

Report from the Board of Directors meeting 29.I.2015

Main topics of interests for the students

1. General communications
2. Kindergarten contribution
3. PhD courses 2014-15 Announcement
4. Pre- and post-degree fellowships 2014
5. Enrollment to NHS for not EU citizens (phd students and postdocs)

1. General communications

Following the request by the postdocs' representatives to be allowed to get teaching experience, and because of the small need of lecturers at SISSA, the Director proposed the Vice-Chancellors of Udine and Trieste to 'borrow' our postdocs. They agreed very willingly and the discussion is now up to their Mathematics, Physics and Life Sciences departments. Most likely, postdocs will do complementary teaching and will be paid (not much) for that.

2. Kindergarten contribution

SISSA has been offering a contribution to the monthly fee for the employees, researchers and students with kids at the kindergarten.

Last year we set an agreement with the CNA CAAF (tax support centre) to provide a 'SISSA ISEE' (not standard, keeping into account not-taxable income as the fellowship and the foreign income and properties without too much red tape) for people willing to apply for the contribution. The laws about ISEE are changed: in particular now there exists a kind of ISEE dedicated to children-related issues (so called ISEE-Minorenni) that keeps into account the not-taxable income, and the CAAF are not in charge of ISEEs any more, but the INPS. This means on one hand that the necessity of a specific SISSA ISEE does not hold any more for most of the users, while regrettably for foreigners will become impossible to avoid a lot of uncomfortable red-tape (INPS is a centralized institution not particularly famous for its flexibility). However, last year just one person asked for a SISSA ISEE, hence it does not look like a major tragedy.

3. PhD fellowships 2015-16.

After the relatively scarce number of applications of the last year, mainly in Mathematics and for some courses of Physics, the official announcement of the PhD courses has been changed. The number of positions available, the date and procedure of the exams are reported in the table shown below.

PhD Courses	2014-15	2015-16	Exam date
<i>MAMA</i>	8/8	8	10-11.09
<i>AP</i>	5/5	5	21-22.04 16-17.09
<i>JUMBO</i>	7/7°	7	24-25.09
<i>SBP</i>	5/5	5	10-11.06 24-25.09
<i>APP</i>	4/4	4	8-9.07
<i>GMP</i>	8/8	8	8-9.09

SP	5/5	5	30.03-1.04 9-10.09
TPP	5/5	5	6-7.07
SFG	7/7	7	24-25.09
NB	8/8	8	24-25.09
CNS	7/7	7	23-24.04 16-17.09
CM	7/5*	5	30.03 16.09

Legend: MAMA Mathematical Analysis, Modelling and Application, AP Astrophysics, SBP Physics and Chemistry of Biological Systems, APP Astroparticle physics, GMP Mathematical Physics and Geometry, SP Statistical Physics, TPP Theoretical Particle Physics, SFG Functional and Structural Genomics, NB Neurobiology, CNS Cognitive Neuroscience, CM Theory and Simulation of Condensed Matter; ° only two paid by SISSA; * two additional positions, compensated by the lack of freshmen the previous year
Moreover, all but SP and CM are going to activate the preselection of extra-EU candidates **for Qualifications only** in late spring (deadline for applications, March 31st).

4. Pre- and post-degree fellowships

The former are the ones usually granted to students coming to SISSA to prepare their master degree thesis ('borse di addestramento alla ricerca') and consist of 500€/month, the latter are granted to people already in possess of a Laurea Magistrale or equivalent and consist of 1000€/months. Among the former, there are months meant to be assigned to students of the Master Degree course in Physics of Complex Systems that may do their thesis work at SISSA. The total amount of positions is in the table shown below.

PhD courses	Pre-degree		Post-degree	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
AP	0/2	4	0/9	8
SBP	9/11	14	2,5/4,5	4,5
APP	0/6	10	2/8	8
Mathematics	4/6	10	13,5/12	12
SP	3/5	19	0/2,5	5
SFG	11/18	18	24/24	30
NB	11/12	16	31/30	33
CNS	2,5/18	12	17/24	24
TPP	0	0	18,5/10,5	8,5
CM	5/12	13	0/8	9
Total	47,5/88	119	108,5/132,5	143,5

5. Enrollment to NHS for not-EU citizens (postdocs and PhD students)

The Health districts in Trieste have started to regard the not-EU postdocs not as students but as workers, in the same way a couple of years ago they started about EU postdocs. That means that, in order to enroll to NHS they should pay (and, by law, SISSA refunds them) 7.5% up to 20 658.29€

of their previous year's income and of 4% on the remaining part. This computation is quite hard for the postdocs' themselves and for SISSA, too, since we are not a tax agency and each person has a different records, income and discounts. Together with University of Trieste, we will require FVG Welcome Office to take care of the issue, since they are devoted to the hospitality of foreign researchers. For not-EU PhD students nothing changes (i.e., they have to pay the students' fee for NHS and SISSA pays them back).