

Public Lecture on Scientific Integrity

Dr. Elisabeth Bik

*Errors and Misconduct in
Biomedical Research
Images*



Science builds upon science. Even after peer-review and publication, science papers could still contain images or other data of concern. If not addressed, papers containing incorrect or even falsified data could lead to wasted time and money spent by other researchers trying to reproduce those results. Several high-profile cases of science misconduct have been reported, but many more remain undetected. Elisabeth Bik is an image forensics detective who left her paid job in industry to search for and report biomedical articles that contain errors or data of concern. She has conducted a systematic review of 20,000 papers across 40 journals and found that approximately 4% of these contained inappropriately duplicated images. In her talk, she will present her work and show several types of inappropriately duplicated images and other examples of research misconduct. In addition, she will discuss how Artificial Intelligence can both help identify cases of misconduct and also create them, as well as the growing threat of scientific paper mills.

On the occasion of the Dies academicus of the University of Bern on 6th December 2025, Elisabeth Bik will receive an honorary doctorate from the Faculty of Science for her groundbreaking work and untiring commitment to scientific integrity.

Friday 5th December 2025, 4pm

Aula, 2nd floor, Main Building, Hochschulstrasse 4.