public and political debate and media coverage, NISIS strives to act as a knowledge broker for the field by disseminating reliable knowledge suitable for application in society at large, while complying with academic standards.

NISIS has become a significant national institution for expertise and has increased the public visibility of Dutch scholarship by presenting current academic research, either through the public keynote lectures during the Autumn Schools, or via its website, to a broader audience. The NISIS website provides an overview of:

- researchers and their expertises affiliated to the nine universities participating in NISIS (research portal);
- available bachelor and master courses about Islam and Muslim societies offered at the nine participating universities in the Netherlands (education portal);
- recent PhD dissertations completed at one of the nine participating universities of NISIS in the field of Islam and Muslim societies (dissertation portal).

In addition, NISIS co-organised several activities focused on public outreach in 2010-2011, such as an expert meeting on Islam and museums in November 2010, initiated by Léon Buskens and Mirjam Shatanawi (Tropenmuseum). This meeting in Amsterdam brought together NISIS board members and other scholars from various Dutch universities, as well as representatives of prominent museums in the Netherlands. In April 2011, NISIS sponsored a conference at the University of Humanistic Studies in commemoration of the late Nasr Abu Zayd, entitled “How Can a Humanistic Approach to Islam Be Realized?”. On behalf of NISIS, Gerard Wiegers delivered a keynote lecture and contributed to the proceedings which were published afterwards.

In the course of 2011, the NISIS board decided to reallocate its funding to enable the appointment of an extra PhD candidate after the second application round (5 instead of 4, making it a total of 12 at that time). This decision was reached because the second PhD application round in 2011 had resulted in a selection of very good candidates. Hence, the budget for valorisation activities was cut, with approval by the ministry (letter dated 18 October 2011, *herziene begroting; verplichtingsnummer A0000-1516*). Henceforth, board members decided that they would organise valorisation activities at their own universities, and that NISIS would act as an organising partner, without the need to contribute funding. In this way, additional financial means were made available to appoint an extra PhD candidate.

Two NISIS board members, Maurits Berger and Thijl Sunier, NISIS, together with VU University Amsterdam, Leiden University, and partner institutes in Denmark and Germany, co-organised a

two-day expert meeting in November 2011 about future research on Islam and Muslims in Europe. Unfortunately, political objectives raised by various participants prevented a joint project and statement being realised. In June 2012, NISIS acted as co-organiser of an international symposium on the Arab Spring in Morocco at Utrecht University.

Another valorisation project which NISIS joined as a partner is “The Sharia Project: A UK-Netherlands Islamic Legal Studies Network”, a cooperation between the universities of Exeter and Leiden funded by NWO and the Arts and Humanities Research Council. This project was directed by Robert Gleave (University of Exeter) and Léon Buskens. Over a two-year period, starting in 2012, four workshops were held in which emerging research questions in the field were discussed through a series of presentations by researchers based in the UK and the Netherlands. Each meeting was centered around the work of a major scholar in the field (Baudouin Dupret, Sherman Jackson, Kecia Ali and Wael Hallaq).

In 2013, NISIS members were successful in their research applications in the NWO programme “Religion in Modern Society” which requires intensive cooperation with societal partners. Léon Buskens (UL) and Thijl Sunier (VU) were awarded a grant for their research project “Making Islam Work in the Netherlands. Islamic Authority and Islamic Law in the Netherlands among Ordinary Muslims: Recent Trends and Developments”. Two other NISIS grantees were board member Susan Rutten (UM), who was awarded funding for her research project “Marital Captivity: Bridging the Gap between Religion and Law,” and board member Gerard Wiegers (UvA), who received a grant for his research project “Delicate Relations: Jews and Muslims in Amsterdam and London”. Project leaders will present proceedings of their research projects during the next NISIS Islamic Studies Network Day in June 2015.

In cooperation with the National Museum of Ethnology and other partners, NISIS co-organised a symposium entitled “Hajj: Global Interactions through Pilgrimage” (November 2013). On behalf of NISIS Léon Buskens and Marjo Buitelaar were involved in the programme. The symposium was organised at the occasion of the exhibition “Longing for Mecca: the Pilgrim’s Journey” (10 September 2013 - 9 March 2014) in the National Museum of Ethnology. Early 2014, Buskens took the initiative to organise a public screening of the first film ever made about the hajj to Mecca entitled “Het Groote Mekka-Feest” (by G. Krugers, 1928), which was very well attended. In 2014, Marjo Buitelaar (RUG), in cooperation with Richard van Leeuwen (UvA), was awarded a NWO Humanities grant for the research project “‘Mecca: more magical than Disneyland’. Modern Articulations of Pilgrimage to Mecca”.

Since its founding, NISIS has also established fruitful relations with the Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society (LUCIS), for instance in the organisation of the above-mentioned expert meeting “Islam in Europe. Past Projects, Future Priorities”, the symposium “Hajj: Global Interactions through Pilgrimage”, and “The Sharia Project”. When possible NISIS and LUCIS join forces, which benefits both.

Several board members were involved in research projects at the request of the Dutch ministry of Social Affairs and Employment. Nico Landman (UU) and Thijl Sunier (VU) authored a significant

policy report (in Dutch) at the request of the ministry, entitled “Turkish Islam. An update of knowledge on Turkish religious trends and organisations in the Netherlands” (In Dutch: *Turkse islam. Actualisatie van kennis over Turkse religieuze stromingen en organisaties in Nederlands*), which was published in June 2014. On behalf of Maastricht University Susan Rutten was involved in a research project at the request of the same ministry, together with the Verwey-Jonker Institute and the Dutch foundation Femmes for Freedom, which resulted in a report published in September 2014 entitled “That was not the deal. An analysis of the extent and nature of forced marriage, abandonment and marital captivity” (In Dutch: *Zo zijn we niet getrouwd; Een onderzoek naar omvang en aard van huwelijksdwang, achterlating en huwelijkse gevangenschap*).

Finally, NISIS board members were individually involved in various public outreach activities, which indirectly also reflected on NISIS’ public profile. Moreover, NISIS also plays an important role in disseminating these activities, either via its network or its website. Individual valorisation activities included active participation in societal debates through various (social) media channels and public lectures (Berger, De Ruiter, Sunier), courses to military attachés and to the judiciary (Beck, Buskens), and the development of Massive Online Open Courses (Berger about sharia in the West and Buitelaar about religion and conflict).

2. Composition

NISIS is a multidisciplinary network of Dutch scholars active in the field of Islam and Muslim societies constituting a national research school. It brings together nine Dutch universities, their faculty, PhD candidates, and research master students. The faculty of Humanities of Leiden University acts as the coordinating faculty.

NISIS is governed by a board consisting of nine members representing the participating universities. The board, chaired by Thijl Sunier, determines the policy of the school. The director of NISIS, Léon Buskens, implements this policy and is in charge of the developments of its activities. He is assisted by an executive secretary, Petra de Bruijn, and an office, staffed by an office manager, an editor, and several student assistants.

Staff	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Teaching replacement director	-	0,08	0,05	0,24	0,28	0,65
Student assistant director	-	0,04	0,07	0,08	0,1	0,29
Executive secretary	0,25	0,41	0,41	0,41	0,41	1,89
Office manager	0,08	0,3	0,2	0,29	0,4	1,27
Activity assistance	0,29	0,51	0,2	0,7	0,83	2,53
Editor	-	0,07	0,3	0,49	0,3	1,16
Website assistance	0,33	0,5	0,34	-	-	1,17
Intern	-	-	-	0,09	-	0,09
Total	0,94	1,9	1,57	2,33	2	8,74

Table 5. Staff of NISIS, 2010-2014, in terms of fte

The table reflects the growth of NISIS during the evaluation period in terms of workload.⁴ In 2010 NISIS started with a minimum of staff members. Priority was given to the establishment of the website and the research and education portals.

Over the years, the largest increase in terms of personnel is evident at the level of event organisation, which reflects the growth in the number of activities organised by NISIS. In 2012 and 2013 NISIS anticipated on an expected growing need for editorial assistance with regard to the NISIS publications plan. However, as a result of a change in the publication plans of NISIS (see paragraph 1.3), editorial capacity was reduced in 2014.

⁴ Please note that the figures in table 4 are based on data with three decimal places rounded off to two. The totals are based on the underlying data with three decimal places, which were provided by Stijn Peeters, account manager at the department of Financial and Economic Affairs of the faculty of Humanities at Leiden University.

3. Financial resources

The financial report presented on the next page was composed by Stijn Peeters, account manager at the department of Financial and Economic Affairs of the Faculty of Humanities of Leiden University. The report reflects the developments NISIS underwent during the evaluation period.

Since its founding, NISIS spent most of its budget, €1.635.259 (72%), on the appointment of PhD candidates. During the first years, 2010 and 2011, NISIS organised additional conferences and activities focused on public outreach. In the course of 2011, the NISIS board decided to reallocate its funding to enable the appointment of an extra PhD candidate (see also 1.5).

Henceforth, NISIS focused on activities related to the education of PhD candidates and research master students in the NISIS training programme, and spent € 293.362 (13%) on this budget item. During the start-up period in 2010 and 2011, the expenditure was less than anticipated. This is partly due to administrative reasons, since several invoices for the NISIS PhD candidates appointed in 2011 were submitted only in 2012; this is reflected in the higher expenditure in 2012.

NISIS spent € 292.438 (13%) on management and office expenses, including teaching assistance for the director, office administration, and editing. The costs for office administration and editing increased over the years, from € 27.546 in 2010 to € 92.405 in 2014 because of an increase in activities. The increase in expenditure on editing in 2012 and 2013 was motivated by the expected growing need for editorial assistance with regard to the NISIS publication plan. With the change of the publication plans of NISIS (see section 1.3), editorial capacity was reduced in 2014. The increase of expenditure on office administration in 2014 originated from a growing need for assistance to the implementation of the NISIS training programme.

During the first years NISIS allocated funds, € 23.211 (1%), to the development of its website. Gradually, the maintenance of the website became a task for the regular office staff; therefore, it was decided not to continue to allocate a separate budget for the website.

