

Welcome to the first edition of the Risbo newsletter!

In this edition, you'll find inspiration on a discussion game about student well-being, firefighter experts as educators, the Basic Teaching Qualification, learning with professional role-play actors, and a "Popcorn Assessment."

We hope these stories and ideas will inspire your own teaching practice or professional context.

Enjoy reading! And if you need any support, feel free to get in touch as we're happy to help.

From firefighter to education professional

Fire fighting is a profession, and driven by passion. The same goes for designing and delivering high-quality education, although it is a very different profession altogether. The Dutch Institute for Public Safety (NIPV) wanted to further professionalize its trainer advisors: subject-matter experts who spend a significant amount of time teaching. Their strong passion for the firefighting profession sometimes means that the teaching role receives less attention.

To support this development, Risbo designed a tailor-made University Teaching Qualification (UTQ) programme for this group of professionals. What challenges did they face, and what were the results? Ciska Baris, Team Manager of Operational Fire Service Training, shares her experiences:

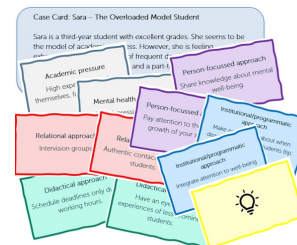
[Read the interview](#)

Discover the student wellbeing game

Risbo has developed a discussion-based game for teams of lecturers and educational support staff. The game is designed to support practical conversations about student wellbeing: how to recognise signs of ill-being, what you can do in your own role, and how to refer students appropriately without taking on a counselling role.

Using concrete cases, teams explore how they can make a difference from day one. The focus is on actionable steps and realistic interventions that can be integrated into your course or curriculum.

Curious what this game could offer your team and how it might help strengthen attention to student wellbeing in your pedagogical approach? Get in touch with Katja Tas, she will be happy to tell you more.



[Contact Katja](#)

Practicing challenging situations with training actors

You're addressing a group, but no one seems to be listening. How do you regain control, without losing the group?

In a safe training environment, you can practice these kinds of situations with Risbo's professional role-play actors. By experimenting with different approaches, receiving immediate feedback, and experiencing firsthand what does and does not work, you gain greater control over group dynamics and challenging situations. The actors recreate realistic scenarios and provide targeted feedback based on practical models.

Role-play is highly valuable for teachers, trainers, coaches, project managers, and other professionals working in learning and change environments. For example, Risbo has deployed role-play actors at the Academy for Real Estate and Erasmus MC.

Contact Jana de Wit if you would like to discuss how role-play can be used effectively in your own context.

[Read more about roleplay](#)

[Contact Jana](#)

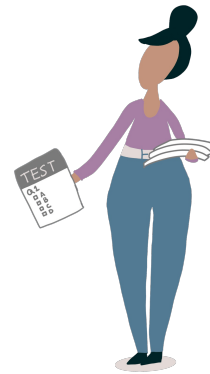
Obtain your Basic Teaching Qualification: a new online programme

Would you like to further develop your teaching skills as a university of applied sciences lecturer and obtain a recognized teaching qualification? With Risbo's Basic Teaching Qualification (BTQ, BDB in Dutch), you work in a focused way on your professional development and strengthening your teaching practice.

In this compact and practice-oriented programme (October 2026 – May 2027), you develop all the competencies expected of a contemporary lecturer in higher professional education: from instructional design and assessment (including the Basic Examiner Qualification, BEQ) to teaching, supervision, and professional academic practice. It is also possible to enrol in the BEQ module only. The language of instruction is English, and the programme is fully online.

More information on dates, costs, and options for a tailor-made BTQ/BDB programme can be found on our website.

Don't wait any longer and take the next step in your development as a higher education lecturer!



[Read more about the BTQ](#)

Popcorn Assessment



Are you looking for new ways to design assessment? Then this might appeal to you: the Popcorn Assessment. In this approach, participants watch previously recorded and shared presentations as homework. By arranging this beforehand, you create space during the live session for genuine discussion and deeper exploration. It is a smart way to combine presentation skills and critical reflection. And the popcorn? You can serve it either before or during the session 😊

Curious to learn the details and discover other variations? Explore the full explanation on TestEUR: a growing collection - compiled by Risbo and [CLL](#) - of free assessment formats, practical examples, and concrete tools you can apply directly to your own practice.

[TestEUR](#)

All illustrations in this newsletter are created by Risbo.

This newsletter will be published a few times a year. Each edition gives you a glimpse of our work: education advice, programmes, and insights from educational practice. Do you know someone who might be interested too? Feel free to pass it on.



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