

WIAS News



18 December 2007

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NEWS

Record number of new PhD students

In 2007, thirty-five new PhD students, coming from ten different countries, enrolled in WIAS. They bring the total number to 135 – also a WIAS record. A record low, however, was the number of graduations this year: fourteen, which reflects the temporarily low enrolment of four to five years ago.

Midterm Review

On 26-27 November, the WIAS International Advisory Board visited us for a midterm review of WIAS and the Chair groups. The Advisory Board reported its findings and now the WIAS Chair holders have been asked to discuss the recommendations with their Chair group and give their reaction end of January to the WIAS Director.

Graduations in the coming month

Roel Bosman	AFI	18 December
Rosemarijn Gerritsen	ADP	16 January 2008
Abebe Mekoya Kassa	APS	21 January 2008

IN-DEPTH COURSES, SEMINARS AND SYMPOSIA

WIAS mini-symposium, 18 December 2007

Modelling ecosystems and farmers' decision-making with fuzzy logic

Venue: ZODIAC C-81, Marijkeweg 40, Wageningen University

Participation is free of charge, but please send an email to roel.bosma@wur.nl to register.

This symposium is endorsed by the Benelux Chapter of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society.

Programme on http://www.wias.nl/courses/view_course.php?ID=89.

WIAS Seminar Use of biomass: food, feed or fuel: Stakeholder Visions

Thursday December 20th 2007 in room C417 in the FORUM BUILDING, Droevendaalsesteeg 2, 6708 PB WAGENINGEN. The seminar will start at 13.30 h. The seminar will be in English. More info on http://www.wias.nl/courses/view_course.php?ID=95.

WIAS Science Day 13 March 2007

Registration is open at http://www.wias.nl/courses/view_course.php?ID=88.

WIAS advanced statistics course 'Design of Animal Experiments'

On 13-15 February 2008, teachers Prof. Mike Grossman and Dr. Wiebe Koops.

Venue: Room D, Zodiac, Wageningen.

The last course was held in February 2007 and evaluated very well.

More info and registration at http://www.wias.nl/courses/view_course.php?ID=91.

WGS Course Ethics and Philosophy of Animal Science 2008

March 20: Thinking about yourself as a scientist

Prof Dr Frans W.A. Brom

March 27: Animal Ethics, mapping the arguments that are around

Prof Dr Frans W.A. Brom

April 3: Philosophy of science and scientific expertise

Dr Henk van den Belt

April 20: Culture, Ethics and Globalization

Dr Henk van den Belt

April 17: A practical four-phase scheme for moral reasoning about concrete cases

Prof Dr Frans W.A. Brom, Prof Dr Elsbeth Stassen

April 23: Simulating the Ethical Review Committee for Animal Experiments

Prof Dr Elsbeth Stassen

More info and registration: http://www.wias.nl/courses/view_course.php?ID=93

Quantitative Resource Ecology (17 January - 1 February 2008)

Excel Programming for BioSciences (14-16 January 2008)

Centre for Fish and Fisheries Research at Murdoch University, Western Australia. These short courses are broadly aimed at providing participants with a sound understanding and practical skills in designing sampling regimes and undertaking quantitative data analyses in the broad fields of biological and environmental sciences. The first of these short courses has three main components, namely (i) *Modeling*; (ii) *Experimental design and Linear Models* and (iii) *Multivariate techniques and community ecology*, while the latter focuses on how to use Microsoft Excel to store and manipulate scientific data, perform basic statistics, estimate parameters for basic models and write macros in Visual Basic.

<http://wwwscieng.murdoch.edu.au/centres/fish/>.

Master class Ecology of life histories at Wageningen University

7 January to 15 February 2008: also open to PhD students

Ecology of life histories: the interactions between ecology and life history from an evolutionary perspective (ABG-50806)

Lecturers

- Dr Kate Lessells (Netherlands Institute of Ecology NIOO-KNAW)
- Prof. Dr Arie van Noordwijk (Netherlands Institute of Ecology NIOO-KNAW)
- Prof. Dr Marcel Visser (Netherlands Institute of Ecology NIOO-KNAW)
- Dr Hans Komen (WIAS)
- Prof. Dr. Bas Kemp (WIAS)

Contact person: Hans Komen, ABGC, Wageningen University

Genomics course

From 19th to 23rd of May, the Animal Breeding and Genomics centre and the research school ABIES (Paris, France) will organise a post-graduate course in the area of Genomics and Animal Science. Details of the course are being organised now. The course is intended for PhD students and postdocs working in Wageningen and Paris and interested in applications of genomics. Details on the course will be available in January. Please mark the dates in your agenda when you are interested. There is no need to register at this stage. The course will be given in Wageningen. Contact person: Johan van Arendonk.

International Conference of Animal Production Science in Samsun (ICAPSS)

Biometry Department of The Animal and Nutrition Dept. in Veterinary Medicine, Ondokuz Mayıs University, at 8-10 APRIL 2008, Samsun, Turkey.

The conference themes include data quality and heterogeneity of residual variances in mainly animal science, but all scientific disciplines will be available in same topics. The Organizing Committee cordially invites you to submit papers and posters. Conference official language is English.

Check www.icapss.com to register, your accommodation and find more detailed information on the Conference.

SKILLS COURSES

WGS Courses

Language Related Courses

- Scientific Writing (start: 17 January 2008)

Skills

- Project and Time Management (start: 22 January 2008)

Career Oriented Courses

- Career Perspectives (new dates to be determine)
- Career Orientation (new dates to be determine)

PhD Assessments

- PhD Competence Assessment (next assessment: 19 February 2008)

Ethics Courses

- Ethics and the public role of life scientists (start: 5 March 2008)
- Ethics and Philosophy of Animal Science (start: 20 March 2008)

Interdisciplinary Courses

- Communication in Interdisciplinary Research (start next course: 6 May 2008)
- Long-term dynamics of food and human development (start course: 15 February 2008)

For a complete overview of WGS courses look at:

<http://www.wageningenuniversiteit.nl/UK/education/programmes/PhD+programmes/General+Courses>