



# WIAS News

May 2024

Number 5

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## WIAS News

### WIAS Science Day 2024

The WIAS Science Day 2024 with the theme "ANIMALS IN A CHANGING WORLD" was a great success. It was a day full of inspiring oral presentations of 31(!) PhD candidates and one EngD candidate divided over two parallel sessions "Animal behaviour and biology" and "Animal physiology and genetics". The sessions were chaired by enthusiastic WIAS PhD candidates, postdocs and staff members, ensuring lively discussions with each presenter. During lunch there was a poster session with posters of 18 WIAS PhD candidates showing plans and first results of, mostly, recently started PhD candidates.

The day was opened with a keynote by Prof. Dr Liesbeth Sterck, professor in Ecological determinants of behaviour at Utrecht University, who gave us insights on primate social behavior and what we can learn from them. At the end of the day, Prof. Bas Haring, professor in Public Understanding of Science at the University of Leiden gave an interactive lecture and discussed animals, ethics and society with the audience.

The best oral presentation prize was awarded to Gibbs Kuguru (ABG) for his presentation entitled "Genomic Data Reveals Extremely Low Genetic Diversity and Inbreeding Risk in Maldivian Blacktip Reef Sharks (*Carcharhinus melanopterus*)". The best poster prize was awarded to Elke Molenaar for her poster on "Handling Heat - Disentangling avian responses to temperature". Congratulations!



### WIAS Graduate programme 2024

The WIAS Graduate Programme call 2024 involves the funding of one PhD position. The aim is to support a high potential and talented MSc student of WU to obtain their PhD through research at one of the WIAS chair groups on a subject of their choice.

The call for the WIAS graduate programme is open to all MSc students from Wageningen University who graduate(d) between August 2023 and December 2024. The proposals must be written by the candidate with feedback from the anticipated supervisors of the project. All applications need to be accompanied by a letter of support from the main supervisor(s) of the project and must be submitted no later than 1 September 2024 to Nicole Rodenburg (nicole.rodenburg@WUR.nl). More information can be found [here](#).

## WIAS Lunch Lectures

On 7 May 2024, Dr Marc Verdegem, from the Aquaculture and Fisheries chair group, will give a lecture. This lecture will be held from 12:15-13:00 in the Zodiac Building, Room A0107. Lunch will be available at 12:00.

### WIAS lunch lecture Programme 2024

Date	Name	Affiliated chair group
4 June 2024	Dr Büşra Atamer Balkan	QVE
2 July 2024	Dr Genoveva Rodriguez-Castaneda	WEC
3 September 2024	Prof. Wim van der Poel	QVE

WIAS is looking for postdocs, staff or guest researchers who would like to present their work in 2024. Interested? Please send an email to [wias@wur.nl](mailto:wias@wur.nl). The WIAS lunch lectures take place every first Tuesday of the month from 12:15-13:00.

## Updated Procedure for Booking Doctoral Defence Ceremony Dates

A new and improved procedure regarding the booking of doctoral defence ceremony dates will be effective from July 2024. This change will eliminate the need for the stressful event of having to book a date at the first working day of the month and the disappointment which in certain cases originated from it. From July 2024 onwards, booking a ceremony date will be possible after the approval of:

1. the draft thesis manuscript;
2. the thesis committee.

This means that in order to secure a slot, both criteria must be met.

There will be 15-week period between the time you are able to book a doctoral defence ceremony date and the first available slot. This means that only promotion slots meeting this requirement will be available in the Hora Finita ceremony calendar. Please note that this timeline is specific to the PhD trajectory and the term for which slots can be booked will change every day. The envisaged changes will be implemented to address the challenges encountered with the current procedure and to streamline the booking process, ultimately aimed at providing a more organized and less stressful experience for all involved parties

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## WAPS News

### The WIAS Associated PhDs council (WAPS) is searching for (board) members.

The WAPS council consists of PhD candidates from the Wageningen Institute of Animal Sciences (WIAS) and acts in the interest of all the WIAS PhD candidates. The WAPS council gives input and feedback on matters related to the PhD programme. ([WIAS PhD council - WUR](#)).

