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“When all other contingencies fail, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.”—*Sherlock Holmes*
Science is the belief in the ignorance of experts.”—*Richard Feynman*

Introducing Our European Bureau Chief

We are pleased to announce (1) the appointment of C.W. (“Kees”) Moeliker as our European Bureau Chief, and (2) the opening of the Improbable Research European Bureau, which is located in C.W. Moeliker’s office at the Natuurhistorisch Museum Rotterdam.

Kees Moeliker is the curator of birds at the museum, and the world’s foremost authority on improbable behavior of, and/or research on birds. Moeliker rose to international prominence following publication of his study “The First Case of Homosexual Necrophilia in the Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* (Aves: Anatidae)” (published in *Deinsea*, vol. 8, 2001, pp. 243-7). He was awarded the 2003 Ig Nobel Biology Prize, honoring that very research.

Subsequently, Moeliker joined the editorial board of the *Annals of Improbable Research*. He is a frequent author of articles in this magazine and on the web site, and has been a star participant in the Ig Nobel Tours of the U.K. and at the Ig Nobel Prize Ceremonies and Lectures.

Moeliker’s appointment, and the opening of the office, will be celebrated in May at a public ceremony at the museum. (If you would like to attend, see the Improbable Research web site for details.)

The north wing of the Natuurhistorisch Museum Rotterdam.

“A” marks the location of C.W. Moeliker’s office. This photograph is reproduced from his published report about the mallard duck incident.



Kees Moeliker displaying a stuffed mallard duck at the 2003 Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony. Photo: John Bradley.



Figure 1. The new north wing of the Natuurhistorisch Museum Rotterdam. **a** = the office of the author; **b** = the approximate location where NMR 9997-00232 hit the glass facade; **c** = the site from where the author observed the rape (from behind the glass). [photo: Christian Roffens]