

# NIKHEF PHD COUNCIL

Nikhef Jamboree 17-18 december 2018 Muntgebouw Utrecht

#### MOTIVATION

• The Nikhef PhD councils aims to improve the experience of the PhD students at Nikhef.

 We form a bridge between the PhD students and the OSAF Education Committee.



### OSAF

- The Research School Subatomic Physics (OSAF)
  coordinates the education of the PhD students.
- The Education Committee (OWC) meets several times per year. Two members of the PhD council attend these meetings.
- For more information see yesterday's talk by Raimond Snellings.



#### OWC MEETINGS

- We participate in the discussion of subjects such as:
  - Topical lectures
  - BND School
  - Courses (e.g. C++ course)
  - C3
  - Teaching duties
- Our input is much appreciated!



### CURRENT MEMBERS



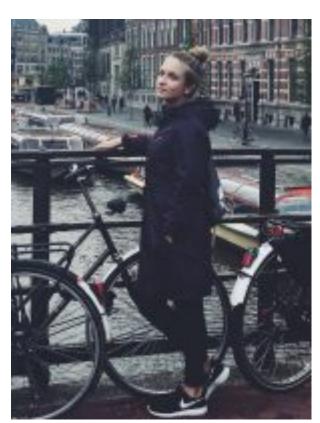
Marc de Beurs ATLAS | chair



Anamika Aggarwal ATLAS



Brían Ó Fearraigh Neutrino Telescopes



Zhanna Khabanova ALICE | secretary



Maria Bader Detector R&D



Alice Alfonsi ATLAS



Ruben Jaarsma Theory | *webmaster* 

#### FORMER MEMBERS

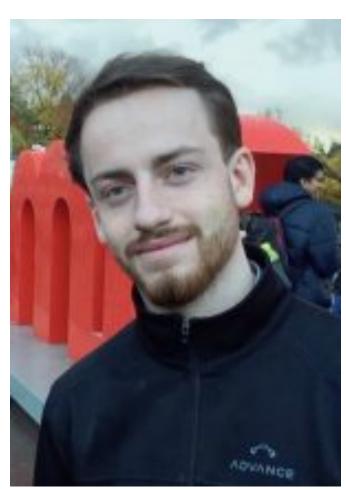


Erik Hogenbirk

Dark Matter | secretary



Jorinde van de Vis Theory | *chair* 



Milo Vermeulen
Neutrino Telescopes | webmaster

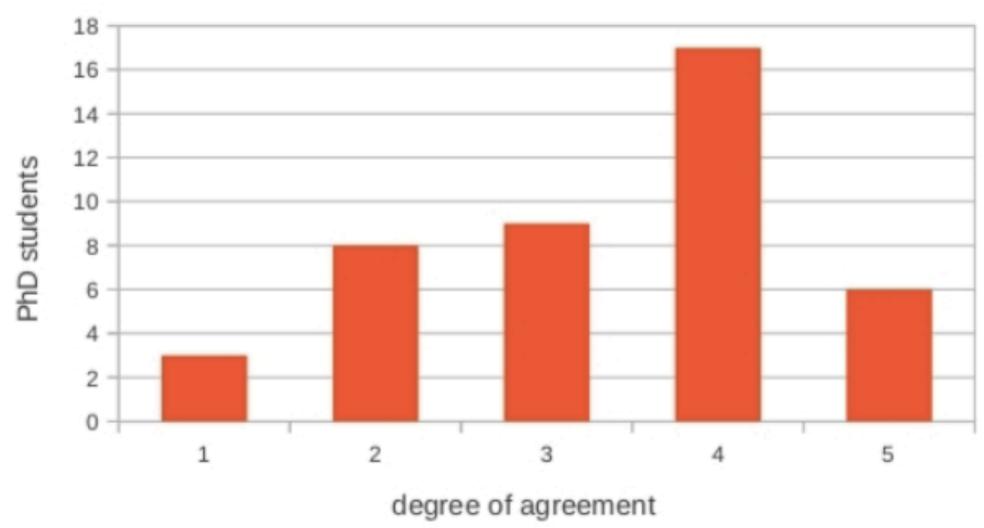
Thank you for all your efforts!

