

**SFB 1601 Retreat**  
**March 25-27, 2025**

# **Annual Report**

## **SFB1601 Student Council**

**Prachi Prajapati, PH1**  
**(On behalf of the SFB Student Council)**

# Goals & Responsibilities

**Addressing PhD student  
concerns**

**Promoting a positive  
& inclusive academic  
culture**

**Organizing various  
activities for students**

**Communicating students'  
ideas to the Executive  
Board (EB)**



## 2024-25 members

**Prachi Prajapati (PH1)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Speaker**

**Jonathan Clarke (PH1)**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Speaker**

**Zein Bazzi (AIfA)**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Speaker**

**Himadri Saha (PH1)**

**Damian Peregrina (PH1)**

**Elena Marcuzzo (AIfA)**

**Chinmaya Nagar (PH1)**

**Anahat Cheema (MPIfR)**

**Eleonore Dann (PH1)**

**Anais Pauchet (PH1)**

**Oerd Xhemollari (PH1)**

**Simon Dannhauer (PH1)**

# 2024-25 members

Prachi (PH1)



Jonathana (PH1)



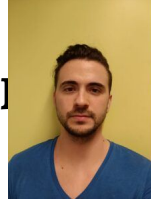
Zein (AIFA)



Himanshu (PH1)



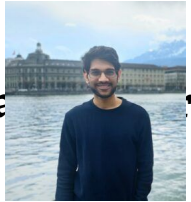
Damian (PH1)



Elena (AIFA)



Chinmay (PH1)



Anahat (MPIfR)



Eleonora (PH1)



Anais (PH1)



Oerd (PH1)



Simon (PH1)



# Student Activities (2024-25)

**PH1 Mechanical  
Workshop Tour**



**Student Seminars  
(AIfA Bonn & PH1 Cologne)**

**Student Retreat  
(Leiden)**

**Christmas Market  
Visit**



# Student Activities (2024-25)

**PH1 Mechanical  
Workshop Tour**



**Student Seminars  
(AIfA Bonn & PH1 Cologne)**

- + German courses
- + Scientific Writing Workshop
- + Lunch with External Colloquium Speakers

**Student Retreat  
(Leiden)**

**Christmas Market  
Visit**



Check SFB1601 website:  
**Home → Students → Student Activities**

# Student Activities (2024-25)



- + **German courses:** For now, offered only at Cologne. Bonn students are extremely interested in such a locally organized free German course.



- + **Scientific Writing Workshop:** Extremely positive response from the one with “**Write About Science (WAS)**”.



- + **Lunch with External Colloquia Speakers:** Volunteering duties for coffee prep. for colloquia and outreach as well.

# PH1 Mechanical Workshop Tour

- **Planned for making the students/postdocs exposed to the instrumentation efforts**
- The workshop team presented their cutting-edge machineries and tools using which various parts of big instruments are being developed in-house.
- They also explained the challenges that come along in such jobs





# Student Seminars

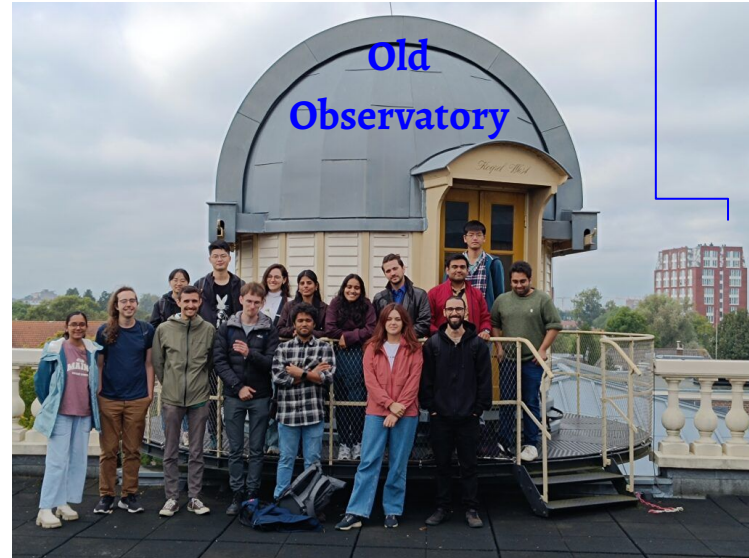
- **Planned for PhD students to practice presentation skills in a friendly environment**
- **Mandatory for each PhD student to present their work once a year**
- **Used to be a day-long program twice a year, i.e. once in Bonn & once in Cologne**
- **Revised version of bimonthly seminars, in a hybrid mode, with 2-3 talks each.**
- **Stay tuned for the upcoming seminar sessions ...**



