



Finish Line for First ICTP-SISSA PhD



Wednesday 21, Graduation ceremony for joint doctorate

16 October, 2015

Collaboration between Institutions in Friuli Venezia Giulia produce results. The joint PhD program between the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) and the International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) in Trieste is the latest example. The first concrete evidence of this is the graduation ceremony to be held on Wednesday, 21 October for the first course which began four years ago. Besides continuing the tradition of supporting students from developing countries, characteristic of the "Trieste System," the program is also one of many initiatives promoting collaboration between the two institutions and with others in the territory.

The first five students of the joint ICTP/SISSA Masters in Physics and Mathematics will receive



their doctoral degrees next Wednesday. It is an important achievement for participants as well as the two institutions that accompanied them over the last four years.

The graduates - all of whom are from developing countries - began their educational journey as students in ICTP's intense, one-year Postgraduate Diploma Programme, where they proved their ability to pursue doctoral studies. They are the first to benefit from the ICTP/SISSA collaboration. There are currently another 21 students from 16 developing countries now enrolled in the joint PhD programme

"Four years ago SISSA and ICTP signed an agreement to establish a joint PhD program, one of several initiatives we developed to improve synergy between our two institutions," says Guido Martinelli, Director of SISSA. "It is also a way to create more opportunities for students from developing countries who would not have access to a high-level scientific education like the one offered by two major international scientific institutions like ICTP and SISSA in their countries of origin."

"The joint PhD programme between SISSA and ICTP has been working extremely well," said ICTP Director Fernando Quevedo, adding, "For more than 20 years, ICTP has been training top students from developing countries in a one-year Diploma Programme that aims to raise the level of the students to be able to compete for top PhD programmes in the world. The very best of the students are now enrolling in this new PhD programme. Both institutions benefit from a fresh new flow of excellent students from many different nationalities enriching their research projects and the academic life of both institutions."

"We are very happy with the success of this PhD. Among other positive aspects, the contribution of high-quality teaching by top-level ICTP scientists has allowed SISSA to further expand its educational offer," says Martinelli.

Keyword: collaborate

"This program paved the way for other SISSA collaborations which materialized later, such as the joint SISSA/ICGEB, JUMBO PhD program in Molecular Biology," continues Martinelli, "not to mention other large-scale initiatives like the program agreement between the three universities of Friuli Venezia Giulia (University of Trieste, University of Udine University and SISSA)."

IMAGES:

- Fernando Quevedo and Guido Martinelli – credits: ICTP

Contacts:



Press office:

pressoffice@sissa.it

Tel: (+39) 040 3787644 | (+39) 366-3677586

via Bonomea, 265
34136 Trieste

More information about SISSA: www.sissa.it

More information about ICTP: www.ictp.it

