

Minutes of PhD council meeting 4th February 2019

Attendees: Zhanna, Marc, Maria, Brian, Ruben; Remotely: Alice, Anamika

Action points are in bold

Review of last OWC

- The last OWC meeting was in 1st Nov 2018, and the next one will be on 19th March 2019. **Anamika** and **Marc** will be attending the next OWC meeting
- **Maria** will contact Olga to discuss again the meeting with female scientist. In the survey 4 out of 9 people responded that they were interested in the meeting. We will let Olga know that there is interest there and if she would like to have further input from us.
- **Alice** is in charge of pushing forward the next Python course. It should not be organized too close to the next C++ course and also not too close to the BND school. We decided that March 2020 will be a good time for the next course (as the previous one happened less than half a year ago (?))
- **Ruben** (the webmaster) will upload the new PhD brochure to the website and the minutes from previous PhD council and OWC meetings on the website. Minute-takers should upload their minutes independently from now on. Furthermore, there is some trouble with licensed plugins, he will also completely restructure the website.

Input from the last PhD lunch

- Nikhef wide emails don't reach all students, many students didn't know which lists they should subscribe to: **Marc** will contact CT helpdesk about this issue. In general we agree, that this is not our responsibility as PhD council, but of the home institute. What we could do is post a link with info about mailing lists on the PhD council website. **We are considering to bring this topic up during the OWC meeting**
- Not everybody was invited for lunch meeting with Stan, the selection process seems very random and unfair, and some students strongly expressed their discontent. **Mark** will contact Stan and Eveline directly to ask about this matter **and we might raise it during the OWC meeting.**
- Students are interested in introduction day (organized by Nikhef). This should not be organized by us, but we can **bring attention to the idea in the OWC meeting.** This is valuable especially with regard to the FOM course that provided a general introduction day for PhD students does not take place anymore within NOW. We could contribute by organizing a social activity. Possible topics of the introductory day could be:
 - Nikhef organigram, outline of general structure of Nikhef with a general talk
 - Introduction to facilities, learn where things like finance and computing are
 - General HR info like selling holiday hours, what to do when you are ill, bike and laptop 'gift'
 - Introduction to PhD council

- **Ruben** will contact Martine (lady from outreach) if she would like to give a talk during the next PhD lunch
- We will give the organization of the lunch a better structure: Two people with organize and attend the lunch. Organizign means plan the facility, Joan about the number of attendants for the food, design a survey and send it to the students in advance and lead the discussion. The next lunch will be organized by **Brian** and **Maria** during the topical lectures of 20-22 March. **Marc** will send around a general list of topics we want to raise in the past
- Ruben will contact Els de Wolf to find out if the presentation during the Jamboree had any positive effects. We want to ask if people want a second, male, confidential advisor.

Other matters

- We will ask the OWC if it is possible to give the students the option to chose the external C3 person from a small pool of candidates.
- Brian will become the new PhD representative in the NVV board