

I studied linguistics and literature (Dutch, general and comparative) at the University of Amsterdam, became lecturer (junior professor) at the University of Aarhus (Denmark) and later head of the department for bibliography and documentation of Dutch literature at the University of Amsterdam, whereas at the same time I was chairman of the staff (i.e. with exclusion of the professors) of the university;

– hereafter my career changed in a complete other direction : administrator/general manager of the Faculty of Dentistry of the same university, executive chairman of the board of the Amsterdam Emma Kinderziekenhuis (Child Hospital), executive chairman of the board of the hospital for mental health (academic, forensic and regular) De Meren in Amsterdam;
– now I am retired, but I am still fulfilling several functions of (partly non executive) chairman.

After having played chess as a schoolboy I started playing bridge as a student; being not unsuccessful I was offered with the position of bridge columnist of the biggest newspaper in The Netherlands;

– hereafter I was writing bridge columns for successively the two most authoritative newspapers of the country until the early '90's;
– during all those years I held also the position of editor (last period editor-in-chief) of *Bridge*, the monthly magazine of the Dutch Bridge League (by the way after the American League the biggest bridge league in the world, with 120.000 members);
– fields of special interest for me were (and are) the history of the game and its players, the theory of the game and the connection with the other 'mental' sports chess and draughts/checkers;
– as a player I won (together with my partner, respectively team mates) in the 60's and early 70's three big international tournaments and ended in a big field on the 5th place in the first held Europe Cup for pairs;
– my ambitions still are to build up, together with a fellow collector, an authoritative library on bridge in the UBA (Universiteitsbibliotheek Amsterdam; Library of the University of Amsterdam) and to promote a reliable bibliography of the Dutch bridge literature and later, if possible, of the international literature.

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