

# Report from the Board of Directors meeting

## 11.III.2014

### Main topics of interests for the students

1. General communications: PhD in Molecular Biology (or similar).
2. SISSA Club activities 2014
3. 150 hours
4. New cafeteria and canteen company
5. Servizio Prevenzione e Protezione (Workplace safety) report
6. Mechanic workshop building.

#### **1. General communications. PhD in Molecular Biology (or similar name)**

A proposal for a new **joint** PhD curriculum between SISSA, ICGEB, University of Udine and University of Trieste has been moved for by the Area of Neuroscience, still in a seminal but fastly work-in-progress form. The idea, despite being quite late, is to start the program already for 2014-15 academic year. The main focus of the course should be molecular biology; it will enjoy the scientific contribution by SISSA, prof. Morgante (Udine), prof. Giacca (ICGEB), prof. Del Sal (Trieste). Friuli Venezia Giulia region strongly supports this kind of initiatives, so we deem that most of the fellowships should be payed by the regional government itself. For 2014, the idea should be to start with 6 fellowships, among which 2 paid for by SISSA. Since during the meeting there has been a strong concern about the already large number of students in Genomics PhD (with which this new one may conflict) the proposal of dismissing the PhD in Genomics has been advanced but rejected; despite the announcement for the 2014 fellowships in Genomics has already been published, anyway the Board agreed (in the interest of the students, who need to have a supervisor actually capable of mentoring them) to either 'reduce' the number of admitted people (or to move some of them in the new PhD, we still don't know how it can be practically possible) to Genomics from 7 to 5-6.

#### **2. SISSA Club activities 2014**

The budget and activities program of SISSA Club for 2014 have been submitted to the Direction and the Administration. The final balance for 2013, accounting the usage of contribution of last year, has been submitted, too. The contribution was already budgeted in the School budget 2014, so more or less it is the same as usual. For the budget 2015, SISSA Club has been asked to submit its request by October-November (in order to know how much to put in SISSA budget *in advance*)

#### **3. 150 hours**

After the 150 hours call of last winter, the position of 150 hours for webpage support and management of the PhD course in Theory and Simulation of Condensed Matter wasn't awarded due to the lack of applications. The call is going to be reopened to fill the position (that is needed).

#### **4. New cafeteria and canteen company**

Starting from Monday, March 17th a new company will run our bar and canteen. The new company is a big firm in the field of educational catering (several schools' canteen, University of Trento...) and scored the best in quality and decently high in price. The special and full meals' prices are going to be raised of about 20 cents, but almost all the bar products will be strongly decreased (coffee to 60 cents, for instance). Moreover, there will be provided daily grilled meat and vegetables cooked at the moment. Moreover, a surveillance committee has been appointed in order to make sure that the company is complying with the contract. The students' representative within this committee is

Nicolò Piazzalunga from Mathematical Physics.

## **5 . Workplace security report**

There has been presented the 2013 report of the activities of the Workplace Safety Service. All the relevant information are online at the web site <http://www.sissa.it/safety> This year, apart from the usual training for PI and lab personnel, there will also be an online training course for all SISSA users about general safety on the workplace (desk working, evacuation...)

## **5. Mechanic workshop building**

A tender will be started in order to refurbish A2 building, so that it could host the Mechatronics Lab (at the moment, hosted in the main building) and the to-be-instituted Biomat, about applied mathematics to biological systems (De Simone's grants: micro-swimmers). The tender basis (that should be diminished by the companies running) is 165k euros. The building now hosts a warehouse; it will host two workshops, a toilet and an office for Mr. Tomizza.