

UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.

P  NUT.

PhD Network University of Twente
The official PhD Association of the University of Twente

2011 Annual Report

Table of contents

- [Table of contents](#)
- [1. Introduction](#)
 - [We are doing great!](#)
 - [This report](#)
 - [You current P-NUT board](#)
- [2. An Overview of P-NUT](#)
 - [Roles and descriptions](#)
 - [President](#)
 - [Secretary](#)
 - [Treasurer](#)
 - [Head of commissions](#)
 - [Commissions](#)
 - [Inform](#)
 - [Represent](#)
 - [Connect](#)
 - [IPC](#)
 - [Accounting](#)
 - [Current Board Members:](#)
 - [Former Board Members \(2011\):](#)
- [3. Report on the Activities organised in 2011](#)
 - [Professionalisation](#)
 - [Inform](#)
 - [Connect](#)
 - [Represent](#)
 - [P-NUT in the news:](#)
 - [ITC](#)
 - [Financial report for 2011](#)
- [4. P-NUT Plan 2012](#)
 - [Consolidate the professionalisation process](#)
 - [TGS Working Groups](#)
 - [PhD Council for TGS?](#)
 - [PhD Day 2012: Present your Thesis](#)
 - [Budget for 2012](#)
- [5. Closing Remarks](#)

1. Introduction

Dear P-NUT members, dear PhD candidates, dear sponsors, dear interested readers,

2011 was a very successful year for the official PhD association of the University of Twente, P-NUT. The organisation was professionalised through the efforts of the current board and under the hospices of the rector. P-NUT is now the official and registered PhD association of the University of Twente.

We are doing great!

In the professionalisation plan, we introduced the P-NUT membership, therefore allowing PhD candidates to become members of P-NUT through the contribution of a small fee (currently € 12,00 per year). Even though memberships create more responsibilities for the board, it provides our members with a sense of belonging, which always had been a problem at P-NUT. In addition, it gives P-NUT the endorsement to represent the PhD community in the various departments/councils at our University. Although we conducted a small survey, which showed an overall positive attitude to this change, we did not know how PhD students would react to our membership plan. After having the membership plan in place for only three months, we already have 89 registered members, out of the 700+ PhD candidates at UT. Going on strong on this result we plan to extend this number even further in 2012.

This report

Today, we present to you the first official year report of P-NUT. In this document, we provide our members with a summary of P-NUT's structure, board, and activities for the year 2011. In addition, we provide the readers with our plan for 2012, including the budget.

We begin by providing a description of what P-NUT is: how our board is organised, and who are the current members. This is presented in Section 2 of this document. Following that, we provide a summary of the activities carried out by P-NUT in 2011 in Section 3. We show the number of members we have, the activities we have organised in order to inform our members (such as our traditional lunch meetings) and the connect activities, in which we promote social activities for our members. Moreover, in the same section a financial report of the activities carried out in 2011 will be presented.

We also present our plans for 2012 to you. Details can be found in Section 4. We show the tasks that are going to keep the P-NUT board busy, which include specific activities for this year. Moreover, we present a budget for 2012.

We, the P-NUT board, are very proud of the developments we have achieved in 2011 and would like to take the opportunity to thank all our members and also the University of Twente, especially the Rector Magnificus, Ed Brinksma, for the support we have received.

We hope you enjoy the reading and we wish you all the best in this year.

The P-NUT board.

Giovane César Moreira Moura (president)

Silja Mareike Eckartz (secretary)

Juan Carlos Roman Casado (treasurer)

Harmen Mulder

Victor de Graaff

Bijoyendra Bera

Ioana-Mariuca Ilie

Rense Nieuwenhuis

Juan Amiguet Vercher

Anja Niedermeier

Joana Romão

Adithya Sridhar

Febriyani Damanik

David Barata

2. An Overview of P-NUT

The PhD network of University of Twente (P-NUT) is a non-profit organisation established to represent, inform, and connect the PhD candidates at the University of Twente (UT). Starting from being a rich source of specific information on various facets of a PhD's career at the UT, P-NUT also acts as a representative platform and functions as a spokesperson for all PhD-related issues. We work closely together on various issues with the Human Resources (HR) department of the UT, the Twente Graduate School, the University board and others.

Since its inception, P-NUT has been active in representing and supporting the PhD community by organising informative sessions on a whole spectrum of topics and social activities. During the last years P-NUT has observed a growing interest in the activities organised.

