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News from the WIAS office

WIAS Lunch Lectures

The WIAS lunch lectures 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

News from the WAPS council

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 and join the team!

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 progressed. 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 December 2020**. Your opinion counts so any and all input is much appreciated.

The survey: <https://forms.gle/HT5QQM2KqFZnm7hU9>

WAPS PhD Defense promotion

Would you like to have your PhD defense and experience shared on our social media platforms (Facebook/LinkedIn/Instagram)? We would like to include a picture of you, your thesis cover, a picture from your thesis defence, a short story (if you like), anything else you want to share with other PhD candidates and the link to your online defence. Interested? Please email us at waps.wias@wur.nl

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/

For more information or questions regarding the WIAS PhD Council please send an email to waps.wias@wur.nl.

PhD's please take your Vacation! You can transfer only 40 hours to 2021!

Starting this year you will only be able to take 40 of your regular vacation hours with you to next year! Do not forget to relax, spend all your compensation hours and take a vacation or two. Still too many hours left? Please check **Optare** for return possibilities (do not hesitate to ask your group for help).

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](#).

For more information about Covid-19 please visit:

- [WUR guidelines and updates in relation to corona outbreak](#)
- [WUR Intranet Phd and Corona](#)

WIAS recommends the following courses (registration is open):

- **WGS Ethics and Animal Sciences:**
 - 26-27 January 2021 (*in-person course in Wageningen*)
- **WIAS Introduction on Personal Efficacy:**
 - 19-20 & 22 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>

WGS Courses

[Introduction to WUR Library for PhD candidates](#) (next online workshop on 10 December 2020)

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. You will receive an invitation by email, so you can join the Teams meeting.

More info on: <https://www.wur.nl/en/article/Introduction-to-WUR-Library-for-PhD-candidates.htm>

[Working on your PhD research in times of crisis](#) (online training on 08 December, 15 December, 18 December 2020) In this training, you will jointly discuss experiences, identify new or amplified challenges as well as means and methods to tackle these to finally translate this in a (SMART) plan of action to get you (back) on track.

[Project and Time Management](#) (online training on: 07 January, 21 January, 18 February 2021; in-person training on: 26 January, 09 February, 08 March 2021) Planning, control, monitoring and management of the research project and time are essential in accomplishing the PhD.

[Presenting with Impact](#) (in-person training starting on 12 January 2021)

To improve and practice oral presentations of your own work.

[Philosophy and Ethics of Food Science and Technology](#) (in-person training starting 21 January 2021)

This course includes hands-on dealings with ethical, philosophical, and societal issues surrounding science.

[Ethics and Animal Sciences](#) (in-person training on 26 January and 27 January)

This 2-days course aims at PhD candidates interested in ethics and animal sciences.

[Making Impact: Increasing the relevance of research through science-society interaction](#) (11 February and 12 February 2021) 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. In addition, you can learn from them, and a panel of researchers on the different approaches they take to turn this into practical approaches.

New dates available 2021

[Career Perspectives](#) (22 February, 01 March, 08 March, 15 March, 22 March 2021)

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

[Professional in Supervision for PhD supervisors](#) (03 March, 15 March, 31 March 2021)

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

[PhD Competence Assessment](#) (online training sessions 2021)

Gives insight in the degree that you have the competences and skills required to do a PhD in an effective manner and, when lacking, how these can be developed.

[Reviewing a Scientific Manuscript](#) (online OR in-person training sessions 2021)

To obtain insight in the aspects of reviewing scientific manuscripts.

[Scientific Publishing](#) (online OR in-person training sessions 2021)

Providing insight and awareness in the process, rules, ethical aspects of scientific writing and publishing.

[Writing propositions for your PhD](#) (strictly online or strictly in-person training sessions 2021)

Workshop on propositions of the PhD thesis, including a lecture on propositions and possibility to submit your own (draft) proposition.

[Critical thinking and argumentation](#) (in-person training sessions 2021)

Training to debate and speak in a clear, convincing and effective way.

[Project and Time Management](#) (strictly online or strictly in-person training sessions 2021)

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

[The Choice: Un-box your PhD process & take charge of your performance](#) (in-person training sessions 2021) The Choice is an experiential personal leadership course that provides you with tools and insights to become more in charge of your own performance as you proceed with your PhD process, using both reflection and physical exercise (boxing).

[Stress Identification & Management](#) (in-person training sessions 2021)

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

[Last Stretch of the PhD Programme](#) (strictly online or strictly in-person training sessions 2021)
Issues and questions: what must you do first, who is responsible, printing your thesis, do's and don'ts.

Overview of all PhD training sessions 2020/2021

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](#).

Library Courses

WUR Library courses

8 December – Presentation	EndNote, demonstration session - WUR
10 December – Presentation	10 December 2020 - Presentation Introduction to WUR Library for PhD candidates (online session)
14 January – Presentation	14 January 2021 - Presentation Introduction to WUR Library for PhD candidates (online session)
19 January – Presentation	EndNote, demonstration session - WUR

PhD Graduations

Recent PhD graduations

09 November: **Nina Bircher** (BHE)

“The role of male song in spatial behavior and reproductive decisions in the great tit (*Parus major*)”

13 November: **Tessa Brinker** (ABG)

“Genetics and genomics of direct and social genetic effects on survival time and plumage condition in laying hens”

20 November: **Maarten Hollemans** (ADP & ANU)

“Short and long term effects of early nutrition in broiler chickens”

Upcoming PhD graduations

14 December 2020

PhD graduation Edward Schram

Title Geosmin depuration from fish

Chair group Aquaculture and Fisheries (AFI) & Marine Animal Ecology (MAE)

Promotor Prof. Dr J.A.J. Verreth (AFI), Dr. J.W. Schrama (AFI) en Prof. Dr A.J. Murk (MAE)

Time and Place 13:30 hrs, Online

05 January 2021

PhD graduation Raka Choudhury

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

Chair group Host-Microbe Interactomics (HMI) & Adaptation Physiology (ADP)

Promotor Prof. Dr M. Kleerebezem

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

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 in the Aula, General Foulkesweg 1 Wageningen.

Other news

Invitation to Nominate for the Volvo Environment Prize 2021

The Volvo Environment Prize Foundation invites universities, research institutes, scientists and engineers as well as other individuals and organizations to submit nominations for the Volvo Environment Prize. The Prize consists of a diploma, a glass sculpture and the Laureate is awarded a prize of SEK 1.5 million.

Please nominate for the Volvo Environment Prize 2021. To be eligible for consideration, nominations must be submitted by January 10, 2021 at the latest. Nomination guidelines and nomination forms are available on the [website](#).

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@khmw.nl.

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