



I am Michael van der Kooij and my research addresses how stress, via metabolic processes, can affect behavioural outcome. I studied biology (Leiden University) and did my PhD in the Netherlands (Utrecht). After scientific excursions as a postdoc in Switzerland (EPFL, Lausanne) and Germany (Mainz), I have recently returned to the Netherlands. Now, as an assistant professor at the UMC Utrecht, I continue my work as a behavioural neuroscientist. I always marked my calendar ahead of time, making sure I could join the EBBS conferences. I have fond memories of the EBBS meetings; highlights include my first international talk in Munich in 2013 and the possibility of organizing a symposium in 2019 Prague. Mostly, however, I cherish the memories of discussions at poster sessions or during the social events with EBBS-members, many whom I consider to be friends. I would love to repay the EBBS community for the great moments I had since coming to the meetings, by joining the board as ordinary member.