# Student Retreat

- **Annually occurring event planned for PhD students by the council members**
- Open for all SFB1601 students
- Stay tuned for the upcoming retreat 2025 ...

Leiden (Fall 2024)



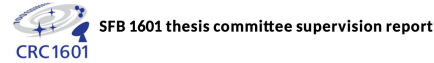
Naturalis  
Museum

# Support through your PhD: TAC

- **Thesis Advisory Committee (TAC)** - meant to support students in their PhD projects.
- Typically needs at least 3 members, i.e. the project PI, two independent researchers (Postdoc/PD/Professor)
- Meeting once a year for discussion, update, and review

Note: IMPRS & BCGS TAC reports are valid!

P.S.: **Regular monitoring now on ...** EB will approve the travel requests/funds accordingly.



Doctoral candidate:	Second Supervisor:
Principle Supervisor:	Third Supervisor/other:
Project start date:	Estimated thesis submission date:
Meeting date:	Funding source:
Current report: <input type="checkbox"/> Research Plan (1. meeting) <input type="checkbox"/> Progress Report <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1	
Are you in regular contact with the doctoral candidate? (please give approval)	
SV1:	SV2:
<b>1 Progress of the doctoral research project (comments may be given)</b>	
a) The supervision report of the last meeting on _ / _ / 20_ has /	
b) Please rate the current detailed research plan, progress report or	
<input type="checkbox"/> very good <input type="checkbox"/> needs some adjustments <input type="checkbox"/> needs major change	
c) Please rate the project's progress so far.	
<input type="checkbox"/> according to plan <input type="checkbox"/> slight delays <input type="checkbox"/> considerable delays <input type="checkbox"/>	
If considerable delays occurred, (1) please briefly state their cause and their	



Check SFB1601 website:  
**Home → Students → Student Documents**

# Students' Exchange Program

- **Upon agreement with the respective supervisor.**
- Application to the CRC EB with
  - a research statement,
  - detailed work plan during the stay abroad,
  - a cost estimate, and
  - a supporting letter from the supervisor.
- Reporting the experience to the CRC after returning – can be a seminar or a report that goes on the SFB website



## Student's Exchanges and Experiences

Home / Students / Student's Exchanges and Experiences



Check SFB1601 website:  
**Home → Students → Student Exchange**

# Social Events & Outreach



**ASTRONOMY ON TAP BONN**

Happens on **Every Last Tuesday of the Month**

Join for Public Talks related to Astronomy in German and English At **Fiddlers Pub, Frongasse**

Win Prizes Through **Quizzes**

@atobonn X @atobonn

Images: Pinterest, ESA, nasa.gov, displaet.com

The poster has a dark blue background with a swirling pattern. It features an illustration of a satellite in space, an astronaut floating, and a silhouette of a person looking through a telescope. A central logo shows a beer glass with "ASTRONOMY BONN TAP" written on it.

**ASTRONOMY ON TAP KÖLN**

**GALAXIES, GRAVITY AND GLASS CEILINGS**  
How women changed our view of the cosmos

**Women's Month Special!**

Dr. Tatiana M. Rodriguez  
Universität zu Köln

**ASTROPHYSIKALISCH RELEVANTE IONEN:**  
Von der Laborphysik zur astronomie

Eline Plaar  
Universität zu Köln

**PUB QUIZ and prizes!**

Supported by SFB 1601 + @aotkoeln

Free check-in recommended

20 Mar 2025, 19:00 UHR  
Theater in der Filmdose  
Zülpicher Str 39, Köln

Save your seat!

