

## AMC Graduate School for Medical Sciences – Annual Report 2013

The AMC Graduate School organizes the doctoral level academic training of AMC PhD students. The AMC Graduate School aims at creating an infrastructure that promotes and supports excellence in the doctorate level training of PhD students as highly qualified future professionals in an international environment.

The number of AMC PhD defenses increased to 238 in 2013. The median duration of AMC PhD projects is stabilized at 4.9 years.

AMC Graduate School for Medical Sciences	2013	2012	2011	2010
Inflow of PhD students per starting year	222	195	249	237
Registered active PhD students	1.209	1.137	1.032	903
Appointment:				
- AMC	27%	26%	24%	28%
- AMC Medical Research B.V.	53%	52%	52%	46%
- other	20%	22%	24%	26%
Number of courses	39	35	31	29
Number of participants in courses	1.412	1.271	1.069	1.004
PhD defenses	238	186	170	156

The AMC Graduate School strives to offer a broad educational program to AMC PhD students, consisting of courses in the realms of:

- General scientific skills;
- Research methods;
- Enhancement of specific research fields.

The number of courses offered to AMC PhD students by the AMC Graduate School increased to 39 in 2013. The number of participants to the courses also increased in 2013. Concurrently waiting lists were reduced due to development of smart and course specific techniques. For instance, the course Practical Biostatistics is now offered as an e-learning module enabling unlimited capacity of participants.

In 2013, the AMC MD/PhD Scholarships were introduced for exceptionally talented master students in Medicine, who want to combine their master education with doctorate research. Five grant applications were approved, based on judgment of the candidates, the research proposals and intended PhD supervision.

The evaluation of AMC PhD tracks was further elaborated in 2013. Next to individual appointments with starting PhD students -which started in 2012- a proposal for monitoring of PhD projects was approved by the AMC Executive Board. Also, an exit survey was developed for former PhD students about their experiences with the PhD period. Both monitoring and the exit survey will be implemented in 2014.

In 2013, the portfolio was introduced as a mandatory part of the PhD Thesis. The number of PhD Theses containing a portfolio increased from 25% (first quarter of 2013) to over 70% (last quarter of 2013).

Finally, the AMC Graduations Office became part of the AMC Graduate School in 2013. Thereby, all AMC PhD affairs are accommodated into one organization.