



WIAS News

June 2024

Number 6

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New WIAS director

The board of Wageningen University & Research has appointed Prof. Dr Marc Naguib as Scientific Director of the graduate school WIAS. He is to succeed Prof. Dr Hans Komen. The appointment is for 4 years, 0.5 FTE, and starts from 1 July 2024.



Prof Naguib is chair of the Behavioural Ecology Group (BHE) since 2011. His main research is on communication, development and social organization of wild animals, mainly using songbirds as model. His recent research also links to conservation biology. In addition, he is president of the Netherlands Society for Behavioural Biology (NVG). Before joining the WUR, he held positions at the NIOO-KNAW, Bielefeld University and the Freie Universität Berlin.

Prof Naguib served on the WIAS board from 2017 to 2020 and on the Wageningen University Academic Board from 2019 to 2022. Prof Naguib's vision for WIAS is to better the position of WIAS as a graduate school for all animal research.

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 4 June 2024, Dr Büşra Atamer Balkan, from the Quantitative Veterinary Epidemiology chair group, will give a lecture entitled "Simulation Modeling for Complex Problems: Animal Sciences and Beyond". 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
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. 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.

WAPS News

On Thursday 18 of April, WAPS organized a Dutch Games and Food night, to introduce international PhDs to the finest selection of Dutch entertainment and food and to give the Dutchies the opportunity to show off their skills in a nostalgic game of "Sjoelen", "Mens erger je niet", "spijkerpoepen", "koekhappen" and more. With around 20 PhDs divided into different groups multiple rounds of games were played, all in anticipation of the two prizes for the winner and runner up team. Of course, a Dutch food and games night would not be the same without some typical Dutch haute cuisine: frikandel, kroket, fries, stroopwafels, liquorice and apple pie to close off the night!



After the Dutch event, it was time for... Is it a plane, is it superman? No, it is a bird!

On Monday 13 May, the WAPS birdwatching event took place. With an enthusiastic group of 10 PhDs from different chair groups and two bird guides, we biked to the Binnenveld to spot birds and appreciate nature. Equipped with binoculars, the group stopped after almost every 10 meters to gaze at another kind of bird (there are so many around in this area!). It was a successful event, with a lot of happy faces.



We're looking forward to seeing all of you at our next event: A Summer BBQ (in June or July). More information will follow soon. Look out for an invite over email 😊.

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

WIAS Magazine

We are 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 if you're interested or have any questions for the board!

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. We are always happy to help!





WIAS Seminars and Courses

WIAS recommends the following courses (registration is open)

Date	Course
5 June 2024	The Final Touch
4-5 June 2024	WGS course Ethics & Animal Sciences
26-28 June 2024	How Climate Change Shapes the Destiny of Insect Biodiversity
24 July-3 August 2024	Scientific Diving – Practical Course (MAE-20806)
18-20 September 2024	LAS Species-Specific course on Fish
18 October, 1, 15 & 29 November 2024	Effective Behaviour in your Professional Surroundings
24-25 October 2024	Interdisciplinary Skills Training
24-25 October 2024	WIAS Course: Simulation of breeding programs with the Modular Breeding Program Simulator (MoBPS)
28 October - 1 November 2024	Genetics of resilience and trade-offs
30, 31 October & 1 November 2024	WIAS Introduction course on Personal Effectiveness for your PhD
11-12 November 2024	WIAS Introductory Course for new PhD candidates
19 November 2024	Midterm Reflection Day
26 & 27 November 2024	WGS course Ethics & Animal Sciences
17 December 2024	The Final Touch
12 & 19 March 2025	WIAS course Societal Impact of your Research

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

13 June 2024

[Reviewing a Scientific Manuscript](#)

17 June 2024

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

20 June 2024 (Hybrid)

[Short Workshop - Introduction to LaTeX](#)

24 June 2024 (online)

[Intensive Writing Week](#)

24 June 2024

[Last Stretch of the PhD Programme](#)

4 September 2024

[Efficient Writing Strategies](#)

4 & 23 September 2024

[Scientific Writing](#)

9 September 2024

[Presenting with Impact](#)

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](#)

24 September 2024

[Science Journalism](#)

25 September, 2 October 2024

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

26 September 2024

[Developing my Research Vision](#)

30 October and 6 November 2024

[Quarto](#)

Other Graduate schools

TOASTMASTERS

Do you want to learn to speak with ease in front of groups, present yourself in a professional manner, and work on your leadership skills? There are currently more than 40 **Toastmasters** clubs in The Netherlands where you can practice public speaking in an accessible, safe and inspiring way. Toastmasters provides an encouraging, fun and supportive environment for you to practice your public speaking. For more information and locations; <https://toastmasters.nl/en>

10 June 2024 (WIMEK)

WIMEK Lunch meeting: How to stay motivated during your PhD?

If you are interested to participate, please register here: <https://forms.office.com/e/9sF5sBdMj9>

8 July 2024

WUR Postdoc Day "Should I stay or should I go?"

