

Minutes meeting PhD council, March 6, 2018, 10:00 - 10:40

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

(Action points in [blue](#))

OWC meeting

Next OWC meeting is March 21. As discussed last time, we rather send the same people every time than switch representation in every meeting. As Ruben is unable to attend, [Jorinde](#) and [Erik](#) will join the meeting.

PhD lunch

With the PhD lunch minutes, we have a reasonable overview of what we want to discuss in the OWC meeting. We discuss a few topics in more detail.

Topical lectures

Few people actually read the preparatory material. There is some question if it was not communicated clear enough; the email looks pretty clear. The material could be shorter, there is quite some overlap with the lectures themselves. It is perhaps also too much to ask to read the full document (was 29 pages).

Christmas dinner

As discussed in the lunch meeting, we will propose to move this to the week of the topical lectures (one week earlier).

Python course

We have had an email about an existing Python course by Taco Walstra, but we agree it is too spread out (one lecture per few weeks) and we would also rather have it earlier in the academic year. Also, we would perhaps rather have it more adjusted to the needs of the students at Nikhef. There is also interest in having a part about git and version control. This could be a (partly) separate part, since it is also interesting for non-Python users. Jorinde mentions that Bob Stienen has offered to help start the course, [Jorinde](#) will email Bob. [Erik](#) will discuss with Ivo.

Broos in PhD council

Broos joins the meeting and everyone agrees he should be on the email list, [Marc](#) will add him.

Mirror moment

The English version of the mirror moment has not been organized since the last one on September 29. Since September, there have been the following events:

September 14: Dutch Mirror Moment

September 29: Physics cafe with English Mirror Moment

December 1: Physics cafe, no Mirror Moment

December 7: Dutch Mirror Moment

Februari 20: Dutch Mirror Moment

The bottom line is the physics cafe and the mirror moment are out of sync, which means there has not been an English version of the last two mirror moments (so far). We agree that this is not a good situation and we should propose to have independent English mirror moments. We will tell Stan that the mirror moments are too interesting not to have in English :)

Other business

NNV meeting

There will be a meeting with the NNV organizers soon, [Maria](#) will attend it. She will communicate what was mentioned during the lunch, that it is a valued meeting and a good platform for having your first talk as PhD student. We foresee that the NNV organizers might mention that they had trouble filling the talk slots; this may be a problem in communication via the group leaders. We suggest that they should send a mail directly to promovendi@nikhef.nl to reach the PhD students.

Next PhD lunch

We will not organize a PhD lunch during next topical lectures (April) but during the lectures after that (June). The next OWC meeting after the March one is probably in June as well.

Next meeting

We plan a meeting in May; [Jorinde](#) will send around a doodle.