News

November 2013

www.wageningenur.nl/wias

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News from the WIAS office

WIAS 20th anniversary and WIAS ft. Zodiac End-of-the-year Dinner

In 1993 WIAS was founded and we would like to celebrate its 20th birthday with the whole WIAS community. We have organised a seminar where 3 scientists, associated to WIAS, will give a lecture:
Prof. Nico van Straalen (Professor in Animal Ecology VU Amsterdam, Chair WIAS International Advisory Board)
Prof. Dirk-Jan de Koning (Professor in Animal Breeding Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, WIAS alumnus)
Dr. Bart Pollux (Postdoc at the Experimental Zoology group, WIAS staff member)

This seminar is held on **Tuesday 17 December 2013** in the afternoon and will be followed by the annual WIAS ft. Zodiac end-of-the-year dinner. Everyone connected to WIAS and/or Zodiac is invited. Registration for the seminar and dinner will be opened soon, more information will be send by e-mail.

WGS PhD Experience Survey

Next week the PhD experience survey will be distributed to all WIAS PhD candidates. The aim of his survey is to monitor the PhD candidates' satisfaction regarding their progress, supervision and training. The results will be used to identify what goes well and what should be improved - on a generic level, or for specific groups of candidates (e.g. non-European candidates, male/female candidates, external candidates), or in the training of supervisors. The individual answers are strictly confidential. Please fill in this survey, we highly appreciate it.

WIAS Science Day

We are pleased to announce that the WIAS Science Day 2014 will be organized on **Thursday 13th of February 2014** at the Orion Building in Wageningen.
PhD students will present their work as oral or poster presentations and keynote speakers will give plenary talks about their research. The student with the best oral and poster presentation will receive a prize. Also, a travel grant from the NZV (Nederlandse Zoötechnische Vereniging) will be awarded to one of the presenters. Attendance is free and includes lunch, drinks and dinner at the end of the day. **Registration** for the WIAS Science Day is possible on the **WIAS website** until **Friday 31st of January 2014**.
Application for an oral or poster presentation is possible until Thursday 19th of December, 2013. More information on how to apply for an oral or poster presentation will follow soon.

Kind regards, The WIAS Science Day Committee 2014,
Tetske Hulshof, Soumya Kar, Christine van Altena, Éva Dóró, Sergio Salazar-Villanea, Amabel Tenghe

New WIAS Members
In September and October we have welcomed the following PhD candidates: Marloes Splunter (CBI), Qianqian Zhang (ABG), Pierre Moquet (ANU), Floor Biemans (QVE)

Recent PhD graduations

13 September	Nathalie van de Meide (CBI) 'Culicoides obsoletus allergens for diagnosis of Insect Bite Hypersensitivity in horses'
20 September	Ansa Fiaz (EZO) 'Swim-training affects zebrafish development: from molecules to function'
30 September	Daniel Warner (ANU) 'Passage of feed in dairy cows. Use of stable isotopes to estimate passage kinetics through the digestive tract of dairy cows'
30 September	Wouter Sprek (ANU) 'Variation of milk urea in dairy cattle. A study on factors that affect the relationship between urea concentration in milk and urea excretion in urine'
4 October	Tim Wijgerde (AFI) 'Heterotrophic feeding, growth and nutrient budget in the scleractinian coral Galaxea fascicularis'
7 October	Yan-Yan Sun (ABG) 'Immunogenetic analysis of natural antibody isotypes in laying hens'
10 October	Kristina Raab (AFI) 'The European anchovy (Engraulis encrasicolus) increase in the North Sea'
14 October	Eliza Ruiz Izaguirra (APS) 'A village dog is not a stray. Human-dog interactions in coastal Mexico'
18 October	Susan Wijga (ABG) 'Immunogenetics in dairy cattle: Somatic cell count and natural antibody levels'

News from the WIAS PhD (WAPS) council

WAPS dinner – 14th November
On November 14th, the WAPS will organize dinner for all WIAS PhD students after the WIAS introduction course. Part of the expenses will be paid for by the WAPS. Further details will be announced soon, but keep this evening free in your agenda for a nice dinner with your fellow PhD students.

General Members Meeting – 27th November
On the 27th of November on 12:30, the General Members Meeting of the WAPS council will take place. Theme of the meeting is "How is your relationship with your supervisor?". Come join us to discuss supervision in general or on a personal level and share a pancake lunch. The GMM will take place in Zodiac, E1244.

