

Call for the organization of the
FuseNet PhD event

2024



FuseNet
The European Fusion Education Network
ASSOCIATION

The FuseNet PhD event

The FuseNet Association is an independent legal entity that was founded in December 2010 to provide a platform for the coordination of European fusion education activities, the initiation, development and implementation of new EU-wide actions, and for the exchange and dissemination of fusion education information. The association is open to all European organizations that are active in the field of fusion education and research.

As part of its activities, the FuseNet Association coordinates and supports the organization of the annual *FuseNet PhD Event* that aims to strengthen and enhance the network of PhD students working in the field of Fusion Science and Engineering and registered at a European university.

The events provide an opportunity for European PhD students to discuss their work with each other and with researchers from the international fusion community, and it gives them the opportunity to make useful contacts for their professional career.

Started within the framework of the FuseNet project, FuseNet has now supported 10 successful editions of its annual PhD Event:

- 2011 - Fusion PhD Event 1 in München, Germany, hosted by IPP Garching
- 2012 - Fusion PhD Event 2 in Pont-à-Mousson, France, hosted by University of Lorraine
- 2013 - Fusion PhD Event 3 in York, United Kingdom, hosted by University of York
- 2014 - Fusion PhD Event 4 in Lisbon, Portugal, hosted by IST / University of Lisbon
- 2015 - Fusion PhD Event 5 in Prague, Czech Republic, hosted by the Czech Technical University in Prague
- 2018 – Fusion PhD Event 6 in Aix-en-Provence, France, hosted by ITER
- 2020 – Fusion PhD Event 7 (online) *Fusion PhD event 2020 - The Virtualalternative*
- 2021 – Fusion PhD Event 8 (online) *8-bit PhD Event 2021*
- 2022 – Fusion PhD Event 9 in Padova, Italy, hosted by University of Padova and Consorzio RFX
- 2023 – Fusion PhD Event 10 in Lausanne, Switzerland, hosted by EPFL

Each event benefited from the experience of the previous editions and the student response continues to grow year-on-year. Even during the Covid-19 pandemic years, the virtual editions of the event were well received by the participants. In particular, the increasingly strong involvement of students in the organization of the event has proven to work out very well. These evaluations are available such that the new organizers can take this into account.

The event is aimed at stimulating networking within the present generation of fusion students across the whole of Europe. Therefore, the event is to be set up in such a way that it allows for ample discussion between students, as well as bringing the students in contact with top scientists. The topics are not restricted to fusion *per se*, because stimulating the students to develop a sound sense of context is also an important goal of this event.

An important goal of the event is that PhD students should learn to present their own work, typically split between a **poster-session** and a selected part with **oral presentations**. Since the 2018 edition, the oral presentations have been arranged as ***Pecha Kucha talks***. A *20 slides-20 sec per slide* compact format that allows for dynamic presentations while granting the opportunity to participate to an elevated number of students.

The annual PhD event should offer plenty of opportunities for the students to meet, discuss and get interactively involved. The goal of the event is to strengthen the network of fusion PhD students in Europe while providing a solid scientific programme.

Open Call for the 2024 edition

FuseNet is now soliciting for a host of the 2024 edition of the PhD event. We are looking for an organisation, company, research institute or university in Europe, preferably with a connection to fusion science and engineering and that is capable of hosting and providing support for the 2024 edition of the Fusion PhD event.

FuseNet will award a contract for this organizer that involves the following conditions and requirements:

Organizing a 3 day event, open for all PhD students in fusion across Europe.

This organizing includes:

- Choosing a suitable venue and making the necessary arrangements for a 3 day event, that can be attended by a minimum of 140 students.
- Assisting and supporting the FuseNet Executive Office to generate publicity materials (e.g. a poster to announce the event) and advertise the event, and keeping the website up-to-date.
- Organizing a fusion-relevant excursion for the students (typically 0.5 day).
- Organizing at least one social event during the PhD event, preferably in the evening or as a welcome party.
- Organizing the accommodation and meals of the participants (max. 3 nights, additional nights can be optional at their own expense).
- Organizing transport during the event (i.e. to go from the venue to the hotel, during the excursion etc.) Transport support to/from the airport is optional.

- Take the responsibility for the smooth running of the event, and setup a local team to assist the lecturers and participants with the practical questions.
- Taking care of clear communication to the students about the programme of the event, the locations and traveling involved and other practical matters.
- In close collaboration with FuseNet, the local host will propose or define the programme at the event and invite the lecturers. Note that the speakers and/or trainers should be of top quality and inspirational role models. Speakers expenses can be covered.

Budget Proposal

The candidate host should describe briefly (~2 pages) how the above items will be addressed. In addition to this, a provisional budget breakdown for the event should be presented. This should contain at least the following items:

- Accommodation costs for 140 students for 3 nights (preferably max. 3 students per room)
- Catering during the 3 days of the event (Coffee-breaks, Lunch and Dinner)
- Transport during the event
- Venue costs
- Excursion costs
- Social event(s) costs
- All other local organizing costs, e.g. photographer to take photos/group photo.
Note that personnel costs from the host cannot be covered.
- Costs for external presenters/guest/trainers will be decided together with FuseNet but an estimated cost has to be included in the budget breakdown.
- Availability in 2024, i.e. which dates can the event be hosted.

The offer and budget should allow for a total number of 140 students. However, if more students can be accommodated, the additional costs per student above the minimum of 140 students should be indicated separately (in which case the maximum number of students should also be specified). Preferably, indicate how the budget would vary with the number of participants.

The total **budget** should not exceed **57,000 €** for an event of **140 students**.

Applications can be sent by email to feo@fusenet.eu. **Applications are possible until 1 December 2023.**

The FuseNet Board of Governors will evaluate the bids by the candidates based on the attractiveness of the venue, ability of the local team to organize the event, programme

and fusion relevance of the excursion, ideas for the composition of the scientific programme, easy and cost-effective access to the venue by students & speakers, and the total budget requested by the organizer.

Soon after the application deadline, the winning application will be announced by FuseNet.