The poster features a starry night sky background. It includes a portrait of Dr. Tatiana M. Rodriguez, a portrait of Eline Plaar, and a QR code. The text is arranged in a vertical layout with various fonts and colors.

# Important Links & Contacts for New Students



[Welcome Brochure](#) is available ...

**Home** → **Students** → **Student Documents**



**SFB General**

Isabelle Breloy

(Office #213)

**SFB Finance**

Petra Fackendahl

(Office #119)

**Tech**

Frank Schloeder

(Office #213)

**Purchase**

Stefanie Simon, Anke Pyschny

(Office #204, 119)

**Secretary (Bonn)**

Sabine Derdau

[sderdau@uni-bonn.de](mailto:sderdau@uni-bonn.de)

**(Cologne)**

Bettina Krause, Huyen Nguyen

(Office #207)

**BCGS (Bonn)**

Isabela Fox

[ifox@uni-bonn.de](mailto:ifox@uni-bonn.de)

**(Cologne)**

Petra Neubauer-Guenther

(Office #203)

**IMPRS**

Gunther Witzel, Arne Hoyer

[imprs@mpifr-bonn.mpg.de](mailto:imprs@mpifr-bonn.mpg.de)

List of Contacts Cologne: <https://astro.uni-koeln.de/mitarbeiter-innen>

# Other Activities and Updates

- **SFB Students SciTech Expertise Form**  
to facilitate collaborations and  
exchange of skills among students

Check SFB1601 website:

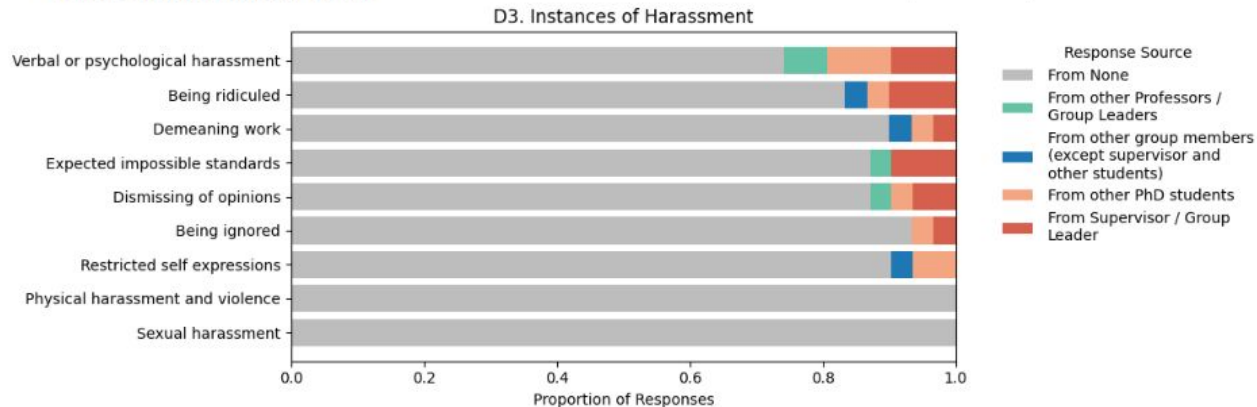
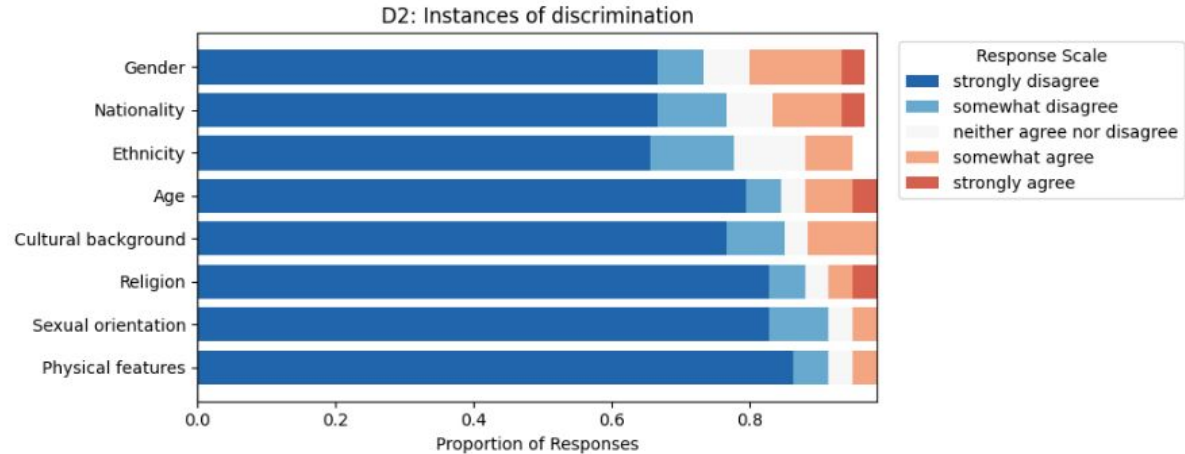
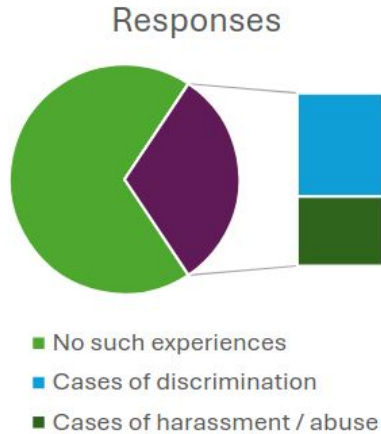
**Home → Students → Student Activities**