Why is it important that you become a member of P-NUT?

The University listens very carefully to what we have to say. P-NUT has successful and continuing conversations on PhD policy with the rector, Twente Graduate School, and HR, about for example the structure of courses or the introduction of a qualifier after 6 month. We are also involved in PhD issues on the national level. The more people we represent, the more influence we can have. If you are a member, this contributes to representing you.

What does P-NUT do with my one euro per month?

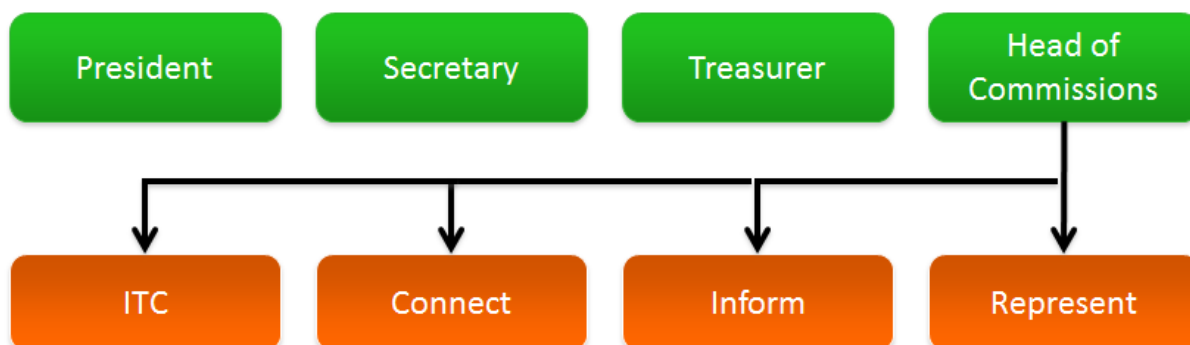
We reinvest your money in the PhD community. We invite people to contribute interesting information and skills. We use the money to keep our organisation running, cover the costs of representation (traveling expenses for example), to pay for rooms, to be able to take the financial risk of organizing events and to keep the prices of these events low for our members.

What's in it for you?

Apart from being represented (which also means we will help you with any issues you might encounter in your PhD), there are many informational and social events that you can benefit from when you are a member of P-NUT. Think about printing your thesis, how to do your taxes and how to use the optional model.

Roles and descriptions

As part of the professionalisation process a new board structure was developed and agreed upon. The new board structure consists of clearly identified roles and responsibilities. In this section we describe these roles and their associated tasks:



President

- Meeting agenda and chairing.
- Keep track of policies.
- Responsible for consistency in communication.
- Final decision responsibility.
- Represents the board and P-NUT at the university bodies (TGS, PhD council, Rector, GMA)
- Organising and chairing of the GMA.
- Oversees board recruitment.
- Oversees committee creation. (Accounting, activities)

Secretary

- Responsible for P-NUT Inbox
 - Handles or forwards e-mails
 - Can delegate contents of lists (ALV, UNITE, Linked in, ..)
- Manages mailing list.
- Membership administrator:
 - Ownership of paper forms.
 - Responsibility for member Database
 - Input
 - Update (correction, end of membership, ...)
 - Welcome e-mails
 - Generates list for recurrent payments.
 - Acting president (if needed)
- Organisation of meetings with university bodies/ other associations.
- Responsible for backup of google docs data.
- Communication with chamber of commerce (Kamer van Koophandel (KvK)).
- Minutes taking during board meetings.

Treasurer

- Ownership of accounts.
- Makes financial report for the GMA.
- Makes budget for the GMA.
- Responsible for the approval of the budget.
- Keep track of receipts.
- Generates, sends and tracks invoices.
- Processes claim forms.
- Pays OFI number and invoices.
- Supplies financial overview at each board meeting.
- Deposits cash from activities into bank account.

Head of commissions

- Responds to board on progress and issues.
- Can be joined in board meeting by one or two committee members on occasion.
- Decides which and how often they join commission meetings.
- Organises and manages agenda of commission meetings.
- First contact in case of conflict inside commission.
- Responsible of presenting commission report at the GMA
- Responsible for setting up the activities agenda by the different commissions.
- Negotiates with the board the number and frequency of activities.
- Oversees activities of commissions.

Commissions

P-NUT has five autonomous commissions: Inform, Represent, Connect, ITC, and Accounting. Commissions are autonomous in all aspects excepting budget.

