

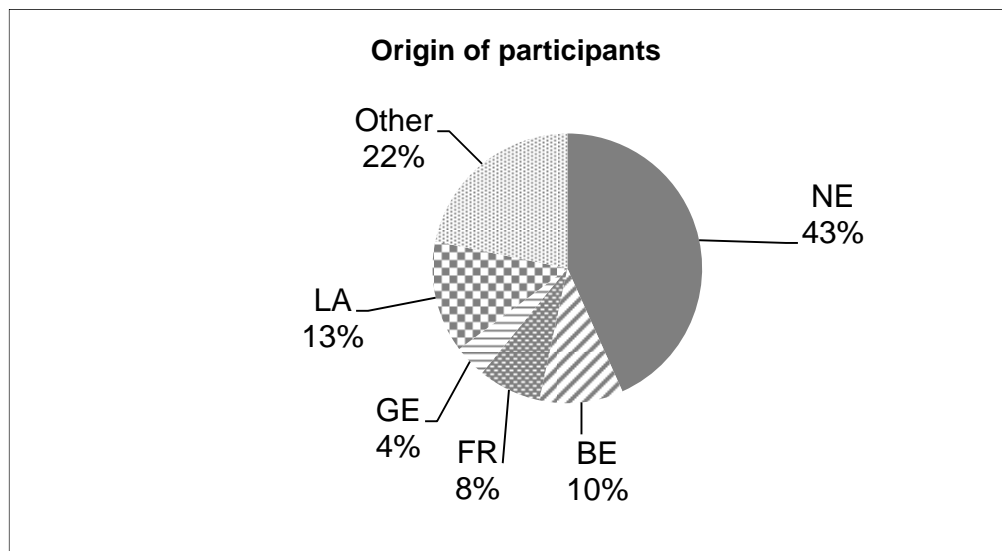
Annual Report 2016

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At last count (5 December 2016), 97 PhD students were registered in the doctoral program. This year 16 PhD students received their doctoral degree. The average duration of their doctoral thesis was 4 years and 3months.

Sixteen courses or workshops were offered (see Table), which were attended by a total of **358** participants (**82 %** PhD students, **13 %** post-docs or researchers, **6 %** master students).



Most of the courses were evaluated by the students, as indicated in the last column of the below table (highest possible note is 4.0). The results from the evaluations were sent to the course instructors and the information will be used for the selection and improvement of future courses.

Table: Activities of the doctoral program

Activities	Dates (2016)	Duration [days]	Speakers	*Participants [nr]	Credit points	Appreciation [min 1, max 4]
Communication activities						
How to obtain your first post-doctoral fellowship	8.3	1	Matthias Erb (Uni Bern)	7	0.5	4.0
Peer review and writing manuscripts	26-27 & 30-31.5	4	Jeremy N. McNeil (University of Western Ontario, Canada)	11	2.5	3.6
Making the most out of my research - a workshop in collaboration SCNAT	6-7.06	2	A. Desplazes (Uni Zurich), A. Emler (SmartGene), R. Flükiger (Uni Geneva), H. Müller (IPI), R. Zingg (ETH Zurich)	41	1.0	3.7
Literature search and reference management (with EndNote)	23.9	1	Philipp Mayer (science-textflow)	13	0.5	3.3
Planning a career strategy - Part 1 - Networking & job finding methodology	8-9.11	2	P. Kraus (AHT' intermediation)	16	1.0	3.4
Research tools						
Applied statistical regression modelling for biologists using R - a joint course with CUSO Doctoral Program in Ecology & Evolution	14,19,21,28.1, 2.2	5	Diego Kuonen, Statoo Consulting, Berne Marc-Olivier Boldi, University of Geneva	21	2.5	3.4