NISIS spent € 8488 on the preparation of an edited volume in which papers of the NISIS opening conference and autumns schools will be published, and earned € 4000 with the organisation of educational activities for PhD candidates and research master students affiliated to faculties of Humanities (according the DCH-LOGOS agreement (see appendix 2).

Because of careful use of resources, NISIS will not have spent all the money allocated for the six years at the end of this first term. Hence, a request was submitted at the ministry to ask for permission to use the remaining budget for a continuation of NISIS during the next term. The ministry has meanwhile granted an extension of two years, so as to spend the budget until 31 December 2017.

4. SWOT analysis

NISIS	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Interuniversity cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporation of all relevant universities in the Netherlands in a national research school for Islamic studies. - Many Dutch PhD candidates and faculty members are involved in NISIS. - Joint research projects have been set up by NISIS members of different universities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not succeeded yet in engaging all Islamic studies scholars active in the Netherlands. - Interuniversity competition sometimes hampers efficient cooperation. - Joint research projects have been the result of initiatives of individual NISIS members; so far, no NISIS-wide projects have been set up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing new membership recruitment policies. - Build a platform that encourages and facilitates researchers from different universities to develop joint research projects. - The established synergy between the participating universities creates many opportunities to further strengthen NISIS' profile as a national research school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Established synergy will be lost if the financing of NISIS is discontinued or seriously reduced. - Free rider behaviour: participating universities may have incentives to "free ride" on NISIS' efforts to further the common interests of <i>all</i> universities involved (generic to all interuniversity collaborations). - Participating universities may be driven to claim certain fields of expertise within Islamic studies at the expense of the efforts of NISIS to advance the profile of the research school as a whole (generic to all interuniversity collaborations).
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A high-quality and well-attended Training Programme which offers PhD candidates and research master students excellent opportunities to expand their knowledge and insights, and to create internationally attractive research networks. - The format of training activities – bringing together junior and senior researchers – enables junior researchers to develop skills in thinking "out of the box" and in presenting their research to an academic audience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not yet many PhD and research master students register for obtaining credits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase the number of EC to be obtained by making the Training Programme more compatible with local research master programmes within the Humanities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uncertainty about future financial resources jeopardises a structural continuation of education activities. - Division between faculties of humanities and social sciences hampers formal incorporation of NISIS training activities in the official programmes, and hence the granting of credits.

	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Multidisciplinarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NISIS succeeded in involving scholars from all relevant disciplines in the field of Islamic studies. - Schools have been particularly successful in offering new perspectives in Islamic studies by building on the strengths of humanities and social science traditions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scholars working on theory-building in sociology and religious studies have been less involved in NISIS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to educate a new generation of interdisciplinary trained scholars in Islamic studies, and to critically build a strong European tradition in this field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Methodological struggles arise again and again; for scholars it remains difficult to overcome misleading dichotomies in approaches. - The multidisciplinary imbedding of participating universities complicates the management of NISIS because the school has to deal with different regulations and policies of the various faculties involved.
International outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NISIS has established solid cooperation with a number of partners outside the Netherlands, especially in Europe. - International academic initiatives of networks are well connected to the NISIS network. - NISIS succeeded in bringing eminent foreign specialists to the Netherlands, and in making Dutch scholarship visible abroad. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stronger embedding in networks of scholars in the Muslim world is desirable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extend efforts in the organisation of international schools - Facilitate Indonesian PhD candidates and students from other countries in pursuing a PhD at one of the nine participating universities. - Further developing contacts with scholars in Indonesia, Morocco, and Turkey. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uncertainty about future financial resources jeopardises a structural continuation of international activities. - Political developments in the Middle East limit possibilities for fruitful cooperation.
Public outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public lectures during the Autumn Schools have considerably promoted public dissemination of high-quality academic knowledge to a broader audience. - During the first years of its existence, NISIS has successfully addressed a number of issues aimed at providing Dutch society with useful academic knowledge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperation between Dutch universities in outreach is limited and difficult to promote. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Take initiatives to organise effective cooperation on a national level. - Involve societal partners of projects which fall under the NWO “Religion in Modern Society” programme in NISIS’ annual Islamic Studies Network Day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uncertainty about future financial resources jeopardises a structural continuation of public activities. - The gap between scholarly labor and public outreach.

Table 7. SWOT analysis

5. Strategy for the future

During the past five years NISIS has developed into a strong national research school for the study of Islam and Muslim societies. It has successfully trained PhD candidates, and further strengthened the national and international networks of scholars by organising high-quality schools and other meetings, and by initiating research programmes. NISIS has become firmly rooted in Dutch academia and benefits from sincere general commitment. The establishment of NISIS has taken place in a time when the study of Islam faces rather complex conditions. The multidisciplinary embedding of NISIS reflects the entanglement of Islam with society in its broadest dimension.

Several objectives, however, remain to be realised, and new challenges present themselves. Society develops, the academic infrastructure in the Netherlands and in Europe changes, research agendas are adjusted, and there are several opportunities, such as international cooperation funded by the European Union or foreign governments, that are not yet exhaustively explored. In what follows elements for a strategy for the future that NISIS would like to develop in exchange with its members and foreign colleagues are presented.

General aims for the future: an inclusive approach

One of the most important aims of NISIS in the future is to continue to strengthen cooperation between academics, in an inclusive way, in the fields of teaching and research. Rather than suggesting limited programmatic and conceptual guidelines for the study of Islam and Muslim cultures, NISIS intends to further facilitate multidisciplinary cooperation and to bring together academics who study Islam in all its variety and depth.

The strong multidisciplinary format of NISIS has proved to be attractive for many members and other academics in our network. We are convinced that this multidisciplinary approach is the only way to advance the study of Islam and Muslim societies in an era in which Islamic studies runs the risk of becoming highly politicised.

We aim to intensify our activities to further advance our position as the prime hub for scholarly exchange in the Netherlands in the field. Furthermore, if the budget allows it, we intend to continue to organise academic meetings to bring together international researchers and to provide young scholars a beneficial academic environment.

For the next term NISIS will focus on further incorporation of most graduate students working at Dutch universities, as well as senior faculty. Given its inclusive perspective all scholars in Dutch academia studying Islam are encouraged to become involved in NISIS for meaningful exchanges about current scholarship and debates in society.

NISIS Training Programme

We intend to expand our Training Programme to include existing and new courses offered at the participating universities. Our goal is to attune the NISIS Training Programme to the educational programmes provided in the local Graduate Schools of the participating universities: the education provided by NISIS is supplementary, not in competition with the local schools. It offers specific courses on the study of Islam and Muslim societies with the participation of outstanding lecturers from the Netherlands and abroad. The board will adopt a more systematic approach to identify important subjects for courses and to strengthen cooperation between universities, also by involving other members more directly in discussing its policy.

NISIS will strengthen its advertising strategy to reach potential participants for its Training Programme. It will try to find ways to accommodate the Training Programme to local programmes of the departments and the graduate schools.

Ideally, in the years to come NISIS will take up a stronger coordinating role in: 1) the attuning of local and national education curricula; 2) the dissemination of relevant PhD and research master study programmes in the Netherlands; and 3) the recognition of credits to be obtained for graduate courses in the field of Islamic studies.

Cooperation with other research schools

NISIS aims at cooperating with other research schools, such as the Netherlands School for Advanced Studies in Theology and Religion (NOSTER) and the emerging initiatives for Area Studies. Cooperation could be established in terms of sharing courses, co-organising training activities, and sharing information about each other's activities.

However, NISIS prefers not to fuse into a broader research school in any of its respective fields. The past years have demonstrated the importance of combining a clear focus with an inclusive approach. NISIS enjoys strong support in the field of both junior and senior members because it provides high-quality activities addressing central concerns in the field.

Incorporating the study of Islam and Muslim societies in more general research schools may result in the splitting of a community along new lines. This would mean a serious drawback to the present flourishing of the study of Islam and Muslim societies. NISIS is convinced of the importance of a focused and small-scale community of committed scholars.

Public outreach

Now that NISIS has established itself firmly in Dutch academia and in international networks, it intends to increase its public outreach as a centre of expertise for society by providing networking meetings with societal partners of existing and future research projects, and by

matching researchers and societal partners to benefit research cooperation and financing. It envisages to organise meetings once or twice a year addressing current debates in society and policy-making to which scholars can meaningfully contribute with their expertise. Preferably these meetings will be organised in cooperation with, or even hosted by, societal partners, as for example a public agency, a ministry, or the army.

International outreach

During the past five years NISIS has developed strong ties with academic institutions and individual colleagues in Europe and North America, such as the IISMM (Paris) and EZIRE (Erlangen). We intend to maintain these valuable networks and to further expand them, for instance with Japan, which has a strong programme in Islamic studies, or with scholars in China who are showing interest as well.

A major challenge remains the strengthening of our cooperation with scholars working in Muslim societies. They are often less visible internationally, but nevertheless contribute considerably. During the next period NISIS intends to further develop its ties with scholars in three countries with strong traditions in our field, and with whom we have already initiated cooperation, through spring schools and visits: Indonesia, Morocco, and Turkey. Of course we realise that cooperation with other partners in the Muslim world would be desirable. Given the current political problems, the limited means available, the existing academic infrastructure, and the strong ties between the Netherlands and these three countries we consider it most fruitful to concentrate on these partnerships first. We would like to develop our exchanges with these three countries in a context of equality and openness. On the one hand we will encourage the coming of junior and senior researchers to the Netherlands. On the other hand we will also look for new ways to organise meetings there, preferably co-funded to a considerable extent by local counterparts.

Against the background of the recently expressed plans of the ministry of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia to make available funds to send 30-35 Indonesian PhD candidates to the Netherlands to do research, NISIS aims at taking up a facilitating and supporting role to enable this bilateral partnership, which needs to come into effect by means of reaching separate agreements between various Dutch universities and our Indonesian partners.