Below is a list of responsibilities and duties for each commission. Members of the commission can be board members with exception of the accounting commission.

Inform

- Manage website content.
- Sends newsletters and reminders.
- Prepares and presents slides at the get together.
- Liaise with
 - Treasurer - > for Sponsoring.
 - Politics -> PNN, TGS, and IPC updates and actions.
 - Head of commission to report.
 - UTnieuws and communication commissions to the different faculties.
 - Other organisations and international office to avoid conflicting events with other associations.

Represent

- Keeps up to date with political developments TGS, PNN, ...
- Members sit in the TGS PhD council.
- Liaise with:
 - Inform -> makes texts to update members on issues
 - University body representatives (Rector, Uraad, UniTe,...)

Connect

- Responsible for monthly:
 - Social events.
 - Lunch meetings.
 - Get together.
 - P-NUT @ San Remo.
- Responsible yearly for:
 - PhD Day.
 - Summer BBQ.
 - General Members assembly.
 - Printing market.
- For each event responsible for:
 - Define content.
 - Participant management.
 - Registration form.
 - Event participant list.
 - Sending confirmation e-mails.
 - Manage third parties (Speakers, suppliers, entertainment...)
 - Makes texts to advertise.
 - Manages participants.
 - Books:
 - Room.
 - Food.
 - Check compliance with T&C (i.e. Opening and closing of registration)
- Liaise with
 - treasurer for budget.

IPC

- Deals with IPC/ITC problems.
- Reports to head of commissions.
- Liaise with: (Through the head of commissions)
 - Represents
 - Inform
 - Connect

Accounting

- Oversees accounts and budget before GMA.
- Prepares accounting report for GMA.

Current Board Members:

Giovane César Moreira Moura, 30, is a PhD candidate from Brazil. He received his Master degree in Computer Science in 2008 from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil and a degree in Computer Engineering from the Federal University of Goiás, Brazil. In The Netherlands, since 2008, he is pursuing a PhD degree the DACS Group (CTIT/EWI). He has joined P-NUT in early 2009, when he was initially responsible for the P-NUT communication and events organisation. Currently he is the president of P-NUT.

Silja Mareike Eckartz is 26 years old and comes from Germany. She moved 8 ½ years ago to the Netherlands, where she did her Bachelor and Master in International Business at the University of Maastricht. In 2008 she moved to Enschede to start her PhD at the University of Twente in the Information Systems group (CTIT/EWI). In May 2010 she joined P-NUT where she is having the role of secretary and vice-president.

Juan Carlos Roman Casado is 28 years old and comes from the city of Valladolid, Spain. He got a master's degree in Mechanical Engineering by the University of Valladolid, but he spent 9 months writing his master's thesis at San Diego State University. He joined the University of Twente as a PhD candidate in the framework of the European project LIMOUSINE, for research in gas turbine combustors. His is P-NUT's treasurer and he is also responsible for certain social activities.

Juan Amiguet Vercher. Currently doing his PhD at CTIT / EWI in the database group, this 33 year old Spaniard aims to spend as much time in university as possible. Twente is his 4th university. He joined P-NUT in May 2010 owing to a long tradition of student activism. He has been in the board of student associations since secondary school. His main role in P-NUT is looking after the website and trying to get people drunk by organising activities.

Harmen Mulder is 26 years old and comes from the Netherlands. He did his bachelor and master of Applied physics at the University of Twente. After he finished his master he started his PhD in the Nanobiophysics group of the TNW faculty. In April 2011 he joined P-NUT as a (backup) treasurer and this is still his main role in P-NUT. He is also organizing the Printing market in January 2012 together with Juan Carlos Roman Casado.

Victor de Graaff is 26 years old, born and raised in Rotterdam, now living in Heek, Germany. He did his Bachelor in Electrical Engineering at the University of Delft, followed by a Master in Computer Science at the University of Twente. After 1,5 years in the industry, he decided to do a PhD in the Database group of EEMCS. He joined the P-NUT board in December 2011, and is running for the position of Secretary.

Bijoyendra Bera (24 years old) comes from Calcutta, India. With a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering from his home city, he has pursued a Mechanical Engineering Masters degree in University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, graduating in August, 2011. He joined the department of Physics in the Physics of Complex Fluids (PCF, TNW) Group at the University of Twente in September, 2011, and joined the P-NUT board in January, 2012.

