

WIAS News



21 April 2006

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Veterinary Science Day

Our veterinary colleagues in Utrecht also have an annual Science Day. It's on 17 May 2006 in Woudschoten Conferentiecentrum in Zeist (40 km from Wageningen). Registration with Merel Robbers: secretariaat.iww@vet.uu.nl. Please mention your name and affiliation, and if you attend lunch and/or dinner and possible dietary preferences.

Programme

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 State of the Art IWV by Jos Verheijden
- 9.15 Risk assessment of toxic and immunomodulatory agents
Bert Brunekreef Discussion & Posters
- 10.15 Emotion and Cognition
Berry Spruijt Discussion & Posters
- 11.15 Strategic infection biology
Jos van Putten Discussion & Posters
- 12.15 Lunch buffet and opportunity to look at posters and vote for the best poster.
- 13.30 Biology of reproductive cells
Ben Colenbrander Discussion & Posters
- 14.30 Tissue repair
Jan Rothuizen Discussion & Posters
- 15.30 Tea break and opportunity to look at posters and vote for the best poster.
- 16.00 ACQUISITION
Paul van Aarle Intervet, chairman: Ton Willemse NWO, chairman: Peter Rottier
- 18.00 Aperitifs & Dinner buffet
- 20.00 Poster prize
Chairman: Marian Horzinek
- 20.15 Evening speaker Declan O'Brien
Chairman: Albert Cornelissen
- 21.15-22.00 Closure by Henk Vijverberg & Night cap

New Chair in 'Host-pathogen Interactomics'

If you would read Nature, NRC Handelsblad or WUR's newspaper Wb next week, you might spot advertisements for a new Chair in WIAS called 'Host-pathogen Interactomics'. The old 'working name' for the chair was 'Proteomics' and the new name indicates that the focus will be on molecular interactions between pathogens and their hosts. More info at www.wur.nl/uk/work/vacancies/ or from the secretary of the selection committee gab.vanwinkel@wur.nl. Tips about suitable candidates are welcome.

VLAG Course Management of microbial hazards in foods

The ninth edition of this popular course will be held 18-22 September 2006 and will be certainly interesting for several WIAS PhD students. More info at www.vlaggraduateschool.nl/courses/micro-hazards.htm.

CERES Seminar on fishery management

"Money isn't the only thing that matters": Modelling non-economic social impacts of fishery management.

Richard B. Pollnac, Professor of Anthropology and Marine Affairs, University of Missouri, USA.

DATE: May 16th, 2006.

TIME: 15.00-17.00 hr.

ROOM: C72A (new building, 1st floor) The Leeuwenborch Building, Hollandseweg 1, Wageningen.

PhD Course 'The art of writing'

Course code: ENG-TAW/ CT 06-156

Would you like to learn how to overcome writer's block, how to put your thoughts into words through writing and accordingly produce a sharp and attractive text?

Course information:

This course is intended for everyone who needs to write in English about miscellaneous topics. Central focus of the course is to structure and process thoughts through writing and accordingly to produce clear, sharp and attractive texts. The focus will not be on grammar but on clear communication. The emphasis will be on *learning-by-doing*. This implies that the students must do a considerable amount of writing between sessions.

Prerequisites for each student are that he/she has (scientific) topics to write about.

This course will help the students to:

- overcome their writer's block
- structure their ideas using language as a tool
- write clearly and concisely
- gain experience in writing various types of documents for different purposes (i.e. reports, letters, articles)
- write faster and more effectively in English.

Starting level:

Course participants should score at least 65% on the Quick Placement Test.

End level:

Successful candidates receive a certificate indicating the end level (B2) of the course.

Study time:

This course consists of 24 tutored hours + 24 self study hours.

Registration procedure:

Candidates can apply at CENTA. Candidates will then have to sit a short computer-based placement test. A minimum score of 65% is required for this course. The registration for this course is open all year.

Registration forms can be downloaded from the website: www.wur.nl/centa.

Organisation:

Number of participants: 12-14

Course fee:

The course fee is € 600,00 per person (inclusive of admission test + course materials). **There is a 50% reduction in course fee for Wageningen PhD students with an approved TSP (Training and Supervision Plan)**

Course schedule:

September 05, 12, 26 and October 03 2006.

From 10.00 until 13.00 hours and from 14.00 until 17.00 hours

Intermediar PhD Career Event

Date: 11 May, 2006

Place: Beurs van Berlage, Amsterdam.

The first event, held on 14th June 2005, has been a great success and will therefore again be organised. We are inviting PhD students to the next Intermediar PhD Career Event in cooperation with PNN, Yer, ERA-MORE the Netherlands and the Marie Curie Fellows Association.

The Intermediar PhD Career Event aims exclusively at doctoral students from every university. It will give you the opportunity to meet the leading organizations in commercial and public fields in the Netherlands and also to attend important presentations and workshops. Entrance is free! For more information and the final application form please go to: <http://www.intermediar.nl/phd>.

