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**News from the WIAS office**

**WIAS Science Day**

February 2nd the annual WIAS Science Day was again a big success. Around 125 PhD students, staff and guests listened to the 12 oral presentations and looked at the 25 posters. The day ended with drinks and a nice dinner. Prizes in several categories were awarded:

- WAS Publication Prize: Arun Kommadath (ABG)
- WAS Education Prize: Chair group ABG
- WAS Presentation Prize: Annette Boerlage (QVE)
- WAS Poster Prize: Sandrine Duchemin (ABG)
- NZV (Dutch Zootechnic Association) Travel Grant: Elske de Haas (ADP)

Congratulations to you all! Thank you WAPS Science Day Committee for organising this Science Day!

**New member WIAS IAB**

Jos Verheijden has retired as Director Institute of Veterinary Research of the University of Utrecht and therefore we welcome his successor Jos van Putten as new member of the International Advisory Board. Jos became Professor Infection Biology and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Utrecht University in 1999 and he is the Head of Department of Infectious Diseases & Immunology at Utrecht University since 2003.

**New Chairman and member WIAS Education Committee**

Klaas Frankena has stepped down after several years as Chairman of the WIAS Education Committee and Johan Schrama also after many years as member of this committee. We thank you for your input and inspiration! Leo Nagelkerke has accepted the position of Chairman and Henk Bovenhuis is the new member.

**Research fellowships**

The 2012 call for WIAS research fellowships yielded 13 junior fellowships and 6 senior of 10 different Chair groups. We were able, thanks to matching funds, to grant 12 fellowships.

**New WIAS Members**

The first two months of 2012 we have welcomed the following PhD candidates: Avhafunani Netshipale (APS), Charles Tamou (APS), Jantine van Middelkoop (APS), Sandra van Kuijk (ANU), Evelyne Groen (APS)

Rectification: last newsletter stated that Yvonne Wientjes started her PhD with the Chair group ANU. This had to be the Chair group ABG!

**Recent PhD graduations**

17 January  Sean Tibbetts

‘Protein and energy nutrition of marine gadoids, Atlantic cod (Gadus morhua L.) and haddock (Melanogrammus aeglefinus L.)’
20 January Wan Syafwan
  Lieke van der Aa
  *Effects of dietary changes on heat stress in broiler and Kampung chickens’*
  ‘TRIM proteins and CXC chemokines. Evolutionary dynamics and functional characterization of two large protein families in teleost fish’

30 January Asad Asaduzzaman
  *C/N-controlled periphyton-based freshwater prawn farming system: a sustainable approach to increase pond productivity’*

24 February Arun Kommadath
  *Genomic regulation of oestrous behaviour in dairy cows’*

**Workshop Professional in PhD Supervision**
This workshop aims at staff members and postdocs of Wageningen University. The workshop is offered by Wageningen Graduate Schools (WGS) and organised by Barend vd Broek and Frans Houdé, two professionals who have many years of experience in research, education, international management and coaching. They are involved in educational activities for PhD candidates at WUR and other universities.
When: 25, 26 April & 7 June 2012 (intake 3 & 5 April)
More information can be found on this website.

**Van Gogh Scholarship Application round 2012**
The goal of this programme is to stimulate and support the exchange of Dutch and French researchers that work within one project. The grants are exclusively for travel- and living expenses. The deadline for application is May 31st.
More information can be found on this website.

**News from the WAPS council**
**First Meeting**
The WAPS council 2012-2013 had its first meeting on March 1st 2012. The aim of this first meeting was to formulate council goals for the coming year. Briefly, we want to improve our visibility within the WIAS community, define specific projects that will be completed by the end of our term, and make sure that PhD candidates from all groups are adequately represented within the council. Our first action will be to organize an activity for all PhD candidates during the WIAS introduction course, which will take place from March 20-23. We look forward to seeing you all there!

**PhD Party**
The Wageningen PhD Council (EPS, PE&RC, WIAS, WASS, VLAG and WIMEK) organises a PhD Party Friday March 9th from 22.30-04.00 at the Junushoff. The entrance is free. You can register at http://phdparty.limequery.com.

**Courses and seminars**
**WIAS Courses**
**WIAS Introduction Course => full!!**
When: 20-23 March 2012
Teacher: Frank Little
Location: Hof van Wageningen
Register before: 21st February (max. 15 participants)

**WIAS Ethics and Philosophy in Aquatic Life Sciences, with emphasis on Aquatic Research**
When: 18-20 April 2012
Teachers: Prof. Tjard de Cock Buning, Prof. Elsbeth Stassen, Dr. Simon Oosting
Location: Polysport, Admiraal Helfrichlaan 89, 6952 GD Dieren
Register before: 21st March (max. 15 participants)

**13th Fish Immunology Workshop**
When: 22-26 April 2012
Teachers: Geert Wiegertjes, Maria Forlenza and others
Location: Hof van Wageningen

**WIAS Statistics for the Life Sciences**
When: 24, 25, 29 May & 1 June 2020
Teachers: Dr. Henk Bovenhuis, Dr. Bas Engel, Dr. Gerrit Gort
Location: Wageningen
Register before: 26th April

**Wageningen Graduate Schools Courses**
Open for registration
- Information Literacy including EndNote Introduction *(next course: 10 and 11 April 2012)*
- Competence Assessment *(next course: 20 March, 17, 18 and 19 April 2012)*
- Presentation Skills *(next course: not determined yet, but registration is open)*
- Career Assessment *(next course: each month, registration is open)*

Fully booked
- Techniques for Writing and Presenting a Scientific Paper *(fully booked until summer. Next course: September-December)*
- Scientific Writing *(fully booked. Next course: May, September, October and November)*
- Project and Time Management *(fully booked, check website for next course)*
- Career Orientation *(fully booked, waiting list)*
- Career Perspectives *(fully booked, waiting list)*

For other courses of the Wageningen Graduate School look at the [website](http://example.com).

**Seminars**

**94th Dies Natalis ‘Science for new frontiers’**
Symposium
When: Friday March 9th 12.30-16.00
Where: Hof van Wageningen, Lawickse Allee 9
Celebration
When: Friday March 9th 16.00
Where: Aula of Wageningen UR, Generaal Foulkesweg 1

**Activities**
April 18th
**PhD Graduation Patricia de Cocq MSc**
Title: ‘The biomechanical Interaction between horse and rider’
Chiar group: Experimental Zoology
Promotors: Prof. dr. JL van Leeuwen
Time and Place: 16.00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen

April 20th
**PhD Graduation Sanne Dekker MSc**
Title: ‘Exploring ecological sustainability in the production chain of organic eggs’
Chiar group: Farm Technology
Promotors: Prof. dr. PWG Groot Koerkamp
Time and Place: 13.30 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen

If you have any questions about this WIAS News please contact Denise Magendans (executive secretary) at denise.magendans@wur.nl