#### HISTORY

- Originally started by PhD students on 2011.
- They were struggling with the same issues, together you can achieve more.
- After some years the council became less active.
- The OWC asked students to 'revive' it ~1,5 years ago.

The degree to which candidates agree with the statement: during my PhD, I lost a lot of time due to problems with planning.

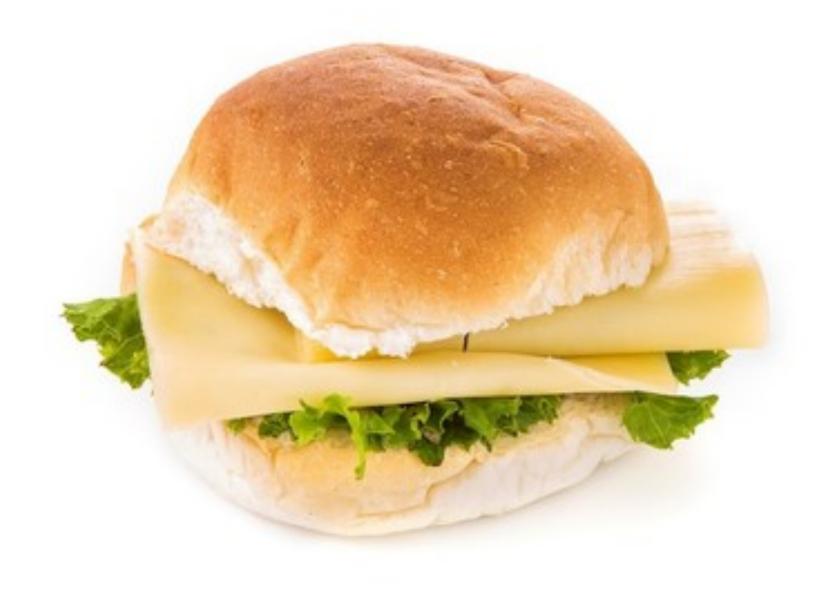
...problems with planning.



[From: Report PhD survey Nikhef 2012; The Nikhef PhD council]



