

Young KWG Board

youngkwg@wiskgenoot.nl

News

Young KWG – Our first year!

Young KWG officially had its first birthday during the NMC 2024, it was time for a big first party to celebrate this. We celebrated this on Friday the 24th of May, during the Young KWG day at the Uithof in Utrecht! With 35 participants from the whole country, the first Young KWG day was a wonderful experience. We had many opportunities to get to know each other, and discuss our research and our interests. Furthermore, we brainstormed about how Young KWG can support the mathematics community and how we envision the organisation in the future. But we also had fun, we had a nice walk in the botanical gardens in Utrecht, despite the slight rain, and agreed to stay involved and do our best to keep the momentum high.

Mathisca de Gunst opened the day and gave a warm welcome to all participants. Diletta Martinelli (assistant professor at the University of Amsterdam) was our keynote speaker. During the workshop sessions, participants learned more about grant writing, giving a mathematical presentation, or how to build their own website! In addition, we organised an exciting panel session on the bumpy road that is called a career with Frans de Ruiter (Strategic Capacity Preparation at ASML and Research Scientist at WUR), Nelly Litvak (professor at the TU/e), and Johan Commelin (part-time assistant professor at UU, and part time at the Lean FRO) as speakers.

Keynote speaker – Diletta Martinelli

Diletta is an assistant professor at the Korteweg-de Vries Institute for Mathematics at the University of Amsterdam. Her research interests are in algebraic geometry and in particular in higher dimensional birational geometry. Her work aims to study effectiveness questions on algebraic varieties related to their underlying topology as complex manifolds. Diletta gave a wonderful and comprehensible overview of the field and highlighted some exciting open questions that keep tantalising mathematicians nowadays. After her talk birational geometry just made so much sense.



During the opening Lotte Weedage made sure we would get to know each other with a fun interactive activity.

Next to her research Diletta is also very active in teaching and popularising mathematics. She is actively involved in several mathematics activities in the Global South and coordinates a working group of the Italian Mathematical Union dedicated to mathematics collaborations with the Global South. Shortly said, Diletta is everywhere and wherever she goes she leaves a positive contribution!

We were thrilled she was our keynote speaker, and her exciting mathematical adventures inspired us all.

Presentation skills

Sharing specialist knowledge can be a challenge, but this knowledge is invaluable to share. During our careers, we are all asked to give various presentations, at conferences, grant committees, or for a broad audience. During this workshop by Marloes ten Kate, participants brought their presentation skills to a higher level.

Grant writing and funding possibilities

Getting a grant can be a big boost for the career of a young researcher. As an early career mathematician, you might be considering submitting a Rubicon or a Veni proposal. During this workshop, given by Steven Flipse, participants worked on making a proposal and learned about the various steps of the process.

Building your own website

During this workshop, participants made a start with building a modern and attractive personal website. The workshop was given by Martijn Gösgens, a member of the Young KGW board and recently defended his PhD at the TU/e. He showed some simple tools you can use to keep the technical work to a minimum. At the end every participant had a first running version of their own website!



Diletta Martinelli

Looking for new board members

Young KGW is officially one year old, and the momentum of the first year will stay high. Many new ideas are being shaped and after a well-deserved summer break we will start preparing our yearly activities like 'A PhD, is that for me?', Young KGW day, and more. But we won't spoil the surprise yet. Some board members will be leaving the Young KGW board this year, and the committee of 'A PhD, is that for me?' will pass on the baton to a new committee. As you can read, we are looking for enthusiastic new members to join our board. Want to be involved? Contact us at youngkgw@wiskgenoot.nl. This article closes our first year. It was written in a small coffee place in Utrecht on a warm sunny July afternoon when we had the last meeting of the first Young KGW board for this year. ↩

