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## WIAS News

### WIAS Annual Conference 2025 – 4 March 2025

The WIAS Annual Conference 2025 was a great success. It was a day full of inspiring oral presentations of 37 PhD candidates divided over three parallel sessions. The sessions were chaired by chairholders and personal professors ensuring lively discussions with each presenter. During lunch there was a poster session with posters of 20 WIAS PhD candidates showing plans and first results of, mostly, recently started PhD candidates. A new part of the day were the pitches by WIAS staff members, who pitches new developments or collaborations within the field of animal sciences.

During the day there were two invited speakers: Prof. Dr Jaap Keijer, professor in Human Animal Physiology at Wageningen University, who gave us insights on "Impact of Nicotinamide Nucleotide Transhydrogenase (NNT) absence on skeletal muscle of young mice" and by Dr Sonja de Vries, from the Animal Nutrition group who informed us about the world of nutrition and guts with her lecture entitled: "Get a grip on guts: Understanding digestive physiology to optimize nutrition and feeding strategies". At the end of the day, Prof. Iain Couzin, Director of the Max Planck Institute of Animal Behavior and a Professor and Director (Speaker) of the German Research Foundation (DFG) Excellence Cluster "Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour" at the University of Konstanz, Germany, gave a keynote lecture on "The geometry of decision making".



The best oral presentation prize was awarded to Sophie Valk (MAE) for her presentation entitled "Oysters in transition: Hermaphrodite oysters display unique DNA methylation patterns in their gills". The best poster prize was awarded to Job van Schipstal for his poster on "Balanced breeding for Dutch Warmblood horses". Congratulations!

## WAPS News

The WAPS invites you to our next Accie event! On Thursday 13 March 2025, we will be hosting a **Stargazing evening** in Zodiac. Join us for pizza and drinks, followed by a **short presentation**, before heading outside to **observe the planets and stars**. The evening will be led by members of the Young Dutch Astronomical Society.

Partners and children are welcome to join! To help avoid food waste, we kindly ask for a 5 euros contribution per adult for those who wish to eat. If you prefer not to have food, you are welcome to attend for free. Payment details can be found at the end of the registration form.

Time: 17:30 – 20:00

Venue: Zodiac A0107

Please register using [this link](#). Registration closes on 12 March 2025.

For any additional information, please feel free to email [andries.jansevanvuuren@wur.nl](mailto:andries.jansevanvuuren@wur.nl).

Looking forward to seeing you there!

### Contact WAPS

Facebook: WIAS PhD students

LinkedIn: WIAS PhD's

Instagram: [wias\\_phds](#)

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

## WIAS Seminars and Courses

**WIAS recommends the following courses (registration is open)**

Date	Course
12 & 19 March 2025	<a href="#">WIAS course Societal Impact of your Research</a>
24 - 25 March 2025	<a href="#">Laboratory Animal Science - Specific Course on Wildlife</a>
21 & 22 April 2025	<a href="#">WGS course Ethics &amp; Animal Sciences</a>
25 April 2025	<a href="#">WGS: PhD Workshop Carousel</a>
27 April – 1 May 2025	<a href="#">Fish Immunology Workshop</a>
28 & 29 April 2025	<a href="#">WIAS Course: Simulation of breeding programs with the Modular Breeding Program Simulator (MoBPS)</a>
7 - 9 May 2025	<a href="#">The Future of Tropical Livestock Systems</a>
19 May 2025	<a href="#">WIAS Introductory course for New PhD Candidates</a>
20 May 2025	<a href="#">Midterm Reflection Day</a>
26 – 28 May 2025	<a href="#">WIAS/PE&amp;RC statistics course Design of Experiments</a>

10 June 2025

[The Final Touch](#)

8 & 9 July 2025

[WGS course Ethics & Animal Sciences](#)

25 September, 9 & 23 October and  
6 November 2025

[Effective Behaviour in your professional surroundings](#)

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

### **Scientific Diving Theoretical Course (MAE10302)**

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!

### **Scientific Diving Practical Course (MAE20806)**

Are you diving for your PhD project? Get prepared for safe and efficient fieldwork operations with the Scientific Diving Practical course. Applications are now open!

We are 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: 10 July – 22 August 2025. The costs are approximately 3900EU for the full 10-day Scientific Diving Course, which includes access to facilities, gas fills and gear rental. Do note that accommodation and food are not covered. 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.

