

New Board members **developing a future-proof strategy**

Two persons have joined the Steering Board (Board of Directors or Governing Board) of EIPEN. Their candidature has been approved by the General Assembly. No elections were necessary as the Board can count up to 8 members.

Ilse Lamers is assistant professor at the Faculty of Rehabilitation Sciences of the University of Hasselt, and was member of the Programme Committee of the EIPEN 2025 Conference. Ilse is responsible for a learning trajectory in interprofessional collaboration and for research on interprofessional practice and education at her faculty.



Stella van Daal is lecturer in Speech therapy at Hogeschool Rotterdam, where she also is coordinating the interprofessional education in the Institute for Health Care Studies.

Hogeschool Rotterdam joined EIPEN as institutional member in 2018, University of Hasselt in 2022. Ilse continues the tradition that a host of an EIPEN conference is likely to become a member of the EIPEN Board.



The new Board is chaired by **Paul van Royen**, who joined EIPEN in 2015. He served as vice-chair since 2019 for more than 6 years and hosted the EIPEN conference in 2019. Paul is emeritus professor at the University of Antwerp. **Valérie Santschi** and **Stella van Daal** will act as vice-chairs.



Board members **leaving their mark**

After almost 8 years of commitment as a Board member, **Jos Verweij** from Hogeschool Rotterdam is leaving the Board as he also retires as active academic. Jos was vice-chair of EIPEN and an important person connecting the active Dutch community of interprofessional education with EIPEN. As a highly dedicated EIPEN Board member, Jos was always signalling opportunities for collaboration and convincing persons and institutions to join EIPEN as a member.



Andre Vyt founded EIPEN as an association (together with Tiina Tervaskanto-Maentausta from Finland and Majda Pahor from Slovenia) in 2012 after the inspiring conference in 2011. He transformed the informal association into a membership association with formal statutes in 2014 and served as chair of EIPEN for 15 years. Andre is associate professor at the Faculty of Medicine and Health sciences (Ghent University), lecturer at the department of Health Care Studies and Teacher training (Arteveldehogeschool), and quality management expert (AQARTO Agency). He is looking back on a successful trajectory of EIPEN. He is leaving the Board but stays as active member.



► A letter of the outgoing chair and information about the Board and the policy is to be found at the EIPEN website. The strategy for the coming years developed by the new Board will also be published on the website. See www.eipen.eu

The Slovenian hub of IPE: EUVECA as European project

The University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Health Sciences (UL ZF), recently concluded its participation in the Erasmus+ EUVECA project, to which it contributed through its interprofessional education course *Interprofessional Collaboration*. EUVECA brought together partners across seven European regional hubs to strengthen future-oriented skills, innovation and collaboration in health care and health care education. At UL ZF, project activities supported the further integration of experiential and simulation-based learning into the course, strengthening students' communication, coordination, teamwork and preparedness for complex clinical situations.



In May 2026, the Slovenian Hub marked the conclusion of its work with the conference *Interdisciplinarity for Superior Results and Safe Practice in Healthcare*. The event highlighted the contribution of interprofessional and simulation-based education to patient safety and quality of care, as well as the importance of sustained cooperation between educational institutions, healthcare organisations, professional associations and public authorities. Matic Kavcic, Board member of EIPEN since 2020, is coordinating the Slovenian input, and organised the conference at his faculty in Ljubljana.

► Information of the EUVECA project is to be found at <https://euveca.eu/>

Pulpit final conference: The missing voices in healthcare education

EIPEN served as member of the advisory board of this European-funded project for the past two years. The concluding conference takes place in Lisbon and will also be accessible online. ESEL, coordinator of the consortium, is also EIPEN member since 2024.



► See the conference website <https://pulpitconference.pt/> and the project website <https://linktr.ee/pulpit.erasmus>