



From : Patty Lagerweij
 To : **all participants in the OOA (NKI and AVL, VUMC and AMC)**
 Subject : 1st announcement NKI : Annual graduate student retreat 2017
 Date : May 10, 2017

This year the annual graduate student retreat will take place from **Wednesday October 11th until Friday October 13th**

The accommodation is again hotel "De Zeeuwse Stroom" in Renesse, Zeeland NL: <http://www.zeeuwsestromen.nl/> All meals, coffee, tea and (shared) bedroom are free of charge.

All participants are obliged to stay the three days of the retreat. Busses from NKI and WTC will bring us to Renesse in 1 hour and 45 minutes.

The format will be more or less the same as last year: first-year graduate students will present a poster. If you started your PhD more than 1 year ago, you have to present your work in a 12 minute oral presentation. For each session, two chairpersons will be assigned who will also give a brief introduction of the session. All participants submit an A5-page abstract in English.

At the annual OOA retreat **awards** are given. There will be 3 awards for best presentation (200, 100 and 50 euro) and best poster (100, 50 and 20 euro).

For organizational reasons and due to other commitments we must set the **deadline for registration on August 27th at 23.59 hrs** and not later.

If we reach the maximum number of participants of **170**, we have to close the subscription earlier.

Click on this link below to **start your subscription**:

<https://symposium.nki.nl/retraite.aspx>

Beware: You can register now but perhaps you do not have an abstract ready at this moment. You can send it later, but before August 28 to p.lagerweij@nki.nl

Instructions:

- Instructions for abstract: Please use for your abstract the (attached) **template** that also can be found on the OOA website. The maximum size is 2250 characters (with spaces - to be seen at Tools in Word). Make use of some subject headings: Background or introduction/methods or aim/results/conclusion.
- Pictures/graphics are allowed but will be printed in black and white. You can also put a picture of yourself in the abstract so people can recognize you. Not obligatory.

- All abstracts will be assembled in an abstract book with the program to be distributed well in advance of the retreat.
- Instructions for poster: format A1 size (portrait = 594 × 841 mm). You can print a poster at Drukkerij Jan Nagel. More info for NKI-AVL employees (with form) or for VU and AMC participants: website Jan Nagel
- Instructions for presentations: prepare a presentation of 12 minutes maximum. Be aware that detailed data, endless sequences etc. are rarely interesting in a presentation for an audience that represents a wide range of subjects, so it is essential to avoid these as well as jargon, unknown abbreviations, etc.
- On September 15 - 15.00 hrs there will be a workshop "making posters and presentation for a broad audience" in the NKI with afterward the Research Borrel in the bar.
- Save your presentation on a memory stick. Laptops (Windows) and beamers will be provided by the hotel.
- On Thursday you have a free afternoon. The hotel is situated near Renesse (1 km) with several pubs and shops and the beach is not far (300 m). The hotel has a small swimming pool. This year the OIO council will try to organize an activity or if you have an idea or if you want to organize this, let us know.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** The OOA student retreat is THE opportunity to present your data and to exchange ideas. But be aware: it is a public meeting, so do not share patentable information in your presentation, discussions or other exchanges. This may include methods, protocols, processes, hypotheses, ideas, etc. that have not been published yet. Once revealed to the public it can no longer be claimed as an exclusive right.
If you have doubts or questions concerning the confidentiality of your presentation or other queries on patentable ideas or results, contact your supervisor first. If you need additional information, you can contact:
NKI-AVL: Technology Transfer Office through TTO@nki.nl
VUmc and AMC Innovation Exchange Office: info@ixa.nl

Kind regards, also on behalf of Hein te Riele, dean of the OOA at the NKI/AVL.

Patty Lagerweij - Office manager B7 / OOA-NKI

<http://www.ooa-graduateschool.org>

Phone: + 31 20 512 6973

email: p.lagerweij@nki.nl

MORE Instructions for making a presentation at the retreat:

When preparing the presentation for the PhD retreat keep in mind that the audience is diverse and consists both of fundamental and translational researchers as well as clinicians. This is a challenge, as your presentation will need to be understandable for all, but also an opportunity for you as a presenter, as this allows you to interact and get feedback from outside your immediate field of interest from people with a different perspective. For clinicians, it is a chance to see the more fundamental developments that may in the future impact the clinical practice, while for researchers it's an opportunity to see open questions in the clinic that will fuel more future fundamental research. Overall, the aim of your presentation should be to reach everyone in the audience, regardless of their background.

For such a mixed audience, it's important to realize that many abbreviations and methods may not be familiar to many in the audience, and in order to make your presentation understandable for all, answer the following questions in your presentation.

- **What are you studying?**
 - Try to clearly formulate the problem that you're trying to address.
 - **Why are you studying it?**
 - What is the relevance behind your project? Is it aimed to increase understanding of a particular tumor type? Or developing new methods for the field? Are you trying to improve quality of life of patients? Etc.
 - **How are you studying it?**
 - Try to explain the methods that you're using sufficiently to not lose the audience.
 - **What have you found?**
 - Try to focus on only key findings. This is not a work discussion and you do not need to exhaustively show every single experiment (less is more!). However, all the data shown should be explained (think: method, axes on the plots, statistical method used, etc.).
 - **What does it mean?**
 - What are the implications of your findings for your own project, or for the field? And what are the open questions that need to be addressed?
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