

Report from the Board of Directors meeting 5.III.2015

Main topics of interests for the students

1. General communications
2. Last year students' contribution for research and education expenses
3. Pre- and post-degree fellowships Statistical Physics and Master in Complex Systems
4. Faculty hiring, suspensions and termination

1. General communications

In the last weeks there has been the local stage of FameLAB, an international contest in Science Communication. Albeit it was not the first time that SISSA contributed to it, this year we were official organizers. 6 out of 7 finalists came from SISSA, as well as the ones awarded with the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize.

Moreover, a RAI-based concept about a radio show of science popularization and dissemination, involving young researchers from SISSA, has been presented to the Director and in the next weeks there will be meetings to draft the project.

After the publication of the list of the 150 hours students' collaboration winners, a meeting is going to be summoned with the Space Management committee, to draw the current year priorities and activities. The matter of the overcrowding of some rooms in Neuroscience Area and the contemporary underuse of the big A1 office, already addressed with the Area Coordinator last December, has been reported too.

2. Last year students' contribution for research and education expenses

The 1000 EUR contribution to last year students we had approved – and immediately put in stand-by because of the already discussed issues about the extent of its usability – in December 2014 has been now ultimately approved. With a certain effort by the Administration and the Students' representatives we have presented a regulation that, being approved, allows from now to keep into account this extra contribution.

Last year students can present **once** a request for the reimbursement, up to 1000 eur, of expenses of

- scientific trip (meals, accommodation, travel) according to the normal regulation, only for Institutions with an international scientific agreement;
- fees of schools and congresses
- purchase of external memory drives
- paper publication expenses
- poster printing (if not possible with SISSA resources)

The deadline for the requests is August, 31st and the contribution will be paid by the end of September. An early deadline – for people who already depleted the money or who do not plan to spend more – is June, 30th with payment by July, 31st. Several receipts or invoices can be summed up to the 1000 EUR threshold.

3. Pre- and post- degree fellowships for Statistical Physics and Master in Complex Systems

In the previous meeting of the Board the call for the two kinds of pre-PhD fellowships has been approved and issued. The PhD course in Statistical Physics had asked for much more one-month worthy fellowships than ever asked, and both the Senate and the Board granted them an intermediate amount between the 'historic' amount and the actual request. The most of the

difference is related to the so-called pre-degree fellowships, because there are a lot of requests for the master students in Physics of Complex Systems (jointly organized with ICTP, Turin polytechnic and a consortium of French universities). Most of these additional fellowships will be likely awarded to ICTP-based students. Moreover, SP group asked for an increase of the number of post-degree fellowships, as a way to attract highly qualified prospective candidates to the PhD entrance. Hence, the summary of the pre- and post-degree fellowships is updated as following:

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 28	0/2,5	5 8
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	119 128	108,5/132,5	143,5 146,5

4. Faculty hiring, suspensions and termination

The Board has approved the three-yearly plan of hiring and has been informed of termination and suspension of several professors between the end of 2014 and the beginning of 2015.

4.1 Physics

In 2014 prof. Calabrese joined the faculty of Statistical Physics group. In 2015 there will be opened two Associated Professor positions in Astrophysics (among which one ERC winner). In 2016 a position of Associated Professor in Theoretical Physics and two not-yet allotted ones.

4.2 Mathematics

In 2014-2015 prof. Malchiodi (Analysis), dr. Perroni (Geometry) and dr. Altafini (Biomathematics) have left SISSA. In 2014 the call for two professors has been completed and prof. Bertola (Mathematical Physics) and Gigli (Analysis) are going to become faculty members. Moreover, in 2015 there will be opened a position of Associated Professor (soon to be upgraded to Full) and another of Tenure-track Researcher, both in Geometry, and a Associated Professor position in Engineering (Mathlab). In 2016 a position of Associated Professor in Analysis should be open.

4.3 Neuroscience

Dr. Taccola has won a 36 months-long Marie Curie Fellowship; the first 24 months will be spent at UCLA, hence his current students should be immediately informed and the PhD faculty in Neurobiology should, according to the Regulation, provide them with the needed support to complete their thesis project.

The procedure for the call of dr. Memmesheimer as Associated Professor in CNS group has been transmitted to the Ministry; moreover, in 2015 a Full Professor position in Physiology (Neurobio) will be open (but it should account as the definitive moving of prof. Ballerini from UniTS to SISSA). In 2016 an additional position of Associated Professor should be open (not yet assigned to

a group).