Appendix 1: Joint Regulations

JOINT REGULATIONS relating to the establishment of the Interuniversity Research School for Islamic Studies (ISIS)

The Executive Boards of

- Leiden University (LEI)
- Utrecht University (UU)
- University of Amsterdam (UvA)
- Radboud University (RU)
- Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR)
- VU University Amsterdam (VU)
- University of Groningen (RUG)
- Tilburg University (UvT)

considering that

- the boards of the faculties established within abovementioned universities, which undertake research and teaching in the area of Islamic Studies, have declared their willingness to cooperate in that area within the context of a research school in order to advance the quality of academic research and the training of researchers;
- it is therefore expedient to enter Joint Regulations, according to article 8.1 juncto article 9.23 WHW (Dutch Law on Higher Education and Scientific Research);
- the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture & Science contributes a total of €0.5 million per year to the research school on the basis of the multi-year plan as referred to in article 8.

have agreed as follows:

Article 1. Definitions

The following definitions shall apply to these Regulations:

- parties: the universities which are a party to this agreement
- participants: the institutes and faculties mentioned in article 2
- faculties: the faculties mentioned in article 2
- coordinating faculty: the faculty mentioned in article 5
- school: the research school mentioned in article 2
- board: the board of the research school mentioned in article 2

Article 2. Participants

A research school to further Islamic Studies shall be established, in which cooperate:

- the faculty of Humanities of Leiden University (LEI)
- the faculty of Humanities of Utrecht University (UU)
- the faculty of Humanities of the University of Amsterdam (UvA)
- the faculty of Religious Studies of Radboud University (RU)
- the faculty of History and Arts of Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR)
- the Institute for the Study of Religion, Culture and Society of the VU University Amsterdam (VU)
- the faculty of Theology and Religious Studies and the Faculty of Arts of the University of Groningen (RUG)
- the faculty of Humanities of Tilburg University (UvT)

Article 3. Mission

The research school's mission is:

- to contribute to the cooperation and quality improvement of the academic research which the faculties carry out in the area of study of the research school;
- to organise teaching for PhD students who have been admitted to the research school in accordance with the agreements with the different Graduate Schools (who are primarily responsible for the training of researchers) of the participating institutions;
- to organise and (help) manage other, joint academic activities, which are considered desirable within the framework (courses, symposia, publications etc).
- to strengthen the position of research in national and international contexts, in part to advance career opportunities for PhD students both at home and abroad.

Article 4. Funds

1. Parties agree to make funds available to carry out the research and teaching programmes of the research school for the duration of these Regulations on a yearly basis. The funds, which shall be made available upon the entry into force of these Regulations, shall be reflected in an appendix to this agreement on a yearly basis.
2. Parties agree to make available to the research school any externally acquired additional funds, which were received for the benefit of the school.
3. The coordinating faculty shall make available funds and staff to support the directorate and secretariat of the research school.

Article 5. Coordination

The Faculty of Humanities of Leiden University shall act as the coordinating faculty of the research school for the duration of this agreement.

Article 6. Board

1. The research school shall be managed by a board consisting of eight members. They shall be appointed by the boards of the respective faculties, provided that each university is represented by one member. Hereby, every effort shall be made to include a wide spread across the different research areas, which the research school addresses.
2. A member shall be appointed for the duration of six years. A member can be re-appointed. Only professors and university lecturers working in the field of Islamic Studies at one of the faculties shall qualify for appointment.
3. In accordance with article 11.3, the board shall appoint a chairman from amongst its professor members.
4. At the first appointment, a schedule of resignation shall be drawn up, so that each following year 1 member will resign. In case of a casual resignation, the newly appointed member shall take the place of the member who resigned.
5. As soon as a vacancy arises in the board, the board shall send a proposal to fill the vacancy to the board of the faculty, whose seat has become vacant.

Article 7. Termination of membership of the board

Membership of the executive board shall terminate by:

- expiry of the period for which a member has been appointed;
- early resignation;
- passing;
- a change in eligibility criteria as referred to in article 6.

Article 8. Executive duties

1. The board, after consulting the boards of the participants, shall draw up a multi-year plan once every six years. This plan shall be confirmed by the board of the coordinating faculty in accordance with the bodies of the parties qualified for this purpose. The multi-year plan shall at least pay attention to the following topics:
 - a. The research programme of the school;
 - b. The general teaching programme;
 - c. The expected budget and spending plans of the funds referred to in article 4.
2. The board shall yearly confirm the research programme. This programme shall also include an overview of the research projects of the PhD students, who work in the area of the research school.
3. The board shall yearly confirm the budget, on the basis of the funds as referred to in article 4.

4. The board shall report yearly to the boards of the faculties and the parties about the activities of the research school, which shall include a financial overview of outgoings in that year.
5. To widen the support for the school, the board shall promote cooperation with external parties who qualify for this on the basis of their academic mission and quality.

Article 9. Meetings

The board shall meet at least twice per year, and furthermore as often as the chairman or at least three other board members deem necessary.

Article 10. Accountability

The school's board shall be accountable to the board of the coordinating faculty. This board shall act in accordance with the boards of the other faculties.

Article 11. Academic director

1. The academic director shall manage on behalf of and under the responsibility of the board the day-to-day affairs of the research school.
2. The academic director shall be appointed by the board of the coordinating faculty, following the proposal of the board and after consultation with the boards of the remaining faculties. The appointment shall be valid for a period of time to be confirmed at the appointment, but of no more than six years. Professors with an official position in the research area of the school qualify for the appointment of academic director.
3. The academic director and the chairman of the board shall not be based at the same university.
4. The academic director shall attend the board meetings, and herein play an advisory role.

Article 12. Management

1. The management of the funds of the research school, as referred to in article 4, section 1, shall be carried out in accordance with the rules which apply to the participant, with whom the concerned activities are undertaken.
2. The management of additional funds of the research school, as referred to in article 4, section 2, shall be carried out by the academic director in accordance with the concerned rules which apply to him, as long as these funds are not already assigned to one of the participants.

Article 13. Accession and cooperation

1. Other universities and research organisations, which carry out research in the same area as the school, shall be welcome to join this agreement. The parties to these Regulations agree that if need be and on request of the board, they shall make the necessary adjustments to this agreement.
2. The board shall be authorised to make agreements with third parties about the participation of PhD students in the teaching programme of the research school for a fee, the level of which is to be determined by the board.
3. The Executive Board of the coordinating faculty shall be authorised to enter cooperation agreements with third parties for the benefit of the school and on the suggestion of the board of the school, after all parties have been heard.

Article 14. Amendments

1. A proposal to amend this agreement can be made by each of the parties. The proposal shall be submitted to the Executive Board of the coordinating faculty in writing.
2. A decision to amend this agreement shall be taken by the Executive Boards who are signatory to this agreement, after the board of the research school and the boards of the participating universities have been heard.

Article 15. Duration

1. The regulations shall be valid for a period of six years and shall enter into force on the second day after being signed by the Executive Boards of each university.
2. Parties shall discuss in timely fashion an extension of this agreement and any potential amendments. To aid this discussion, the board shall submit an evaluation report, co-composed by a number of external experts, to the Executive Board of the coordinating university at least six months before the expiry of the agreement.

Article 16. Disputes

1. A dispute with regard to the interpretation or implementation of these joint regulations shall be submitted to the board of the school. In case the board is unable to solve the dispute, it shall be submitted to an arbitration commission as specified in section 2.
2. In case a situation arises as specified in the second full sentence of section 1, this dispute shall be submitted to an arbitration commission consisting of members from the Executive Boards who are signatory to this joint agreement.
3. A decision made by the arbitration commission as specified in section 2 shall be binding.

Article 17. Settlement

In case the school is abolished, the parties shall agree on the settlement of the remaining funds which the parties had made available to the school, on a pro rata basis.

Article 18. Transitional provision

The board shall consist of the following people for the duration of six years:

Prof dr H.L. Beck (UvT)
Prof dr M.S. Berger (LEI)
Dr M Buitelaar (RUG)
Prof dr D. Douwes (EUR)
Prof dr N. Landman (UU)
Prof dr R. Peters (UvA)
Prof dr J.T. Sunier (VU / chairperson)
Prof dr H.H. Motzki (RU)

The following academic director shall be appointed:

Prof dr L.P.H.M. Buskens

**APPENDIX TO THE JOINT REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
INTERUNIVERSITY RESEARCH SCHOOL FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES (ISIS)**

The parties agree to make available a total of at least €450 annually to the coordinating university for each of at their institute appointed PhD students for the duration of this agreement to be spent freely by the board on the coordination and management of research and teaching activities, as described in the school's multi-year plan as specified in article 8, section 1.

The coordinating faculty agrees to make available annually a total of €45,400 for the duration of this agreement to fund the academic directorate and coordinating bureau of the research school and for executing the school's teaching and research programme.

The board of the research school shall compose a multi-year budget for the use of the funds provided by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. During the first three years, part of these funds shall be available to the coordinating faculty to cover operating costs, up to a maximum of 100% of these costs. The remaining funds shall be used to finance research, for example PhD positions, which can be acquired by the participating universities through a competitive process. Three months before the expiry of the first period of three years at the latest a decision shall be made about the continuation of funds, which are linked to the costs of taking on the coordinating role.

Appendix 2: Further agreements DCH – LOGOS

Implementation of the joint memo DCH – LOGOS ‘National Research Schools in the Humanities’ (draft 23 October 2010; definitive version 22 July 2011)

Foreword

The intent shall be the implementation of simple agreements. The humanities seem to be the first sector to have made good agreements between the graduate schools (faculties) and the research schools. Most disciplines in the humanities have a national course selection that is supplemental to the graduate schools and combines the nationally available expertise.

At the start in September 2011, all parties involved will receive information about the cooperation between DCH and LOGOS, so that the same information is available throughout the country. This information will also be published on a website managed by LOGOS. The faculties (graduate schools) will also be asked to post the information on their own websites. The DCH will draw up this information brief.

Anchoring in the national course selection

Each faculty must ensure that their Research and Education Regulations state that ReMA students may attend courses at any of the research schools and that their credits will be honoured by their own study programmes. The nationally available courses must also be included in the education and supervision plan for PhD candidates.

Student registrations

ReMA students:

In September of each year (and in February for mid-year registrations), the persons responsible for the ReMA study programme must indicate which students are registered for which research school. The students’ individual budgets for that year⁵ will then be transferred to that school.

PhD candidates:

In September of each year (and in February for mid-year registrations), the director of the graduate school will register the new PhD candidates at a research school. This will also be recorded in the candidates’ education and supervision plan. Half of their individual budgets for that year⁶ are then transferred to the research school.

