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## News from the WIAS office

### New colleague WIAS office

My name is Nicole Rodenburg. As of September 1<sup>st</sup> I took over the tasks of Janneke van Seters as executive secretary of WIAS. I am working four days a week (Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays). At this moment I will be working from home part-time and part-time from the office. On a more personal note: I live in Maarsse with my husband and son. I enjoy walking in the forest and on the beach, spending time with my family and friends, baking and traveling. I'm looking forward working with you and getting to know you all.

### WIAS Lunch Lectures

The WIAS lunch lectures take place every first Tuesday of the month. The next lunch lecture will be given on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> and will take place via Microsoft Teams.

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## WIAS Course Highlights

### WIAS Courses

From September 2020, some courses will be held in classrooms. However, COVID-19 measures restrictions - like maintaining the 1.5 m distance apart will be enforced in the classrooms. Some courses will still continue online to accommodate PhD candidates who cannot be in Wageningen and the restricted classroom availability.

WIAS would like to recommend the following courses (still places available):

- **WGS Scientific Integrity:**
  - 27 October
  - 20 November
  - 18 December
- **WIAS Introduction Day:**
  - 14 October
- **WIAS course The Final Touch:**
  - 27 October
- **WIAS/PE&RC advanced statistics course Design of Experiments:**
  - 16 - 18 December (*online course*)

### WIAS Seminar

#### Early feed intake and welfare in pigs:

9 October. **Webinar** on the occasion of the PhD defense of Anouschka Middelkoop.

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## WGS Courses

**Introduction to WUR Library for PhD candidates** (next online workshop on 10 September)

*In 30 minutes, you will be introduced to the tools and services of the Library relevant to the first steps of your research.*

**Project and Time Management** (in-person training on 23 September, 7 October, 3 November) and (in-person training on 30 October, 13 November, 11 December)

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

**Developing my Research Vision** (Postdocs and junior Tenure Track staff) (blended training on 29 September, 13 October, 27 October, 10 November, 17 November, 1 December)

*Having a research vision is crucial, especially for those who want to proceed in science and must demonstrate a clear research vision, an (international) visibility and ambition for a tenure track.*

**Last Stretch of the PhD Programme** (in-person training on 2 October, can be combined with Writing propositions for your PhD)

*Issues and questions: what must you do first, who is responsible, printing your thesis, do's and don'ts.*

**Writing propositions for your PhD** (in-person training on 2 October, can be combined with Last Stretch of the PhD Programme) *Workshop on propositions of the PhD thesis, including a lecture on propositions and possibility to submit your own (draft) proposition.*

**The Essentials of Scientific Writing and Presenting** (blended training on 2 October)

*Presents an overview of how to effectively write and present scientific information.*

**Stress Identification & Management** (in-person training on 27 October)

*Giving insight and learns you how to deal with, avoid and tackle stress.*

**Career Perspectives** (9, 16, 23, 30 November, 7 December)

*Meant for PhDs in their third or fourth year who want support in defining and taking the next step in their career.*

### **New dates available**

**Ethics in Plant and Environmental Sciences** (13 November)

*This one day course focuses on ethical issues that are encountered when doing research in plant and environmental sciences.*

### **Overview of all PhD training sessions 2020**

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

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

**Talking About your PhD** (free online meet-ups every Friday from 15:00-16:00)

As a community of PhD candidates we can share our worries, coping mechanisms and most importantly we can hopefully help each other out while making friends in the progress. The idea is to form a group, or multiple groups online to talk about anything that may have happened since the university lockdown. We are helped in this by two of the social workers of the university, Lyda and Elsbeth, who can also help out and give advice. Our goal is to let the PhD community start connecting and getting to know each other not only in our respective groups but throughout Wageningen University & Research. We will open a Skype channel every Friday from 15:00-16:00, which can be found through this link:

<https://join.skype.com/KTKEVvAJAn1K>, no registration needed. For more information contact Nicolas Vecchini Santaella ([nicolas.vecchinisantaella@wur.nl](mailto:nicolas.vecchinisantaella@wur.nl))

**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](#).

## The Modelling & Simulation Discussion Group

In many fields of research, modelling and simulation are critical tools. As their popularity has grown, so has the discourse surrounding why and how they should be used. To help inform this debate, we have created a university-wide platform for discussing systems modelling. The Modelling & Simulation Discussion Group meets once a month, alternating guest lectures with open fora for discussing members' modelling-related questions. Topics of interest include system decomposition, conceptual models, modelling paradigms (agent-based, system dynamics, discrete event,..), uncertainty and sensitivity analysis, experiment design, and more. We are open to all skill levels and backgrounds. Our upcoming schedule (every third Wednesday of the month):

- 2020-09-16, 1300-1500, online: Open Forum
- 2020-10-21, 1300-1500, online: Uncertainty in systems modelling, Dr. Willem Auping (TU Delft)
- 2020-11-18, 1300-1500, online: Open Forum
- 2020-12-16, 1300-1500, online: Sensitivity analysis: concepts and methods, Dr. Marc Jaxa-Rozen (Uni Geneva)

If you are interested in joining, please get in touch with Patrick: [patrick.steinmann@wur.nl](mailto:patrick.steinmann@wur.nl). We hope to see you soon!

