

Minutes VLAG PhD council

November 2nd, 2004 (Unitas, 16h00-17h00)

Present: Sandra van der Graaf, Eline Klaassens, Maaïke Schutte, Jeroen Knol, Nathalie Creusot.

1. Minutes of last meeting

Do we remove, for the minutes to the website, the remark of Ynte (point 5)?

2. News and Announcements.

- PhD guide:

Comments: no always clear with abbreviations used.

Elke: we can have an international student card (for examples to prove that you can pay "student" price at conferences). You need to bring your contract with you to get it (at the main office, Costerweg).

- News from VLAG:

The didactic courses are expensive and there is not much place: VLAG will look after that.

There is a web page for the TSP in thesis.

Backpack money is decentralized to the research groups.

- Reasons for contract extension / WPC minutes:

Fre is willing to help PhD's for contract extension.

- Functional meetings with supervisor (every year): is it compulsory? Ask someone at VLAG (action point).

- Conclusions of the VLAG visit to the groups:

Action points for PhD's (but who will look after it?): better communication (courses, TSP, financial consequences); more courses (but associate professors do not have time); new general courses; different categories of PhD student (employees / granted students / sandwich): everybody has to get backpack money.

3. New chair. New person for WPC meetings (same as chair?)

Jeroen Knol is the new chair of the VLAG PhD council, for 1 year. In order to know what happens in WUR, the chair of the VLAG PhD council should also join the Wageningen PhD council (once a month).

4. Questions / Remarks

Is Yvonne maintaining the PhD e-mail list?

Next meeting: January 12th, 16h00, Unitas

Nathalie 18/11/04