This Annual Report covers the activities of the Vietsch Foundation from 1 January until 31 December 2021.

The Vietsch Foundation fulfills its goal of supporting research and development of advanced Internet technology for scientific research and higher education in two ways.

1. By contributing funding to specific research and development projects that demonstrate potential value to progress European and global research and education networking
2. By awarding an annual medal of honour to people who contributed to the development of a service, technology or approach that will be of lasting value to the research and education networking community and its users.

Change of Address

The Vietsch Foundation moved from Amsterdam to Vlaardingen on 15-6-2021.

The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees of the Vietsch Foundation is responsible for the direction of the Foundation and the management of its assets. In 2021 the Board was composed of the following members:

- Valentino Cavalli, Chair
- John Dyer, Secretary
- Antoinette Vietsch, Treasurer
- Andrew Cormack, Member at large
- Kathleen Shearer, Member at large
- Pekka Kähkipuro, Member at large.

In 2021 the Board of Trustees met on the following dates:

- meeting # 39, 19-02-2021
- meeting # 40, 23-04-2021
- meeting # 41, 04-06-2021
- meeting # 42, 17-09-2021
- meeting # 43, 10-12-2021

At meeting 39, John Dyer announced his intention to step down from the role of secretary. Its role wasn’t formally changed, but it was agreed that he would stop taking minutes, which would be taken collaboratively by Board members and be finalised by the chair. John Dyer continues to support other administrative tasks such as website registration and tasks related to the production of the medal.
At the 43rd meeting, Valentino Cavalli was appointed UBO (Ultimate Beneficial Owner), following the European rule requiring the identification of one person in the Board who is responsible and is influential.

**Project funding**

In 2021 the Vietsch Foundation selected the following projects for funding.

- **AALD.** The project on Academic Achievement and Learning Diaries, aims to increase the scientific understanding of students’ epistemic thinking related to learning analytics applications. It aims to publishing two scientific open access articles, a public web page describing the structured diary tool contents, and main findings summary of the project. In addition, a public presentation will be given as part of a relevant conference. The project timeline is from Oct 2021 to Jan 2022. The grant for this project was €8,000.00.

- **EduDNS.** The eduDNS project will provide a universal, vendor-independent Dynamic DNS support for research and education users. eduDNS will simplify the deployment of services that are dynamically deployed in Cloud infrastructures. It removes the obstacles of changing IP addresses of services in Cloud at every deployment and enables obtaining SSL certificates for the hostnames. The EduDNS proposal was relayed to the Vietsch Foundation by GÉANT through its Innovation Programme. The grant for this project was €30,000.00.

The following projects ended in 2021:

- **Science Checker.** With social networks and the advances of artificial intelligence, it is increasingly easier to create fake news and make them circulate quicker and quicker. The project built a free to access search engine, developing a novel approach that verifies scientific claims by means of analysing the pertinent and available scientific literature. The science-checker.opscidia.com is now publicly available. The grant for this project was €35,700.00.

- **HowAdTech Works.** This Vietsch Foundation grant supported the publication of “Targeted Online”, a handbook by the European Digital Rights (EDRi), to disclose the internet’s dominant business model, how tech companies use (and abuse) data and why some ads are misleading. The handbook explains how online advertising works, and why a reform of the entire online advertising industry is urgently needed. The grant for this project was €10,200.00.

- **Second edition of “Free and Open Source: Law, policy and practice”.** This book, edited by Amanda Brock, was completed, but the publication by Oxford University Press (OUP) expected in 2021 has not yet taken place. The original funding was for an “open access title” with pdf, html and e-reader freely available on an attribution basis. Following a proposal from the book’s editor, an additional GBP7,000.00 was granted to OUP to print 200 copies, with Vietsch Foundation branding, to be
distributed at high-profile Open Source events. This was done at cost, rather than cover, price.

- **Democratic Sendcomm.** The project built a user-friendly connected telemetry appliance to teach democratic communication. The main deliverable is an Opensource design of cheap yet high performance LoRa devices in form factors appropriate for one low-power platform (like BBC Micro:bit) and one high-power platform (like Minnowboard Turbot). The grant for this project which started in 2018 was €25,000.00.

The following projects, which were funded in previous years were still ongoing at the end of 2021:

- **Expanding the EMREX Network to EU and beyond.** The project aims to facilitate student mobility and to decrease the administrative burden of student exchanges for institutions. It builds on EMREX, a technical solution and an international network, which are available in a number of countries in Europe. The grant allocated to this project was €30,000.00.

Further details of these projects can be found on the Vietsch Foundation website, www.vietsch-foundation.org

**Medal of Honour 2021**

The 2021 medal of the Vietsch Foundation was awarded Laurel Haak founder and former executive director of ORCID. The medal was virtually handed out to her on the 22nd of June during a ceremony at the TNC online conference.