⁵ €250,- per year (max. 2 years per student).

⁶ Each PhD candidate has a personal budget of €2,000 (in total). This means that an amount of €1,000 will be transferred (one-time only).

LOGOS will provide uniform registration forms for all research schools. These forms are to be used for both the registration at the research school and for registration for specific courses.

If the student registers on time and meets the admission requirements, then he or she may attend a course provided by another research school if it is relevant to his/her study programme. No separate tuition fee needs to be paid for this course. If the student is registered at a research school but does not attend courses, then he/she is still liable for payment of the individual budget for registration.

Transition arrangement for current PhD candidates and ReMA students

These will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. In general, registrations that are submitted as of 1 September 2011 will be accompanied by the registrations for the period 2010-2011. The personal budgets for 2010-2011 for ReMA students will be used differently by the Control Body (see Intermediate Report 2009 and 2010). On 1 September, new ReMA students will be registered alongside those from 2010-2011 because in their second year they can still take advantage of their personal budget (€250).

Older cohorts of PhD candidates will generally have attended courses via the previous system (such as student fees). If this is not the case, then an ad hoc solution must be found.

Cooperative agreements between faculties regarding the research schools

The DCH will provide a draft agreement for the cooperation between faculties regarding the research schools. This agreement is generally the same for all of the schools, but also contains passages that are specific to each school.

Total ECTS points offered each year

In return for the funds entailed in this cooperative effort (Secretariat compensation and half of the personal budget for PhD candidates; course organisation funds and the personal budget for ReMA students), the research school will provide at least 5 ECTS in course credit for ReMA students and 10 ECTS in course credit for PhD candidates. The research school will also ensure that each individual ReMA student and PhD candidate will be able to attend at least 5 ECTS in relevant course credit (for ReMA students) and 10 ECTS for PhD candidates. The total number of courses offered will be determined by the number and diversity of the students registered at the research school, as well as the budget available.

The courses offered by the research school will primarily deal with discipline-specific course options; more general courses (both discipline-related courses and general, transferable skills)⁷ will be offered by the graduate schools.

The amount of courses an individual student is expected to attend can differ. LOGOS will draw up an inventory of the requirements per graduate school and the courses offered by the various research schools.

A research school can also act as a coordination platform for the courses (esp. ReMA courses) offered throughout the country. These courses can be listed on a LOGOS website.

Planning ahead for the course selection

Research schools plan their curriculum at least two years in advance and publicise the course catalogue on their own website. A LOGOS website will have to be realised to act as an umbrella source for the courses offered by all of the research schools. The Sustainable Humanities Management Organ will be asked to fund the maintenance of this website.

Lecturer compensation

If a lecturer teaches a few lectures as part of a larger course, then this is considered to be a 'guest lecture' and is not compensated separately. Naturally, guest lecturers can expect a book token, a bottle of wine or something similar as a token of gratitude.

If a lecturer is responsible for an entire course, then his/her own faculty or graduate school is responsible for compensation as included in his/her contract according to the local pay scale system. It is possible that the faculties can place a cap on the lecturer's work load they are willing to compensate each year. Timely consultation with the supervisor or director of the graduate school or the faculty board is recommended.

Publication of the agreement

After the provisions above have been approved by DCH and LOGOS, a mail will be sent to all of the parties at the graduate schools to announce the agreement. The goal is to have this completed before the summer holiday.

Agreements:

- DCH (Wakker and Van den Akker) will inventory which cooperative agreements currently exist and draw up a proposal for a draft agreement.

⁷ Research schools only provide skills training if it is immediately applicable to the specific discipline, such as codicology for Medieval Studies.

- DCH (Wakker and Van den Akker) will examine what must be amended in the ReMA Research and Education Regulations (if necessary).
- LOGOS (Duewell) will examine how many credits the research schools are offering at the moment.
- LOGOS (Duewell) will submit a proposal for a registration form for ReMA students and PhD candidates.
- If necessary, the DCH will ask the participating faculties' research policy assistants to elaborate any further details for the agreements.

Appendix 3: NISIS board

Current NISIS board members:

- Professor Herman Beck (Tilburg University)
- Professor Maurits Berger (Leiden University)
- Dr Marjo Buitelaar (University of Groningen)
- Professor Dick Douwes (Erasmus University Rotterdam)
- Dr Nico Landman (Utrecht University)
- Professor Karin van Nieuwkerk (Radboud University), since 2010 a substitute for Professor Harald Motzki, since 1 September 2011 as board member
- Dr Susan Rutten (Maastricht University), since 15 November 2013
- Professor Thijl Sunier (VU University Amsterdam), chair
- Professor Gerard Wiegers (University of Amsterdam), since 1 September 2010.

Resigned board members:

- Professor Harald Motzki (Radboud University), retired since 1 September 2011.
- Dr. Jan Jaap de Ruiter (Tilburg University), substitute of Professor Herman Beck in 2010 and 2011.
- Professor Ruud Peters (University of Amsterdam), retired since 1 September 2011.

Appendix 4: NISIS members

4.1 PhD candidates funded by NISIS (junior members)

Name	University	Faculty/institute/department	Start date	(working) title PhD thesis	Supervisors	(expected) PhD defense
Mònica Colominas Aparicio	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Religious Studies	1 January 2012	Mudejars and the Politics of Identity: Authority, Loyalty and Religious Polemics in Late-Medieval Iberia	Prof. Gerard Wiegers (UvA), Dr Richard van Leeuwen (UvA) and Prof. Mercedes-García Arenal (CSIC, Madrid)	
Pieter Coppens	Utrecht University	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	1 September 2011	Crossing Boundaries: Encounters with God and the Otherworld in Mystical Commentaries on the Qur'ân	Prof. Christian Lange (UU)	Sept. 2015
Annemarie van Geel	Radboud University	Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies	1 January 2011	Women-Only Public Spaces on the Arabian Peninsula: Comparing Discourses on Islam, Gender and Modernity in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait	Professor Karin van Nieuwkerk (RU) and Prof. Cees Versteegh (RU)	1st quarter 2016
Ahmad Nuril Huda	Leiden University	Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology	1 December 2010	Projecting Islam on Screen: The Indonesian Muslims' Negotiations with Modernity	Prof. Patricia Spyer (LU) and Dr Bart Barendregt (UL)	
Stijn van Huis ⁸	Leiden University	Faculty of Law	1 September 2010	Access to Justice for Women in Divorce Cases in Indonesia: Islamic Court Reasoning under Global, National and Local Influences	Prof. Jan Michiel Otto (UL)	

⁸ Funded by NISIS until 1 October 2012.

Istiqomah	University of Groningen	Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies	1 September 2013	The Hadrami Arabs of Ambon: An Ethnographic Study of Diasporic Identity Construction in Everyday Life Practices	Prof. Kocku von Stuckrad (RUG) and Dr. Marjo Buitelaar (RUG)	
Ammeke Kateman	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Religious Studies	15 November 2010	Defining Islam as a Modern Religion. Muhammad 'Abduh (1849-1905) and his Interlocutors	Prof. Gerard Wiegers (UvA) and Dr Richard van Leeuwen (UvA)	Dec. 2015 / Jan. 2016
Maryse Kruithof	Erasmus University Rotterdam	Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication	1 October 2010	<i>Shouting in a desert: Dutch missionary encounters with Javanese Islam, 1850-1920</i>	Prof. Dick Douwes (EUR)	11 Dec. 2014
Omnia Mehanna ⁹	University of Groningen	Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies	1 September 2011	Virtually virtuous. A study on the impact of the internet on women's sexuality in Egypt	Prof. Kocku von Stuckrad (RUG) and Dr. Marjo Buitelaar (RUG)	n/a
Zoltan Pall	Utrecht University	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	1 March 2011	<i>Salafism in Lebanon. Local and Transnational Resources</i>	Prof. Martin van Bruinessen (UU)	14 Jan. 2014
Sunarwoto	Tilburg University	Tilburg School of Humanities, Department of Culture Studies	1 October 2011	Da'wa Radio: Making Muslim Public Sphere and Religious Authority in Indonesian Islam	Prof. Herman Beck (UvT) and Prof. Jan Blommaert (UvT)	1 Oct. 2015
Mehmet Şahin	VU University Amsterdam	Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology	1 September 2011	The golden generation: Islam, inspiration, ethical techniques of binding within the Gülen Movement	Prof. Thijl Sunier (VU)	Dec. 2015
Total						12

⁹ Funded by NISIS until 15 September 2012; resigned.

4.2 NISIS senior members

Name	University	Faculty/institute/department	Expertise
Dr Adriaan Bedner	Leiden University	Leiden Law School, Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Government, and Development	Law and justice in Indonesia; access to justice, dispute resolution and the judiciary; marriage law
Prof. Herman Beck <i>board member NISIS</i>	Tilburg University	Tilburg School of Humanities, Department of Culture Studies	Religious studies; dialogue between Muslims and Christians; interreligious communication; religious fundamentalism; religious pluralism and identity; Islam in Indonesia; Islam in Morocco; Islam in the Netherlands
Dr Gabriëlle van den Berg	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	Oral traditions of the Ismailis of Tajik Badakhshan; heterodox literature in the Safavid Empire and the rise of Shiism as a state religion in Iran; Persian epic poetry and manuscripts; cultural encounters in Central Asia
Prof. Maurits Berger <i>board member NISIS</i>	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Leiden Centre for the Study of Religion	Islamic law; political Islam; freedom of religion; relation between law and religion; the role and influence of Sharia in Western countries; the dialectic between Islam and the West
Dr Nicolet Boekhoff - van der Voort	Radboud University	Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies	Islamic tradition material on the origins of Islam and the life of the Prophet Muhammad in particular.
Dr Welmoet Boender	Utrecht University	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	Islamic theology at European universities; imams in the Netherlands; the societal role of mosques in Europe; dealing with Islam in pastoral care
Prof. Mirjam de Bruijn	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Institute for History	Contemporary history and Anthropology of West and Central Africa, particularly Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Mali and Sahel
Dr Petra de Bruijn	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	Turkish literature and performing art; modern Turkish Islam.