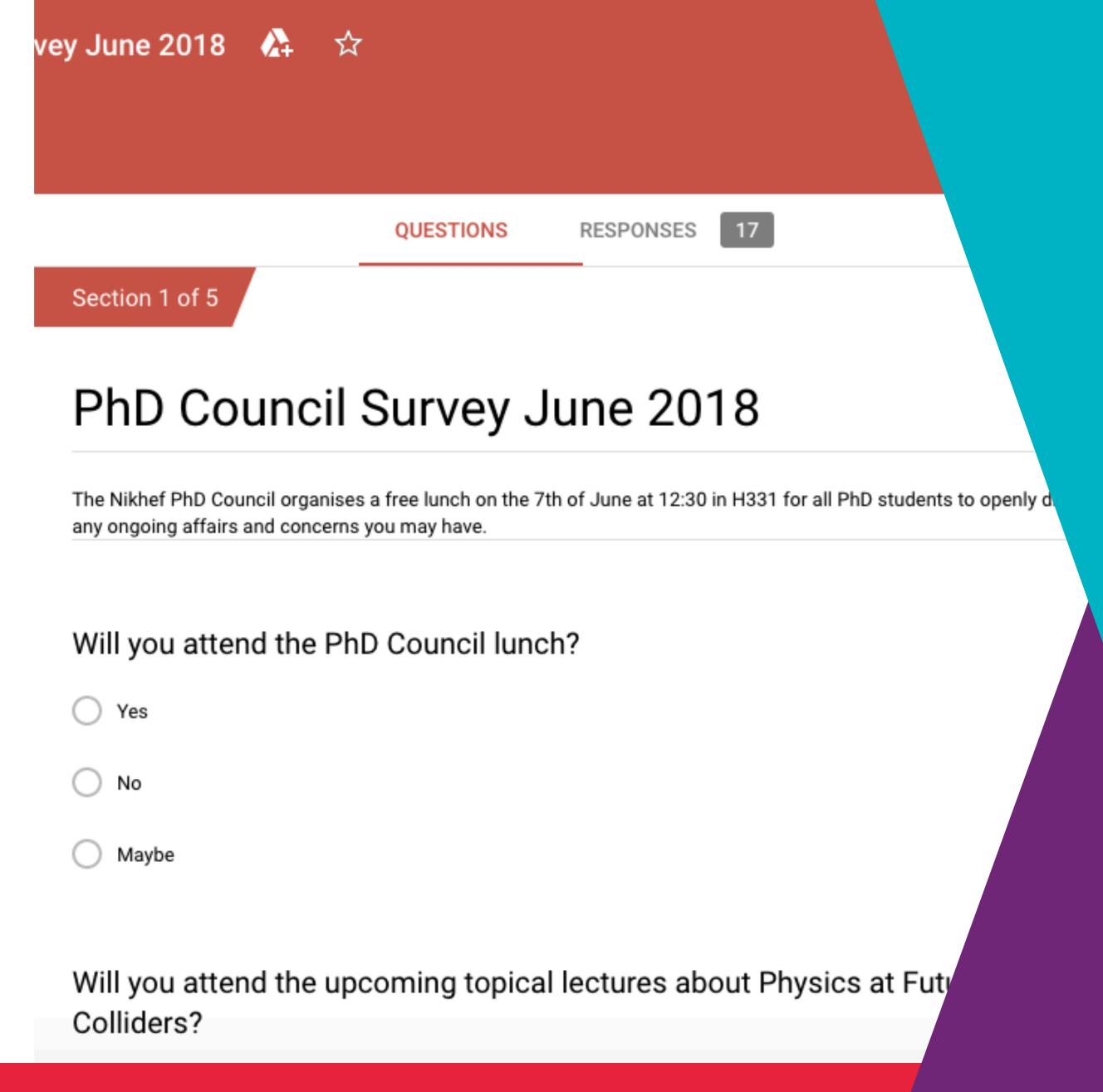
#### PHD LUNCHES



- Helps us to collect feedback from the PhD students.
- Typically take place during the Topical Lectures.
- Topics come from the OWC, students or ourselves.
- Feedback is communicated to the OWC.

### SURVEY

- We have sent a survey to all PhD students twice:
  - June 2018
     More about education
  - December 2018
     More about communication
- Some interesting results on next slide.





#### SURVEY

#### June 2018

What skills would you want to learn in a potential Python course?

10 responses

Hep specific skills

Write an effective analysis framework in Python, or integrate it with cpp/Python; PyROOT

No ideas. But think it is a very good idea!

General data analysis that does not depend on root. Anything but root.

Proper object oriented approach in Python. Maintaining a structured project (using proper folder structures and trakcking it with git). Most of my projects become messy pretty fast...

Pandas

We don't use Python a lot, therefore my knowledge is still very basic. So I would be fine with anything if the level is not too high/it is useful for beginners

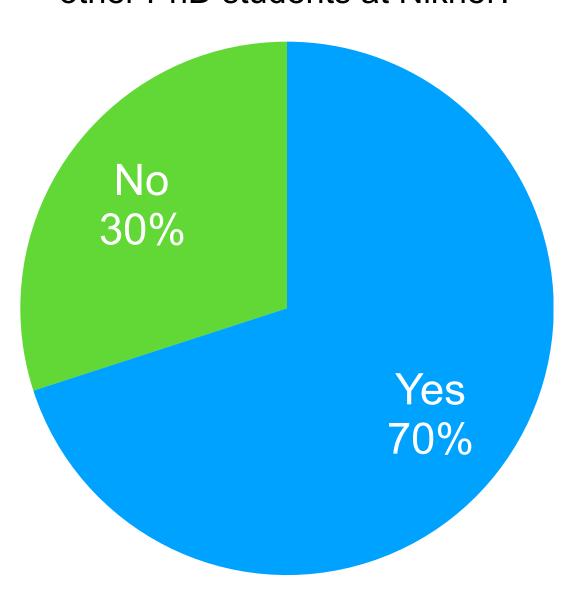
potentially the programming language;)

Structuring a code repository (configuration, what to put in functions and what not) and/or analysis preservation (for example snakemake and continuous integration)

N/A - self taught Python before

#### December 2018

Do you think there is enough opportunity for you to interact with other PhD students at Nikhef?