In case you perform any diving fieldwork please reach out to WURs Dive Safety Officer ([erik.wurz@wur.nl](mailto:erik.wurz@wur.nl)) to get input for the required documents and certificates you need for this type of research. For further questions please get in touch with [scientific.diving@wur.nl](mailto:scientific.diving@wur.nl)

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## **Other Courses**

### **WGS Courses**

13 March 2025

[Reviewing a scientific manuscript](#)

13, 26 March & 23 April 2025

[Project and Time Management](#)

14, 21, 28 March & 4 April 2025 (writing retreat May 2025)

[Mindful productivity for scientists](#)

25, 26, 27, 31 March & 1 April 2025

[Multivariate Analysis](#)

27 March, 15 April, 8 May 2025 (+ individual coaching session)

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

31 March 2025

[Presenting with impact](#)

3 April 2025 (lunch workshop supervisors)

[The go – no go decision](#)

4 April 2025

[Writing propositions for your PhD](#)

16 April 2025

[Last Stretch of the PhD Programme](#)

7 May 2025

[Scientific publishing](#)

12, 13 May & 4 June 2025

[Effective science communication course](#)

12, 14, 21 & 23 May 2025

[Inclusive leadership in international settings](#)

14, 15, 16, 21 & 22 May 2025

[Basic Statistics](#)

28 May 2025

[Scientific Writing](#)

28 May, 4, 11 & 25 June 2025

[Effective and efficient communication in academia and beyond](#)

5 June 2025 (lunch workshop supervisors)

[The PhD, learning, and advances in AI](#)

### **Individually based**

[Career Assessment](#)

[PhD Competence Assessment](#)

### **Overview of all PhD training sessions**

For a complete overview of all competence, skills, and career development training activities, click [here](#).

### **Other courses and training of interest**

[Wageningen in'to Languages](#)

For anyone looking to professionalise by communicating better. In any language.

[Gezondeboel](#) Inspiring programmes to keep you healthy.

[Sports Centre the Bongerd](#) offers [health courses](#).

[Teaching and Learning Centre – WUR](#) offers initial professionalisation in the areas of teaching, presentation skills and supervisory skills. Visit their page for the full list of training opportunities. For more information specifically on supervising BSc & MSc thesis students, visit [Supervising thesis students \(BSc. and MSc.\) - Intranet WUR](#).

### **Other Graduate schools**

November 2024 – June 2025 (VLAG)

[Advanced Organic Chemistry](#)

11 March 2025

[WAY Scientific Controversy Workshop](#)

17, 18, 20 March 2025 (VLAG)

[Applied statistics](#)

22 - 24 April 2025 (VLAG)

[Lipid oxidation in foods and nutrition](#)

12, 14, 21 – 23 May 2025 (WIMEK)

[Inclusive Leadership in International Settings](#)

16 - 19 June 2025 (VLAG)

[Healthy and sustainable diets: synergies and trade-offs](#)

30 June – 3 July 2025 (VLAG)

[Algae Biorefinery](#)

4 – 11 July 2025 (VLAG)

[Microalgae Process Design: from cells to bioreactors](#)

### **Library courses**

10, 17, 24, 31 March 2025 - Course

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

11 March 2025 – Webinar

[WUR Library essentials: discovering key services and collections](#)

13 March 2025 – Presentation

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

18 March 2025 – Webinar

[WUR Library essentials: author profiles and impact analysis](#)

20 March 2025 - Course

[Systematic approaches to reviewing literature](#)

20, 27 March 7,10 April 2025 (online)

[Adobe InDesign - from Dissertation Layout to Poster Design](#)

25 March 2025 – Webinar

[WUR Library essentials: systematic searching for literature](#)

25 March 2025 – Workshop

[Databases & search strategies](#)

1 April 2025 - Workshop

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

8 April 2025 - Webinar

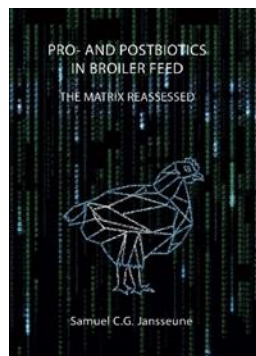
[WUR Library essentials: Open Access Publishing](#)

