AQUALAB Student Conference 2006

Galway, Ireland

Student questionnaire on PhD activities in the AquaTNet domain

1. In which country are you doing your PhD?

- **Spain: 17**
- **Belgium: 2 + 4= 6**
- **Greece: 2**
- **UK: 2 + 1=3**
- **Ireland: 1**
- **Hungary: 1**
- **Turkey: 1 + 21= 22**
- **Italy: 3**

Total 55

University of Murcia: 13
Universitat Auonoma de Barcelona: 1
Ghent university: 5
University of Firenze: 3
University of Crete: 2
University of Wales, Bangor: 1
University of Bristol: 1
NuiGalway: 1
University of Debrecen: 1
Istanbul University: 17
Central Fisheries Research Institute, Turkey: 1
Karadeniz Technical University, Turkey: 1
Rize University, Turkey: 3
Scottisch association of marine science UHI Mellenium Institute and Univ Aberdeen: 1

2. Are you doing a PhD in the AquaTNet domain?

☐ Yes: **37**
☐ No **15**
? 2

3. In which area are you doing your PhD?

☐ Aquaculture: **35**
☐ Coastal management: **3**
☐ Fisheries **13**
Ecophysiology (algal): 1

4. Who decided on the PhD subject?

☐ Student: **4**

☐ Supervisor: 17
☐ Combination of student and supervisor: **35**
☐ Institute **1**
☐ Topic needs to fit into a long-term predefined strategy of the institute
Topic needs to fit into a long-term predefined strategy of the government: **1**

5. How did you choose your supervisor?
☐ You decided to study with him/her: **29**
☐ He/she decided to study with you: **16**
☐ Head department decided 10
☐ Other (please specify) _____decision after interview_____

6. How long are you already working on your PhD?

- **Not working on PhD yet: 2**
- **2 months: 1**
- **3 months: 1**
- **4 months: 2**
- **5 months: 1**
- **6 months: 3**
- **1 year: 10**
- **Second year: 12**
- **3 years: 14**
- **4 years: 5**
- **5 years: 3**
- **Post-doc 1**

7. Can you completely focus on your PhD research, or do you have other duties? If you have other duties, please specify?

- **completely focus on PhD research: 17**

OTHER DUTIES:
- **Project work: 11**
- **Student practical supervision: 8**
- **Lecturing: 3**
- **Writing course for professor: 1**
- **Research assistant: 1**
- **Diverse: 14**

Such as

- **biological rhythms in fish: 1**
- **we are studying MBL on gilthead sea bream: 1**
- **we study about aquaculture at University, and we work in the laboratory during 1 year in our research project: 1**
- **No I can't, I'm studying another degree: 1**
- **I don't earn any money with researching and I have to work out of here. Once here I completely focus on my research: 1**
- **Post-grad representative:1**
- **Consultancy for industry: 1**
- **Responsibilities concerning material in lab + responsible for ordering gasbottles: 1**
- **Hatchery working: 1**
- **Have to work beside my PhD: 1**
- **Getting fish from fishfarms: 1**
- **Maintenance of aquaria: 1**
- **Management responsibility: 1**

8. **Are you lecturing at the BSc or MSc level?**

☐ No: **29**
☐ Yes, at BSc level: 8
☐ Yes, at MSc level: **14**
☐ Yes, at both BSc and MSc level **3**

9. **Are you responsible for practical exercises at the BSc or MSc level?**

☐ No: **15**
☐ Yes, at BSc level: 18
☐ Yes, at MSc level: **16**
☐ Yes, at both BSc and MSc level 4

10. **With which model does your PhD research correspond?**

☐ Individual study programme based on an informal to formal working alliance between a supervisor and a doctoral candidate (an apprenticeship model): **27**
☐ A structured programme organised within research groups or research/graduate/doctoral schools with two phases: a taught phase (mandatory and voluntary courses or modules) and a research phase: **27**

11. **Are you participating in a doctoral training programme, including compulsory courses?**

- **Yes: 27**
- **No: 21**
- **Before the PhD programme: 4**

12. **If you are following compulsory courses, are they part of a regular MSc curriculum or are they specially designed courses at the PhD level?**

- **Specially designed courses at the PhD level: 19**
- **Part of regular MSc curriculum: 5**
- **Both 4**
- **No: 2**
-

13. **Are you interested in a PhD which includes a PhD training programme as described in 10b?**

- **yes: 34**
- **no: 6**
- **non specific answer: 3**

14. **Should a PhD training programme include:**

☐ Advanced courses in your specific research area: **7**
☐ Generic courses (such a time management course, management courses, computing skills…)
☐ Both: **46**

15. **Describe what <u>specific</u> courses you would like to have available?**
    a. In your specific research area (including statistics)