Interested? Send an email to the WAPS, or approach one of the members to ask any question you might have.

### Contact WAPS

Facebook: WIAS PhD students

LinkedIn: WIAS PhD's

Instagram: [wias\\_phds](#)

Email: [waps.wias@wur.nl](mailto:waps.wias@wur.nl)

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## WIAS Magazine

Spring is finally getting in full swing: with sunshine, flowers, and longer days. AND... **\*drum roll\*** the 11th edition of the WIAS magazine. The deadline for this year's Spring edition is the 15 May 2024, so there is still time to submit your article if you have something to share. Publishing an article with us is a great way to connect with other PhDs and Post-Docs in Animal Sciences, as well

as putting your chair group in the spotlight. In the meantime, check out the articles published in previous editions, such as the ones from our [latest](#).

We are also looking for new members! This could be you! Have you always been interested in publishing, reviewing, editing and layout design? This is a great experience if you look to be more involved in the publishing industry or want to get a first taste of reviewing articles. Also, we are fun to hang out with and we celebrate each edition with good food and a drink! So be sure to contact us at [wias.magazine@wur.nl](mailto:wias.magazine@wur.nl) if you're interested or have any questions for the board!

### Are you next? Submission deadline Spring edition: 15 May 2024

Our step-by-step **author guide** is available [here](#), to make submitting even easier!

### Questions or suggestions?

You can email us at [wias.magazine@wur.nl](mailto:wias.magazine@wur.nl). We are always happy to help!



On behalf of WIAS Magazine – Evelien, Bernadett, Ilva Noa & Jeroen

**'Science connects us all'**

Get in contact: [wias.magazine@wur.nl](mailto:wias.magazine@wur.nl)

Website: [WIAS.magazine](http://WIAS.magazine)



## WIAS Seminars and Courses

WIAS recommends the following courses (registration is open)

Date	Course
22, 23 & 24 May 2024	<a href="#">LAS Species-Specific course on Fish</a>
29-31 May 2024	<a href="#">WIAS/PE&amp;RC Course Design of Experiments</a>
4 June 2024	<a href="#">The Final Touch</a>
4-5 June 2024	<a href="#">WGS course Ethics &amp; Animal Sciences</a>
24 July-3 August 2024	<a href="#">Scientific Diving – Practical Course (MAE-20806)</a>
18-20 September 2024	<a href="#">LAS Species-Specific course on Fish</a>
24-25 October 2024	<a href="#">Interdisciplinary Skills Training</a>
18 October, 1, 15 & 29 November 2024	<a href="#">Effective Behaviour in your Professional Surroundings</a>
30, 31 October & 1 November 2024	<a href="#">WIAS Introduction course on Personal Effectiveness for your PhD</a>
26 & 27 November 2024	<a href="#">WGS course Ethics &amp; Animal Sciences</a>
17 December 2024	<a href="#">The Final Touch</a>

For an overview of WIAS courses and seminars please click [here](#).

**Scientific Diving Course (MAE10302)**

If one of your New Year's resolutions is to improve your diving skills for research, we are pleased to inform you that PhDs can follow the Scientific Diving – Theoretical Course (MAE10302) at WIAS!

### **Looking for candidates to join the Scientific Diving – Practical Course (MAE20806)**

The course will be held in Krk, Croatia for a total of 12 days. The approximate dates that we'll go are: 24 July – 3 August, 2024. The costs are 2000 euro including travel, accommodation and gear rental. Expenses for food must be covered additionally. The prerequisites to join are at least 50 open water dives, a recent dive medical check, and having passed the Scientific Diving – Theoretical Course. Information on the application procedure you can find [here](#). Please fill [this application form](#) if you are interested. See this [Resource article](#) to read about the experiences of your colleagues.

