



Introduction 2020-2021

Who Are We?

- an association **for all PhD and postdoctoral researchers** at KU Leuven and beyond
- a platform for
 - Peer-to-peer support
 - Soft skills training and general career development
 - Grassroots initiatives and policy input
 - Triple-I interactions
(Interdisciplinary, International and Intersectoral)
- **3 pillars** reflecting key academic and professional aspects



Academic



Career

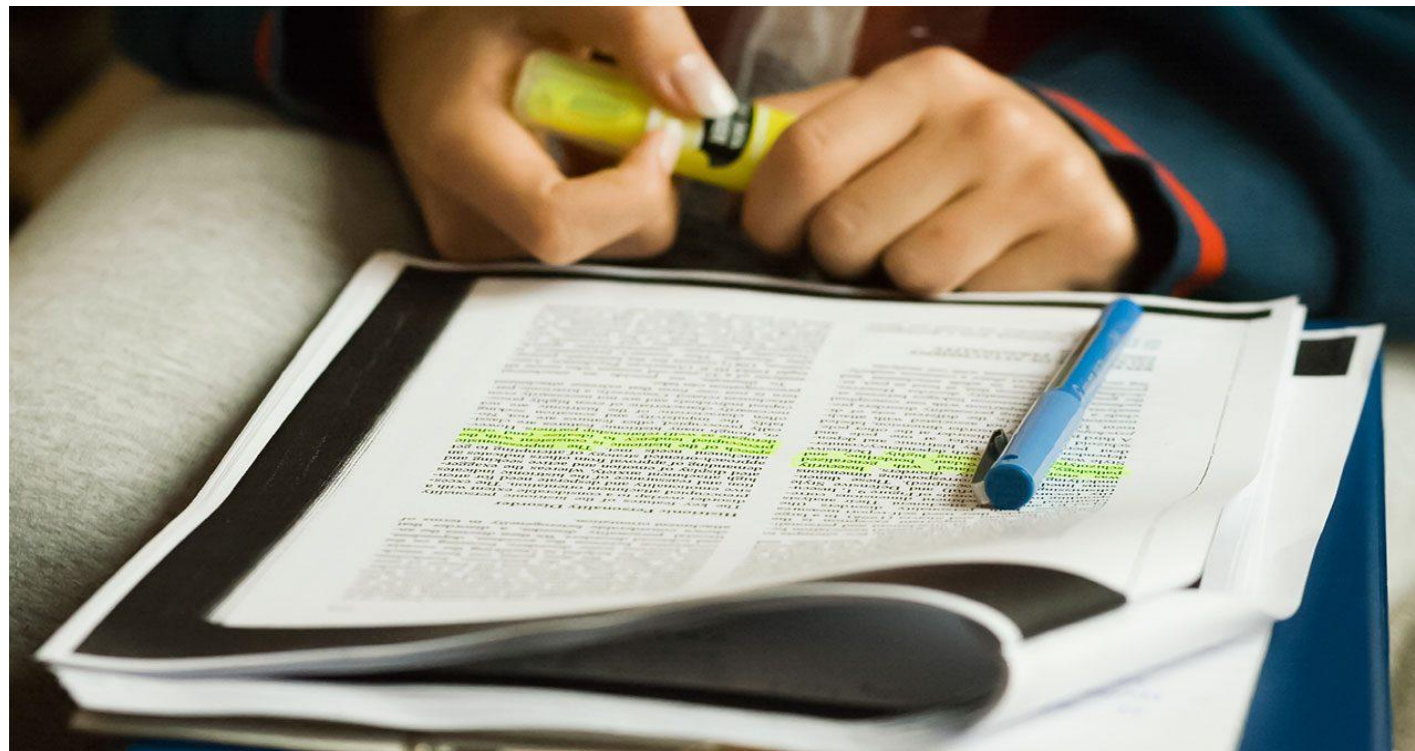


Social

Within each pillar, activities tailored for:

- PhD candidates
- Postdoctoral researchers (Postdoc Team)

Academic Actions



Main goals

- **Peer-support:** tell about your experiences, discuss challenges and share best practices.
- **Information/resources:** find out which events, training initiatives and services are available for you at your university.
- **Needs-based solutions:** identify common needs and develop effective responses and solutions. (grassroots approach)

Some upcoming events

- Peer-writing groups [Dec 2020]
- Boost your personal development [Feb 2021]
- Research integrity - how to act [Mar 2021]
- Mentoring programme for PhD candidates - *academic track* [Apr 2021]
- Open science, the opportunities ahead [May 2021]
- Have an impact - Pitch, the floor is yours [Summer 2021]

Career Actions



Main goals

- **Yearly PhD Jobfair:** linking recruiting companies with job seekers (exclusively PhD candidates and postdocs).
- **Career development:** supporting your personal and professional development through transferable skills training.
- **Networking:** meet fellow researchers and relevant partners across disciplines, career stages and sectors.

Some upcoming events

- Career in Academia: non-ZAP roads to success at KU Leuven [Nov 2020]
- Personal and professional development workshops [Jan 2021]
- Inter-University Launch event [Feb 2021]
- Boost your career - a toolbox, from idea to application [Mar 2021]
- Mentoring programme for PhD candidates - *non-academic track* [Apr 2021]
- PhD Jobfair 2021 [Oct 2021] - www.phdjobfair.org

Social Activities



less stress



more fun and more friends



better social skills



Main goals

- **Community building:** bringing together the community of PhD candidates and postdocs.
- **Networking and skills training:** facilitating networking opportunities that make you feel more comfortable and competent when engaging with strangers.
- **Relaxing moments:** opportunities to change perspective and take your head away from your research for a moment.



Some upcoming events (heavily impacted by covid-19)

- What's on your mind? - Online after-work drinks [Dec 2020 onwards]
- Thematic postdoc lunches [Dec 2020 onwards]
- Online board game nights [Jan 2021 onwards]
- Hikes [Feb 2021]
- FUN - Stories about failure [Mar 2021]
- Taking a fresh breath - gatherings in the park [spring 2021]
- PhD Gala at De Hoorn [Oct 2021]

Why join PhD Society?

- Interdisciplinary and interfaculty interaction between (post)doctoral researchers.
- Train your professional, transferable and social skills.
- Develop a valuable, long-lasting network with partners from within and outside of academia.
- Increase the value of your PhD.



Interested in our activities? Follow us!

- For all updates and content: www.phdsociety.be



For and by PhD students and postdocs within KU Leuven and beyond.



Academic

PhD Society helps you to further develop your skills and knowledge. We provide you with all the tools needed to successfully become a PhD graduate.

[Read more](#)



Career

As a PhD degree holder, you are potentially a valuable asset to many companies outside of academia. Together, we can explore all of your career options.

[Read more](#)



Social

Work hard, play hard!
As important as your career and academics are, engaging in social activities gives you a well-earned break from working.

[Read more](#)



until mid
Dec 2020

Interested in joining?

- Volunteers welcome in all 3 pillars (academic, social and career)
- More structural support functions (IT, communication, marketing, ...)
- Need more time to decide?

PhD Society is always available via contact@phdsociety.be, our website www.phdsociety.be and/or Facebook

Get in touch with us!

- **Like** our Facebook page PhD Society Leuven
- **Join** our Facebook group “PhDs and Postdocs of Leuven”
- **Contact us** at contact@phdsociety.be
- **Check our website** at www.phdsociety.be

Academic

Career

Social



Together we can achieve more!