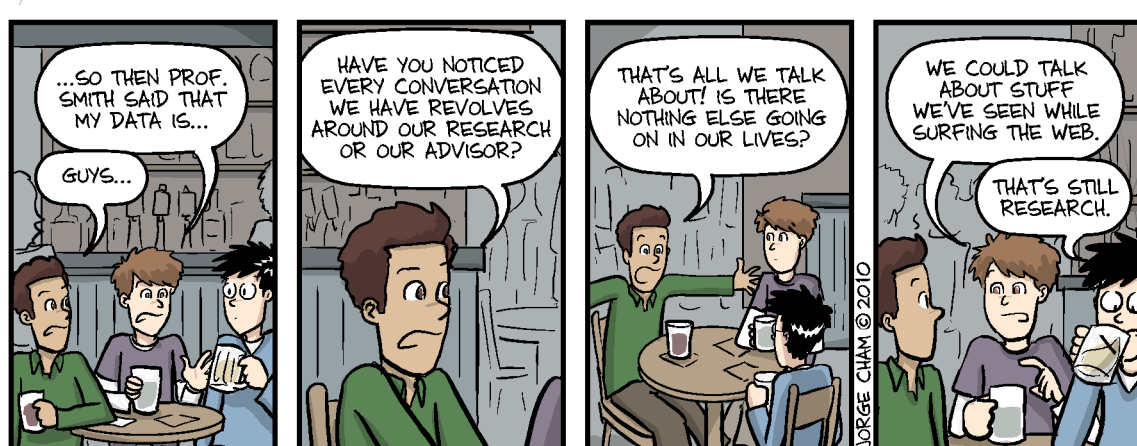


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Hi all,

We are pleased to announce that a very active activities committee is planning several interesting events for you in the months ahead, the first of which will be on 15 December already! Moreover, below you can find some information on the Work2Work programme and PrOut's efforts to improve things a bit for PhD Candidates. So go ahead and have a look below.

Enjoy your read!

PrOut

Upcoming Lecture

Joep Schrijvers "How to use your elbows - working your way to the top"

We are delighted to invite you for the next PrOut lecture on Wednesday December 15th at 7.30 pm in the Senaatszaal at the University Hall (Academiegebouw). After the successful lectures last year (see [here](#) and [here](#)), we are excited to have [Joep Schrijvers](#) to present his experiences as a scientist, advisor and manager on organizational change. As author of the bestseller 'Hoe word ik een rat?' ('The way of a rat'), he will tell you about the political games in organizations, while providing tips and tricks to make sure you are the one who makes it to the top. After the lecture, drinks and snacks are provided, giving you the opportunity to discuss the lecture, among other things, while getting to know your fellow PhD Candidates.



Program:

- 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm: Lecture (Room: Senaatszaal)
- 8.30 pm onwards: Drinks (Room: Zaal 1636)

Work2Work

Work2Work is an internal organization created by Utrecht University to assist employees that are nearing the end of their contract, with finding a new job. Every employee in the last six months of his or her contract is contacted by Work2Work and invited to a program.

Over time, PrOut received a lot of comments (and complaints) from PhD candidates about the program and the style of communication chosen by Work2Work. Mostly, the pressure the Work2Work program adds to the last couple of months of a PhD candidate's contract was mentioned as unacceptable. Because of these comments, PrOut and Work2Work joined efforts to improve the Work2Work program for PhD candidates. At this point we are nearing a final proposal for an improved program we hope to start implementing in the first months of 2011.

Most importantly, the program will be implemented earlier in the PhD program, relieving the pressure from the last couple of months, in which the PhD candidate is already working hard to finish his or her thesis on time. The new program focuses on raising awareness of the urgency of finding a new job while offering training to gain skills valued by potential employers of choice. The nature of the program will be mostly voluntary.

More details of the new work2work program will be presented in PrOut's next newsletter. In the meantime, we value your comments, so keep us posted!