## **Other Courses**

### **WGS Courses**

16 May 2024

[Scientific Publishing](#)

27 May, 10 June 2024, 8 July 2024 (online)

[Project and Time Management](#)

13 June 2024

[Reviewing a Scientific Manuscript](#)

17 June 2024

[The Essentials of Scientific Writing and Presenting](#)

17 June 2024 (online)

[Intensive Writing Week](#)

17 June, 9 September 2024

[Scientific Integrity](#)

20 June 2024 (Hybrid)

[Short Workshop - Introduction to LaTeX](#)

12 September, 10 & 29 October 2024

[The Choice: Un-box your PhD process & take charge of your performance](#)

17 September, 1, 15, 29 October and 22 November 2024

[Career Perspectives](#)

19 & 26 September 2024

[Mobilising your – Scientific - Network](#)

25 September, 2 October 2024

[Career Development for Postdocs: Science and the Alternatives](#)

30 October and 6 November 2024

[Quarto](#)

### **Other Graduate schools**

13-15, 21 and 22 May 2024 (PE&RC)

[Basis Statistics](#)

4-6 June 2024 (PE&RC)

[Linear Models](#)

14-20 September 2024 (WIMEK)

Grounding carbon farming course on site in France. For more information and registration see <https://www.wur.nl/en/activity/grounding-carbon-farming.htm>

18-22 November 2024 (VLAG)

Data science is revolutionizing our understanding of biology in biotechnology and systems health... *Can you uncover something new in one week?* [Life Sciences Data Integration Challenge](#)

### **Library courses**

16 May 2024 (online)

[Introduction to WUR Library for \(new\) PhD candidates](#)

21 & 22 May 2024 - Course

[Searching and Organising Literature for PhD Candidates](#)

26 May 2024 – Presentation (online)

[Endnote, demonstration session](#)

27 May 2024 – Workshop

[Databases & search strategies](#)

3, 10, 17 & 24 June 2024 – Course

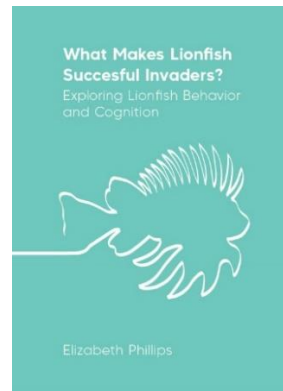
[Adobe Illustrator – scientific artwork & infographics](#)

4 June 2024 – Workshop

[Citing and referencing: lunch workshop for students](#)

6, 13, & 20 June 2024 – Course

[Research Data Management, parts 1-3](#)



**Elizabeth Phillips**

Behavioural Ecology (BHE)

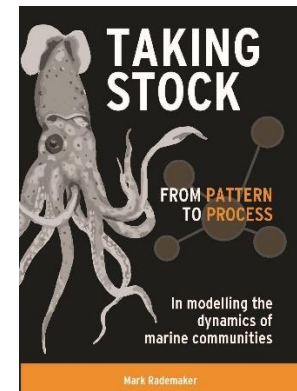
Date: 7 May 2024

Time: 13:30

*What Makes Lionfish Successful Invaders?  
Exploring Lionfish Behavior and Cognition*

*(co)promotors:*

*Prof. Dr M Naguib, Dr A Kotrschal*



**Mark Rademaker**

Marine Animal Ecology (MAE)

Date: 17 May 2024

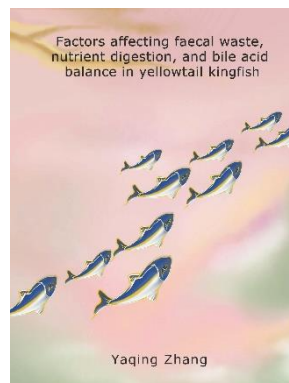
Time: 13:30

*Taking stock*

*From pattern to process in modelling the  
population dynamics of marine communities*

