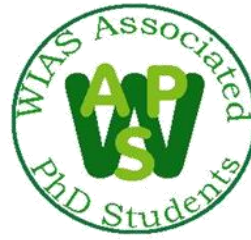


Agenda WAPS meeting January 2012

1. Opening
 2. Minutes last meeting November 07th 2011
 3. WIAS Education Committee
 4. WIAS Board Meeting
 5. Wageningen PhD Council meeting
 6. PNN
 7. Accie
 8. WAPS Internet Site
 9. WIAS Science Day, 2012
 10. Important Dates
 11. Miscellaneous
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Present: Harma Berends (Chair), Ioannis (Akis) Sitaras (Secretary/WPC Representative), Inonge Reimert (Web Host), Sonja de Vries (PNN contact), Patricia Huijbers (WIAS Secretary), Myrthe Maurice-van Eindhoven (Accie), Mariëlle Bruijnis (EC)
 Absent: Elske de Haas.

1. Opening

2. Minutes last meeting

Ad 1 Opening

Ioannis welcomed everybody and opened the meeting.

Ad 2 WIAS Education Committee

- Harma will send an e-mail to students to ask if they wish to join the EC. The new member will not be from the WAPS Council.
- Myrthe mentioned that the course given by Paul van Zwieten is excellent and it would be a good idea if it would continue.

Ad 3 WIAS Board Meeting

- Nothing to report. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on the 15th of December, 2011.

Ad 4 WIAS Ph.D. Council

- Nothing to report.

Ad 5 PNN

- Sonja is no longer a PNN member, therefore, we should arrange for a WAPS member to join PNN next year.

Ad 6 Accie

- Eelske and Myrthe were going to brainstorm about the upcoming accie. However, due to work load, they were not able to communicate with each other. Ioannis proposed a “damage control” strategy since we were running out of time. We agreed on arranging a dinner. Ioannis will send an e-mail to students to ask if they are interested so a restaurant can be booked. We agreed that the dinner should take place on the day Harma will introduce the council during the WIAS Introduction Course (10/11/11) and arrange the restaurant.

Ad 7 WAPS Internet Site

- Pictures of our BBQ as well as other activities should be put on the website.

Ad 8 WIAS Science Day, 2012

- The date WIAS Science day will take place is the 2nd of February, 2012.
- Harma will send an e-mail to the organising committee to ask for updates.

Ad 9 Miscellaneous

- Harma asked the members to state their intentions for next year regarding the council.

3. WIAS Education Committee

- The TSP-format for the European Graduate School in Animal Breeding and Genetics, a joint degree PhD program between WIAS, AgroParisTech, Aarhus University and Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, was discussed. WIAS accepts the EGS-ABG TSP as a replacement for the WIAS TSP in case Wageningen is the second university, and made some minor suggestions for improvements. Other graduate schools include project planning and project management more distinct in their TSPs. This may be an improvement to the WIAS TSP and will be discussed in the future.
- The tasks and functioning of the WIAS Education Committee were discussed. Main tasks are evaluating and monitoring courses, discuss TSPs, organisation of supervision, and educational cooperation (national and international). The Education Committee will meet 2-3 times per year. The Education Committee consists of 3 WIAS PhD members (preferably WAPS Council members), each from one of the clusters, and 3 WIAS staff members, each from one of the clusters. The chair of the EC is part of the WIAS Board.
- The idea on stimulating new courses, brought by the WAPS Council, was discussed. The EC could play a monitoring role here. The first pilot will be held within one of the clusters and we are thinking about a second pilot. The WAPS Council will discuss the idea within the WIAS Board meeting in December. A new discussion group was approved. The discussion group is coordinated by Imke de Boer and Hannah van Zanten and focuses on Life Cycle Assessment of food-based products.

4. WIAS Board Meeting

- The WIAS Board aims to repeat the supervision survey in October 2012 (every 2 years).
- The decrease of PhD numbers in 2010 has been recovered in 2011 with 43 new PhDs. In total, WIAS now has over 180 PhDs.
- Denise Magendans has been appointed as WIAS Secretary. Prof. Johan Verreth will hold the position of WIAS Director from January 2012 onwards.
- The WIAS Board supports the proposal on in-depth courses from the WAPS Council and is looking forward to the first pilot(s).

5. Wageningen Ph.D. Council Meeting

- The buddy system is not working effectively because of problems with the Ph.D. registration system (PROMIS). As a consequence, foreign Ph.D. students arrive in Wageningen before “buddy” members know about it and have a chance to contact them and establish communication channels. PROMIS will get improved in the next few months.

- The necessity for Ph.D. students passing a TOEFL test was discussed. In the case a student does not pass the test, WGS should offer a language course. For the time being, the only such course offered is from the language centre but it is too expensive.
- The WPC is trying to push for a meeting centre/dining facility where Ph.D. students can meet, brainstorm and network.
- Plans on screening the Ph.D. movie (a movie based on the well-known Ph.D. comics) are under way. Already several graduate schools have agreed to cover part of the screening expenses. One screening costs approximately €540. Each member of the WPC was asked to discuss this matter with their respective councils.
- The discussion of the Ph.D. bursary system with members of parliament went well for PNN.

6. PNN

- Nothing to report.

7. Accie

- The new council should organise the next activity.

8. WAPS Internet Site

- Nothing to report.

9. WIAS Science Day, 2012

- This year's theme for WIAS Science Day (WSD) 2012, is WIAS: **We Integrate Animal Sciences**
- The organising committee for WSD 2012 comprises of Gus Rose (AGB), Corina van Middelaar, Marion de Vries, Laura Webb (APS), Huong Li and Eelske de Haas (ADP).
- Deadline for submission of abstract/poster titles is the 15th of December, 2011.
- Invited speakers are Imke de Boer (APS) and Thea van Niekerk (Livestock Research).
- There is a special focus on integration between science and practice.
- More than 150 participants are expected. 10 Presenters, 25 posters, 2 invited speakers, 2 chairs and 5 prizes to be awarded (Poster, Presentation, Publication, Education and the NGV travel grant).

10. Important Dates

- WIAS Science Day 2012, 02/02/12, Hotel de Nieuwe Wereld.
- For a full list of courses and seminars sponsored by WIAS, please follow this link:
<http://www.wageningenuniversity.nl/UK/informationfor/PhD+programmes/general+courses/>

11. Miscellaneous

- Nothing to report.