

## **VPHi student committee**

### **What is it?**

The VPHi student committee is a group of active VPHi members, whose aim is to:

- promote the VPHi as a community and the career development of the young scientists of this community
- highlight excellence within the VPHi and provide student members with a label of quality through different types of recognition and awards
- favour scientific interactions between junior and senior community members and across the VPHi disciplines
- favour collaborations and mentoring activities among VPHi students
- favour the mobility of the student members within the VPHi community

### **Composition**

The student committee is composed by a maximum of 4 VPHi student members. The student committee has a senior chair, appointed by the BoD of the Institute, 1 student chair (junior postdoc), and 3 student members of the committee.

### **Rules for participation**

The members of the student committee are selected for a 1 year mandate through a public call among the members in good standing of the VPH Institute. Each member of the student committee shall take the responsibility of organising at least one webinar plus one of the activities proposed by the committee (see list below). A calendar of the activities shall be identified at the beginning of each year. In case of inactivity the student member will be asked to leave the committee. Student members who are not PhD students anymore should step down by the end of the year of the PhD defence. They can further apply as student chair.

### **Meetings**

The committee meets electronically at least twice a year. Additional communications will be managed by email.

### **Activities**

- *VPHi Keynote webinar series:*

A series of on line seminars that features high profile members of the VPH community. This quarterly event provides a forum for access to senior community members and their expert competence. Young scientists are the primary audience targeted, but the VPHi keynote webinars are open to the VPH community as a whole. Each webinar is organised by a member of the student committee, who will manage the speaker

contribution and eventually moderate the event. Webinar topics are decided at the beginning of each school year (in September), based on the suggestions coming from the student committee members.

- VPHi Summer School:

An yearly event that takes place in Barcelona in collaboration with Universitat Pompeu Fabra. The Summer School provides a thorough overview and hands-on experience in state-of-the-art VPH research. The key concepts of this methodological and technological framework are presented using illustrative cases and enriched with hands-on analysis under supervision of the experts. The aim is to develop skills inside and outside academia that respond to public and private needs. This event is organised in collaboration with the senior chair of the student committee and foresees the contribution of the VPHi student members for what concerns the definition of the list of speakers, the activities to organise, and the dissemination. At least one member of the student committee shall be responsible to collaborate with the local organising committee on the organisation of the event.

- Events:

- Mentoring events: These events are designed to enhance the learning experience for PhD students. They are a special opportunity for trainees to meet and network with senior members of the community and receive career advice and insights. They are normally organised in connection to the VPH conference, which takes place every two years.
- Student events: These events are organised by the student committee directly with the goal of creating stronger links between the VPHi student members.

- Dissemination

The student committee takes care of producing and circulating a flow of information of interest for the student membership of the institute, such as job and exchange opportunities, awards and competitions, internship programmes and similar.

This information is disseminated through:

- the VPHi newsletter : a dedicated student section is included in the VPHi monthly newsletter. The student committee is responsible of providing up to 5 news items per month.
- Facebook (private) student group: This private FB group is dedicated to VPHi student members only. Its goal is to establish a direct contact among VPHi students all over the world, being a forum for dissemination relevant information and a virtual place where VPHi student members can exchange views and ideas.

## **Budget**

The senior chair of the committee shall identify the early budget needed for the committee activities and propose the budget contribution to the VPHi Board.