



## UPCOMING DEFENSES

**MAR 29**

**Defense Yke Eisma**  
*Visual Attention in Human-Machine Interaction*

**MAR 31**

**Defense Seyed Ali Saadabadi**  
*Developing Solid Oxide Fuel Cell Based Power Plants for Water Treatment Plants*

**APR 01**

**Defense X. Chen**  
*Numerical Modelling for Underwater Excavation Process - A Method based on DEM and FVM*

**APR 08**

**Defense Faisal Wani**  
*Improving the Reliability of Tidal Turbine Generator Systems*

**APR 09**

**Defense Sebastian Caro Ortiz**  
*Adsorption and Separation of C8 Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Zeolites*

**APR 19**

**Defense Marco Grotto**  
*Development and Evaluation of a Motorcycle Riding Simulator for Low Speed Maneuvering Learning- and optimization-based strategies*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**MAR 18**

**RIDDERPRINT LUNCHLECTURE**  
All you need to know about thesis printing, sign up [here](#).

**MAR 29**

**AGILE WORKSHOP**  
Learn more about an approach to project management that was developed by engineers, for engineers. Sign up [here](#).

**APR 01**

**ONLINE CAREER SHAPING EVENT**  
This event aims to provide insight into possible career options post PhD and network opportunities - sign up [here](#).

**APR 22**

**DISCUSSION SESSION IV: OPEN SCIENCE**  
We explore how open data, software, hardware and access movements are changing static communication in research.

**MAY 06**

**DISCUSSION SESSION V: METRICS IN ACADEMIA**  
More information will follow!

**MAY 20**

**Q&A NEW DIRECTOR GS**  
Save your questions and ask them directly to the director of the Graduate school!

## CONSULTATION HOURS GRADUATE SCHOOL

If you have any doubts about your PhD trajectory, the number of GS courses you still need to do or the credits you can receive for an online course, Mascha Toppenberg from Graduate School is available for online consultation, every **Wednesday from 13.00 till 14.00**.

You can reach her via standard Skype: [graduateschool-3me](mailto:graduateschool-3me).

or via Skype for Business: [m.p.i.toppenberg@tudelft.nl](mailto:m.p.i.toppenberg@tudelft.nl).



## LET'S INTRODUCE

Hey everyone! My name is Rick, and I am the latest addition to the PhD council! I obtained my Master's degree in Electrical Engineering last July, and started my PhD candidacy at the BioMechanical Engineering group nearly four months ago. The topic of my project is to analyse video footage and other datastreams from surgical intervention rooms in order to evaluate, and potentially improve, workflow efficiency and safety. During my time in the council I will be handling communication-related tasks, taking care of event sign-ups and sending out the occasional survey for you to make your voice heard! Of course, I'll be bringing my personal input regarding events and decision-making to the table as well. If you have any suggestions, questions, complaints or compliments, please don't hesitate to let me know! I am looking forward to my time here, and I sincerely hope I can be of assistance to all of you.



## LET'S INTRODUCE



Hello! My name is Vitoria Ferreira, currently on my 3rd year of PhD at the Materials Science and Engineering department. My research topic aims at understanding the microstructural aspects of damage development in steels used in railway tracks. I've recently joined the PhD council and I am working together with other members in order to improve the visibility of the PhD council in social medias. I love cooking (COVID times made it easier to test new recipes), reading, gathering with my friends and travelling. Looking forward to meeting everyone in future events!

## LET'S SAY GOODBYE

A big thank you to Abhilash Chandrashekar for his dedication and efforts in the lunch meeting event organization and covid survey!

## LETTER OF PROTEST

As you may have noticed, there is some turmoil regarding the investment by ABP of the pension money from the employees of TU Delft in activities that are perpendicular to the work we are doing day-by-day to create a liveable and sustainable world. For instance, at stakeholder meetings of oil companies, APG, ABP's investor, has been rejecting or abstaining from climate resolutions where they could have changed the course of these companies.

