



University of Groningen

### Exploring 'Expose -a-thons'

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### **Vincent Hazelhoff**

# **Exploring 'Expose-a-thons'**

Using an 'EXPOSition marATHON' as a way of connecting student projects with local cultural organisations.

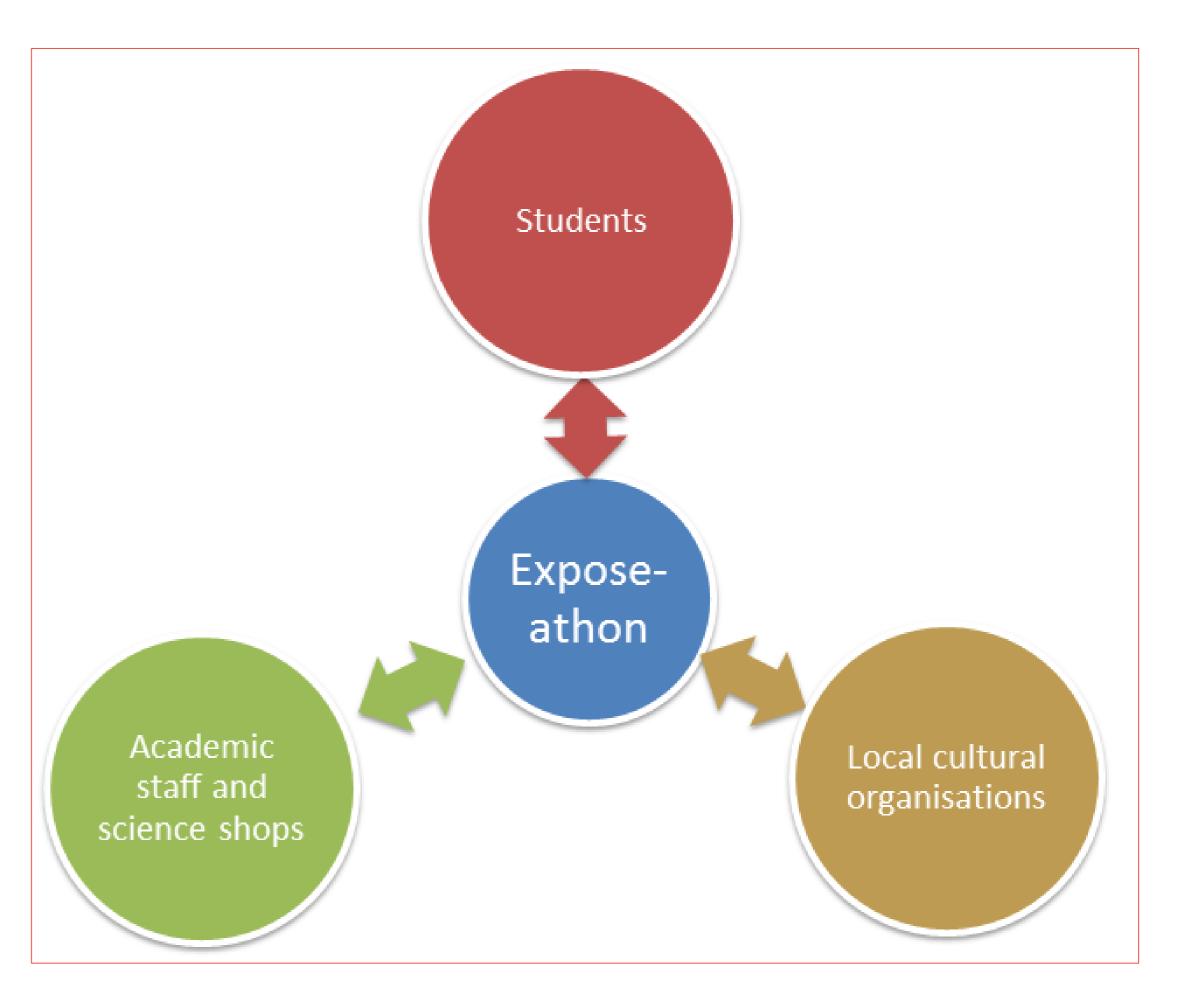
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# **Context/Method**

For over 40 years, The Science Shops of the University of Groningen connect socially relevant questions from non-profit organisations to research by students. In order to keep reinventing ourselves as a valuable part of the university, I would like to introduce an interactive and challenging activity called: Expose-a-thon. During one weekend:

- **Students** from the Faculty of Arts will: 1. Develop an exposition about a relevant topic 2.Learn to combine scientific concepts with perspectives/methods from the working field
- 3.Learn to think and work interdisciplinary 4.Build a network with key players from local cultural organisations
- Cultural organisations will: 1.Get a free exposition made by students



## **Challenges/Dilemmas**

The process from the idea of an expose-athon to an actual activity encounters multiple dilemmas and challenges:

2.Can cherry-pick students with talent for later projects 3.Can enlarge and strengthen their network 4.Can (re)establish relations with the university

• Science shops will:

1. Give students an extra-curricular opportunity to discover 2. Strengthen themselves as an mediator between non-profit organisations and student projects 3.Get great PR!

# **Reason/Motivation**

I've been a student of history at the University of Groningen and worked for a myriad of cultural organisations in the past. The benefit of being part of both groups is that I know where the questions of both parties lie.

1.Who do we include or exclude? 2.How do you manage these relations altogether?

3.How do you ensure quality for all partners?

4.How do you make this activity a longterm success?

5.How do you connect with the goals of all partners?

## **Your input**

Students:

Where am I going to work? What are my strengths and weaknesses? How am I able to find a job? How can we get students more involved in our work? Cultural organisations: How can we show our collection more broadly?

To connect these is an exciting and fun challenge! **But... how?** 



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