Ioana-Mariuca Ilie is 24 years old and comes from Hermannstadt (Sibiu), Romania. After getting a Bachelor in both Business Administration and Engineering Physics at the Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, an MBA and a Master of Science in Physics, she decided to continue on the path of Physics. Therefore she joined the Computational Biophysics Department at the University of Twente in October 2011 as a PhD student and joined the P-NUT board in December 2011.

Rense Nieuwenhuis (30) is a Dutch PhD Candidate. He obtained his Bachelor degree in Sociology and his (research) Master degree in Social and Cultural Sciences, in Nijmegen (the Netherlands). His research is on institutional and demographic explanations of women's employment, at the Institute for Innovation and Governance Studies (IGS). He joined the P-NUT board in April 2011, focusing on the political representation of PhD candidates. Currently he is running for president of P-NUT.

Anja Niedermeier (29) is currently doing her PhD in the CAES group at the EWI faculty since November 2009. She began her studies in Electrical Engineering in Karlsruhe/Germany and finished with a MSc. degree from the University in Trondheim, Norway. She joined the board of P-NUT in April 2011 and has been mainly busy with information and connect.

Joana Romão is 24 years old and comes from Lisbon, Portugal. She did her bachelor and master in Organic Chemistry at the Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia - Universidade Nova de Lisboa. Joana is currently doing her PhD in the Photocatalytic Synthesis (PCS) group at the TNW faculty since October 2011. She joined the P-NUT Board in December 2011.

Adithya Sridhar (24) is a PhD candidate working in the BIOS, Lab on a chip group (EWI). He is from Chennai, India and he joined the UT in October 2010 after completing his Master degree in Biomedical Engineering at University of Oxford. He has been a PNUT board member since April 2011.

Febriyani Damanik (22) born in Indonesia, but grew up in Los Angeles, United States. She did her bachelor in Mechanical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering in Swiss German University. She continued her studies in Nanotechnology from Erasmus Mundus (EM-NANO) conducting her studies in KU.Leuven and TU.Dresden. She started working as a PhD candidate in the Tissue Regeneration group since November 2010, and joined the board since April 2011, where she helps in organizing social activities and lunch meetings as well as designing.

David Barata is 27 years old and is working at the Tissue Regeneration Department. He is from the beautiful Portuguese city named Castelo Branco, Portugal, where he grew up and finished the high-school. Later he graduated in Cellular and Molecular Biology and got his Master in Biotechnology at the New University of Lisbon. Some of his main interests are related with technology, volunteer programs and modern society. He is enrolled for long time in Rotaract Club organization.

Former Board Members (2011):

Raja Singaram (2010-2011)
Nicole Georgi (2010-2011)
Björn Harink (2009-2011)
Josine Verhagen (2009-2011)

3. Report on the Activities organised in 2011

Professionalisation

P-NUT went through quite some changes in 2011. Most of all, on the 12th of July 2011, P-NUT became registered as an official organisation with the chamber of commerce (KvK). As an official organisation P-NUT still represents all PhD candidates of the University of Twente, but in addition it is able to have registered members. Membership of P-NUT offers new possibilities for further involvement, more information and increased involvement in diverse activities. The membership fee for 1 year is currently set to 12 Euros. Until the end of 2011 P-NUT had 89 registered members. The table below gives an overview indicating the faculties to which members belong. Currently the faculties with the highest number of members are TNW and EWI.

In order to celebrate the big step of becoming professional, P-NUT organised the PhD day on the 16th of September 2011. Organising and executing this huge event was definitely a highlight for all involved P-NUT board members. PhD day was a success with 132 registered PhD candidates forming a broad group from all fields. Delicious food and a great Salsa workshop helped round the event.

In order to successfully achieve the goals of P-NUT, master the professionalisation and anticipate the leaving of key board members, P-NUT started recruiting new board members well in advance. The first round of new board members joined in May 2011 when several old board members were about to leave and the professionalisation had to be executed. The second group of new board members was recruited in December 2011 to ensure the continuation of P-NUT in 2012.

Faculty	P-NUT Members
CTW	12
EWI	27
GW	1
ITC	5
MB	12
TNW	32
Total	89

Inform

As part of the inform task P-NUT organised 9 lunch meetings in 2011 covering topics from tax declarations to life after the PhD. The next table shows all lunch meetings P-NUT organised and the number of people that registered for them. There was free lunch available for all PhD candidates that registered. Most lunches were sponsored by the host of the lunch meeting, e.g. TMC physics. All other lunch meetings were paid by P-NUT.