If your answer to the previous question was "no", please indicate what do you think could be improved to have more interaction between PhD students at Nikhef

"General PhD social events organised!! :D"

"I work in Nijmegen"



#### PYTHON COURSE



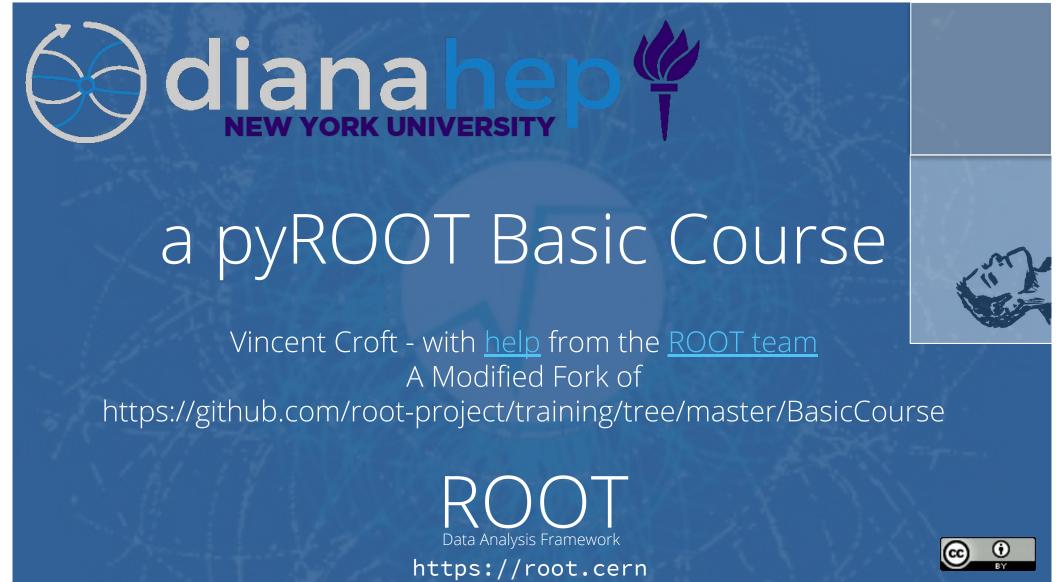
## Python for physicists (Nikhef 2018)



Taco Walstra

- The PhD students indicated that a Python course would be useful.
- Took place for the first time last October.
- Generally positive feedback.
- Thanks to Erik, Ivo, Bob, Taco, and Vince for organising the course!







### COUNCIL WEBSITE

- Source of useful information for PhD students at Nikhef.
- Thanks to Milo and everyone who contributed.

https://www.nikhef.nl/phdcouncil/

 Should you notice missing/ incorrect information please contact us (info on website)





#### Welcome to the Nikhef PhD Council website!

We are some PhD students who aim to revive the PhD Council as a platform to deal with PhD-specific issues. Even though most of the crucial information exists in one place or another (NWO-I, your affiliated university website, or at Nikhef), we aim to present the most important information in a centralised manner.

Disclaimer: although most of the i this website is applicable to all N students, it especially pertains t by NWO-I. Different conditions students employed by other i universities.



## VERTROUWENSPERSOON PROMOVENDI CONFIDENTIAL ADVISOR PHD STUDENTS

- Consult in cases for which you feel uncomfortable discussing with your supervisors or C3 committee.
- For example:
  - Personal conditions which influence your performance (illness, care for family/friends, ...)
  - Unhappy about your supervisor/C3 committee.
  - Witness of scientific fraud.
  - (Witness) of bullying/inappropriate behaviour.
- Also: NWO confidential advisor available.



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[Slide courtesy of Els de Wolf]



#### FUTURE GOALS

- There are some topics that we would like to discuss in the next year, such as:
  - Facilities (offices, ergonomics, computing, ...).
  - The well-being of students.
- It is a continuous process: new topics will come up, goals will be added, topics will be revisited.
- All PhD students are welcome at the PhD lunch this afternoon (13:05).