

## Minutes PhD lunch meeting - Apr 15th 2021

Presented by: Bouke, Serena (via Zoom)

1. How to avoid the proposed mentor figure for the new supervision revision scheme from playing effectively the same role as the third C3 member?
  - The plan is to select a younger senior researcher, more helpful than young PD (less career experience) or older senior researcher (experience less relevant)
2. Alternatives to BND schools
  - Other summer schools have been approved as equivalent for PhD candidates, especially in their early PhD years
  - It has recently been announced that the 2 summer schools rule might be dropped completely given the circumstances
3. Issue with supervisors not knowing formal prerequisites / dealing with bureaucratic issues with universities, often problems to be dealt with in the very last months of contract
  - Need to talk to supervisors about this
4. Complaints about extra C3 meeting
  - No time dedicated to discussing well-being of PhD candidates, only about usual work
  - No meeting at all, third C3 member unavailable for meeting
  - Mental health discussed, but privacy issues with information regarding PhD candidates' mental health being sent around, consent should be required.
  - C3 meeting should also come up with solutions to address mental health issues, not only acknowledge them
  - Report should be made more extensive and obligatory, PhD candidates should have the chance to tell their opinion about usefulness of meeting
5. Lower productivity due to Covid made more PhD candidates to apply for contract extensions
  - Pieter made clear that as long as the application is well motivated, there should be funds - only for PhD candidates employed by NIKHEF

- Different supervisors suggest different timings for application
  - possible problems arising especially with non-Schengen area PhD candidates who need a visa

## 6. Others

- Kitchen @ NIKHEF after renovation works, can be checked on the intranet
- Tuesday 20th April 10 AM: NIKHEF renovation meeting open to everybody
- NIKHEF work council has only one PhD candidate now - Jesse