Date	Name of Activity	People registered
28 February 2011	Discussion with TGS	23
11 March 2011	TMC physics career event	70
24 March 2011	Taxes lunch meeting	74
19 April 2011	Optional Model lunch meeting	42
18 May 2011	Is there life after PhD?	49
14 June 2011	Grants 3D: Dos, Don'ts and Doors of Opportunity	59
18 September 2011	Last minute optional model	12
13 October 2011	LaTeX Introduction	25
10 November 2011	International office introduction	22

Connect

P-NUT continued to organise a monthly drink for all PhD candidates of the University of Twente. The name of this previously called "Borrel" was changed to "Get-together" to attract more international PhD candidates and to re-state its focus from having free drinks to meeting PhD candidates from other departments. P-NUT used the get-together meetings to inform the PhD community about issues that were playing a role on a UT wide or national level, developments within P-NUT and to get feedback from the PhD community. On 25th of November another social event was initiated P-NUT@San Remo, where all PhD candidates and their friends were invited to informally gather at a student bar in the centre of Enschede, with no further purpose than to share a good Friday night.

The following social activities were also organised in 2011:

Date	Name of Activity	People registered
18 February 2011	Cocktail Workshop	33
20 April 2011	Climbing activity	13
29 May 2011	International cycling event	29
23 June 2011	Summer BBQ	51
13 July 2011	Grolsch cycle tour	20
16 September 2011	PhDay 2011	132
27 October 2011	Wine tasting	20
15 November 2011	Dutch dinner & Ice Skating	24
15 December 2011	Xmas Lunch	37

P-NUT feels comforted that the social activities have been appealing to a large group of PhD candidates with the ill side effect that often registration had to be closed long before the deadline as for most activities maximum participant capacity was reached.

2011 for P-NUT was also the year of social media as more effort was invested in extending the reach into diverse social networks. P-NUT is proud to announce that today the linked in community is 452 members strong and that P-NUTs Facebook group consists of 215 members.

Represent

As part of the representation of PhD candidates within the UT meetings occur regularly with the Rector, the head of Human Resources department, Clemens Pouw from the TGS, the head of the International office and Unite.

Contacts with the TGS were especially fruitful in 2011. What began with having bi-annual meetings with Clemens Pouw for mutual information on issues, developed into a close collaboration. P-NUT is now representing PhD candidates in most working groups of the TGS and is perceived by the TGS as an important entity to consult when making decisions that concern PhD candidates of the UT. P-NUT aims to continue this good collaboration with the new head of the TGS.

To represent UT PhD candidates on a national level, P-NUT actively participates in the meetings of the national PhD network (PNN), where especially in the spring of 2011, P-NUT participated in the discussion on the bursary system. Such external contacts allow P-NUT to keep PhD candidates informed on issues that are important on a national level.

P-NUT in the news:

P-NUTs visibility increased, through marketing campaigns, including intensive flyer and several great articles in both the English and the Dutch section of the UTnieuws.

PhD network is now an official organisation (in Dutch) (28-09-2011)

<http://www.utnieuws.nl/nieuws/promovendi-netwerk-ut-nu-offici%C3%A4le-vereniging>

Rector supports our professionalisation from day one (07-09-2011)

<http://www.utnieuws.nl/english/%E2%80%98rector-supports-our-initiative-day-one%E2%80%99>

PhD network is evolving (28-04-2011)

<http://www.utnieuws.nl/english/time-phd-organization-evolve>

Report on TMC physics lunch meeting (16-03-2011)

<http://www.utnieuws.nl/english/%E2%80%98bad-news-holland-good-news-you%E2%80%99>

UT moet sich uitspreken tegen beurspromovendi (in Dutch) (16-02-2011)

<http://www.utnieuws.nl/nieuws/ut-moet-zich-uitspreken-tegen-beurspromovendi%E2%80%99>

PhD network in a nutshell (12-01-2011)

<http://www.utnieuws.nl/english/phd-network-nutshell>

ITC

As the ITC became an extra faculty of the UT some time ago, P-NUT took some action in 2011 to improve the collaboration with the PhD candidates of the ITC. P-NUT set up some regular meetings with the ITC board in which issues that are playing a role at the moment for PhD candidates of the ITC were discussed. P-NUT also joined some of ITCs Friday afternoon borrels at the end of every month to support the connection between the PhD candidates of ITC and the other faculties of the UT. We also opened our activities for PhD students from the ITC, currently 5 of them registered as P-NUT members.