Dr Marjo Buitelaar <i>board member NISIS</i>	University of Groningen	Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies	Islam in everyday life; migration; Muslims in diaspora; narrative identity; life story research
Prof. Léon Buskens <i>academic director of NISIS</i>	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies Faculty of Law, Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Governance, and Development	Culture, law and Islam in contemporary Muslim societies, especially Morocco; anthropology of Muslim societies; Islamic law; history of orientalism
Prof. Faustina Doufikar-Aerts	VU University Amsterdam	Faculty of Theology, Centre for Islamic Theology	Islamic eschatology; transmission of sacred texts (manuscript tradition and codicology)
Prof. Dick Douwes <i>board member NISIS</i>	Erasmus University Rotterdam	Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication	History of non-western societies, particularly of the Middle East; late Ottoman history in Syria; religious plurality in the Middle East; Muslims in Western Europe
Dr Esther van Eijk	Maastricht University	Faculty of Law	Islamic family law; Middle Eastern law (including Eastern Catholic marriage law); legal anthropology; gender and human rights issues; the intricate relationship between law, religion, and society, and the practical implications thereof
Dr Yaser Ellethy	VU University Amsterdam	Faculty of Theology, Centre for Islamic Theology	Islamic diachrony; interpretive tradition and the forming of Muslim reformism; semantics of Islamic terms and their cultural implications; mutable and immutable in Islamic tradition
Dr Anja van Heelsum	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, Department of Political Science	Islam in Europe; organisations of immigrants; stereotypes and ethnic identity; Somalis, Moroccans and Turks
Prof. Jan Hogendijk	Utrecht University	Faculty of Science, Mathematical Institute	History of mathematical sciences in Islamic civilisation

Prof. Yolande Jansen	University of Amsterdam & VU University Amsterdam	UvA: Amsterdam Centre for Globalisation Studies & Department of philosophy VU: Special Professor of Humanism in relation to religion and secularity at the Faculty of Theology	Politics of secularism; religion and multiculturalism
Dr Khadija Kadrouch- Outmany	Leiden University	Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology	Islamic burials; law; Islam; Muslims in the West
Dr Nico Kaptein	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	Relationship between Islam and local culture; relations between the Middle East and Southeast Asia in the religious domain; Islam in Indonesia; Dutch Islam policy in the Netherlands East Indies
Prof. Michael Kemper	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Humanities, Department of European Studies	Soviet Oriental Studies; history of Islam in Russia; Islamic law, customary law and edition of Arabic sources; "Islamic Russian" as a new sociolect of Muslims in the Russian Federation
Dr David Kloos	VU University Amsterdam/IIAS/KITLV		History and anthropology of Muslim Southeast Asia, particularly Aceh; Islamic thought and practice; colonial history; female religious authority
Dr Maryse Kruithof	Erasmus University Rotterdam	Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication	Christian-Muslim Relations in the Dutch colonial context
Dr Nico Landman <i>board member NISIS</i>	Utrecht University	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	Islam in the West; Turkish Islam; religious diversity in Turkey
Prof. Christian Lange	Utrecht University	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	Islamic theology (eschatology in particular); Islamic law (public law in particular); classical Sufism
Dr Richard van Leeuwen	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Religious Studies	History of the Middle East; Arabic literature; Islam in the modern world

Dr Michiel Leezenberg	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy	Islamic philosophy; intellectual history of the modern Islamic world; Kurds; medrese learning
Dr Luit Mols	Leiden University; National Museum of Ethnology (curator)	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	Islamic art and material culture
Dr Tsolin Nalbantian	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	State and society in Syria and Lebanon in the 20th century; roles minorities play in the construction of the nation-state and nationalism; interactions of diasporic populations with other populations and the state in the Middle East; politicisation and utilisation of identity
Dr Pieter Nanninga	University of Groningen	Faculty of Arts, Chair Group Semitic Languages and Cultures	Jihadism; jihadist media; martyrdom operations/suicide attacks; Syria and Iraq
Prof. Karin van Nieuwkerk <i>board member NISIS</i>	Radboud University	Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies	Anthropology of Islam, particularly with regard to migration, conversion, apostasy, gender, art and culture; religious transformation processes among Muslims in Europe and the Middle East
Dr Adriaan Overbeeke	VU University Amsterdam	Faculty of Law, VU Centre for Law and Governance	Human rights and the Islamic minority/minorities in Europe; church and state relationships and Islam
Dr Ahmed al-Rawi	Erasmus University Rotterdam	Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication	Islam and social media; Islam and popular culture; Orientalism; Arab folklore and mythology
Dr Jan Jaap de Ruiter	Tilburg University	Tilburg School of Humanities, Department of Culture Studies	The sociolinguistics of Standard and dialectal Arabic; the position of Muslims in the Netherlands and the European Union; the debate on multiculturalism, globalisation and superdiversity
Dr Ineke Roex	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, Department of Political Science	Islamic activism; extremism; salafisme; anti-radicalisation policy
Dr Susan Rutten <i>board member NISIS</i>	Maastricht University	Faculty of Law	Private international law; Islamic family law; Islamic law; Moroccan law; law in multicultural societies; religious diversity and law

Dr Amr Ryad	Utrecht University	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	Modern Islamic intellectual and religious history; dynamics of the networks of Islamic reformist and pan-Islamist movements; Muslim polemics on Christianity; the history of Christian missions in the modern Muslim world; and transnational Islam in interwar Europe
Dr Ihab Saloul	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Humanities	Cultural memory and identity politics; heritage and conflict; literary theory and visual analysis; postcolonial theory; migration and diaspora; art and museums; contemporary cultural thought in the Middle East; competing memories and aesthetics of displacement and exile in Palestinian and Israeli contemporary cultures
Dr Arie Schippers	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Humanities	Arabic and Hebrew literature of Muslim Spain and its continuation
Prof. Petra Sijpesteijn	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	Islamic history; Arabic papyrology; historiography
Dr Benjamin Soares	African Studies Centre (Leiden)		Religion and politics; Islam and religious encounters especially in West Africa; contemporary Muslim public intellectuals in Africa
Dr Iris Sportel	Radboud University	Faculty of Law	Transnational families and law; Islamic family law; gender and ethnicity; migration; sociology of law
Prof. Thijl Sunier <i>board member and chair of the NISIS board</i>	VU University Amsterdam	Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology	Anthropology of religion (Islam, politics and Islam, leadership, young people and Islam); migration; ethnicity nation building and European history; Turkey
Dr Vanessa Vroon-Najem	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, Programme Group Globalising Culture and the Quest for Belonging	Muslim marriages in the Netherlands, with a focus on marriage practices among converts to Islam

Dr Joas Wagemakers	Radboud University	Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies	Intellectual history of the Muslim Brotherhood and quietist/political Salafis in Jordan; Salafi ideology and theology; Islamist ideology and Islamist movements in the Middle East; the reception of the Arab Spring by radical Muslim ideologues; political theory and philosophy in the writings of modern Muslim thinkers; the religious-scholarly debate on gender-mixing in Saudi Arabia
Dr Johan Weststeijn	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Humanities	Narratology, folk tale studies, structuralism; literary approaches to classical Arabic historiography; Near Eastern motifs in Arabic literature; dreams in Islam; wine in the Near East; Zenobia of Palmyra
Prof. Gerard Wiegers <i>board member NISIS</i>	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Religious Studies	The dynamics between Judaism, Christianity and Islam in the history of Eurasia and Europe; Islamic ethics; history of Islam on the Iberian Peninsula, North Africa and Europe; ritual studies; theory and method in the study of religions
Prof. Frans Wijsen	Radboud University	Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies	Islam and Muslim-Christian relations in Tanzania; Indonesian Muslims in the Netherlands
Prof. Jan Just Witkam (emeritus)	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	Islamic book culture; Islamic bibliography; paleography; codicology; history of Orientalism
Dr Robert Woltering	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Humanities	Image studies; Occidentalism; atheism; Egyptian revolution
Prof. Evert van der Zweerde	Radboud University	Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies	Democracy, including “democracy & religion” with case-studies Orthodoxy (Russia) and Islam; civil society, Russian philosophy, comparative philosophy
Total			50

4.3 NISIS junior members: PhD candidates

Name	University	Faculty/institute/department	Research project
Arfiansyah Ahjar	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	Islamic Triangle in Indonesia: The relationship between State Law, Shari'a and Adat Law in contemporary Aceh
Hayat Ahlili	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	Faithful Protection: The Use of Scripture in Egyptian Amulets (7th – 12th Century CE)
Kholoud Al Ajarmi	University of Groningen	Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, Department Comparative Study of Religion	Mecca in Morocco: Negotiating the Meanings of Hajj in Everyday Life
Mohammad Amer	VU University Amsterdam	Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology	Religion, Recreation, and Devotion: A Comparative Study of the Minhajul Qur' an Movement in the Netherlands and the UK
Daan Beekers	Utrecht University	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	Young Muslims and Christians in the Netherlands: a comparative study of religious piety in the context of Dutch secularity. Involved in HERA research project "Iconic religion: How imaginaries of religious encounter structure urban space"
Josephine van den Bent	University of Amsterdam	Faculty of Humanities, Capacity Group History	The Mongols in Mamluk Eyes: Image and Identity Formation in the Medieval Middle East
Ellen van de Bovenkamp	VU University Amsterdam	Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology	The popularity of Tariq Ramadan in Morocco
Claudia Carvalho	Tilburg University	Tilburg School of Humanities, Department of Culture Studies	The Ritualisation of religious violence: Jihad and Islamic Terrorism
Marije Coster	University of Groningen	Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies	The Early Muslim community: the process of self-definition and identity formation