The universities of Maastricht (mainly focusing on weapon industries) and Wageningen (mainly focusing on Brazilian meat companies) already sent a protest letter to ABP. On Monday 8th of March this was also done on behalf of more than a hundred professors of TU Delft, focusing mainly on our theme of climate action, energy transition and sustainability in general. Delta published an article about it in [Dutch](#) and [English](#). Heike Vallery and Andy van den Dobbelsteen wrote a letter in Google Forms that is open for signatures from all TU Delft staff. Be sure to sign it [here!](#)

## WANTED NEW MEMBERS

The PhD council is still looking for new members from the PME, P&E and DCSE department. Are you interested in supporting the social and professional needs of the PhD Community at the Faculty of 3mE? Then please check out the 3mE PhD council webpage and/or contact [Graduateschool-3mE@tudelft.nl](mailto:Graduateschool-3mE@tudelft.nl) and join our monthly lunch meeting to see what the PhD council is all about.

And besides having a great time, you can also earn a maximum of 2 GS credits for your involvement in the PhD council. Don't hesitate!

## LET'S INTRODUCE

### NEW DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE SCHOOL



Professor Paul Breedveld has been appointed director of the 3mE Graduate School, effective 15 February 2021. He succeeds Hans Hellendoorn, who has been appointed Pro Vice Rector for Joint Educational Affairs.

"Hello everybody! I would like to introduce myself as the new director of the 3mE Graduate School. My name is Paul Breedveld; I am chair of the Bio-Inspired Technology Group of the Department of BioMechanical Engineering. In my group we study clever biological phenomena in nature in order to find novel mechanical solutions for the design of surgical instruments, combining great functionality with incredibly small dimensions.

BioMechanical Engineering. In my group we study clever biological phenomena in nature in order to find novel mechanical solutions for the design of surgical instruments, combining great functionality with incredibly small dimensions.

A nice example is our research on the anatomy of squid tentacles that has led to a worldwide patented mechanism for steerable instruments that has been used in many prototypes of snake-like surgical instruments, leading to a spin-off company (DEAM B.V.) that has commercialized the technology for use in hospitals. Another example is the ovipositor of parasitic wasps (a needle-like drill to lay eggs in caterpillars living in fruit or wood) that has led to new types of very thin needles that can self-propel and steer in tissue. I am working on these and other projects together with a team of researchers, instrument makers and PhDs and I really love to collaborate with all these enthusiastic people and to coach and help them to "go where no one has gone before".

Besides all these research projects, for the past seven years, I have been chair of the Board of Examiners (BoA) of the faculty 3mE, being involved in all of the bachelor and master programmes and responsible for the assessment quality of the various exams and the associated well-being of BSc- and MSc- students; a busy job with a lot of interactions with teachers and students. I have always been very interested in the faculty as a whole, with all the interesting interdisciplinary work going on in the different departments. In the search for a new and "fresh" contribution to the faculty, I am very happy that I can continue my BoA experience as new director of the Graduate School! I hope to collaborate with you in an open and spontaneous way; my door is always open to my own PhDs, and I would also like to use this open approach to you as the new director.

My main target as new director will be to take care that the graduate school will offer a nice and useful experience to you, and I will do all my best to realize that! I also hope that I can have a positive impact on the team building of the PhDs in our faculty via the PhD-council; something I find very important, especially in a large and strongly multidisciplinary faculty as ours, in which there are so many interesting research projects going on. I am really looking forward to my new role, actually enjoying it already now, and I hope that I will be able to support and facilitate you and to contribute to all of your successes!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### THESIS PRINTING LUNCHLECTURE

**MAR 18**

Soon the time will come! After years of hard work, you are going to receive your PhD. And of course, you'll want to accompany your certificate with a beautifully printed thesis! Ridderprint ([www.ridderprint.nl](http://www.ridderprint.nl)) is a specialist in the design and printing of theses. And now, they'll be giving an online workshop on the topic very soon! The workshop will inform you about the process of printing your thesis. Ridderprint will talk about their services and possibilities regarding design and digital publishing. Moreover, they'll be providing some valuable tips on how to get the most out of your print! Please sign up to the event by filling out this form [here](#).