Deadlines for NWO Rubicon programme

The Rubicon is the river that Julius Caesar crossed in 49 BC, just before the series of victories that prompted his famous boast 'veni, vidi, vici' ('I came, I saw, I conquered').

The Rubicon programme is directed at promising young postdoctoral researchers who are still at the start of their careers but whose academic strengths give them the potential to become established figures in the Dutch research world.

There will be three selection rounds a year for these grants. The remaining deadlines in 2006 are 15 September and 15 December. More information and details at: www.nwo.nl/rubicon.

Seminar on agricultural innovation

Title: Funding mechanisms for enhancing agricultural innovation. Can money alone make the difference?

Venue: Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) Mauritszaal (Amsterdam, the Netherlands) followed by a drink in KIT's Soeterijn

Date: May 11 2006, 16H00-18H00

A presentation of best practices and lessons learned, on the basis of case studies, by Willem Heemskerk and Bertus Wennink of experiences with stakeholder-driven funding mechanisms for agricultural innovation in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Agricultural development remains a key challenge for combating poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa. Providing knowledge and information is crucial for innovating agriculture but goes beyond mere technological innovation. It requires important changes to the agricultural innovation system as a whole to achieve effective technological innovation. These changes, which include technological, institutional and organizational innovation, are best achieved using a multi-stakeholder approach. Key innovations are funding mechanisms for technology development and dissemination that are interactively controlled and managed by stakeholders, such as public-private partnerships and competitive grant schemes. But does money alone make a difference? Are institutional changes also needed? What are the implications for the competences and skills of public and private sector R&D service providers and service users such as farmer organizations These are questions, which will be addressed in the presentations and the following discussion.

Please register by sending an e-mail to [Petra Schlooz](mailto:Petra.Schlooz@wur.nl) (Petra.Schlooz@wur.nl).

Copies of Bulletin 373 (see the following) will be available.

In collaboration with INRAB (Benin), DICAFA (Benin), DRT (Tanzania), TaCRI (Tanzania), KIT (the Netherlands) prepared a publication on best practices and lessons learnt with local funding mechanisms for innovation such as public-private partnerships and competitive grant schemes.

Stakeholder-driven funding mechanisms for agricultural innovation

Cases from Sub-Saharan Africa

Heemskerk, W. (ed.) , Wennink, B. (ed.)

http://www.kit.nl/development/html/publications_db.asp?itemID=1951

The Bulletin focuses on experiences in Tanzania and Benin with stakeholder-driven funding mechanisms for agricultural research and development. Mechanisms such as Competitive Grant Schemes and Public-Private Partnership Funds focus on adaptive research and dissemination. The cases described here have shown that greater stakeholder participation is key, not only to efficient planning and resource allocation, but also to the implementation and monitoring and evaluation of innovation development. Experience has also shown that matching public financing with private financing will enhance ownership and the sustainability of these mechanisms.

Stakeholder-driven Funding Mechanisms for Agricultural Innovation will interest all those who are involved in stimulating agricultural innovation for rural development. Policymakers and practitioners in the agricultural innovation system can use the best practices and lessons learned presented here to enhance the role of key stakeholders.

Vacancy for researcher in genetics/bioinformatics

AKVAFORSK (Institute of Aquaculture Research AS) in Norway is one of the world's leading research institutions in aquaculture research. AKVAFORSK's research is targeted at the needs of the fish farming industry both nationally and internationally, with emphasis on genetics/breeding, nutrition, product quality and welfare. AKVAFORSK's main office is located at Ås, at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences Campus. AKVAFORSK also has a land based research station at Sunndalsøra and a marine station at Averøy on the west coast. The institute employs around 100 staff and has an annual budget of around 10 million Euros. More information at www.akvaforsk.no.

Responsibilities and qualifications

The position will cover several research projects within quantitative and molecular genetics and breeding in aquaculture. Implementation of molecular information into breeding programmes will be a central task for the candidate. The candidate should hold a PhD, preferably within quantitative genetics and/or bioinformatics. Skills within statistics and programming will be emphasized. Also, personal suitability and ability to be goal-oriented, flexible and cooperative will be of importance. The successful applicant will be a member of the Genetics and Breeding research team and report to the Leader of Research for this group. The post will be located at Ås (30 km south of Oslo).

AKVAFORSK can offer a skilled and international research environment within aquaculture. Our genetic work is applied to several aquaculture species, nationally and internationally.

Application

Application and CV including publication list should be sent, and labelled «Researcher» by May 12 to AKVAFORSK. Attn: Reidun Pettersen, Post Box 5010, N-1432 Ås, Norway or by E-mail to: reidun.pettersen@akvaforsk.no.

For further information please contact: Research Group Manager Genetics and Breeding, Kari Kolstad, phone +47 6494 8095, E-mail: kari.kolstad@akvaforsk.no.

Graduations in the next four weeks

22 May	Harrison Charo Karisa
24 May	Oliver Schneider
9 June	Patricia Muendo