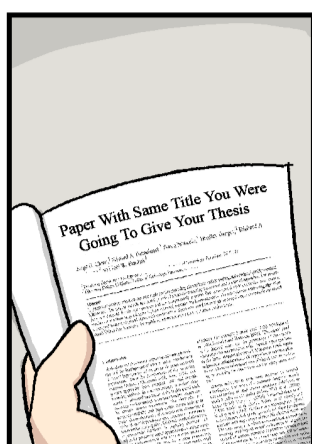




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WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

Dear PhD candidates!

This is the latest newsletter of PROUT (Promovendi Overleg Utrecht / PhD platform Utrecht). PROUT has revitalized itself and we are eager to let you know! PROUT is a platform for all Utrecht University PhD candidates and aims to collect and spread information about everything that could be relevant for PhD-candidates. PROUT represents the interests of all Utrecht University PhD-candidates, and, with representatives from all faculties, is positioned between faculty PhD councils and the national Dutch PhD Network (PNN: Promovendi Netwerk Nederland).

From now on, we aim to send out a newsletter regularly, to keep you posted on news items and developments concerning relevant PhD issues. Also, please take a look at our new website which will be updated regularly: www.prout.nl

Next PROUT meeting: 20 January, Van Unnikgebouw, room 11.01a

News

New PROUT board!

Since the beginning of September, we have a new PROUT board. After having set up an active and representative council, Nicole Grégoire resigned on 21 October. Our new chairman, Rens van de Schoot, will continue the work of Nicole and try to increase PhDs' awareness of PROUT. In that, he is helped by Floor Kroese as Secretary, Richard van der Put as Treasurer, Jasper van Kempen as web site manager and Saskia Peels as our contact to PNN.

Moreover, PROUT has instituted an activities committee. Sjoerd Bakker, Marieke Jesse, Hilde Aardema, Elsa Berends and Jasper van Kempen will dedicate themselves to organising several university-wide activities for all Utrecht PhDs in 2009.

New Year's Drink

By PROUT's Activities Committee

In 2009, a series of activities will be organized especially for PhD candidates. We will start at Thursday 29 January, 2009: PROUT opens the year with a New Year's drink for all PhD candidates of Utrecht University! The night will start at 19:30h in the Raadzaal (Achter Sint Pieter 200) with three speakers:

- a welcome by PROUT's president Rens van de Schoot
- an introduction by Rector Magnificus Prof. Hans Stoof
- a lecture about the history of the PhD degree by Prof. Leen Dorsman



From 20.30 on there will be drinks at the Maskeradezaal of the University Hall (Academiegebouw).

This night is completely free and you don't have to register. We hope to welcome you all. So, take your fellow PhD candidates on January 29th to come to the first PROUT activity of 2009!

[More information](#)

Articles

Advantages of being a labour union member

By Ronald Oosting, ABVAKABO

Financially, Utrecht University is currently experiencing challenging conditions. It is not unlikely that cost-reducing actions and reorganizations will be announced in the coming years. As a PhD-candidate with a 4-year contract you may think your position won't be in danger (which is probably right), but still PhD-candidates face threats as well. Think of: cost reduction on your education, insufficient supervision, a decrease of post-doc positions, or cost-reduction on supporting services (library, ICT services etc.). The ABVAKABO FNV supports PhD-candidates both on a national and local (UU) level and encourages all PhD-candidates (AIO's) to become a member! For more information, take a look at www.prout.nl or www.uu.nl/abvakabo.

The confidential counsellor

By Paul Herfs, confidential counsellor

The confidential counsellor offers assistance to all Utrecht University employees with complaints, grievances or questions relating to events or circumstances at work. These could concern for instance co-workers, management or the atmosphere at work. The counsellor has direct access to all information and departments within the university, and confidentiality is guaranteed. You may contact Mr Herfs by phone +31 (0)30 253 9988, or e-mail P.G.P.Herfs@uu.nl.

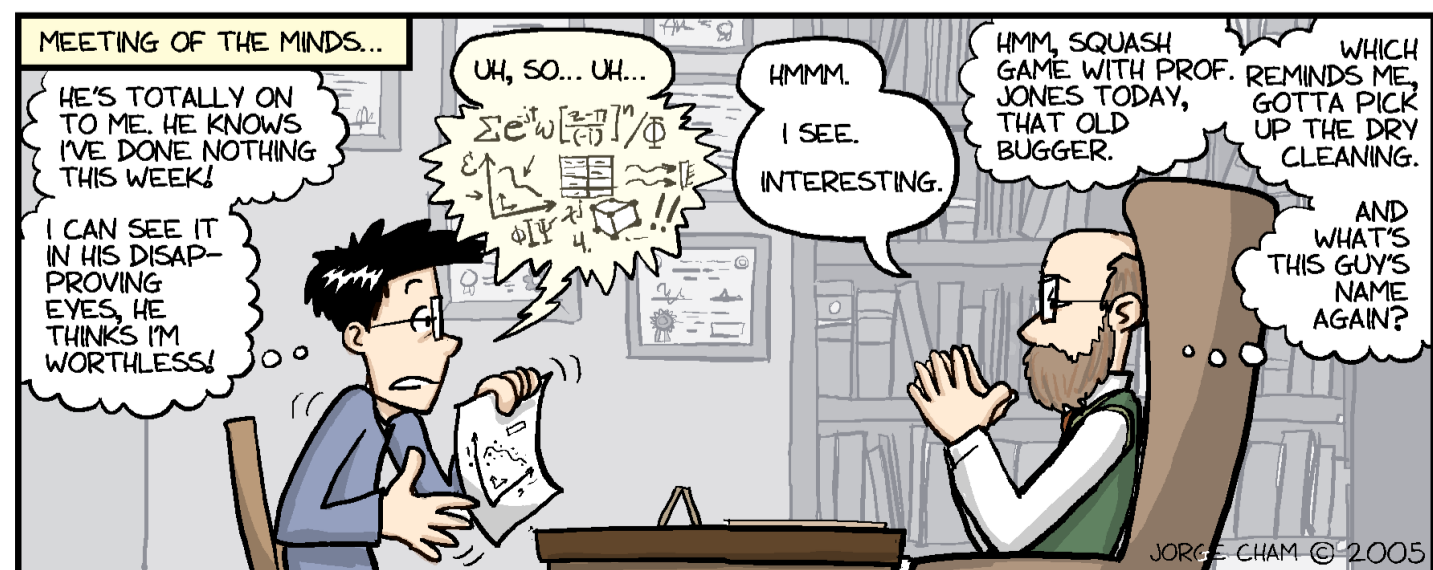
Events & Tips

April 23, 2009: Intermediair PhD Career Event

Are you a PhD student or PhD graduate looking for a next step in your career? Then this can be of help to you. The [Intermediair PhD Career Event](#) is a unique career platform for PhDs only. At 23 April 2009, Intermediair will offer you an exclusive PhD exhibition with top-employers, presentations, workshops and more. This event is organised for PhDs of all areas of science. Interested to register already? Please [do so](#) and we will keep you informed about any news on the event.

Help us improve!

If you have any remarks, tips or ideas concerning PROUT, the newsletter, and/or the website, please let us know (e-mail: prout@uu.nl)! If you are interested to join PROUT as a representative of your faculty, please contact our chair person, Rens van de Schoot (A.G.J.vandeSchoot@uu.nl).



www.phdcomics.com

PROUT Newsletter, December 2008

This newsletter is sent regularly to all PhDs at Utrecht University. If you wish to unsubscribe, please contact our [secretary](#).
If you wish to learn more about PROUT, please visit www.prout.nl