*(co)promotors:*

*Prof. Dr AJ Murk, Prof. Dr M Peck,  
Dr A van Leeuwen, Dr I Smallegange*

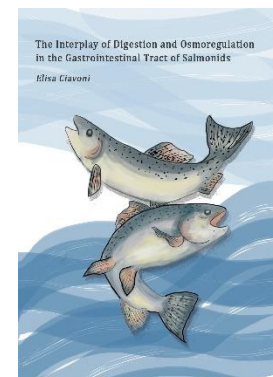


**Yaqing Zhang**

Aquaculture & Fisheries (AFI)

Date: 21 May 2024

Time: 11:00



**Elisa Ciavoni**

Aquaculture & Fisheries (AFI)

Date: 24 May 2024

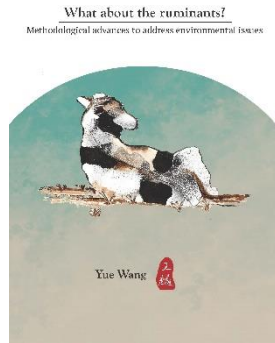
Time: 11:00

*Factors affecting faecal waste, nutrient digestion, and bile acid balance in yellowtail kingfish*

*(co)promotors:  
Prof. Dr GF Wiegertjes, Dr JW Schrama,  
Dr RM Maas*

*The Interplay of Digestion and Osmoregulation in the Gastrointestinal Tract of Salmonids*

*(co)promotors:  
Dr JW Schrama, Dr AJP Philip,  
Dr O Saele*



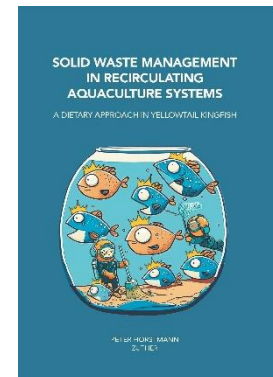
### **Yue Wang**

Animal Production Systems (APS)

Date: 27 May 2024  
Time: 11:00

*What about the ruminants?  
Methodological advances to address  
environmental issues*

*(co)promotors:  
Prof. Dr SJ Oosting, Dr CE van Middelaar,  
Dr Y Hou, Prof. Dr L Ma*



### **Peter Horstmann**

Aquaculture & Fisheries (AFI)

Date: 31 May 2024  
Time: 16:00

*Solid waste management in recirculating  
aquaculture systems: A dietary approach in  
yellowtail kingfish *Seriola lalandi**

*(co)promotors:  
Dr JW Schrama, Dr F Kokou,  
Dr RM Maas*

## **Calls**

### **Seed Money call 2024 - Wageningen Global Sustainability Programme**

The call for Seed Money proposals 2024 of the Wageningen Global Sustainability Programme (former INREF) is now open. The latest version of the call can be found on the special Wageningen Global Sustainability Programme of the Grant Office group on the intranet: [Wageningen Global Sustainability Programme | INREF calls - Intranet WUR](#). I kindly ask you to inform your teams about this call. The deadline for submission is **17 June 2024**. For more information you can also contact, Tineke Bremer via [tineke.bremer@wur.nl](mailto:tineke.bremer@wur.nl).

### **3Rs Student Grants**

Every year, a number of high-profile international meetings bring together world-class scientists working on the development and acceptance of 3R alternatives to animal testing (Replacement, Reduction or Refinement). Costs linked to participation may prevent students with promising work or young scientists at the beginning of their career from attending these events. The EPAA partners are therefore happy to sponsor the 3Rs Student Grants to facilitate the participation of students and young scientists in such events. For more information about these grants, please click [here](#).

### **WGS Sandwich PhD Programme**

The aim of the WGS Sandwich PhD Programme is capacity building: a way for the university to reach out to like-minded scientific institutes to build international scientific networks, to facilitate exchange and to reinforce the knowledge basis of these institutes.