10 April 2025 - Webinar

[WUR Library essentials: Open education and copyrights in teaching materials - hybrid](#)

10 April 2025 – Presentation

[EndNote, demonstration](#)



### Samuel Jansseune

Animal Nutrition (ANU)

Date: 1 April 2025 (Omnia)

Time: 13:00

*PRO- AND POSTBIOTICS IN BROILER FEED  
The matrix reassessed*

*(co)promotors:*

*Prof. Dr WH Hendriks, Dr A Lammers,  
Dr MH Pinard-van der Laan, Dr J van Baal †*



### Tristan Kistler

Animal Breeding & Genomics (ABG)

Date: 8 April 2025 (Paris)

Time: 14:00

*Multitrait selection breeding plans for honeybees  
(Apis Mellifera): design and efficiency*

*(co)promotors:*

*Dr P Bijma, Dr F Phocas*

## Calls

### ERC information session, 17 April 2025 14.00-15.30, Orion C.3033

Are you considering applying for an ERC Starting or Consolidator grant? During this RVO information session (Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend Nederland is the national contact point for Horizon Europe) you will find out all you need to know to best prepare yourself.

You will gain insight into:

- ▣ the ERC rules and procedures and possible implications for your proposal
- ▣ the profile of a potentially successful candidate
- ▣ the term 'frontier science'

These insights will help you decide whether you are ready to apply for the upcoming ERC calls. For more information please contact Henrieke de Ruiter, [Henrieke.deruiter@wur.nl](mailto:Henrieke.deruiter@wur.nl).

## Other news

**The 4TU Design United PhD Day on 26 March 2025 in Utrecht**

On behalf of 4TU Design United, we invite all PhD candidates, their advisors, and design research enthusiasts across the four technical universities of Delft, Eindhoven, Twente and Wageningen, to meet our 4TU colleagues and discuss the latest themes in design research. The day kicks off with a keynote address by [Johan Redström](#), Professor in Design at [Umeå Institute of Design](#). In the afternoon, we'll dive into a variety of topics through engaging break-out sessions. These may include themes such as artistic research practices in design, politics in co-design processes, new developments in bio-inspired design and AI, speculative techniques, and application-driven topics such as inclusive mobility systems and planetary health.



design  
and

The event will be held in Utrecht, a few minutes' walk from Utrecht Central Station. Attendance is free. Please register at: <https://www.4tu.nl/du/invites/phd-25/>

### **NLSEB 7 April 2025 (Wageningen) – 8 April 2025 (Ede)**

The Netherlands Society for Evolutionary Biology (NLSEB) Junior Board is organizing the next PhD/Postdoc meeting on [Monday 7 April 2025](#), at Wageningen University. This event will take place just one day before the main NLSEB event on [Tuesday 8 April 2025](#) in Ede.

The PhD/Postdoc Day is designed to connect junior researchers in evolutionary biology across the Netherlands and to provide valuable insights into soft skills essential to scientific careers. Last year's program included workshops on mentoring and infographics, along with a panel discussion on work-life balance in academia. Stay tuned for updates as we finalize this year's program—we'll share more details soon! Save the date, and we look forward to seeing you there!

### **Annual Conference 'Back to the future. The next two decades of doctoral education'. 9 & 10 April 2025 in London (ICPPD)**

For more information, please visit the [website](#).

### **WGS PhD Workshop Carousel, 25 April 2025**

Wageningen Graduate Schools (WGS) is organising a day of diverse workshops for PhD candidates. Four rounds with six parallel workshops with important elements for PhD candidates and the PhD track. Workshops are either stand-alone sessions or teasers that give a taste of more elaborate training and courses organised by WGS. Participating in the workshop carousel also gives you a good networking opportunity. At the end of the day there will be drinks and bites!

For more information, the programme, workshop descriptions, and online registration go to the <https://www.pe-rc.nl/wgs-carousel>

### **SEFI PhD summer school, 20-23 May 2025, TU Eindhoven**

4TU\_CEE (4TU Center for Engineering Education) will be co-organizing this, and several colleagues will also offer workshops or mentorship. Have a look at the website for subscription options. The program will follow soon! <https://sites.google.com/4tu.nl/sefi-phd-summer-school/>

If you would be interested in going, please let me know ([Judith.gulikers@wur.nl](mailto:Judith.gulikers@wur.nl)), next to subscribing yourself via the website. We are trying to co-finance some of the expenses, so therefore we need to know who and how many PhD students want to go.

