

In Memoriam

Kees Hoogland

(Vlaardingen, 13 March 1961 – Bussum, 14 June 2025)

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Kees Hoogland, a passionate professor of Mathematical and Analytical Competence of Professionals since 2020. Kees peacefully passed away on Saturday 14 June in the presence of his wife. Despite knowing for the past three years that his time was limited, he lived and worked with unwavering dedication—two aspects of his life that were nearly inseparable.

Kees was a passionate advocate for numeracy education, speaking at numerous national and international conferences about his Common European Numeracy Framework. He tirelessly advocated for educating children and adults to become numerate citizens who can function in society. Never one to shy away from debate, he expressed his views with conviction and clarity.

He was driven, engaged, and critical—yet always with enough humour to keep things in perspective. He published extensively: from chats, blogs, columns, and films to scientific articles. Last month, his NRO guideline “Working on arithmetic and numeracy in vocational education” was published with the telling motto “Knowing what works and why”. Though his work remains unfinished, his legacy lives on in the inspiration he gave his colleagues—right up to the very end. For Kees, living meant having a lionheart. Kees truly demonstrated how to put “living life to the fullest” into practice.