PhD info session for Master students @ ESAT
Possibilities for funding and application procedures PhD

• **Scholarships**:
  - FWO PhD fellowship
  - IWT doctoral (PhD) grant for strategic basic research
  - IWT Baekeland Mandate (BM)
  - (Research) Assistant KU Leuven (AAP) – assistent
  - Research Associate KU Leuven (BAP) – wetenschappelijk medewerker
  - PhD scholarship KU Leuven (BOF grant)

• **Planning**
• **General considerations**
• **Doctoral training and procedure**
FWO PhD fellowship (1)
Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek

Application forms, information, rules:
Secretariaat van het Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek
Egmontstraat 5, 1000 Brussel, Tel. 02/5129110
forms and information at http://www.fwo.be

Conditions:
- Belgian or EU citizen
- < 31 year old
- < 3 year scientific experience
IWT doctoral (PhD) grant (1)
Flemisch Agency for Innovation by Science and Technology

Application forms, information, rules:

De Beurscoördinator
IWT, Bischoffsheimlaan 25; 1000 Brussel,
Tel. 02/223.00.33, Fax. 02/223.11.81
also info on internet: http://www.iwt.be

Conditions:
- engineer or equivalent degree
- at least Distinction on the final Master degree
- Belgian or EU citizen
- < 28 year during the 1st year
- < 18 months of prior PhD research

Application to be defended personally
Application deadline Sept 15
Assistant KU Leuven (AAP) (1)

Application forms, information, rules:

Dienst Academisch Personeel, Parijsstraat 72b, 3000 Leuven
Tel. 016/32 83 00

Very unique

Conditions:
- see vacancies on website or ask promoters
- graduate master degree with at least the level of Distinction (Honors)

Procedure:
- submit application before date mentioned in vacancy announcement
- mostly administrative information
- advise promoter
- decision by Bureau Academische Raad van de KULeuven (GEBU)
Research Associate KU Leuven (BAP)
– wetenschappelijk medewerker

Application forms, information, rules:
Dienst Academisch Personeel, Parijsstraat 72b, 3000 Leuven,
(online application forms) info at the ESAT secretariats

Conditions:
- see vacancies on website or ask promoters
- all nationalities

Procedure:
- submit application before date mentioned in vacancy announcement
- mostly administrative information
- advise promoter
- financing could be on payroll of KU Leuven or LRD
- decision by Bureau Academische Raad van de KU Leuven (GEBU)

Not so unique
Research Associate KU Leuven (BAP)

Duration
- dependent on the project

Promoter
- project belongs to a promoter or research group

Doctoral education/didactical tasks
- are equally distributed among all PhD students
- topic is inspired by research project
- discuss with promoter or project responsible beforehand!

Types of projects
- IWT projects
- EU projects: 7th Framework program/Horizon 2020
- government: GOA, impulse programs, FWO projects ...
- bilateral projects between KU Leuven and IMEC
- bilateral projects between KU Leuven and external company
General considerations (2)

There are many possibilities for funding!

EU citizens: usually no problem

non-EU: depends on funding possibilities from research groups and programs!

From experience: majority of students who are motivated can start a PhD!
Important success factors: independent workers, perseverance, creativity and out-of-the-box thinking, team players, etc.
Doctoral training & procedure (1)

• **purpose of the doctoral training:**
  - broaden and deepen your knowledge and skills
  - optimize professional performance of the doctoral student

• **requirements:**
  - main author of at least 1 international publication in an international peer reviewed journal;
  - Present 2 seminars at KU Leuven
  - Participate in an international conference abroad
  - Contribute to bachelor and master education
  - Follow an equivalent of 6 ECTS credits training, throughout your complete PhD (at least 2 ECTS credits need to be spent at skills training)
Doctoral training & procedure (2)

• **promoter(s)**:
  - very important choice
  - responsible for efficient follow-up of the doctoral process (4-5 years)

• **Faculty’s doctoral commission (FDC)**:
  - Prof. G. Vandenbosch is member for ESAT
  - examination commission for PhDs
  - decides on rules and formats of PhDs

• always bring/send your forms to your research group’s secretary or to Lut Vanderbracht (lut.vanderbracht@esat.kuleuven.be)
Doctoral time frame

Research under supervision
- Supervisory Committee
  - (co)promotor(s)
  - 2 experts

Year 1
- Oral Presentation to Supervisory Committee
- Written Report to Supervisory Committee
- Oral Presentation to Supervisory Committee

Year 2
- Progress reports

Year 3
- Completion of doctoral training programme
- Submit manuscript

Year 4
- Preliminary defense
- Public defense

finalisation

KU LEUVEN