Physics and Astronomy Career Days 2016

PROGRAMME & SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Thursday 30 June 2016 – Academic Careers

10:00	Patrick Decowski	Welcome
10:15	Ralph Wijers	How to apply for stuff
11:15	Coffee	
11:30	Paul de Jong	Academic Perspective
12:15	Alejandra Castro	Academic Perspective
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	Patrick Decowski	Applying for PhD positions abroad
14:30	Jan de Boer	Academic Perspective
15:15	Coffee	
15:30	Gideon Koekoek	A career in secondary education
16:15	End	

Friday 1 July 2016 - Non-Academic Careers

10:00	Egge van der Poel	Data scientist at KPMG, Erasmus MC
10:40	Lucie de Nooij	Booking.com + Het Klokhuis
11:20	Coffee	
11:35	Davide Iannuzzi	The worst mistake of my life, and how you can avoid it, …or, why, this year, you should become an entrepreneur
12:15	Lunch	
12:45	Live CV analysis	
13:45	Harry Linders	The labor market 1
15:00	Coffee	
15:15	Harry Linders	The labor market 2
16:30	End - BBQ	

Biographies

Jan de Boer is professor of theoretical physics at the University of Amsterdam.

Alejandra Castro was born and raised in Chile. In 2004 she finished her bachelor degree in Astronomy at Universidad Catolica de Chile. Her compass then aimed north, and in 2009 she received her PhD in Physics from the University of Michigan. After that she was a postdoc at McGill University and then at Harvard University. In September 2013 she joined UvA's Institute of Physics as an assistant professor. In terms of research, she is a string theorist with a focus on theoretical aspects of classical and quantum gravity.

Patrick Decowski is a professor of experimental astroparticle physics at the UvA. After completing his MSc in physics at Utrecht University, he moved to the US to do his PhD at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He finished in 2002 and then moved to UC Berkeley where he was until 2009 before coming to Amsterdam.

Davide Iannuzzi lives two parallel lives. During his normal working hours, he is a scientist who likes to design novel experiments in quantum mechanics, table-top cosmology, neuroscience, physiology, and, at times, even in the social sciences. In the time that is left, he embraces his other self to secretly explore the possibility of becoming rich – a goal that, to tell the truth, he has not quite achieved, yet. Iannuzzi-the-scientist (PhD at University of Pavia, Italy, 2002; MBA at TIAS, the Netherlands, 2015) holds a full professorship in experimental physics at the VU University Amsterdam. He is (co-) author of more than 70 publications and has received a long series of awards and recognitions, collecting more than 6 million euros in research funding. His entrepreneurial career, on the other hand, started quite late. It was not before 2006 that he realized that one of his inventions could have found application well beyond the specific experiment he devised it for. From 2006 to 2011, he drove the entire technology transfer process, taking personal responsibility for intellectual property protection, technical development, and business planning. In 2011, supported by a compelling business case, he co-founded a bootstrap company, which was incorporated under the name of Optics11 BV. The company is in continuous expansion and, at present, it's Iannuzzi's best chance to fulfill his secret goal.

Paul de Jong is professor of experimental particle physics at the University of Amsterdam.

Gideon Koekoek obtained his MSc degree Cum Laude at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, and a PhD degree in theoretical physics at Nikhef. He is a professional teacher and science educator, and teaches at both high school level at Gerrit van der Veen College, and at university level at Universiteit Leiden. In addition, he teaches national courses on Relativity and Quantum Physics, aimed at secondary school teachers who want to (re)familiarise themselves with these topics.

Harry Linders, from Bureau LoopbaanPlanning, is a professional coach and advisor in all kinds of work-related matters.

Lucie de Nooij spent two months traveling Australia in a camper after her PhD defense. When she came back, she started working at the internet company Booking.com as a Data Scientist, an in-house analyst. The team called her their quantitative conscience. She switched gears in January 2016 and became a science and technology editor at "Het Klokhuis", an informational kids TV program at the Dutch public broadcasting agency.

Egge van der Poel is a beta with an alpha edge. Physicist and philosopher. Strong analytically and pragmatic. Works with Big Data but keeps it simple. Strives for the best proof at the right moment to carry decisions. Egge got his PhD in particle physics at CERN, near Geneva. After his search for the famous Higgs particle, he spent one year as a clinical physicist at the Erasmus MC academic hospital. He then went on to become a Big Data consultant at KPMG. That role kept his focus on health care, but he also reveived experience in other areas. He is combining a part-time position as (the first) Clinical Data Scientist at Erasmus MC with free-lance jobs since March 2015.

Ralph Wijers is professor of astrophysics at the University of Amsterdam.