Sami Al-Daghistani	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Leiden Centre for the Study of Religion	The Concept of Social Justice and the Intellectual History of Islamic Economics
Samad Elamraoui	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities	Pure Islam according to “Shaykh al-Islām” Taqī al-Dīn al-Hilālī: A Study of al-fatāwa al-hilāliyya (1963-1987)
Marcela Garcia Probert	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	Amulets within the context of ziyāra – based on the Tawfīk Canaan Collection of Palestinian Amulets
Karen Ghonem-Woets	Tilburg University	Tilburg School of Humanities, Department of Culture Studies	Emergent Cultural Literacy: Assimilating Children’s Literature
Marloes Hamelink	Utrecht University	Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, Department of Cultural Anthropology	Moral practices and the mediation of everyday Islam among Zanzibari women
Mahmood Kooria	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Institute for History	Ocean of Law: Circulation of Islamic legal texts and ideas across the Indian Ocean World
Heleen van der Linden	VU University Amsterdam	Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology	Involved in NWO project “Making Islam work in the Netherlands. Islamic authority and Islamic law in the Netherlands among ordinary Muslims: recent trends and developments”
Arshad Muradin	Leiden University	Leiden Law School, Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Government, and Development	Involved in NWO project “Making Islam work in the Netherlands. Islamic authority and Islamic law in the Netherlands among ordinary Muslims: recent trends and developments”
Lusvita Nuzuliyanti	Leiden University	Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology	Halalizing fan culture: Indonesian Muslim K-Pop fans and the ambivalence of pleasure
Arjan Post	Utrecht University	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	Reassessing the Origins of Salafism: A Study of Ibn Taymiyya’s View of Sufism
Franscesca Rosati	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden	Quranic Feminine Schools in China’s Northwestern Islam: the

		Institute for Area Studies	case of Linxia Nüxiao
Kiki Santing	University of Groningen	Faculty of Arts, Chair Group Semitic Languages and Cultures	The Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood under the rules of Sadat and Mubarak
Mirjam Shatanawi	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	Framing Indonesian Art: Colonial Discourse and the Question of Islam
Sophie Spaan	Utrecht University	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	Muslim Religious Identity and Institutions in Interwar Western Europe
Mayuka Tanabe	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies	Work, communities and identities among the Mineral and Fossil Artisans in the Tafilalet Region of Southeastern Morocco
Andrei Tirtan	Utrecht University	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	Muslim anti-Colonial Activism in Interwar Europe: Pan-Islamists in European Politics
Yunus Yaldiz	Utrecht University	Faculty of Humanities, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies	Zuhd in the early Ḥadīth literature
Hasan Yar	VU University Amsterdam	Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology	The meaning of Islamic organizations for the forming of social capital of their participants
Laila al-Zwaini	External PhD candidate		The Rule of Sharia in a State of Tribes. Understanding Islamic Legal Pluralism and Criminal Justice in Yemen
Total			29

4.4 NISIS junior members: research master students

Name	University	Faculty/institute/department	Research project	Membership period
Sami Al-Daghistani	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Middle Eastern Studies	The Concept of Social Justice and the Intellectual History of Islamic Economics	2012-2013 (currently junior PhD member)
Aya Johanna Daniëlle Dürst Britt	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Middle Eastern Studies	Tuning souls to harmony. The role of music in the mysticism of the Indian Muslim mystic, musician, poet, and philosopher Hazrat Inayat Khan (1882-1927)	2012-2013
Serkan Özaltan	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Middle Eastern Studies	Continuity and discontinuity of Turkish Muslim life in Germany and the role of Turkey	2014-
Willemijn Rijper	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Middle Eastern Studies	Dancing Commitment. Socio-politically Engaged Contemporary Dance in Lebanon	2014-
Mark Philip Stadler	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Middle Eastern Studies	Beyond Indonesia – Hizbut Tahrir Indonesia and its Possible Impact of the Archipelago's (State-) Ideological Features	2012-2013
Wessel Toonen	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Institute of History	The Globalised State: On the Impact of Globalisation on National State Capacity in the Perspective of sub-Saharan Africa	2014-
Benedikt van den Woldenberg	Leiden University	Faculty of Humanities, Leiden Institute for Area Studies, Middle Eastern Studies	Contemporary politics in the Arab World focusing on the issue of monarchical survival	2012-2014
Total of active members				3

Appendix 5: NISIS activities

Date	Event	Details	Venue
16 April 2010	NISIS opening conference: Studying Islam: Text and Context	<i>Keynote speakers:</i> Prof. Brinkley Messick (Columbia University) Prof. Ruud Peters (UvA)	VU University Amsterdam
27-30 October 2010	1 st NISIS Autumn School: Texts and Practices	<i>Keynote speakers:</i> Prof. Jonathan Berkey (Davidson College) Prof. Charles Hirschkind (University of California, Berkeley) Prof. Marion Katz (New York University) Prof. Kevin Reinhart (Dartmouth College) Prof. Dorothea Schulz (University of Cologne) Prof. Jakob Skovgaard-Petersen (University of Copenhagen) <i>Workshop themes:</i> Ritual Religious Authority Gender	University of Amsterdam
19 November 2010	Expert meeting on Islam and museums	Organised by: Prof. Léon Buskens (UL) and Mirjam Shatanawi (Tropenmuseum) <i>Participants:</i> - various university representatives (UvA, VU, EUR, UL) - representatives of museums (Amsterdam: Nieuwe Kerk, Rijksmuseum, Tropenmuseum; Leiden: National Museum of Ethnology, Boerhaave Museum, Textile Research Centre Leiden; Brussels: Cinquantenaire Museum - Imagine IC - individual researchers	Tropenmuseum / Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam
19 January 2011	Internal networking meeting with NISIS PhD candidates	Informal meeting of NISIS PhD candidates with the chair of the NISIS board, Prof. Thijl Sunier	Leiden University

21-25 March 2011	1 st NISIS Spring School: Studies on Islam and Muslim Societies and its Social Values	<p>Organised in close cooperation with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institut d'études de l'Islam et des sociétés du monde musulman (IISMM, Paris) - Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD) - Centre Jacques Berque (CJB, Rabat) - Centre Marocain des Sciences Sociales (CM2S) - Nederlands Instituut in Marokko (NIMAR) - Institut Français de Rabat <p><i>Keynote speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prof. Gabriel Martinez-Gros (IISMM) - Prof. Hassan Rachik (Hassan II University, Casablanca) - Faouzi Skalli (chairman of the Fez Festival of Sufi Culture) - Prof. Thijl Sunier (VU) & Dr. Nico Landman (UU) - Prof. Andrée Feillard (IISMM) - Nadia Marzouki (European University Institute) - Prof. Jean Claude Vatin IISMM - Abdou Filali Ansari (Aga Khan University Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations) - Dr Martijn de Koning (Radboud University) <p><i>Workshop themes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gender and Islam 2. Salafism/fundamentalism 3. Islam and Law 4. Modern Media and Islam 5. Islam and the West 6. History 7. Islam and modernity 8. Minorities 9. Groups and religious discussions 	Institut Français de Rabat

5 April 2011	International conference Presenting Islamic Art in Contemporary Context	Organised by the Messis Foundation Financial support by NISIS	Amsterdam
14-15 April 2011	Conference in commemoration of Prof. Nasr Abu Zayd: A Humanistic Approach to Islam?	Organised by the University of Humanistic Studies Financial support by NISIS Keynote lecture by NISIS board member Prof. Gerard Wiegers	University of Humanistic Studies, Utrecht
27 May 2011	Symposium in Honour of Professor Rudolph Peters: Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies	<i>Keynote speakers:</i> Prof. Brinkley Messick (Columbia University) Prof. Khaled Fahmy (American University in Cairo) Dr. Magdi Guirguis (Kafr El-Sheikh University) Dr. Amalia Zomeno (Spanish National Research Council) Prof. Annelies Moors (University of Amsterdam) Dr Maaïke van Berkel (University of Amsterdam) Dr Maurits van den Boogert (Brill publishers) Prof. Dick Douwes (Erasmus University Rotterdam) Prof. Ruud Peters (University of Amsterdam)	University of Amsterdam
12 October 2011	Internal networking meeting with NISIS PhD candidates	Informal meeting of NISIS PhD candidates with the chair of the NISIS board, Prof. Thijl Sunier	Leiden University
17-18 October 2011	Network meeting: Islam in Europe. Past Projects, Future Priorities	Organised by: Prof. Maurits Berger (UL) and Prof. Thijl Sunier (VU) In cooperation with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society (LUCIS)- VU Institute for the Study of Religion, Culture and Society (VISOR)- Center for European Islamic Thought (University of Copenhagen)- Erlanger Zentrum für Islam und Recht in Europa (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen Nürnberg)	

		<p><i>Participants:</i></p> <p>Dr. Sean McLoughlin (University of Leeds)</p> <p>Prof. Jamal Malik (University of Erfurt)</p> <p>Prof. Thijl Sunier (VU University Amsterdam)</p> <p>Prof. Maurits Berger (Leiden University)</p> <p>Prof. Jørgen S. Nielsen (University of Copenhagen)</p> <p>Dr. Agata S. Nalborczyk (University of Warsaw)</p> <p>Prof. Stefano Allievi (University of Padua)</p> <p>Dr. Jörn Thielmann (Erlanger Zentrum für Islam und Recht in Europa)</p> <p>Prof. Samim Akgönül (Marc Bloch University, Strasbourg)</p> <p>Prof. Marie-Claire Foblets (University of Leuven)</p> <p>Prof. Gema Martin-Muñoz (Autonomous University, Madrid)</p> <p>Dr. Nina Clara Tiesler, (University of Lisbon)</p> <p>Prof. Mattias Gardell (Uppsala University)</p> <p>Prof. Resid Hafizovic (Sarajevo University)</p> <p>Prof. Mark Sedgwick (Aarhus University)</p> <p>Dr. Tuomas Martikainen (University of Helsinki)</p> <p>Prof. Egdunas Raciūnas (Vytautas Magnus University)</p> <p>Prof. Göran Larsson (University of Gothenburg)</p> <p>Prof. Maleiha Malik (King's College London)</p> <p>Dr. Olivier Scharbrodt (University College Cork)</p> <p>Dr. Nasar Meer (Northumbria University)</p> <p>Prof. Brigitte Marechal (University of Leuven)</p>	
25-28 October 2011	2 nd NISIS Autumn School: Classical and Modern	<p><i>Keynote speakers:</i></p> <p>Prof. Christian Lange (Utrecht University)</p> <p>Prof. Abdulkader Tayob (University of Cape Town)</p> <p>Prof. Carl Ernst (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)</p> <p>Prof. Mark Sedgwick (Aarhus University)</p> <p>Prof. Muhammad Khalid Masud (Islamabad)</p> <p>Prof. Knut S. Vikør (University of Bergen)</p>	VU University Amsterdam