Financial report for 2011

Because P-NUT was not an official association in the beginning of 2011, there was no official budget presented for the year 2011. However, a budget was made by treasurer Juan Carlos Roman Casado based on the financial year 2010. This was used as a guideline for the finances of this year. This budget is presented in the table below and next to it you can find the actual expenses/income.

Description	Budget 2011	2011	Description	Budget 2011	2011
General expenses	450	2927	General income	2,250	3,400
PNN contribution	125	125	Membership contribution	0	0
ING	125	136	UT contribution	2250	3400
Traveling	50	0			
Kamer van Koophandel	0	33	Sponsoring	400	700
Faculty club contribution	150	350	Yearly contribution	0	0
Professionalization	0	2284	Professionalization	400	400
			Services	0	300
Activities	2900	4,854			
Lunch meetings	1800	1925	Activities	700	1642
Social activities	750	903	Printing market	700	0
Yearly BBQ	150	167	PhDay	0	1642
Get-togethers	200	230			
PhDay	0	1629	Unexpected	0	3
			Money transfer to different account		3
Savings	0	0			
Unexpected	0	50			
Money transfer to different account		3			
Telephone costs		48			
Total	€ 3,350	€ 7,832	Total	€ 3,350	€ 5,744

The difference between the budget and the actual expenses is mainly due to the professionalisation of P-NUT. These costs were not included in the budget. However P-NUT decided that it was necessary to make this once-only costs to bring P-NUT to another level where it could be of higher importance to the members of P-NUT. These costs were partly covered by the UT which gave us a once-only contribution (€550) and which raised the yearly contribution to P-NUT because of the professionalization (from €2250 to €2950). TGS also sponsored part of the professionalisation costs.

The professionalisation means also that we need to pay a contribution to the Chamber of Commerce (Kamer van Koophandel) every year from now on.

Furthermore, the faculty club contribution was raised by €200,- compared to last year, which was not expected.

The costs made for the lunch meetings, social activities, yearly bbq and the get-togethers are a bit higher than the values of the budget. We decided not to cut funds for the events, P-NUT thought it was important to get a lot of PhD students involved in its activities and because it is important to realize the goals of representing, informing and connecting the PhD students at the UT. The PhD day was organised with approximately zero budget (income – expenses = €1642 - €1629 = €12) because of actively recruiting sponsors for this event.

The three euros on the unexpected costs and income cancel each other out, because this was a money transfer from a different bank account. The unexpected costs of €48,- were probably a mistake by the OFI number (telephone costs which were not made by us) and we will get this money back.

Service sponsoring was an advertisement of Xelvin B.V. in our newsletter. In this way we provide PhD students with possible jobs. For every advertisement in the newsletter we ask €150,-.

The printing market was not organized in 2011, but this will be done in January 2012. We did already actively recruiting of sponsors for this event, which means that we can expect around €1000 of income in January 2012.

The balance of 2011 is given below. The final balance for P-NUT is a loss of €2087 from the personal capital mainly due to the professionalisation process. However P-NUT still has a personal capital of €1284.

Some costs were already made this year, but not paid. Therefore, we have two creditors which consist of the UT contribution which was paid twice and some costs were made on the OFI number (costs of the activities of November and December). These are included in 2011, so arise on the balance as creditors.

Description	on 01-01-2011	on 01-01-2012	Description	on 01-01-2011	on 01-01-2012
Giro account	3496	5424	Personal capital	3371	1284
Savings account	0	0	Creditors	125	4140
Debtors	0	0	PNN contribution 2010	125	0
			OFI number (events 4th quarter 2011)		740
			UT contribution paid twice		3400
Total	€ 3,496	€ 5,424	Total	€ 3,496	€ 5,424

4. P-NUT Plan 2012

P-NUT has represented, informed, and connected PhD candidates for years, and will continue doing it in 2012. P-NUT aims to continue representing PhD candidates by having regular meetings with the rector, TGS, and Human Resources. P-NUT informs PhD candidates of regular lunch meetings, thesis printing market and other events through our mailing list and website. P-NUT connects PhD candidates at monthly drinks in the faculty club, and monthly social events.

In addition to these regular and continuing events, P-NUT has several special plans for 2012.

