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He was advisor to several Flemish ministers of education (1992-2000), General Director of the Flemish rectors' conference VLIR (2000-2003), managing director of GO! (2004), and chief of staff of the Flemish Minister of Education Frank Vandenbroucke (2004-2008). He was a board member of several quality assurance organizations for higher education such as QANU (Netherlands), AQA (Austria) or at the Université de Luxembourg. He currently is external member of the Quality Committee of Trinity College Dublin (Ireland). He also worked as a consultant for international organizations such as UNESCO, the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA, USA) or the International Association of University Presidents (IAUP).

He has published extensively on higher education quality assurance and evaluation. At the OECD, he supervised and promoted work in educational technology, social and emotional skills assessment and educational innovation. His current interests are the science of learning, comparative analyzes of education systems, lifelong learning and higher education policy and evaluation. He also leads work on the assessment of learning outcomes in higher education.