Dondrite news

*W*elcome to May's edition of the Dondrite News. Here you'll find all the freshest info on what the busy bees of Dondrite have been up to, providing you with great events like Synapsium and the educational workshops! With the weather heating up, us Dondrites have been brainstorming some awesome ways to make the last few months of the academic year count! You'll find some of the cool things we thought of in the upcoming events calendar. There's an exciting trip planned to explore another Dutch city and you won't want to miss out on the amazing Graduate School Day, with fantastic workshops for both PhDs and Master's students alike!

We hope you enjoy this leisurely edition, hopefully sat outside on the terras, enjoying a nice, cold drink of success as we sail into the closing months of the 2018/19 academic year. You deserve it!

Internview Debora Nolte

For the last interview of this academic year, we sat down with second year student and active Dondrite member Debora Nolte. She is in the Perception, Action and Control track and doing her internship in the lab of Pieter Medendorp. Let's find out how she's doing!

So, what is your internship actually about?

We are doing research on motor control using EEG. We are specifically researching the planning stages of reaching movements. I can't say too much about the actual experiment itself, because I'm still testing. Maybe someone that will participate will read this interview and that might ruin the experiment. But in a nutshell: we show the participant a target they have to reach towards after waiting a set amount of time.

We use different sorts of technology to gather data: we use EEG to obtain brain activity data and motion capture equipment to record the movement.

Do you like working with these instruments?

Motor control is something I like a lot; it is so logical. And that is something that works best with EEG. At first I wanted to do something with fMRI, but now that I'm working with EEG I realise that this is fine too. I'm even taking the electrophysiology course to learn more about it!

I did get stuck with some of the oldest equipment, so it breaks often. Cameras stop working, equipment breaks, screens don't respond, and all sorts of random errors occur. In the beginning that was difficult, but now I just go with it. Before an experiment I test the hardware extensively, and there's always the technical support to help out. They all know me by name now and we greet each other in the hall... So that's nice.

How did you apply for this internship?

Before I started the CNS master, I already knew about this lab. Then I followed the Motor Control course and I found I really liked it! So, I emailed Pieter myself to ask if there were any possible projects! He proposed a couple of projects. Since I wanted to learn how to work with imaging, I took this project.

In my first pilot for this project we actually found nothing of interest. Then we found some studies that disagreed with what we were doing and we redesigned our study. It is very cool to be involved in such a project from the beginning and design phases all the way until the end.

That does sound cool! But also difficult. Do you get enough help to do all of that?

A PhD student supervises me daily and Pieter helps out from time to time as well. Whenever I'm stuck on something, I can just knock on my supervisor's door and that usually helps a lot. On Mondays we have our lab meetings and if there's time left, Pieter gives us motivational speeches on what we do and its importance.

And whenever I'm testing later in the day, a second person has to be present. My supervisor even stayed longer to help with that, and Pieter told me he would be willing to do so as well! I really like these supervising methods and I get along with my supervisors well.

If you're testing so late in the day, how do you manage your time?

It is quite difficult, sometimes I'm here for 12 hours a day. That's only right now to be honest, when I'm testing. It is quite intensive, as the experiment takes four hours per participant. So, if I test two people I would already have my workday done. And I still want to do some of the data analysis right after testing.

I have chosen for this myself, because I do want to be done with testing by the end of May. After I'm done though, I will go back to eight hours a day. At that point I just see what I can get done; if I am not entirely done with my analysis, that's okay. I'll finish it the next day. I also take my weekends off; I don't do anything internship related.

Those are some very long days. Is that how it is at the end of your internship?

I am working hard, because I do want to be done in July. I still have to do some of the statistics and I am a bit afraid of those, since we are performing a new analysis. I'm not too sure how to do that, it is very difficult.

Regarding the writing of my thesis, I found that the hardest part was to start. Once you get over that hill, it gets better. I have already written my methods and am working on the results. It helps to do the Academic Writing course during your internship, as you can write sections of your thesis for the course.

I would like to see my thesis published, but at this point it's too early to tell if that's a

possibility.

Where are you going afterwards?

I really don't know yet! I might stay here at the Donders, or I might move somewhere else. I have already applied for a couple of PhD positions and I hope to hear something positive soon!

