

# **NOVA-SKIES: Entrepreneurial education, career opportunities and personal development for Dutch young astronomers**

## **Report of 2023 workshop**

Dr. Giovanna Pugliese on behalf of SKIES

The NOVA-SKIES (Skilled, Innovative and Entrepreneurial Scientists) programme is the implementation of the original SKIES project that was part of Horizon 2020 funded by the EU, created to address a specific call of IAU. The programme aims to provide training on innovation, entrepreneurship, development of soft and hard skills, and create career opportunities to PhD candidates and early-career researchers in the field of astronomy.

The training course for 2023 was developed in collaboration with dotSPACE, an external expert partner in entrepreneurship and space science.

The main workshop was held at the Fletcher conference center in Amersfoort on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2023.

We had 16 participants (PhDs and PDs) and 15 invited speakers among which many astronomy alumni and managers of university instrumentation groups and of private companies, including **Space Campus, Royal HaskoningDHV, S&T, NOVA optical instrumentation group, Radboud Radio Lab and TNO.**

The interaction between these experts in the space/private sector and our participants helped both the PhD students and post-docs to create an active network as a support to expand their career options within and outside academia.

The workshop was a successful event, that was rated with a 4.2 score out of 5, in a survey taken among the participants.

The Fletcher center provided a conference room with full technical support for the 2-day workshop, 2 lunches, coffee breaks and 1 dinner for all the participants and invited speakers.

All the 16 participants and the two organisers of the workshop, G. Pugliese and M. Seiger, stayed overnight in the conference center (8 double rooms and 2 single rooms, including breakfast).

The total cost of the workshop was 4.579,70 €.

Best regards,

G. Pugliese