Biostatistics for non-statisticians: good practices, misuse and pitfalls <i>a joint course with CUSO Doctoral Program in Molecular Plant Sciences</i>	8-9.2	2	Romain-Daniel Gosselin (Biotelligences LLC, Lausanne)	18	1.0	3.5
An introduction to R, Lausanne - <i>in coll. with CUSO Doctoral Program in Ecology & Evolution</i>	6-9.6	4	Jérôme Goudet (Uni Lausanne)	35	2.0	3.9
Population genomics in R, Lausanne - <i>in coll. with CUSO Doctoral Program in Ecology & Evolution and StarOmics</i>	22-25.8	4	Jérôme Goudet (Uni Lausanne), Emmanuel Paradis (Uni Montpellier, F) Thibaut Jombart (Imperial College London, UK)	24	2.0	3.8
Field course geo-microbiology and environmental & microbial ecology in high mountain ecosystems, Graubünden - a joint activity with CUSO	22-26.8	5	Pilar Junier (Uni Neuchâtel) Kurt Hanselmann (ETH Zurich)	10	2.0	-
Data management	3-4.10	2	Lehtomaki Joonas (Uni Helsinki, Finland), Obeng Adam (Columbia Uni, USA)	29	1.0	3.3

Scientific topics						
Protistology - taxonomy workshop - <i>a joint workshop with CUSO Doctoral Program in Microbial Sciences</i>	23.2	1	Ralf Meisterfeld, (Germany) Ferry J. Siemensma, (The Netherlands) Cédric Berney (CNRS, Roscoff, France,)	8	0.5	-
NeuZü2016	24-25.2	2	16 speakers from Switzerland (Basel, Neuchâtel and Zürich)	46	0.5 1.0	-
Visions for a sustainable agriculture - <i>a joint course with CUSO Doctoral Program E&E and MPS</i>	9-12.5	3.5	Romano De Vivo (Syngenta), Celia Harvey (Betty & Gordon Moore Center, USA), Ylva Hillbur (Int.l Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Nigeria) Ulrich Kuhlmann (CABI), Beate Huber (FibL), Johan Six (ETH-Zurich)	41	2.0	3.6
Biodiversity and ecosystem functioning under global change: theory and experiment - a CUSO workshop	15-16.9	2	Nicolas Loeuille (Uni Pierre-et-Marie-Curie, Paris, France), Michel Loreau (CNRS, Moulis, France), Luc De Meester (Uni Leuven, Belgium), Arnaud Sentis (Uni Toulouse III, France), David Vasseur (Yale Univ. USA)	19	1.0 / 1.5	-
Chloroplast Lipids: from synthesis to function - a joint course with CUSO- <i>a joint course with CUSO Doctoral Program E&E</i>	10-11.11	2	Claire Bréhélin (Uni Bordeaux Segalen, France), Alan Bridge (SIB Lausanne), Peter Dörmann (Uni Bonn, Germany), Gaëtan Glauser (Uni Neuchâtel), Juliette Jouhet (CEA-CNRS, Grenoble, France), Laurent Mène-Saffrané (Uni Fribourg), Rebecca Roston (Uni Nebraska-Lincoln, USA)	17	1.0	3.8

* most courses have a limited number of participants

Supported registration fee or/and travel expenses at courses / workshops

An introduction to R, University of Fribourg	6-8.1	3		2	1.0	-
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Annual PhD students meeting 2016 - Communication in Sciences

The annual meeting of the doctoral program is organised by the PhD students themselves. This year the organizers were Wafa Kooli & Andrea Lohberger (University of Neuchâtel). The meeting took place on 18 April in Neuchâtel. 2 external speakers (Dr Adria Leboeuf, The Catalyst & Department of Ecology and Evolution, University of Lausanne), Christophe Ungar (scientific journalist, Geneva) were invited to give a talk. A total of **35** PhD students attended the meeting. They presented the results of their research to their peers (**13** posters presented and resumed with short 3 minutes presentation).

Mobility grants

Fourteen congress travel grants (total CHF **10'714**) were awarded, which gave the awardees an opportunity to present their results (poster or oral presentation) to an international audience. In addition, **4** requests for mobility grants were received and all were partially granted (total CHF **4'058**), allowing the students to visit other laboratories to conduct experiments, learn research techniques and/or discuss research results with experts in the field.