

**Invitation: Pre-conference workshop: 'Included in training and work: Transforming policies and practices for disabled people'**

Dear Sir or Madam

We would like to invite you to the **Pre-Conference workshop** on **29th November** at **14.30**, where we will present a new report: *Included in Training and Work: Transforming Policies and Practices for Disabled People*. This report is a call to action that asks professionals to recognise and change policies and practices that currently form barriers for disabled people in vocational education and employment.

We began with international collaborative research, which was then further debated and finalised during the Lorentz Center workshop of the same name in August 2017. The resulting report zooms in on key issues, such as skill-matching, supported choice-making, applying Universal Design in education and work, addressing bullying in adult education and workplaces, fostering inclusion, and preventing disability discrimination. It has been developed with extensive participation by disabled people who have become experts in their own right.

We will present key findings and make recommendations. There will also be time to debate these recommendations, and to discuss what steps could be taken by organisations like the UWV to implement them.

**Date:** Wednesday 29th November 2017  
**Time:** 14.30 – 17.00 hour  
**Address:** Conference center 'Casa 400', Conference Hall: University off Amsterdam  
 Eerste Ringdijkstraat 4 in Amsterdam

The location is accessible for wheelchair users and is a five-minute walk from Amsterdam Amstel Station.

**Sign Up:** Registration can be completed with the registration form.

**Questions:** Do you have questions, or have you have signed up for the workshop but cannot attend?  
 If so, please send an email to Marianne Dijkshoorn: [scholingsprogramma@disabilitystudies.nl](mailto:scholingsprogramma@disabilitystudies.nl)

**Program:**

14.30 – 15.00 Reception with coffee/tea and cake.  
 15.00 – 15.10 Introduction by day chairperson Sofie Sergeant  
 15.10 – 15.35 Presentation of the report: 'Included in Training and Work' by Mitzi Waltz  
 15.35 – 16.00 Discussion of four key themes:

1. Matching individual skills and talents to appropriate VE and work opportunities by working collaboratively with disabled people
2. Applying Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles to vocational education and work placement
3. Dealing with the issue of bullying in the context of vocational education (bullying within VE, ways to protect disabled people and promote resilience, and preventative strategies when moving people from VE into work)
4. Work, "participation," inclusion and preventing discrimination: developing policy and practice alternatives that work with the realities of both disabled people's lives and the modern employment market.

16.00 – 16.20 Interactive discussion: 'And after this report, how do we meet the challenge?'  
 16.20 – 16.30 Closing remarks by Sofie Sergeant  
 16:30 – 17.00 Wine and cheese party, and time for informal discussions

We look forward to seeing you there!

Your sincerely

Marianne Dijkshoorn  
 Organisator Pre-conference Workshops, Disability Studies in the Netherlands