- microscopy course: 1
- I would like to do a specific course of aquaculture area: 2
- immune pathology of fishes: 1
- immunity of fishes: 1
- study methods in cellular biology of fishes: 1
- I would like specific courses about aquaculture: 1
- current knowledge of interesting issues related with the future research: 1
- specific methodologies and methods: 1
- coastal / wetlands management: 1
- population's dinamcy ecology:1
- molecular ecology techniques: 1
- stable isotopes analysis: 1
- fisheries: 1
- water quality: 1
- methodological ecology: 1
- more camp practical courses: 1
- more advanced courses related to statistics: 1
- fish immunology + vaccination: 1
- applied statistics: 1
- nature reserve management: 1
- applied management of fauna: 1
- more practice: 1
- statistics: 5
- bio variability courses: 1
- genetic mapping courses: 1
- advanced issues in marine science, concentrating on zoology (1 study algae): 1
- identification courses in freshwater algae: 1
- general science ethics (concentrating on the EU): 1
- general environmental issues (concentrating on the EU): 1
- general aquaculture → needs and incentives: 1
- hatchery management: 1
- pond fish culture: 1
- recirculation systems: 1
- pathology – diagnostics in aquaculture: 1
- experimental techniques: 1
- lab techniques in immunology: 1
- aquarium techniques: 1
- laboratory exercises: 1

State of the art of aquaculture 1
Economics of aquaculture 1
Field experience 1
Aquaculture management 3
Aquaculture feed 3
Anatomy of fishes, crustaceans and molluscs 4
Description and identification of phytoplankton organisms 2
Materials and methods 3
Usages of lab machines and tools 2
Biostatistics 5
Sediment and water chemistry 1
Techniques on my study subject 1
Marine biology and microbiology diversity 1
Microbial ecology 1
Bioinformatics 1
Microbes and their environment 1
Genetics in detection of fish diseases 2
Tropic interaction in marine ecosystem 1
Biogeography 1
Ecology and Physiology of echinoderms 1
Community structure alterations in the Mediterranean Sea 1
PCR applications on genetics HPLC 1

Microbiology, Biotechnology and Genetics of aquaculture 2
Micro algal and Macro algal countries 1
Discriminate analyze, phenotypic variation 1
Marine mussel's genetics, sequence and phylogenetic analysis 1
Fisheries management 1
Socio-economic researches 1
Impact assessment 1
Gonad development and spawning of marine fishes, relationship between icthyoplankton and population dynamics 1
Diagnostic techniques for fish and shrimp diseases 1
Molecular biotechnological practises 1
Molecular phylogenetic 1
Different and practical isolation methods of bacterial and viral organisms 1
Detecting the genetic replying on fish result from feeds including genetically changed ingredients 1
HBLC using practices 1
Atamic absorption using 1
Fish immunology 1
Fish disease 1
Microbiology 1
Acoustic analysis, software use, equipment use, general acoustics for beginners

b. Generic courses

- statistics: 14
- Computer courses: 8
- foreign language course: 3
- writing (Academic Writing): 6
- management: 6
- informatic course: 2
- environmental impact of aquaculture: 1
- uses of generic scientific programmes: 1
- legislation: 1
- GIS: 2
- ecology: 2
- bio informatic: 1
- zoology: 1
- olimatic courses: 1
- applied GIS: 1
- commercial management: 1
- bibliography: 1
- more communication courses: 1
- written communication courses: 1
interview techniques: 1
-
- lab management: 2
-
- CV writing: 1
- politics & research: 1
- presenting data – best graphs: 1
- Image processing: photoshop, Orel: 1
- Submitting papers – what is vital apart from purely scientific aspects: 1
Presentations skills 3
Teamwork 2
Communication of disciplinary 2
Stock enhancement 1
Ocean governance 1
Biological invasion 1
Engineering 1
Pedagogic formation 1

Water quality 1
Population Genetics 1
Research project management 3
Population dynamics 1

Teaching skills 1

16. What are your current prospects after finishing your PhD:

☐ Do an academic post-doc: **24**
☐ Obtain a university position (e.g. assistant): **19**
☐ Have a job in a research institute: **18**
☐ Have a job in the industry: **8**
☐ No prospects at the moment: **6**

17. Do you plan a research period outside the lab where you do the major part of your PhD?

- **No: 16**
- **Yes: 29**

- **If I have the opportunity I would like to do it: 1**
-

18. Do you plan mobility during your PhD period:

☐ In between lab of the same institute: **17**
☐ In between labs of different institutes: **14**
☐ In between labs located in different countries: **19**

Please feel free to make any other comments

- **I would like to have a practice period in the industry: 2**
- **Very useful to acquire training by going in another institute: 1**
- **Good questionnaire. Hope we can reach an agreement. Also regarding salaries and "how much" we should work before we become doctors. This includes how many papers need to be produced beforehand.**

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire! Please hand completed forms to an AquaTT staff member or fax completed forms to AquaTT @ +353 (0)1 644 9009