		<i>Workshop themes:</i> Theology and History of Ideas Mysticism Law	
26-30 March 2012	2 nd NISIS Spring School: Islam and the Non-Muslim Other: Doctrines, Attitudes, and Practices	Organised in close cooperation with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Freie Universität Berlin, Institut für Islamwissenschaft/Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies - Doğuş University, Istanbul - Nederlands Instituut in Turkije (NIT), Istanbul - Netherlands Instituut for Hoger Onderwijs Ankara (NIHA) - Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes, Istanbul - Galatasaray University, Istanbul - Institut de recherche pour le développement, Marseille <i>Keynote speakers:</i> Dr. Rémy Madinier, Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) Prof. Dick Douwes, Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam Prof. Gudrun Krämer, Freie Universität Berlin Prof. Baudouin Dupret (CNRS Paris and CJB Rabat) Prof. İstar Gözaydın (Doğuş University) Prof. Nora Şeni (Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes, Istanbul) Dr. Richard Wittmann (Orient-Institut Istanbul) Dr. Richard van Leeuwen (University of Amsterdam)	
11 June 2012	Inaugural lecture by Prof. Léon Buskens	"What is Sharia? A Plea for an Anthropology of the Ordinary"	Leiden University
13 June 2012	International Symposium: The Arab Spring in Morocco	Organised by the Research Institute for Theology and Religious Studies (Utrecht), in collaboration with NISIS <i>Speakers:</i> Dr. Nico Landman (Utrecht University) Prof. Fatima Sadiqi (Harvard University)	Utrecht University

		Drs. Nina ter Laan (Radboud University) Prof. Moha Ennaji (University of Fes, Morocco) Drs. Abdelghani el Khairat (Utrecht University)	
10-12 September 2012	1 st workshop: The Sharia Project: A UK-Netherlands Islamic Legal Studies Network	Organised by LUCIS and the University of Exeter, in collaboration with NISIS <i>Conveners:</i> Prof. Léon Buskens and Prof. Robert Gleave <i>Visiting scholar:</i> Prof. Baudouin Dupret	Leiden University
14 September 2012	1 st NISIS Islamic Studies Network Day	Keynote lecture by Dr. Nicolet Boekhoff-van der Voort Parallel workshops with PhD candidates and resMA students	Leiden University
23-26 October 2012	3 rd NISIS Autumn School: Centres and Peripheries. Networks connecting Muslim Societies in Past and Present	<i>Keynote speakers:</i> Prof. Ulrike Freitag (Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin) Prof. Michael Kemper (Universiteit van Amsterdam) Prof. Ghislaine Lydon (University of California) Prof. Peter Mandaville (George Mason University) Dr. Benjamin Soares (African Studies Centre, Leiden) Prof. Pnina Werbner (Keele University) In the <i>workshops</i> , relations between six major areas received particular attention: 1. Sub-Saharan Africa 2. South Asia 3. South-East Asia 4. Central-Asia and the Caucasus 5. Arabia 6. Europe	Leiden University
29 November 2012	Inaugural lecture by Prof. Karin van Nieuwkerk	“A Passage from Darkness to Light: Narratives about the Enlightenment”	Radboud University
18 March 2013	Lecture by Alessandro Vanoli	“Crossing the sea: the Mediterranean and Islam from an Atlantic perspective” Organised by the University of Amsterdam in cooperation with NISIS	University Library Amsterdam

18-22 March 2013	3 rd NISIS Spring School: The State in the Muslim World	<p>Organised in close cooperation with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institut d'études de l'Islam et des sociétés du monde musulman (IISSM, Paris) - Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD, Paris) - Laboratoire DIRASET, Faculté des Sciences Humaines et Sociales (Université de Tunis) - Institut de Recherche sur le Maghreb Contemporain (IRMC, Tunisia) - École Doctorale (Université de Tunis) - Faculté des Lettres et Sciences Humaines (Université de Sousse) <p><i>Keynote speakers:</i> Dr. Alia Gana (CNRS Paris, IRMC Tunis) Prof. Gabriel Martinez-Gros (IISMM) Prof. Anne Marie Moulin (CNRS Paris VII, IISMM) Dr. Jan Jaap de Ruiter (Tilburg University) Prof. Moncef Ben Abdel Jelil (Université de Sousse) Prof. Gerard Wiegers (University of Amsterdam)</p> <p><i>Workshop themes:</i> Intellectual Debates Religious and Secular Elites Political and Religious Change Politics of Law and Justice Reform and Colonial Politics Gender and Space Media Institutions and Policies Diversity, Minorities and Tensions</p>	Hotel Iberostar Saphir Palace, Hammamet
18-19 April 2013	2 nd workshop: The Sharia Project: A UK-Netherlands Islamic Legal Studies Network	<p>Organised by LUCIS and Society and the University of Exeter, in collaboration with NISIS</p> <p><i>Conveners:</i> Prof. Léon Buskens and Prof. Robert Gleave <i>Visiting scholar:</i> Prof. Kecia Ali</p>	University of Exeter

22-25 October 2013	4 th NISIS Autumn School: Islam: Culture or Religion?	<i>Keynote speakers:</i> Prof. Adam Silverstein (Bar-Ilan University) Prof. Carole Hillenbrand (University of Edinburgh) Prof. Bruce Lawrence (Duke University) Prof. Roman Loimeier (University of Göttingen) Prof. Léon Buskens (Leiden University)	Utrecht University
15-16 November 2013	3 rd workshop: The Sharia Project: A UK-Netherlands Islamic Legal Studies Network	Organised by LUCIS and the University of Exeter, in collaboration with NISIS <i>Conveners:</i> Prof. Léon Buskens and Prof. Robert Gleave <i>Visiting scholar:</i> Prof. Baudouin Dupret	Leiden University
28-29 November 2013	Symposium: Hajj: Global Interactions through Pilgrimage	Organised by: - National Museum of Ethnology - LUCIS - Fund for Ethnology (Leiden) - NISIS - Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology (Leiden)	National Museum of Ethnology, Leiden
31 January 2014	Second NISIS Islamic Studies Network Day	Keynote lectures by Dr. Carmen Becker and Prof. Kees Versteegh Parallel workshops with PhD candidates and resMA students	Leiden University
17-21 March 2014	4 th NISIS Spring School: Languages in Muslim Societies	Organised in close cooperation with: - Institut d'études de l'Islam et des sociétés du monde musulman (IISMM, Paris) - Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD, Paris) - Casa de Velázquez (Madrid) <i>Keynote speakers:</i> - Dr. Michiel Leezenberg (University of Amsterdam) - Dr. Boris James (INALCO) - Dr. Montserrat Benítez Fernández (Granada University/Universidad Complutense de Madrid)	Casa de Velázquez, Madrid

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Timur Korayev (Moscow State University) - Dr. Ahmad M. Al-Jallad (Leiden University) - Dr. Hakan Ergül (Hacettepe University / Centre Jacques Berque) <p><i>Workshop themes:</i> Poetry Communities and their languages Spoken languages Discourses Nationalism and politics Translations Arabic beyond the Middle East Texts, histories, and practices</p>	
21-24 October 2014	Fifth NISIS Autumn School: The Religious/Secular Divide in the Muslim World	<p><i>Keynote speakers:</i> Prof. Yolande Jansen (VU University Amsterdam) Prof. Sherine Hafez (University of California) Dr Nadia Fadil (University of Leuven) Prof. Markus Dressler (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen) Prof. Gudrun Krämer (Freie Universität Berlin) Prof. John Bowen (Washington University in St Louis)</p>	

Appendix 6: NISIS Training Programme

In its capacity as an officially recognised national research school, NISIS has developed a NISIS Training Programme. As such, it contributes to successful completion of individual research master programmes or dissertation projects in the domain of the study of Islam and Muslim societies.

6.1 Mission statement

NISIS makes a valuable contribution to the education of PhD candidates and research master students by

- enlarging and deepening the already existing knowledge of Islam and Muslim societies;
- providing insight and participation in the current academic debate;
- stimulating to write about and present projects throughout the PhD trajectory;
- introducing the candidates to an international network of scholars in the field;
- creating an academic community in which research in the field of Islam and Muslim societies can be optimally pursued;
- mediating between a new generation of researchers and innovative disciplinary and interdisciplinary developments, theoretical and methodological initiatives and explorations in the field.

6.2 Programme

The NISIS Training Programme offers NISIS PhD candidates and research master students the opportunity to obtain at least 10 EC a year: the NISIS Spring and Autumn School of 4 EC each, a yearly Islamic Studies Network Day of 1 EC, and the LUCIS visiting fellows programme of 1 EC. Additional courses, workgroups and seminars may be organised. In order to obtain credits for participation in the activities of the NISIS Training Programme, PhD candidates and research master students will be evaluated by members of the NISIS board. PhD candidates and research master students will be judged on the basis of several criteria. Elaborate course descriptions can be found here.

6.3 Time and EC schedule

Please find below the time and EC schedule for PhD candidates and research master students. For complete course descriptions, please refer to <http://www.hum.leiden.edu/nisis/course-schedule/>

Annual NISIS courses			
Type of course	EC load	Location	Semester
NISIS Autumn School	4 EC	one of the participating universities of NISIS	1
NISIS Spring School	4 EC	TBA (outside the Netherlands)	2
NISIS Islamic Studies Network Day	1 EC	Leiden University	2
Additional courses which may be included in the NISIS Training Programme			
Type of course	EC load	Location	Semester
LUCIS visiting autumn fellow lecture series	1 EC	Leiden University	1
LUCIS visiting spring fellow lecture series	1 EC	Leiden University	2
VU University research seminar Muslim-World Making	1 EC per semester	VU University Amsterdam	1 & 2 (finished Dec. 2014)
MA class Religious Authority	6 EC	VU University Amsterdam	1 & 2 (starting March 2015)
Advanced readings in Arabic literature 1 & 2	2 x 5 EC	Utrecht University	1 & 2

Table 1: Time and EC schedule for PhD candidates and research master students

Note for PhD candidates: this schedule is based on PhD projects lasting four years. For projects with a longer of shorter duration an individual training programme may be designed.