Consolidate the professionalisation process

In 2011 a lot of work has been put in the professionalisation of P-NUT. Nevertheless, not everything has been done yet. In 2012 P-NUT aims to consolidate this professionalisation process. This includes plans to finish and formalize house-rules, write down protocols on recurrent events and activities, and to organise our first General Members Meeting.

TGS Working Groups

P-NUT is rounding up activities with the PhD statute working group, but future activities in this regards may be expected. Several more TGS working groups will start in 2012, and P-NUT participates in three of them:

- Facilities to PhD Candidates
- Selection
- Training and Supervision

PhD Council for TGS?

In addition to participation in the working groups, TGS has requested P-NUT to consider taking up the role of a PhD council. It is currently unclear what this role would entail exactly, what the formal position would be, whether P-NUT can handle this extra task, nor what the possible benefits for P-NUT and the PhD community could be. These questions need to be answered prior to deciding whether or not to accept.

PhD Day 2012: Present your Thesis

P-NUT thinks academics should be able to clearly express their ideas to a wide audience. The people at -for instance- TED understand this very well. The stuff we do at the UTwente, with very diverse schools, groups, and research institutes, is all very interesting. All these fascinations, findings and puzzles are combined in P-NUT. We will use that! P-NUT plans to organise an event in which a selection of diverse PhD candidates are given the opportunity to present to a wide audience what really drives their passion for science.

A number of PhD candidates are invited to present their findings to a wide audience. These people come together on the morning of the PhD day with a trainer. During the day, each of them works on her/his presentation of 5 minutes, helped by the trainer and advised by the other presenters. At the end of the day (e.g. 15-17), P-NUT invites the whole University to listen for 90 minutes to presentations on a wide variety of topics.

P-NUT can / should make videos of these presentation and put them on a website. That can be good for the PhD's and for the UTwente. By framing the event with words like 'high tech, human touch', the university / TGS will probably can use this as a showcase of how excellent their PhD candidates are.

Budget for 2012

For the year 2012 a budget is made based on the finances of last year and on the increased income due to memberships and the UT contribution. Therefore P-NUT can provide you with more lunch meetings and social events. The budget is presented here:

<i>Description</i>	<i>Budget 2012</i>		<i>Description</i>	<i>Budget 2012</i>
General expenses	710		General income	4,390
PNN contribution	125		Membership contribution	1440
ING	150		UT contribution	2950
Traveling	50			
Kamer van Koophandel	35			
Faculty club contribution	350			
			Sponsoring	2,600
Activities	6,280		Services	300
Lunchmeetings	2500		Lunchmeetings	300
Social activities	1500		Printing market	1000
Yearly BBQ	240		PhDay	1000
Get-togethers	240			
Printing market	200			
PhDay	1600		Activities	600
			Contribution participants PhDay	600
Savings	500			
Unexpected	100		Unexpected	0
Total	€ 7,590		Total	€ 7,590

Main aspects:

UT contribution and membership contribution will be used to organise more activities. We expect to have at least 120 members for the coming year which means an income of $120 * €12 = €1440$. As one can see, the budget for the activities has been raised. The idea is to organise at least one lunch meeting and one get-together every month and one social activity once every two months.

Expected is also that we get some money from sponsoring for services. We expect Xelvin B.V. to advertise next year in our newsletter, as well.

PhD day should be organised with zero-budget, which should be possible based on the PhD day in 2011.

The printing market is used to gain some money from the participating companies (sponsoring) and provide PhD students with information they need for printing their theses.

For the unexpected costs €100 is booked to be on the save side there.

With the notary-issue in mind, €500 have been added to the savings.

5. Closing Remarks

In 2011 P-NUT has represented, informed and connected the PhD students of the University of Twente, and aims to continue doing so in 2012. With an increase in activities, a solid financial background and a growing number of members, P-NUT will continue pursuing its mission.

Board members of P-NUT will move on, notably to complete and defend their theses, and as such new positions in the board will open and will need to be fulfilled. The next two positions to become vacant are those of president and secretary. P-NUT feels proud in the current candidates for the new positions owing to their integrity and dedication to the association thus far. As such we would like to welcome the candidatures of Rense Nieuwenhuis for president and Victor de Graaff as Secretary. Under the leadership and management of both of them P-NUT will continue to grow and to cater the needs of the PhD community.

All board members are very pleased with the outcome of the professionalisation process and the new opportunities and challenges that this provides for P-NUT.

For this and more information, visit us at:

www.utwente.nl/p-nut