Recent Dondrite Activities

Synapsium 2019:

At 9am on Saturday, May 25th, the doors opened to Synapsium 2019. Many of our own Dondrite members gave talks and participated in the poster session. Of course, this is one of Dondrite's biggest events of the year, and we wanted to do it justice - so we've decided to do a whole feature on Synapsium in the June edition of the DondriteNews! So be on the lookout for photos, interviews, and more in our next newsletter. Many thanks to our wonderful Synapsium Committee for putting together another amazing student conference!

Workshop Series: LaTeX

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{graphicx}
\title{An Intro to LaTeX}
\date{02/05/2019}
\begin{document}
\maketitle{}
On May 2nd, the Education Committee hosted
our first LaTeX Workshop. The workshop was
led by Eelke Spaak, a postdoctoral
researcher at the Donders Institute. Thanks
to everyone who attended! Our challenge to
you all - who can come up with the most
aesthetically pleasing thesis?
\begin{figure}[h!]
\includegraphics[width =
\textwidth]{picture.png}
\end{figure}
\end{document}
```

An Intro to LaTeX

02/05/2019

On May 2nd, the Education Committee hosted our first LaTeX Workshop. The workshop was led by Eelke Spaak, a postdoctoral research at the Donders Institute. Thanks to everyone who attended! Our challenge to you all - who can come up with the most aesthetically pleasing thesis template?

Upcoming Dondrite & Donders Activities

Day trip to Utrecht:

The Activity committee and the Travel committee have collaborated to take you on an amazing trip to the beautiful Utrecht. This day trip will consist of a train trip to Utrecht, canoeing in the canals of the city (no prior experience required!) and a city tour given by our very own Jurriaan and Charlotte.

Unfortunately, the deadline for signing up has passed. If you signed up make sure to pay until June 1. In case you missed the deadline, don't worry! There will be more trips organized by Dondrite, and of course we will tell you all about the trip in the next Dondrite News edition.

Info: June 8
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/events/427556158031068/

Graduation School Day 2019:

On June 28, the second annual Graduation School Day will take place. The initial idea was to strengthen the bond between Master students and PhD candidates of the Donders Institute. Last year was a complete success so the committee is more than excited to repeat the fun this year.

