

WIAS News



18 October 2005

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WIAS has its own newsletter

Announcements of new courses and seminars, tips on funding opportunities and other news – you always got that in separate emails. Not anymore. We will try to group such news together and send 'WIAS News' with intervals of two to four weeks, depending on the amount and urgency of the news. Your news items are welcome too: send them to info@wias.nl.

Geert Wiegertjes new PhD Students Confidant

As you may recall, WIAS invited its staff one month ago to apply for the vacant position of PhD Students Confidant. We are happy to announce that we have found Geert Wiegertjes to take this important job.

Geert Wiegertjes got his PhD degree in 1995 and works at the Cell Biology and Immunology Group. At present, he is daily supervisor of three PhD students. Geert has organised and taught several very successful PhD Courses, both in his own discipline (fish immunology) as in ethics (the famous 'Horizon' courses).

WIAS has two confidants - the other one is Marianne Bruining. The confidant is there to help PhD students who encounter problems concerning their supervision, research or training/education which they themselves cannot solve at that point. Note that the confidant is not a mediator and will only take action, e.g. contact the WIAS Scientific Director, if the PhD student wants that. All discussions with the confidant are 100% confidential.

To make an appointment, you best e-mail Geert or Marianne with a few suggestions for a meeting date and time. Of course, a phone call or walking in are also an option.

- Geert Wiegertjes, email geert.wiegertjes@wur.nl, phone +31 317 482732, Zodiac room C1032.
- Marianne Bruining, email marianne.bruining@wur.nl, phone +31 317 483442, Zodiac room A0030. Marianne works all mornings.



NWO launches new Rubicon programme

The Rubicon was the river Julius Caesar had to cross in the year 49 BC before his series of victories that led to his famous quote 'Veni, vidi, vici' ('I came, I saw, I conquered'). The Rubicon programme is directed at promising young researchers, not yet graduated or less than a year ago, whose academic qualities give them the potential to become established figures in the Dutch research world. The programme offers grants for one year research in the Netherlands or a period of maximum two years abroad. That period can be used to prepare e.g. an NWO-Veni proposal. The first deadline for proposals is 15 December 2005. More info on www.nwo.nl/rubicon (a switch to the English text is to be found at the bottom of that page).

Personalize your page on the WIAS website

All PhD students have their own page on the WIAS website (www.wias.nl go to 'PhD projects') with project descriptions and personal data. Thanks to Peter van der Togt you can now add your own portrait photo. Peter is still studying how to enable students to replace the upper photo strip with pictures of their own choice, an idea proposed by David Lentink, PhD student at the Experimental Zoology Group. Another innovation is that you can add your graduation date and title of the PhD thesis to your personal page. The screen at the Zodiac entrance will announce that day's graduation – with picture if available.

Why include your TSP in your PhD thesis?

PhD students at Wageningen University follow a Training and Supervision Plan (TSP) and the completed TSP has to be published on the end pages of the PhD thesis. For potential employers it's a useful addition to your CV and list of publications. It is in the interest of the chair group too: for graduations without completed TSP by PhD students who started after 1-1-2002, the university pays only half of the graduation budget ('promotievergoeding'). The university administration uses the PhD thesis to check that criterion.

KNAW Heineken Prizes

Every two years, the Netherlands Royal Academy of Sciences (KNAW) awards five prizes to outstanding international scientists. Nominations can be submitted now, see www.knaw.nl/heinekenprizes.

PhD Course on ethics in science

Wageningen Graduate Schools organise the PhD course:

Ethical dilemmas for life scientists; Ethics and the public role of life scientists.

Dates: Afternoons of 1, 8, 15, 23, 29 November and 6, 13 December 2005.

Location: Wageningen University, De Leeuwenborch (building 127), Hollandseweg 1, Wageningen.

Lecturers: Prof. Michiel Korthals, Applied Philosophy, Wageningen University.

Guest lecturer: Prof. S. Krinsky, Urban & Environmental Policy & Planning at Tufts University and adjunct professor in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, Tufts University, Medford, MA, USA.

More information: http://www.wau.nl/phd/info/course_wgs_ethics.html.

Registration (will be closed on October 25):

http://www.sls.wau.nl/mi/mgs/procedures_and_forms/Course_registration_form.htm

This course counts as the (mandatory) course on philosophy and/or ethics in your WIAS TSP. The WIAS Philosophy course is now in preparation and is scheduled for next spring.

Graduations in the next four weeks

18 Oct Flavio Forabosco
21 Oct Judith Roelofs
24 Oct Samad Amirkolaie
1 Nov Victor van Wagenberg
8 Nov Salam Kondombo