Facebook
We have a new concept on the WAPS Facebook page: tell us about your experience abroad! First to tell us about her travels to Australia was Yvonne Wientjes. If you would like to blog about your time as a sandwich PhD, at an external research facility or in an exchange program, please let us know! Also, if you have followed any interesting in-depth or external courses, feel free to share it on the Facebook page so other PhD students can benefit from your experiences.

Facebook and LinkedIn
Please join our Facebook group for the latest activities, photos, and polls. You can find photos of June's BBQ there. And join our LinkedIn page or visit our website for more information about and news from the WAPS council.

Courses and seminars

WIAS Courses

WIAS Introduction Course
When: 12-15 November 2013
Teachers: Frank Little
Location: Wageningen
Register before: closed

High-Impact Writing in Science
When: 18-21 November 2013
Teachers: Ulrike Müller
Location: Wageningen
Register before: closed

Advanced statistical and genetical analysis of complex data using ASReml 4
When: 10-15 February 2014
Teachers: Prof. Arthur Gilmour
Location: Wageningen

WIAS Seminars

WIAS Seminar 'Fish Reproductive Biology and Fisheries management' on the occasion of the PhD defence of Cindy van Damme
When: 14 November 2013
Chairman: Prof. Adriaan Rijnsdorp
Location: Wageningen

WIAS Seminar 'Genomic selection for novel traits' on the occasion of the PhD defence of Marcin Pszczola
When: 22 November 2013
Chairman: Dr. Mario Calus
Location: Wageningen

Courses for Staff members

Effective Supervision of PhD candidates (with actor)
Course schedule
12 November 2013

Course description
'Tenure track course: A sequence of three (one-day) workshops for supervisors of PhD candidates. Supervisors can follow each one-day workshop separately'.

Introduction: Wageningen Graduate Schools (WGS) offers three separate one-day workshops called “Effective Supervision of PhD candidates” (part I, II and III), which can be followed individually or in sequence. Each separate day is rewarded with a certificate for completing part I, II or III. Dr. E. Cocheret de la Morinière and co-workers are all academics with extensive experience in training and coaching supervisors and PhD students. They are specialists in scientific management and conversation skills. ElroyCOM is acknowledged by the CRKBO as an official educational institute. The workshops aim to help you to become a more effective supervisor of PhD candidates and save time. Only 10% of PhD students finish within four years. The key factors causing delays can easily be circumvented, provided you invest in the start-up, clear agreements, managing planning, effective coaching and making timely management decisions.

Venue: Wageningen

Fee: Supervisors who are member of a Wageningen Graduate School (EPS, PE&RC, VLAG, WASS, WIAS, WIMEK) and are supervisor of PhD candidates who will be defending their thesis at Wageningen University € 300,- for each one-day workshop
All others: € 600,00 for each one-day workshop
The fee includes study and training material, coffee / tea, refreshments and lunches. Look for more information on this **website**.

Wageningen Graduate Schools Courses

Open for registration
Information Literacy (3 and 4 December)
Project and Time Management (pre-registration spring 2014)
PhD Competence Assessment (each month)
Interpersonal communication (13 & 14 November)
How to write and present a successful research proposal (2, 3 ,9 and 10 December)
Career Assessment (each month)

Fully booked
Career Perspectives (31 October and 7, 21, 28 November and 5 December)
Voice Matters - Voice and Presentation Skills Training (V&PT) (5 and 19 November)
Techniques for Writing and Presenting a Scientific Paper (Waiting list December)

For other courses of the Wageningen Graduate School look at the **website.**

Other courses/seminars

Wageningen PhD Symposium
The Wageningen PhD Council (WPC) organises this symposium for and by all PhD candidates of Wageningen University for the very first time. This will take place on December 10th, 2013 at the Orion building. The theme of the symposium is Healthy Food and Living Environment, covering all research being done in Wageningen by PhDs. The goal of the symposium is to connect Wageningen PhD candidates from all fields of research, and to bring about new insights into your own work through an interdisciplinary approach. It will also give you the chance to exchange ideas, network with fellow PhDs, and broaden your horizon.