PhD candidates who obtain 15 EC within the framework of the NISIS Training Programme, receive the NISIS Research Certificate. This means participation in at least three seasonal schools and three PhD seminars and/or participation in additional courses or seminars up to 15 EC.

All PhD candidates are welcome to continue participating in the NISIS Training Programme after obtaining the 15 EC needed for the Research Certificate. NISIS requires that its funded PhD candidates participate in the NISIS Training Programme activities until the end of their appointment, including those who have already obtained the Research Certificate.

PhD candidates who wish to shape their training programme differently, may in principle do so, but should consult their supervisor and get his/her consent. In order to do so, the PhD candidate should hand in a tailored training programme to the NISIS administration together with written approval from the supervisor.

Note for research master students: research master students may obtain credits (EC) for their participation in the NISIS Seasonal Schools and for other courses within the NISIS Training Programme. After successful completion of the course requirements, NISIS issues an official

certificate indicating the student's participation in the NISIS training course as well as the course load in EC.

EC earned in the NISIS Training Programme may be included in individual research master study programmes by submitting NISIS certificates to the research master's administration. The possibility to include EC earned in the NISIS Training Programme in individual study programmes is guaranteed for students enrolled in the faculties of Humanities throughout the Netherlands.

Students from other faculties at Dutch universities and foreign students need to consult their study advisor about the possibility to include EC earned in the NISIS Training Programme in their individual study programmes. Please note that formal recognition of EC obtained in the NISIS Training Programme falls under the responsibility of the examination board of the respective studyprogramme.

6.4 NISIS research certificate

PhD candidates who obtain 15 EC within the framework of the NISIS Training Programme, receive the NISIS Research Certificate. This means participation in at least three seasonal schools and three PhD seminars and/or participation in additional courses or seminars up to 15 EC.

All PhD candidates are welcome to continue participating in the NISIS Training Programme after obtaining the 15 EC needed for the Research Certificate. NISIS requires that its funded PhD candidates participate in the NISIS Training Programme activities until the end of their appointment, including those who have already obtained the Research Certificate.

PhD candidates who wish to shape their training programme differently, may in principle do so, but should consult their supervisor and get his/her consent. In order to do so, the PhD candidate should hand in a tailored training programme to the NISIS administration together with written approval from the supervisor.

6.5 Additional training activities

In addition to the regular NISIS training activities (the annual Autumn and Spring schools and the annual NISIS Islamic Studies Network Day) NISIS can facilitate in the organisation of additional training activities, run by NISIS members. The activities can take several forms: one-day events (symposiums, workshops) or long-term activities (lecture series, theme groups). NISIS has a small budget to support these additional training activities. For one-day activities a yearly budget of € 3000 is available; for long-term activities a yearly budget of € 1000 is available.

Junior as well as senior NISIS members may apply for NISIS recognition and support for an additional training activity run by themselves. Applications have to be submitted to the NISIS

board before the 1st of March of each year in order to become part of the NISIS curriculum of the following academic year. The NISIS examination and education committee reviews and awards the applications. Please find below about the criteria for the organisation of additional activities within the NISIS Training Programme.

Criteria for one-day activities

- The activity has to be academic. The proposal has to include a clear description of the goal, the importance and the programme of the activity.
- The theme of the activity has to concern the study of Islam and Muslim societies.
- The activity has to be organised by a member of NISIS.
- The programme should involve activities especially aimed at junior NISIS members as much as possible (e.g. short paper or poster session).
- Applicants have to submit an estimate of the costs of the activity.
- The organisation of the activity is the responsibility of the conveners; including the invitation of scholars from abroad and the resulting practical issues.

Additional provisions

- Participation in the activity is open to all NISIS members.
- Applications are open to all junior and senior NISIS members.
- The activities take place within the time frame of one day or it is possible for participants to participate in one day only.
- Next to the academic component, an opportunity for networking will be offered in the form of a lunch, dinner or drinks.
- The activity takes place in a location that is easy to reach.
- The conveners provide sufficient publicity, referring to NISIS in their announcement(s).
- The organisation of the activity is the responsibility of the conveners; including the invitation of scholars from abroad and the resulting practical issues.

Criteria for long-term activities

- The activity has to be academic. The proposal has to include a clear description of the goal, the importance and the programme of the activity.
- The theme of the activity has to concern the study of Islam and Muslim societies.
- The activity has to be organised by a member of NISIS.
- The programme of the activity consists mainly of activities aimed at junior NISIS members (e.g. short paper or poster session).
- The activity is supervised by one or more NISIS senior members.
- The maximum period in which the activity can take place is four years.
- The NISIS board receives a yearly report of the proceedings of the activity.
- Applicants have to submit an estimate of the costs of the activity.

6.6 PhD defence regulations

- The contribution by NISIS to the accomplishment of the dissertation has to be mentioned in the dissertation.
- The PhD candidate sends five copies of the dissertation to the NISIS bureau: for archive and visitations.
- The PhD candidate informs the NISIS bureau two months on beforehand or as early as possible about the date of the defence and he/she sends an invitation for the ceremony.
- The NISIS bureau announces the defence on the website and sends an email to all NISIS members.
- The supervisor takes care of the implementation of the protocol.

Appendix 7: NISIS regulations and institutions

REGULATIONS

NISIS junior membership

1. PhD candidates and research master students doing research in the field of Islamic studies may apply for NISIS membership, provided they satisfy the criteria as set out in article 2, 3 and 4 of these regulations.
2. PhD candidates should be formally assigned a PhD project. 'Aio's', 'oio's' or scholarship students ('bursaal') qualify as such. Officially recognised external candidates qualify as well, provided that the supervisor sends a written statement confirming that this external PhD candidate has the expertise to participate in the NISIS Training Programme.
3. NISIS PhD candidates and research master students should submit a research, education and supervision plan to the programme coordinator of NISIS. This plan should, at least, comprise of: personal data of the PhD candidate/research master student, supervisor(s), title and content of the research, agreements on supervision and review, training to be followed and a detailed plan of action for each year. This plan should be drawn up in cooperation with the supervisor(s) and submitted for approval to the NISIS examination committee.
4. NISIS PhD candidates and research master students should participate in the training activities agreed on in his research, education and supervision plan.
5. NISIS PhD candidates and research master students should submit a yearly progress report to the programme coordinator. This report should contain at least: (1) research progress (2) a report on training (3) a report on teaching (4) publications and lectures. Besides, the report should supply a detailed and commented plan of action for the next year. This progress report should be submitted for approval to the NISIS examination committee.
6. In case the PhD candidate or research master student does not show sufficient progress the NISIS examination committee will get in contact with him/her and his/her supervisors in order to find a solution.
7. In case there is no improvement and/or there are structural problems barring the PhD candidate or research master student from delivery satisfactory results, the NISIS board may decide to remove the PhD candidate from NISIS and inform the involved faculty.
8. PhD candidates and research master students of other LOGOS registered research schools may participate in the NISIS Training Programme without extra payment.

NISIS senior membership

9. NISIS senior membership is available for researchers, who hold a doctorate and are active in the field of Islamic studies. Candidate members can apply for membership by sending a request to the programme coordinator. The NISIS examination committee decides on admission.

INSTITUTIONS

The Examination and Education Committee

The Examination and Education Committee of the NISIS Training Programme consists of the NISIS board. It is the committee's task to supervise the NISIS Training Programme: the committee decides on admission of NISIS junior and senior members; whether PhD candidates qualify for the NISIS research certificate and which activities should be included in the NISIS Training Programme. The NISIS board, in its capacity of Education Committee, confers at least once a year with the two representatives of the Junior Research Council on the training programme.

The Junior Research Council

Every junior NISIS member is member of the Junior Research Council. The Junior Research Council selects two PhD candidates or research master students, who advise the NISIS board in its capacity of Education Committee. The Council discusses all matters relevant for junior NISIS members. The Council meets yearly, preferable during one of the activities of the NISIS Training Programme. The representatives chair the Junior Research Council. The Junior Research Council advises the NISIS board on issues concerning the NISIS Training Programme. The Junior Research Council representatives currently are Arjan Post (A.A.J.Post@uu.nl) and Istiqomah (i.istiqomah@rug.nl).

Programme coordinator

The programme coordinator, Dr Petra de Bruijn (p.de.bruijn@hum.leidenuniv.nl), and the director of NISIS, Professor Léon Buskens (l.p.h.m.buskens@hum.leidenuniv.nl) are responsible for the NISIS Training Programme on behalf of NISIS. PhD candidates and research master students can contact Petra de Bruijn on matters related to their NISIS Training Programme.

Confidential advisor

The NISIS confidential advisor, Dr Petra de Bruijn (p.de.bruijn@hum.leidenuniv.nl), confidentially advises PhD candidates or research master students who encounter problems related to the NISIS Training Programme or NISIS scholarships that cannot be solved otherwise. It should be noted that the NISIS confidential contact person cannot mediate in problems related to individual research projects. In case of problems that affect individual research projects the first person to talk to is your supervisor(s). If they cannot help, or if you wish to speak to someone externally, you should contact the academic director of the department of your affiliation or the confidential advisor of your graduate school.

Appendix 8: List of abbreviations

UvA	University of Amsterdam (<i>Dutch: Universiteit van Amsterdam</i>)
VU	VU University Amsterdam
UU	Utrecht University
RUG	University of Groningen (<i>Dutch: Rijksuniversiteit Groningen</i>)
UvT	Tilburg University (<i>Dutch: Universiteit van Tilburg</i>)
RU	Radboud University
EUR	Erasmus University Rotterdam
MU	Maastricht University
LU	Leiden University
EZIRE	Erlanger Zentrum für Islam und Recht in Europa (Erlangen)
DCH	Disciplinary Consultation in the Humanities (<i>Dutch: Disciplineoverleg Letteren/Geesteswetenschappen</i>), constituted by the Deans of all Faculties of Humanities in the Netherlands
IISMM	Institut d'études de l'Islam et des sociétés du monde musulman (Paris)
LOGOS	Council of the national Dutch research schools in the Humanities (<i>Dutch: Landelijk Overleg Geesteswetenschappelijke Onderzoeksscholen</i>)
LUCIS	Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society
NWO	Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (<i>Dutch: Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek</i>), the national research council in the Netherlands.