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## News from the WIAS office

### Best wishes for 2021

We wish you a good and healthy new year! We look forward to establish nice (scientific) results in 2021.

### Call for WIAS publication prize 2020

Every year, WIAS confers a publication prize to a PhD candidate for the most innovative and high-quality publication. Due to the extraordinary situation of 2020 WIAS decided to award two prizes. The winner receives a prize of € 500 and the second place receives a prize of € 300. The publication prizes will be conferred during the next WIAS annual conference. The evaluation of the nominated publications is based on the originality of the research, the quality of the scientific analysis, the quality of the written presentation and the impact of the publication. More information about the nomination procedure can be found on the [WIAS website](#).

### Call for WIAS fellowship 2021

WIAS invites PhD candidates who wish to travel abroad, postdocs who want to write a grant proposal and staff members who wish to invite guest researchers to submit a proposal for a WIAS fellowship. More information and application information can be found on the [WIAS website](#).

### New WIAS Board member

From 1 January 2021 Prof. Annemarie Rebel succeeds Prof. Imke de Boer as WIAS board member representing the FFS cluster. We thank Imke for her commitment and efforts as chair of the WIAS board for the past years. Prof. Mart de Jong will temporarily take over as chair of the WIAS Board.

### Changes in first TSP

To facilitate and balance the selection of courses and activities, from 1 January 2020 newly enrolled PhD candidate will be asked to formulate not only personal but also professional and disciplinary learning goals. The TSP learning goals must be approved by the graduate school within the first 6 months after start of the PhD project. More information and templates can be found on the WIAS website.

### Resource best thesis cover competition

Three of ABG PhD thesis were selected among the top 10 for the design of the front cover; out of all WUR PhD thesis in 2020. Pascal Duenk, Harmen Doekes and Esther van der Heide well done!

### Information for PhD's about COVID-19 measures

The COVID-19 measures announced by the government of the Netherlands are affecting not only social life but also education and research at Wageningen University & Research. On [this page](#) you can find the latest information for PhD candidates.

## WIAS Lunch Lectures

Do join us for the WIAS lunch lectures which take place every first Tuesday of the month. WIAS is looking for post-docs, staff or guest researchers who would like to present their work in 2021. Interested? Please send an email to [wias@wur.nl](mailto:wias@wur.nl)

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## News from the WAPS council

### The WAPS is looking for new members!!

We are looking for PhD's to represent us in the Wageningen PhD Council, Education Committee and ACCIE (Positions will come available in spring 2021). Want to represent your chair group within the WAPS? You are always welcome to join as a general member. Interested? Email us at [waps.wias@wur.nl](mailto:waps.wias@wur.nl).

### New WIAS Magazine!



We are looking for more enthusiastic PhDs to join **Daisy Obdam** (AFI) & **Elizabeth Phillips** (BHE) in designing the new WIAS Magazine!

Are you interested in pop scientific writing, design or editing? Please contact us at [waps.wias@wur.nl](mailto:waps.wias@wur.nl) and join the team!

### WAPS social media

Follow the WIAS associated PhD Students council at:

**Facebook** group: WIAS PhD students <https://www.facebook.com/groups/79412465586/>

**LinkedIn:** WIAS PhD's <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8866367/>

**Instagram:** [wias\\_phds https://www.instagram.com/wias\\_phds/](https://www.instagram.com/wias_phds/)

For more information or questions regarding the WIAS PhD Council please send an email to [waps.wias@wur.nl](mailto:waps.wias@wur.nl).

### WIAS Science Day (WSD)

Would you like to join the annual WIAS Science Day (WSD) in a Covid-adapted format in Spring 2021? Since the 2020 WSD, celebrating the 25th anniversary of WIAS, a lot has changed. While we were learning lessons from the past, embracing challenges of the present and making aspirations for the future none of us could have imagined the challenges that would come as the year progress. In response to COVID-19 many aspects of our lives and our research have changed, but our passion for science will never vanish. Human beings are resilient, just like the animals we study, and together we can get through the toughest of times. To celebrate the continued work being done within WIAS, we would like to host a successful and safe WSD in the spring of 2021. To do so, we would like to get your input as WIAS members about how to organize this special day in these changing times. We ask that you fill out the linked survey below with your preferences for the 2021 WSD by **15 January 2021**. Your opinion counts so any and all input is much appreciated. The survey: <https://forms.gle/HT5QQM2KqFZnm7hU9>

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## WIAS Course Highlights

### WIAS Courses

#### Measures Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Until the end of March 2021, we offer online, in-person and blended training sessions. This may change according to the coronavirus guidelines of the government at that time. Please check the training schedules below for the most recent updates. Please note that for educational purposes, on-site personal training is still permitted. We keep group sizes small (30 participants maximum, but preferably less), we pay close attention to the 1.5 meters distancing and only choose locations with proper ventilation systems. Furthermore, we strictly adhere to the coronavirus rules of Wageningen University and the Dutch government, safety and health are paramount. So keep in mind to take a face mask to the training facilities. For the Dutch (RIVM) measures against coronavirus, click [here](#).

WIAS recommends the following courses (registration is open):

- **[WIAS Introduction on Personal Effectiveness for your PhD:](#)**
  - 19-20 & 22 January 2021 (*online course*), *no fee for WIAS PhD's*
- **[WGS Ethics and Animal Sciences](#)**
  - 26-27 January 2021 (*online course*)
- **[WIAS course Societal Impact of your Research](#)** (*online course*)
  - 10, 17, 24 March 2021
- **[WIAS Introduction Day](#)** (*in-person; in Wageningen*)
  - 30 April 2021
- **[WIAS course The Final Touch, writing the general introduction and discussion](#)**
  - 29 June 2021 (*in-person course in Wageningen*)

For an overview of WIAS courses and seminars please go to: <https://www.wur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/PhD-Programme/Graduate-Schools/Wageningen-Institute-of-Animal-Sciences/Courses-and-seminars.htm>

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## WGS Courses

**[Introduction to WUR Library for PhD candidates](#)** (next online workshop on 14 January)

Happy New Year to all PhD candidates. Let's make it a great study year!

