

Minutes meeting PhD council, October 22, 2018, 09:30 - 10:30

Present: Erik, Ruben, Maria, Zhanna, Milo (via remote connection), Marc (via remote connection), Anamika (via remote connection), Alice (via remote connection)

(Action points in [blue](#))

Python course

The Python course organized by Erik in cooperation with Taco Walstra, Ivo van Vulpen, Bob Stienen and Vince (Vincent) Croft took place for the first time on October 1, 4, 8 and 11. It consisted of two parts covering Python and PyRoot with a main part of lectures given by Taco Walstra. The course was very well attended (around 15 people attending from 20 submitted applications) and according to the evaluation, the feedback is in general very positive.

We agreed on continuing with this course the next year as well, however someone from the PhD council should take over the management duties (reminding people to apply, set up the dates, etc) since Erik is going to leave the PhD council soon. [Alice](#) is back from CERN in the end of May and she will take care of that. [Erik](#) will pass more information and details to Alice. The material used for the course is available online, [Erik](#) will send the link.

For the next year's course it would be nice to find more people who can help with tutorial part because Erik was the only one this time.

We've also considered splitting the course into two parts later. Whether this is needed or not can be addressed as one of the questions during the next PhD lunch.

Next OWC meeting

The next OWC meeting is on November 1st. [Maria](#) and [Zhanna](#) will go to the meeting. The main topics to bring up there are the success of the new Python course and the new members of the PhD council.

PhD lunch

The next PhD lunch will take place during the next Topical Lectures (12th-14th of December). [Marc](#) will send an e-mail with the suggested list of points to discuss there and will eventually organize the lunch (we agreed on booking N328 this time due to the passive reaction from the audience during the last PhD lunch in the lecture room). We will then decide on topics to talk about, who is going to be present and who is going to chair the meeting (Marc is unavailable) offline.

Christmas dinner

[Maria](#) will send an e-mail to Joan to ask about the date of the Christmas dinner this year.

Website

Since Ruben is the new webmaster, [Milo](#) and [Ruben](#) will take care of the transition of the website. We agreed that it would be useful to add the link to the new PhD council website on the old one since there is no information there that the new website exists. We also considered removing the old website.

Next PhD council meeting

The next meeting should be organized before of after the next PhD lunch in December.

Miscellaneous

Martine Oudenhoven who is a communication advisor at Nikhef approached us to ask about our opinion on how the recruitment of PhD students can be improved. *Ruben* and *Zhanna* are going to meet or talk with her.