The program on the 10th will start at 10.00 and last until 17.00, after which drinks will be served. The day starts with a keynote speech by Job Cohen. Before his current position of chair of the WUR supervisory board, Job Cohen was State Secretary of both Education and Justice, mayor of Amsterdam, and political leader of the Dutch social-democrats, inter alia. The day proceeds with three rounds of panel sessions, in which PhD candidates from a broad range of disciplines approach overarching themes from the perspective of their own research. These themes are: stakeholder participation in nature governance; effects of agriculture on water quality; protein quality of human food and animal feed; bio- and nanotechnology; benchmarking agricultural systems; informational governance; modelling human and animal behaviour; host-pathogen interactions from a genetic perspective; and ecosystem services in coastal protection. In addition, we organize a lunch and drinks at the end of the day.

Admission to the symposium is free, but we ask you to register for the day via: https://portal2.wur.nl/sites/wageningenphdcouncil/lists/symposium2013/registrations.aspx, before November 16.

International Dairy Nutrition Symposium 2013: Feed efficiency in dairy cattle
To highlight the various aspects of feed efficiency in dairy farming, seven experts from the Netherlands and abroad will present their vision on improving feed efficiency in dairy production, on Thursday 21 November 2013 in Wageningen, The Netherlands.

Date Thu 21 November 2013
Time 09:00 until 17:00
Venue Hof van Wageningen, Hotel and Conference Centre

The registration on this **website** until 17 November 2013.

Seminar Systems Biology for Food, Feed, and Health

On November 11th the Wageningen Centre for Systems Biology (WCSB) will organise the seminar on systems biology. The seminar will take an hour and a half and will be followed by drinks. No registration is necessary, so feel free to come by!

Professor Vincent Danos, School of Bioinformatics, Co-Director Centre for Systems & Synthetic Biology, University Edinburgh:
"Modular Structures for Cell Models"

Dr. Andrea Weiße, Post-doc, SynthSys - Synthetic & Systems Biology, University of Edinburgh:
"A mechanistic model of cellular growth"

Date: Monday November 11th 2013
Time: 15:30 – 17:00 hours, followed by drinks
Location: Chemistry Building, Dreijenplein 10, room C8

For more information please check the website.
Kind regards,
Vitor Martins dos Santos, Jaap Molenaar, and Christian Fleck
Wageningen Centre for Systems Biology (WCSB)

Other

PhD survey Rathenau
The Rathenau Institute in collaboration with the Dutch PhD Network (PNN) study the quality of PhD career trajectories and the labor market orientation of PhD candidates in the Netherlands.

- Of course there is a constant interest for effective and efficient trajectories with optimum quality. Your judgment on your own trajectory enlarges the insight into the effectiveness of the PhD system in the Netherlands.
- Worries exist about the labor market opportunities of PhD candidates in the Netherlands, but little is actually known about this topic. By responding to this questionnaire, you can help us judge whether these worries are justified and, if necessary, what actions can be taken to improve the labor market opportunities of PhD candidates in the Netherlands.

Some of you have not filled out the questionnaire yet. You can still do so by following this link:
www.PhD.onderzoek.nl

Activities

4 November 2013
PhD Graduation Juan Herrero Medrano
Title: Conservation genetics of local and wild pig populations: insight in genetic diversity and demographic history
Chair group: Animal Breeding and Genetics
Promotor: Prof. dr MAM Groenen
Time and Place: 16.00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen

15 November 2013

PhD Graduation Cindy van Damme

Title: Don't put all your eggs in one basket! Reproductive strategies and fecundity regulation in temperate marine teleosts
Chair group: Aquaculture and Fisheries
Promotor: Prof. dr AD Rijnsdorp
Time and Place: 13.30 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen

22 November 2013

PhD Graduation Marcin Pszczola

Title: Optimizing genomic selection for scarcely recorded traits
Chair group: Animal Breeding and Genetics
Promotor: Prof. dr ir JAM van Arendonk
Time and Place: 11.00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen

2 December 2013

PhD Graduation Mazhar Ali

Title: Grain filling, starch degradation and feeding value of maize
Chair group: Animal Nutrition
Promotor: Prof. dr ir WH Hendriks and Prof. dr ir PC Struik
Time and Place: 16.00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen

4 December 2013

PhD Graduation Saravanan Subramanian

Title: Feed intake and oxygen consumption in fish
Chair group: Aquaculture and Fisheries
Promotor: prof. dr JAJ Verreth
Time and Place: 16.00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen

18 December 2013

PhD Graduation Danilo Pietretti

Title: Stimulation of carp innate immune system: role of Toll-like receptors
Chair group: Cell Biology and Immunology
Promotor: Prof. dr ir GF Wiegertjes and Prof. dr ir HFJ Savelkoul
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