The grant of the WGS sandwich PhD programme covers living allowance (salary costs via a fictitious employment agreement) for a total of 18 months in Wageningen, (partial) travel costs of candidate and WU/local supervisors, visa application costs, WUR account and use of facilities.

Additional funding for a candidate is needed for the time not spent in Wageningen. The education budget and the costs for printing the thesis are not included in the budget. The WU chair group at which candidates conduct their research are expected to pay these costs. For more information on the program, conditions, eligibility and the application form please click [here](#).

- Number of positions available: 6
- Eligibility: see [country list](#)
- Application deadline: 13 May 2024, 23:59 hrs (CET)
- Start: before the end of 2024

## Other news

### **Talent Scheme information meeting (Rubicon, Veni, Vidi, Vici)**

Do you want to learn more about the process behind the Rubicon, Veni, Vidi and Vici grants? Join us on the 14th of June at NWO Utrecht for an information meeting about the NWO-Talent Programme for researchers. For more information and registration click here: [Talent Scheme information meeting \(Rubicon, Veni, Vidi, Vici\) | NWO](#)

### **NWO VIDDI course**

Candidates who are seriously considering applying in the coming vidi round (pre proposal deadline 5 November 2024) and who want to prepare themselves can follow a vidi grant course, given by Yellow Research. The next course will be given on 10 September 2024, from 9.30 am till 4 pm, in Wageningen. You can register by sending an email to: [henrieke.deruiter@wur.nl](mailto:henrieke.deruiter@wur.nl). Please indicate in this mail the date on which you received your PhD, why you want to take the course and why you think you are a suitable vidi grant candidate.

The vidi target group consists of researchers in transition to leadership, i.e. ready for the establishment of a research group or the expansion of a recent research group. The vidi can contribute to the researcher's development in this area. The vidi grant is aimed at researchers with academic qualities that clearly exceed what is customary and demonstrate the development of leadership and mentorships skills. More information can be found in this [Leaflet](#).

### **ERC course**

If you are planning to submit an ERC Starting Grant application in the next round, you can follow a course given by Yellow Research on 18 June from 9.30 am till 4 pm in Wageningen.

You can register by sending an email to: [henrieke.deruiter@wur.nl](mailto:henrieke.deruiter@wur.nl). In this e-mail you state the date on which you obtained your PhD and why you consider yourself a good ERC Starting Grant candidate. More information can be found in this [Leaflet](#).

### **NLAS SENSORS online inspiration session 24 June 2024**

Over the past few years, the Animal Sciences Group (ASG) has invested in an ambitious innovation program to strengthen our position in future animal research. One of the three research lines of that program concerns sensor technology. We, the researchers from NLAS SENSORS, are eager to share our results and discuss its potential for broader application, also beyond ASG's expertise: Come and meet us to get inspired - and vice versa: inspire us! - during our online session on Monday 24 June 2024 from 1.30 PM to 3.30 PM, when we will present what is currently being developed and available. Via this [link](#) you can register (free of charge).

### **Beurzenregeling Wetenschappelijke Boeken (Dutch only)**

Het Lira Fonds stelt sinds 2021 jaarlijks vier beurzen van €37.500 beschikbaar aan (bijna) gepromoveerde wetenschappers voor het schrijven van een Nederlandstalig populair-

wetenschappelijk boek. Met de Beurzenregeling Wetenschappelijke Boeken biedt Lira Fonds onderzoekers de kans om een Nederlandstalig boek te schrijven waarin zij hun onderzoek met een breed publiek kunnen delen. Aanvragers moeten verbonden zijn aan een Nederlandse universiteit of kennisinstelling (bijvoorbeeld het NIOD of Naturalis) én over stilistische vaardigheden in het Nederlands beschikken. Meer informatie over deze regeling, klik [hier](#).

*If you have any questions about this WIAS News please contact WIAS at [wias@wur.nl](mailto:wias@wur.nl)*