The day is filled with two rounds of workshops, several walk-in hours, coaching sessions and finally a joint BBQ with drinks. The best part is: you can tailor the content of the workshops, walk-in and coaching sessions to your individual needs and interests. The exact options will be sent out soon but they will focus on academic skills on one hand and on work-life balance/mental skills on the other hand.

Make sure to sign up now as the amount of spots per workshop is limited. Registration is required in order to attend the event. See the link for further information.

Info: June 28, 1-9pm, Honigcomplex
Website: https://www.ru.nl/donders/gsd/

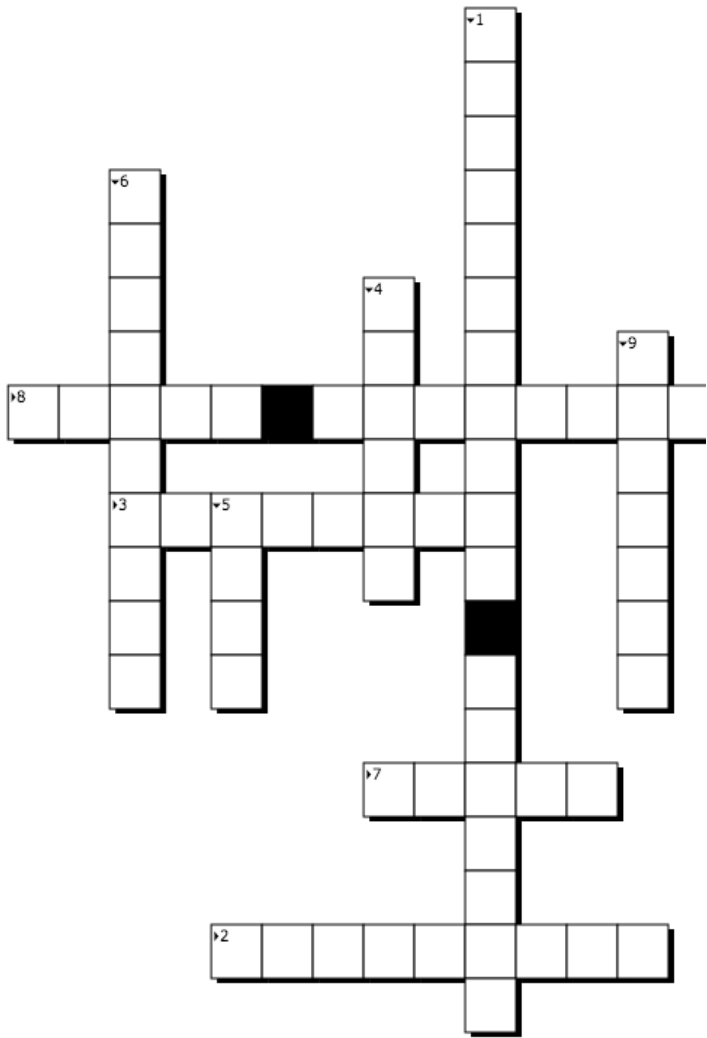| Upcoming Donders Events:	Date:
Formal DCC Lecture Falk Lieder [url]	Tuesday, June 4, 12:30-13:30
Special Donders Session: "Donders Ponders Again" [url]	Thursday, June 13, 10:00-12:00
Formal DCC Lecture Nathaniel Daw [url]	Tuesday, June 25, 12:30-13:30
Donders Lecture by Catherine Harmer (Cognitive Neuroscience Oxford) [url]	Thursday, June 27, 16:00-17:00

Fun Fact

Fun fact(s) about the honey bee: Did you know that there is not one single sort of honey bee? In fact, there are multiple kinds, both wild and domesticated. Some of the domesticated honey bees in fact drive off the wild local honey bees and other important pollinators. Even though the more popular honey bees are pretty efficient pollin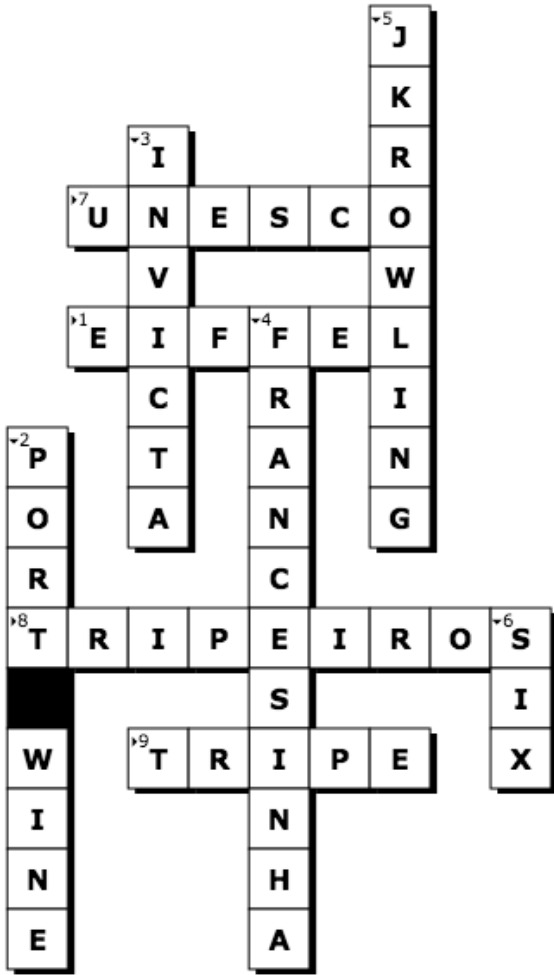ators, in that they can pollinate a big variety of plants, this does not mean they can pollinate all sorts of plants. This means that thanks to only using limited types of pollinators in agriculture, other pollinators die off and therefore, some plants are not being sufficiently pollinated. Now off to a delicious bread with honey…

Crossword

In celebration of the arrival of the cutest little royal, baby Archie, this month's crossword is a compilation of who's who in Queen Libby's family tree. This is a test to separate the masters of British Royal trivia from the rest of us plebeians. Good Luck!

Solution

Crossword grid (letters as filled):

```
                    5
                    J
                    K
        3           R
    7   I
    U N E S C O     W
        V           W
    1               I
    E I F F E L     N
        C   R       G
    2   T   A
    P   A   N
    O       C
    R
    8               6
    T R I P E I R O S
        S           I
    9
    T R I P E       X
    W       N
    I       H
    N       A
    E
```

Clues (text cut off at right margin):

1. This arch... Parisian tow...
2. The city...
3. The city'... civil war.
4. A regiona...
5. This auth... character a...
6. The num...
7. This orga... site.
8. A person...
9. What ins...