CRS Newsletter 16 October 2026

CRS Town Hall Meeting: We invite CRS fellows and researchers at the University of Zurich interested in reproducible science, research synthesis and meta-research to our first "town hall meeting". The main part of the event will be short, focused contributions and pitches of project ideas and showcases. We will further discuss funding opportunities for projects within our research themes, including CRS Seed Grants, and present the current CRS research agenda and its new organisation.
27 November 09:00 to 12:00, followed by lunch
University of Zurich City Campus
Registration: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/7xptAWxAQd (until 1 November)

CRS Visiting Fellow Fernanda Beigel: The CRS is very happy to welcome Prof. Fernanda Beigel from the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo in Mendoza, Argentina, as a visiting fellow. Her stay, from December 2026 to March 2027, is supported by the Collegium Helveticum with a NOMIS Senior Fellowship.
More: https://www.crs.uzh.ch/en/news/2026-News/fellowship-fernanda-beigel.html

Nature Career Feature of CRS Senior Researcher Rachel Heyard: "When the best decision is no decision: the rise of randomization in grant funding."
https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-026-02082-7

CRS Primers on Open Science Practices for Qualitative Research: CRS Fellow Nick Kabrel has written a mini-series of primers on Open Science practices for qualitative research, together with CRS colleagues and Tamarinde Haven from Tilburg University:

- Preregistering Qualitative Studies: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.23209813
- Transparency during the Study Phase: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.23209998
- Transparent Reporting and Data Sharing: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.23210161

More: https://www.crs.uzh.ch/en/materials/CRS-Primers.html

CRS Primer on Sharing Human Brain Data in Research: This new CRS primer by Gorka Fraga González and colleagues at UZH outlines key considerations for sharing human brain imaging data in accordance with legal and ethical standards.
https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.23010438

Lecture series "Fake Science — Isolated Cases or a Systemic Problem?": The next upcoming lectures in our ongoing UZH Ringvorlesung during the fall semester are:

- Phantastic Images and Where to Find Them (and How to Deal with Them) (online), by Kim Wever, Radboud Medical Center, Nijmegen
- Journals as Curators Rather than Publishers, by Meredith Schuman, University of Zurich

27 October 2026 18:15 – 20:00 (in-person; recordings will be available after the event)
University of Zurich KOL-F-118 (main building)
Full program: https://crsuzh.pages.uzh.ch/fake-science/
Recordings:
https://uzh.mediaspace.cast.switch.ch/channel/Fake+Science+%E2%80%93+Isolated+Cases+or+a+Systemic+Problem%3F/140359

Save the date: The 2nd Symposium on Meta Science for Methods Research — a follow up of our recent event at UZH — will take place in Munich.
30 – 31 August, 2027
More: https://lmu-ibe-bmm.github.io/msmr/

Publication: Degen P., Riebler A. & Held L. (2026). Paper mill or paper mine? A tentative answer to the sharp increase in research papers based on the Global Burden of Disease database. Journal of Clinical Epidemiology. doi: 10.1016/j.jclinepi.2026.112464

Publication: Kronthaler D. & Held L. (2026). Prediction intervals for random-effects meta-analysis based on confidence distributions and Edgington's method. Biometrics.
https://doi.org/10.1093/biomtc/ujag167

Registered Report: Heyard, R., Pittelkow, M.-M., Silverstein, P., Amaral, O. B., Gordon, S., Wasylewski, M., & Molo, F. (2026). COmplete Reporting for Transparent Reproducibility Efforts (CORTRE): a reporting guideline. In principle acceptance by Peer Community in Registered Reports.
https://osf.io/n4k58

Registered Report (preprint): Heyard, R., Wnfried Ramirez, H., Jann, B., Rohner, D., Held, L., & Egger, M. (2026). Lottery funding and academic career outcomes: a randomized natural experiment at the Swiss National Science Foundation.
https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.23189200