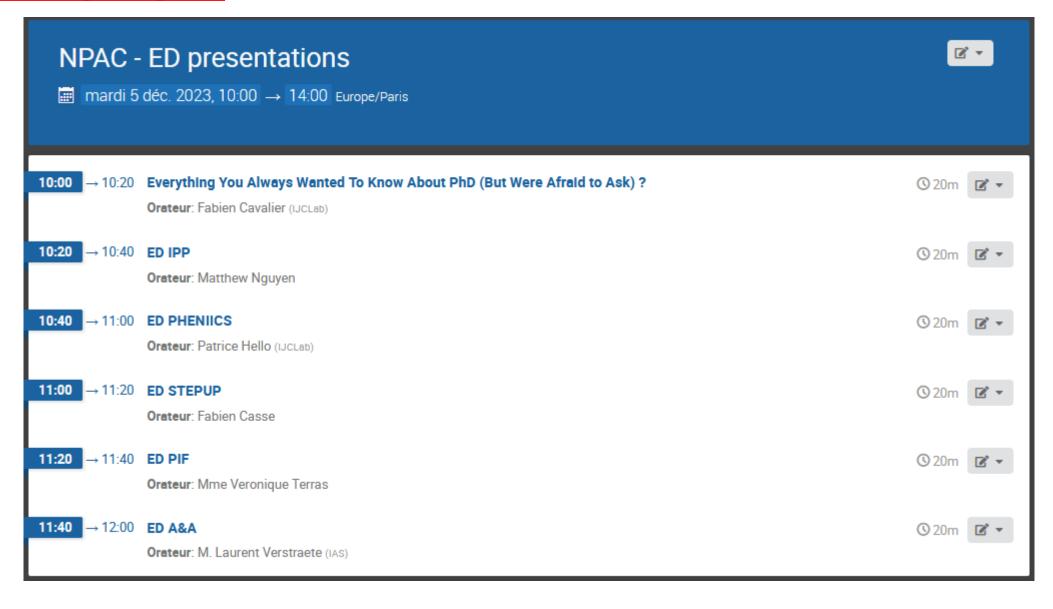


Everything You Always Wanted To Know About PhD (But Were Afraid to Ask)

Morning Program



What is a Thesis?

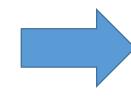
- It is :
 - An Academic Degree
 - A <u>Professional Experience</u> in research ⇒ In France, you will have a **work contract** for the **whole duration** of the thesis
- It rewards an **original** research **work** done during **three years**. This duration is the nominal one, longer thesis should be exceptional and well justified
- Your work will be guided by a **Supervisor** who belongs to a **laboratory** and most of the time to a **physics group**
- The outcomes are:
 - A written document which describes a part of or the full work done during the thesis
 - An oral defense (presentation ~1h+ questions ~1h) in front of a jury

Doctoral School, you said Doctoral School?

- It follows the progress of the thesis and the training of the students
- It distributes some grants
- Each doctoral school has its own rules and calendar, in particular about grant distribution

PhD Supervisor belongs to a given Doctoral School You will apply (if needed),
be validated
and register
in this Doctoral School

- In Paris area, there are several Doctoral Schools in our fields:
 - Thematic: Astronomy & Astrophysics, PIF (Physics in Ile de France)
 - Local: PHENIICS (Paris-Saclay), STEP-UP (UPC), IPPDS (IPP)
- In Regions, there is one Doctoral School per site
- Formally, there is no link between M2s and Doctoral Schools
- ⇒ any M2 student can apply to any Doctoral School
- In practice, in some places, there are some biases towards "local" students. Be careful!



How to find a thesis?

- NPAC website: https://npac.ijclab.in2p3.fr/thesis-2324/
- Doctoral Schools website (France): https://npac.ijclab.in2p3.fr/graduate-schools/ and others to be found
- Labs website
- Discuss with your professors and NPAC responsibles

Some Advices

- Meet in person your future supervisor and discuss about the subject, the funding, the team and the lab
- Ask to discuss with current PhDs and postdocs (without your future supervisor)
- Stay open-minded and investigate several possibilities
- You should have a plan B (different fundings, another ED ...)
- Discuss with your professors and NPAC responsibles