The 2nd edition of the WUR postdoc day will have workshops in the morning and presentation of (non) Alumni with different career pathways in the afternoon. The chance of getting a permanent position at the University is small and not everyone wants to continue in academia. During the workshops, we will discuss your ambitions and how you can use them to make a successful next career step. We will get to know more about the variety of career options there are for postdocs. Register before 1 July.

10 September and 29 November 2024 (online)

Internal training Funding Identification Tool "[Research Connect](#)"

Registration via email to Rene.vanree@wur.nl

12 September 2024

Insects as sustainable feed: an interdisciplinary approach

Sustainable food production is a major challenge. Can insects feature in sustainable feed production to support the growing world population without transgressing the planetary boundaries? That is the central question during this interdisciplinary symposium on the 12 September 2024 (<https://insectfeed.nl/symposium-12-september-2/>)!

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>

7-11 October 2024

[Active Hydrodynamics](#), for more information please contact Jochem Jonkman.

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

6, 13, & 20 June 2024 – Course

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

11 June 2024 - Workshop

[Decoding fake news & misinformation: lunch workshop for students](#)

13 June 2024 – Workshop

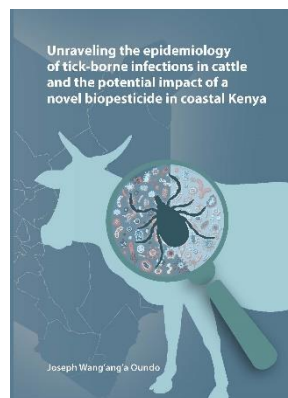
[Get into Git: one-day workshop on collaboration with Git](#)

13 June 2024 – Course (online)

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

13 June 2024 – Course (online)

[EndNote Demonstration Session](#)



Joseph Wang'ang'a Oundo

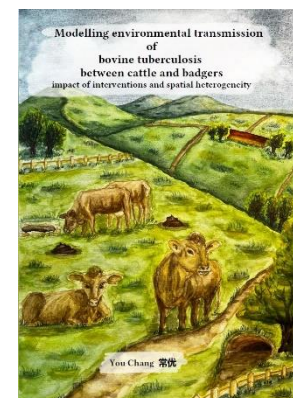
Quantitative Veterinary Epidemiology (QVE)

Date: 12 June 2024
Time: 16:00

Unraveling the epidemiology of tick-borne infections in cattle and the potential impact of a novel biopesticide in coastal Kenya

(co)promotors:

*Prof. Dr MCM de Jong, Dr CJM Koenraadt,
Dr QA ten Bosch, Dr DK Masiga*



You Chang

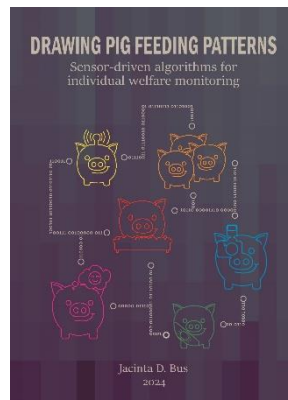
Quantitative Veterinary Epidemiology (QVE)

Date: 24 June 2024
Time: 13:30

*Modelling environmental transmission of bovine tuberculosis between cattle and badgers
impact of interventions and spatial heterogeneity*

(co)promotors:

*Prof. Dr MCM de Jong, Dr NA Hartemink,
Prof. Dr S More*



Jacinta Bus

Animal Production Systems (APS)

Date: 3 July 2024

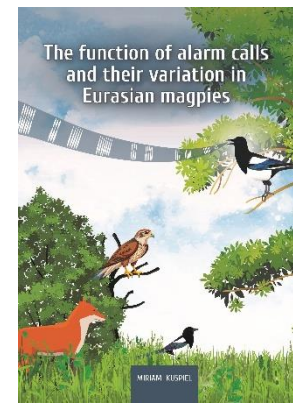
Time: 13:30

Drawing pig feeding patterns

Sensor-driven algorithms for individual welfare monitoring

(co)promotors:

*Dr EAM Bokkers, Dr IJMM Boumans,
Dr LE Webb*



Miriam Kuspel

Behavioural Ecology (BHE)

Date: 3 July 2024

Time: 16:00

The function of alarm calls and their variation in Eurasian magpies

(co)promotors:

Prof. Dr M Naguib, Dr SA Kingma

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.

Call for proposals TKI Graduate School Green Top Sectors 2024

The call for proposals TKI Graduate School Green Top Sectors 2024 is now open. The deadline for the call is Tuesday **October 1, 2024**.

Who can apply?

This call is aimed at MSc students who have written their own PhD project. Staff members of the graduate schools EPS, PE&RC, WIAS, VLAG, WIMEK and WASS can apply as main applicant. The research subject must fit within the research missions of the Knowledge and Innovation Agendas of the top sectors indicated in the call text.

For advice on whether a research subject fits the research missions of the top sectors T&U and A&F or other questions please contact Ingrid.Vleghels@wur.nl.

Call & Application form can be found on the WIAS website

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 14 June 2024 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 VIDI 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. 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 2024 from 9.30 am till 4 pm in Wageningen.

You can register by sending an email to: 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).

If you have any questions about this WIAS News please contact WIAS at wias@wur.nl