

## Minutes meeting PhD council, September 20, 2017, 09:30 - 10:35

*Present: Jorinde, Ruben, Marc, Maria, Zhanna, Erik, Milo (via remote connection)*

### Minutes last meeting

Last meeting's minutes are accepted.

### PhD lunch

The next PhD lunch is scheduled for December 15, the Friday during the Topical Lectures. We have received an email from Joan asking how many people we expect. In the last reminder mail of the Topical Lectures, there were 35 subscribed. [Maria](#) will send an email to all PhD students to register for the lunch and she will send an email to Joan with our preliminary estimate, and later a detailed number after registration. At the last lunch, there were about 25 attendees.

We start collecting some discussion topics for the PhD lunch. [Jorinde](#) will collect all the items and send a list to the PhD council. A non-exhaustive discussion list is here:

- Format of the topical lectures (questions not on the questionnaire, but more general about the topical lectures themselves)
- FOM courses
- Lunteren meeting
- C++ course (with updated format for the day focusing on Stoomboot)
- Fine mechanics course
- English Mirror Moment before Physics Cafe

We will organize the PhD lunch much like last time: we just have a talk with the group where we write down the suggestions and opinions. Since the pens and paper that were available last time were not used at all, we drop this. If there are too many people, we may split into different groups.

### FOM courses

Since FOM does not exist any more, the FOM courses will also change. This means that we can have a say in what courses were useful and which ones weren't, so that we can focus on the courses that are useful to Nikhef PhD students. Also, we can propose possible other courses. We will collect feedback and suggestions during the PhD lunch.

### Fine mechanics course / Topical Lectures

The topic of Fine Mechanics has been brought up in the previous OWC meeting, and in a meeting with Maria and Patrick Werneke. Many are enthusiastic about the general idea, but the topical lecture format may not be convenient. There are two main problems: the topic is not useful to everyone and the number of people in the topical lectures is too high to accommodate for this. We will start to focus on a fine mechanics course that is like the C++ course, and with a limit on the number of subscribers. Patrick Werneke proposed the idea to work in different small groups where all groups manufacture something.

## **Mirror moment**

There was an English version of the Mirror Moment during the Physics Cafe on September 29, which was quite well-attended. The last Physics Cafe was on December 1, and the last (Dutch) Mirror Moment was on December 7. There was no English Mirror Moment in the last Physics Cafe, which means that if it will be during the next Physics Cafe the information may be a little outdated. Also, the English Mirror Moment may be announced better. [Zhanna](#) will send an email about the next English Mirror Moment.

## **OSAF meeting**

During the last OSAF meeting, the question was brought up if we will send the same two people all the time or if we change them all the time. We agree that we try to send the same representation, since it helps to have some experience and since it is nice for the OSAF members to know the people. Jorinde, Ruben and Erik volunteer, we will see who will go when the next OSAF meeting is announced (presumably in Februari).

## **Website**

Milo shows the new format of the website. There have been some improvements, for example, building a page has become much easier with a nice graphical interface. The page is online but not listed anywhere, as soon as we do that it will be public. We have a big to do list for website items. [Milo](#) will pick the essential points and send them (with names) to the PhD council. After that, we can publish the website (i.e. put a link on the Nikhef site). We aim to do this before the PhD lunch.

## **Planning**

[Jorinde](#) will send a doodle for the next PhD council meeting.

## **Other points**

Marc asks about the status of the housing part of the website. The idea here was to offer apartments of leaving Nikhef PhD student to other PhD students who need housing, and to make matches for Nikhef PhD students looking for housemates. There is an implementation on the website, but it is not fully ready yet. We may take this off before publication.