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## Postdoc/staff training

**Postdoc/staff training “Developing my Research Vision”** which is organised by Wageningen In'to Languages, under the auspices of Wageningen Graduate Schools. The training can particularly be relevant for early stage tenure trackers and postdocs planning to remain in academia.

For the program and more information please click on this link:

<https://www.wur.nl/en/product/Developing-my-Research-Vision-blended-course.htm>

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## Library Courses

### **WUR Library courses**

8 September 2020 – Workshop

10 September 2020 – Course

10 September 2020 – Presentation

15 September 2020 – Workshop

17 September 2020 – Course

22 September 2020 – Workshop

24 September 2020 – Course

24 September 2020 – Course

28/29 September 2020 – Course

29 September 2020 – Workshop

6 October 2020 – Workshop

27/28 October 2020 – Course

[Plan for success](#)

[Research Data Management, part 1 \(online course\)](#)

[Introduction to WUR library for PhD candidates](#)

[Search efficiently in the right database: lunch workshop for students](#)

[Research Data Management, part 2 \(online course\)](#)

[Paraphrasing and Literature Matrix](#)

[Research Data Management, part 3 \(online course\)](#)

[EndNote, demonstration session](#)

[Scientific Artwork, Data visualization and Infographics with Adobe Illustrator \(online course\)](#)

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

[Optimise your text: lunch workshop for students](#)

[Searching and Organising Literature for PhD Candidates \(online course\)](#)

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## PhD Graduations

### **Recent PhD graduations**

28 August: **Ineke van Herwijnen** (BHE) “Dog-directed parenting styles”

2 September: **Martijn Derks** (ABG) “From sequence to phenotype: the impact of deleterious variation in livestock” (Cum Laude)

## **Upcoming PhD graduations**

11 September 2020

### **PhD graduation Esther van der Heide**

Title Predicting survival in dairy cattle using machine learning  
Chair group Animal Breeding and Genomics Group (ABG)  
Promotor Prof. Dr R.V. Veerkamp  
Time and Place 13:30 hrs, Online

11 September 2020

### **PhD graduation Biaty Raymond**

Title Use of whole-genome sequence data for genomic prediction across populations and species  
Chair group Animal Breeding and Genomics Group (ABG)  
Promotor Prof. Dr R.V. Veerkamp  
Time and Place 16:00 hrs, Online

18 September 2020

### **PhD graduation Harmen Doekes**

Title Genomic characterization and conservation of genetic diversity in cattle  
Chair group Animal Breeding and Genomics Group (ABG)  
Promotor Prof. Dr R.V. Veerkamp  
Time and Place 16:00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen.

5 October 2020

### **PhD graduation Wouter van Veen**

Title Aerodynamics of insect flight  
Chair group Experimental Zoology Group (EZO)  
Promotor Prof. Dr J.L. van Leeuwen  
Time and Place 16:00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen.

7 October 2020

### **PhD graduation Haibo Lu**

Title Genetic-wide interaction analyses of milk production traits in dairy cattle  
Chair group Animal Breeding and Genomics Group (ABG)  
Promotor Prof. Dr H. Bovenhuis  
Time and Place 13:30 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen.

7 October 2020

### **PhD graduation Sandra Vreman**

Title Toll-like receptor agonist adjuvanted vaccination: steering immune responses in neonate and adult pigs  
Chair group Cell Biology and Immunology Group (CBI)  
Promotor Prof. Dr H.F.J. Savelkoul  
Time and Place 16:00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen.

9 October 2020

### **PhD graduation Anouschka Middelkoop**

Title Foraging in the farrowing room: getting piglets to eat is bitter sweet.  
Chair group Adaptation Physiology Group (ADP)  
Promotor Prof. Dr B. Kemp  
Time and Place 16:00 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen.

12 October 2020

**PhD graduation Aisling O’Conner**

Title Suboptimal mobility in spring calving, pasture-based dairy systems: causes and economic consequences

Chair group Animal Production Systems Group (APS)

Promotor Prof. Dr I.J.M. de Boer

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

13 October 2020

**PhD graduation Chiara Bortoluzzi**

Title Using whole-genome sequencing data for demographic and functional evaluations of small managed populations

Chair group Animal Breeding and Genomics Group (ABG)

Promotor Prof. Dr M.A.M. Groenen

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

28 October 2020

**PhD graduation Natasja Costermans**

Title Physiological and molecular aspects of ovarian follicular developmental competence in sows

Chair group Human and Animal Physiology Group & Adaptation Physiology Group (HAP & ADP)

Promotor Prof. Dr J Keijer, Prof. Dr B Kemp

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

30 October 2020

**PhD graduation Ollie van Hal**

Title Upcycling biomass in a circular food system the role of livestock and fish

Chair group Animal Production Systems Group (APS)

Promotor Prof. Dr I.J.M. de Boer

Time and Place 13:30 hrs in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen.

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