Don't miss our "WUR Library introduction for new PhD candidates" on Thursday 14 January. In 30 minutes, you will be introduced to the tools and services of WUR Library relevant to the first steps of your research. This is an online session in MS Teams. Please mail to [office.library@wur.nl](mailto:office.library@wur.nl). You will receive an invitation by email, so you can join the Teams meeting <https://www.wur.nl/en/article/Introduction-to-WUR-Library-for-PhD-candidates.htm>

**[Project and Time Management](#)** (online training on: 26 January, 09 February, 08 March)

Planning, control, monitoring and management of the research project and time are essential in accomplishing the PhD.

**[Reviewing a Scientific Manuscript](#)** (online training on 5 February)

To obtain insight in the aspects of reviewing scientific manuscripts

**[Making Impact: Increasing the relevance of research through science-society interaction](#)** (11 & 12 February) What does a PhD candidate need to understand in order to make an impact with their science? How do other more experienced scientists approach this, and what are some of the challenges they face? And what can you do during your PhD to combine balance fundamental the methodological robustness of your research with demands from stakeholders and the expectation to make societal impact? During this course, Dr. Harro Maat, Prof. Cees Leewis and Prof. Phil Macnaghten of the Knowledge, Technology and Innovation team will provide you with the scientific insights on how to make an impact.

**[Professional in Supervision for PhD supervisors](#)** (3 March, 15 March, 31 March)

Focus on communication styles, coaching formats, leadership, cultural issues, distance based supervision and personal needs.

**[Career Development for Postdocs: Science and the Alternatives](#)** (31 March, 7 April)

Supports in making career choice in science or beyond and making a plan of action how to reach the desired goal.

### **Overview of all PhD training sessions 2021**

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

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

**[Writing Lab Free feedback on your academic text during the Editing Desk walk-in hours](#)**

**[English for IELTS and RATER](#)**

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

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## Library Courses

### **WUR Library courses**

14 January – Presentation

**[14 January 2021 - Presentation Introduction to WUR Library for PhD candidates \(online session\)](#)**

19 January – Presentation

**[EndNote, demonstration session - WUR](#)**

1-2 & 8-9 February – Course	<a href="#">Scientific Artwork, Data visualization and Infographics with Adobe Illustrator (online course)</a>
11 February – Presentation	<a href="#">Introduction to WUR Library for PhD candidates (online session)</a>
16-17 February - Course	<a href="#">Searching and Organising Literature for PhD Candidates (online course)</a>
18 February – Presentation	<a href="#">EndNote, demonstration session (online session)</a>

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## PhD Graduations

### Recent PhD graduations

14 December: **Edward Schram** (AFI & MAE)

“Geosmin depuration from fish”

5 January 2021: **Raka Choudhury** (HMI & ADP)

“Early-life feeding in piglets: the impact on intestinal microbiota and mucosal development”

### Upcoming PhD graduations

12 January 2021

#### PhD graduation Thomas Willy O. Staessen

Title Bile acids in rainbow trout: keeping a balance

Chair group Aquaculture and Fisheries (AFI)

Promotor Dr. J.W. Schrama, Dr M.C.J. Verdegem

Time and Place 16:00 hrs, Online

5 February 2021

#### PhD graduation Roel Maas

Title Upgrading low-quality feeds for tilapia by enzyme and probiotic supplementation

Chair group Aquaculture and Fisheries (AFI)

Promotor Dr. J.W. Schrama, Dr M.C.J. Verdegem

Time and Place 16:00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen.

17 February 2021

#### PhD graduation Langqing Liu

Title A looking glass for pig evolution; comparative and speciation genomics of Suidae

Chair group Animal Breeding & Genomics (ABG)

Promotor Prof. Dr M.A.M. Groenen, Dr O. Madsen

Time and Place 16:00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen.

23 February 2021

#### PhD graduation Zhou Wu

Title Small chicken, big story: Detection of the genetic background of dwarfism in chicken using genomic analyses

Chair group Animal Breeding & Genomics (ABG)

Promotor Prof. Dr M.A.M. Groenen, Dr ing. R.P.M.A. Crooijmans

Time and Place 16:00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen.

26 February 2021

#### PhD graduation Andres Hagmayer

Title Benefits and drawbacks of the placenta in live-bearing fish

Chair group Experimental Zoology (EZO)

Promotor Prof. Dr J van Leeuwen, Dr P. Pollux

Time and Place 16:00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen.

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## Other news

### Invitation to Nominate for the Netherlands L’Oréal-Unesco For Women in Science Rising Talent Prizes 2021

The aim of the Netherlands L’Oréal-Unesco For Women in Science Rising Talent Prizes is to advance the academic careers of young women researchers in the Netherlands holding a position as PhD candidate or postdoctoral fellow, with a maximum of three years post-PhD academic experience. Applicants submit an application on a current research topic in one of the following science disciplines: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and Life Sciences.

The application must be submitted electronically through the application form at the website of the KHMW [For Women in Science Rising Talent Prizes | KHMW](#) no later than January 20th, 2021. Should you have any questions, please contact the secretariat at [secretaris@khw.nl](mailto:secretaris@khw.nl).

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