The screenshot displays a Google Sheets spreadsheet with the following data:

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Name							
2	Project: A1							
3	Youxin Wang							
4	Eleonore Dann							
5	Project: A3							
6	Chinmaya Nagar							
7	Project: A4							
8	Luis Bonah	bonah@ph1.uni-koeln.de	PH1	Schlemmer Gro				
9	Project: A5							
10	Anais	pauchet@ph1.uni-koeln.de	PH1	Stefanie Walch				

# Other Activities and Updates – Students' Mental Well-being Survey

## D: Instances of discrimination and harassment within the SFB

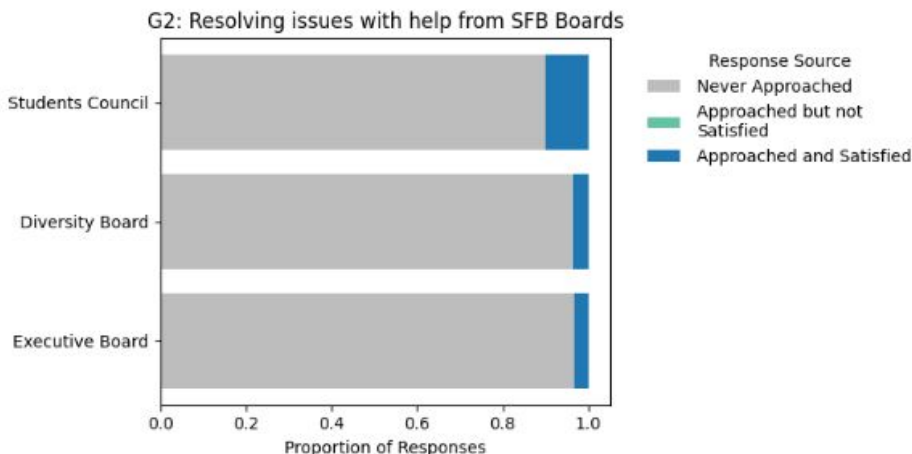




# Further Comments

- Respondents have reported instances of discrimination on the basis of all factors!
- Instances of harassment have been reported – of which verbal, psychological and emotional harassment have been experienced the most
- More serious issues reported will be handled with confidentiality
- Students advised to reach out SFB boards for seeking help. Boards should actively be reachable for student issues.

