

From PhD to Business – Management Know-how for Engineers and Scientists

February 2-6, 2015 in Miraflores de la Sierra, Spain

The image shows some happy participants of the Winter school that used a break to bring in the spirit of Mme Curie.

This Thinface winterschool on transversal skills for scientific and technological researchers was organized with the difficult task to find an equilibrium among the bunch of different situations that a PhD may face in his/her future career. A first general module was designed to deepen on strategies regarding writing techniques, both for reporting (mainly papers) and projects. This module included also a lecture on how to identify an ethical conflict at any step

of a research project. More specific modules were then introduced focussing on intellectual and industrial property protection, project management and technology transfer, where students were invited to discuss and participate in the analysis of real cases. The point of view of the industrial PhD was particularly considered when facing innovation, quality and marketing aspects, establishing a connection between these and research activity at the industry. The students were also faced to several entrepreneurship cases and could witness some “good practices” on how to fund a start-up on the basis of a patent. The winterschool closed with a last module of general interest regarding career development. Career development in both the industry and academia was considered and a close connection to networking was established. The students, half of them coming from the THINFACE ITN and another half coming from other european universities, were faced to a deep winter retirement. They had time to exchange among them and discuss with the lecturers and left with a package of tasks to train the described skills. The delivery of the official diplomas is foreseen for the next summerschool in Como (Italy) from 13th to 18th September.



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