Other upcoming lectures in 2011

February

On Wednesday February 9, Prout will organize, in collaboration with the Faculty Club, an information evening on how to successfully apply for grants during and after your PhD. In the first half of the program, general information and opinions on grants are provided. During the second half of the program, a number of Veni-laureates will be sharing their experiences with applying for a [Veni-grant](#) that is allocated by [NWO](#). The evening ends with drinks.

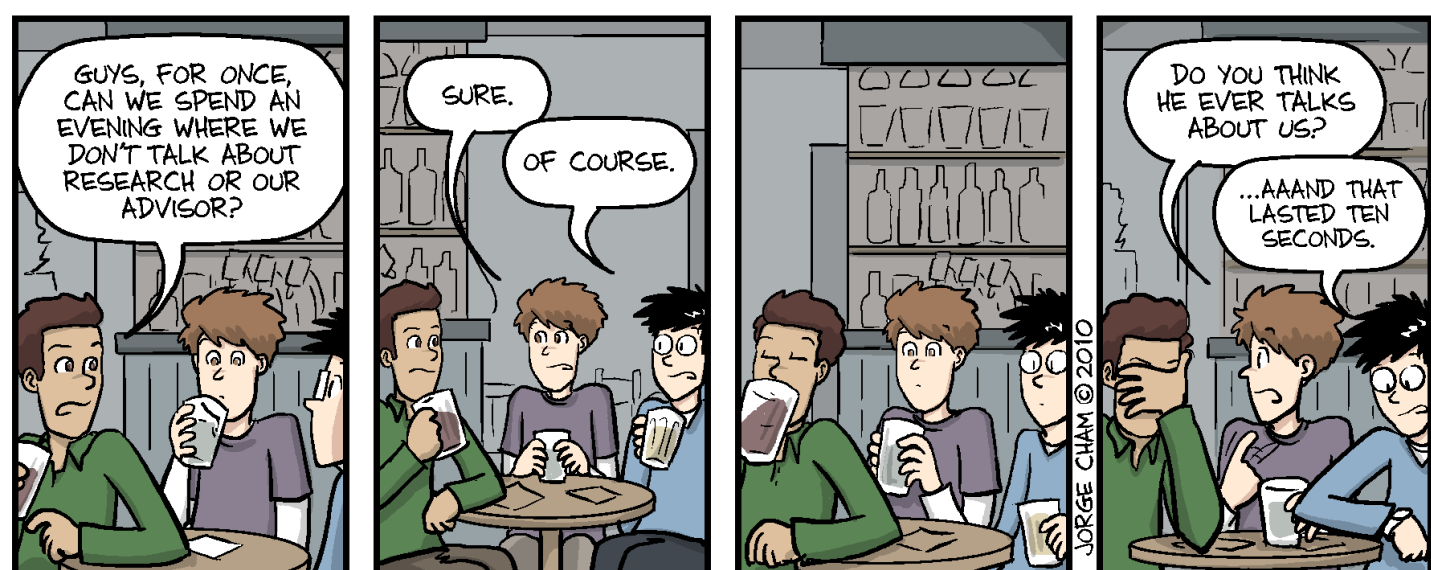
March

On Thursday March 10, an information evening on tax benefits for PhDs is organized. You might want to wait with filling in and returning your tax forms, as there might be some benefits and deductions you are unaware of! Also, there will be room for questions during the evening, but please email any questions in advance to activities@prout.nl. Be aware that this presentation will be given in Dutch. After the presentation there might be an opportunity for people who do not speak Dutch to ask questions.

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: info@prout.nl)! If you are interested to join PrOut as a representative of your faculty, please contact our [chair](#).

If you have any issues or questions concerning your PhD (work, social benefits etc.), please feel free to contact your faculty PhD council. If it is a main Utrecht matter, or you don't think you can find your faculty PhD council, you can also contact PrOut (info@prout.nl or www.prout.nl).



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