**Anonymous Dropbox available!**



# Thesis Supervision

Important to organize TAC meeting periodically

## BCGS Preparatory Conversation Form (for Supervisor and PhD student both)

### Discussion material for a preparatory conversation between (potential) PhD candidate and (envisaged) advisor

The purpose of this form\* is to talk about the PhD candidate's and the advisor's expectations. This voluntary questionnaire is to be completed individually by both parties. They arrange a meeting where the answers are to be compared and discussed. This exercise may clarify different expectations and will hopefully improve the collaboration. The completed forms stay with the participants in the conversation and are not to be submitted anywhere.

The advisor must be aware of the asymmetric power ratios that exist in the guidance relationship. Academic knowledge and authority shall not be exploited to win academic or personal benefits.



My name:	My conversation with (name):
----------	------------------------------

*Instruction: Choose the answer that fits best with HOW YOU WANT IT TO BE.  
The alternative answers to the left and right represent the extremes of the scale.*

*Select the central option  
if both alternatives apply  
equally*

Aim of the PhD	
Writing a thesis	irrelevant <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> relevant
Independent research	irrelevant <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> relevant
Obtaining a title	irrelevant <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> relevant
Finishing the doctorate in the shortest possible time	irrelevant <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> relevant
Achieving further competences	irrelevant <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> relevant
Employment	irrelevant <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> relevant
Reputation	irrelevant <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> relevant
General	
What form of supervision is preferred?	spontaneous talks <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> by appointment <input type="radio"/>
How often will there be some sort of discussion? Once per	day <input type="radio"/> week <input type="radio"/> 2 weeks <input type="radio"/> month <input type="radio"/> 6 months <input type="radio"/>
Who should take the initiative for planning the advisor/ PhD candidate discussions?	advisor <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> PhD candidate <input type="radio"/>
Who defines any goals?	advisor <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> PhD candidate <input type="radio"/>
Performance is measured in	working hours <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> scientific output <input type="radio"/>
Errors, mistakes and problems are to be discussed	not at all <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> openly <input type="radio"/>
Ethical questions affect the research	to a low extent <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> to a high extent <input type="radio"/>
Respectful communication is	irrelevant <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> relevant <input type="radio"/>



# Election Results 2025

**Damian Peregrina (PH1)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Speaker**

**Prachi Misra (PH1)**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Speaker**

**Chinmaya Nagar (PH1)**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Speaker**

**Himadri Saha (PH1)**

**Anais Pauchet (PH1)**

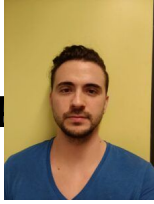
**Luci Gebauer (AIfA)**

**Oerd Xhemollari (PH1)**

**Kian Syaifoel (PH1)**

# Election Results 2025

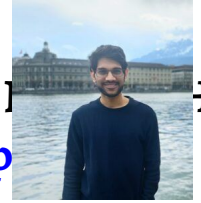
**Damian I...**  
**1<sup>st</sup>**



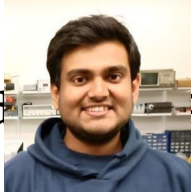
**Prack...**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**



**Chinmaya I...**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sp**



**Himac...**  
**(PH1)**



**Anais F...**  
**(PH1)**

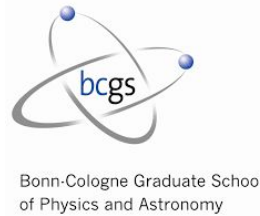


**Luci Gebauer (AIfA)**

**Oerd Xl...**  
**(PH1)**



**Kian Syaifoel (PH1)**



**Thanks!**