### **PhD Seminar on Animal Behaviour Automated tracking of animal location and movement. 18-20 June 2025 at Utrecht University**

Sign up through: [https://forms.uu.nl/universiteitutrecht-beta/tracking\\_of\\_animal\\_movement](https://forms.uu.nl/universiteitutrecht-beta/tracking_of_animal_movement)

### **24th European Symposium on Poultry Nutrition (ESPN 2025)**

From 23 – 26 June 2025 the 24th European Symposium on Poultry Nutrition (ESPN 2025) will take place at the MECC in Maastricht, The Netherlands. For more information about the symposium and on how to submit an abstract, please have a look on the website: [ESPN 2025 - 23-26 June 2025 - Maastricht, The Netherlands](#)

### **Green ERA-Hub Summer School 2025**

Experience a unique opportunity to learn, network and grow at the Green ERA-Hub Summer School 2025 in Bari, Italy. This five-day event brings together promising PhD students with leading experts in the agri-food and biotechnology sectors to jointly develop innovative solutions to global challenges. For more information go to the Summer School [website](#).

### **Summer School NMBU Norway – Wageningen University, August 2025**

For all of you that are interested to learn about "Biological consequences of animal selection" and who would like to spend a week in the mountains in Norway from 18-22 August 2025, there is the option to participate in the Summer course jointly organised by NMBU, Norway and Wageningen University. Since the course is a so-called blended intensive program, there is the option to apply for a scholarship that will cover almost all expenses. The course counts for 5 ECTS. Application is open now, with a deadline on the 1 May 2025. Required knowledge: For MSc students, a basic knowledge of animal breeding and genetics. For PhD students, a project related to animal breeding and genetics. For more information about the course: <https://www.euroleague-study.org/en/r-20338-study-offers/r-20351-summer-schools/r-20946-summer-schools-2025/biological-consequences-of-selection.html>

For more information about the scholarships: <https://www.wur.nl/en/education-programmes/current-students/study-abroad-and-exchange-students/blended-intensive-programmes-bips.htm>

Please feel free to contact me in case you need further information or would like to discuss the options: [dieuwertje.lont@wur.nl](mailto:dieuwertje.lont@wur.nl).

### **Summerschool - Wanted: STEM professionals committed to the public good!**

Bèta in Bestuur & Beleid (STEM in Governance & Policy) is an organization dedicated to increasing the presence and impact of STEM professionals in governance and policymaking. In line with this mission, we are organizing the first edition of the Bèta in Bestuur & Beleid Summer School this summer—an intensive program designed for ambitious PhD candidates and postdocs who want to apply their expertise in the public sector. Over the course of five days, participants will gain insight into how they, as STEM professionals, can operate effectively in governance and policymaking while making a meaningful impact. The program includes lectures from experienced administrators, policymakers, and politicians (many of whom have STEM backgrounds themselves), hands-on policy challenges, and skill-building workshops on topics such as negotiation and framing strategies. In addition to inspiring and preparing participants for their next career steps, we aim to build a lasting network.

The summer school will take place from 25-29 August at Kasteel Spelderholt, Beekbergen.

Are you considering a move into governance and/or policy and want to explore this further? Don't hesitate! Apply by April 27 via this link. Due to the limited number of spots, selection may take place based on motivation and background. The full program will be announced in the coming weeks on our [LinkedIn page](#) and at [betainbestuurenbeleid.nl/zomerschool](https://betainbestuurenbeleid.nl/zomerschool). For any questions, feel free to email [zomerschool@betainbestuurenbeleid.nl](mailto:zomerschool@betainbestuurenbeleid.nl).

### **Course on indirect calorimetry, Dummerstorf Germany, 18-19 September 2025**

This workshop on indirect calorimetry and selected applications is aimed at educating those (PhD students, technical staff, researchers) who use measurements of gaseous exchange (CO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, etc) in their research program, and/or are setting up facilities in which those measures can be performed, either with or without climate control. Depending on the level of experience of the audience, we intend to provide lectures/practical's for sensible experimental designs and advanced data analysis. Registration deadline is 30 May 2025. For more information go to the [website](#).

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