Time: 12:30 - 14:00

### AGILE WORKSHOP

**MAR 29**

Your agenda is booked, you have ten deadlines coming up and your supervisor is nagging you about that task you were supposed to deliver last week. Especially during these troubling times of social distancing, it may feel like you are putting out fires left and right while trying to keep your project afloat, all amidst a sea of unfinished work. Sounds familiar? Then worry no more, as there is a workshop coming up to get you back on track! During the workshop, Dr. Laura Pirro and Prof. Francesco Contino will be presenting Agile: an approach to project management that was developed by engineers, for engineers. Agile adopts flexible planning and feedback in an iterative approach to help you manage your project, instead of letting it manage you! Sign up [here](#) to take back control!

Time: 12:30 - 13:30

### CAREER SHAPING EVENT

**APR 01**

The Faculty PhD council invites you to the Career Shaping Event on the 1st of April 2021! The event will be held online and aims to provide insight into possible career options post PhD and network opportunities. Speakers from various backgrounds (technical-, banking-, patent-, research companies, governmental institutions, and start-ups ) will be present to tell their career story and help you understand the skillsets each of these organizations are looking for and which are developed during your time as a PhD candidate. Save the date and sign-up [here!](#) You need to sign up in order to participate.

Time: 13:00 - 18:00

### OPEN SCIENCE DISCUSSION

**APR 22**

Nowadays, you can find and share almost everything on the Internet: your photos from 5 years ago, 3D views of places you've never been, step-by-step recipes with ingredients availabilities from your closest supermarkets, video chats with people from all parts of the world. Yet, research in open data, software, hardware and access movements are changing this, and how you can be part of this and help drive this change. More information coming soon!

## SOLVING SOFTWARE TOOLING ISSUES

Software related issues are frequently encountered by PhD students, such as how to select proper professional software and how to install software with institutional licenses on private machines. Especially during the pandemic, additional challenges arise along with the remote work which means researchers cannot access to the office equipment and cannot ask help from ICT service-points directly. Recently, on behalf of the 3mE PhD community, Hongpeng Zhou attended the workshop entitled "Design a new software & applications catalogue". Some useful information is summarized as follows:

1) *Which agency will be responsible to address these issues?*  
ICT is leading the effort in coordinating with other support teams to design a software catalogue with the aim to address some of the issues that were brought up in the workshop. Basically, we need buy-in from all the teams involved to not only redesign, but make sure we can maintain the solution – definitely still some work there!

2) *Which agency the PhDs can contact now if there are software-related issues?*  
At the moment, the TUD doesn't really have a dedicated agency to address these issues about what the best software to use is, or how to, etc. It's a future goal. For now, we can contact the [Digital Competence Center](mailto:dcc@tudelft.nl) at [dcc@tudelft.nl](mailto:dcc@tudelft.nl). If it's technical issues, e.g. installation and license problems, the ICT service punt is the best place for now.

A blog post to report on the design session for the software and application catalogue is already published online. If you want to learn more about this workshop and interested in related topic, please visit [here](#).

## A WARM WELCOME TO...

### Precision and Microsystems Engineering (PME)

Gerben van der Meer

### Delft Center for Systems and Control (DCSC)

Tusharkumar Desai

Leila Gharavi

Amr Hegazy

Pedro Ferreira

### BioMechanical Engineering (BME)

Robin Straathof

Anne Schouten

### Process & Energy (P&E)

Renée van Zanten

### Cognitive Robotics (CoR)

Maximilian Stölzle

Luzia Knödler

Mubariz Zaffar

Dhurai Prabhakar

...AS NEW MEMBERS OF OUR 3ME PHD COMMUNITY!