Chapter 6: Acknowledgments
Almost done. I am writing this chapter myself, without letting anyone see it (for obvious reasons), and in a self-inflicted sleep-deprived state.

To start with, I would like to thank my arms for always being by my side, my legs for always supporting me and my fingers, because I could always count on them. A friend send me this random quote from internet some time ago and I decided that I have to include it in my acknowledgments.

Coming to the “serious” part of this chapter, I think it is traditional to start with the promotor(s). Bert, I really enjoyed working with you and I am thankful for the opportunities you gave me both as a Master and a PhD student. You always find a way to be interested and supportive without micromanaging people, which I really appreciate. I think that your ability to (almost) unperceivably push people is astounding, and it is instrumental to making people think they make all the decisions. At the beginning it was difficult for me to push back, but I think I have figured it out by now.

Dirk, I had to remind you few times that you are my promotor. I hope you remember it now. Due to my project being completely out of your scientific interests, we did not interact much. However, it was always interesting talking to you about science, or other topics.

I would also like to thank the members of my Assessment Committee: Bruno André, Ida van der Klei, and Jan Kok for their time and comments.

Emanuela, my dear paranymph. I am not sure remember, but it all started with me messing up booking of a centrifuge. I am not sure anymore if I was later than my booking, or did not book it at all. But I was allowed to use some of your time, saving my experiment and starting a chain reaction that resulted in you getting addicted to polish sweets and being my paranymph. Thank you for everything. We had so much fun together, that it is hard to pick a favorite moment, but it DEFINITELY DOES NOT involve a certain rubber band.

Kara, there is a rumor going around, that it is impossible to win an argument with me, but I am pretty sure you managed to do it multiple times. Thank you for the support, time and never giving up, especially when you were annoyed with me. You are definitely my favorite alien.

Next is Guus, after we were introduced, we almost instantly became good friends. I enjoyed all the game evenings (or afternoons) and the opportunity to teach you some martial arts. Thank you for that and all the 3d printing you did.

Salty, my shopping buddy, you are a little indecisive, but definitely interesting to be around. Making a decision is not that hard, you should practice it sometime. You
worry so much about what may happen, that sometimes you do not see opportunities to prevent it. You should stick with RPG after I am gone.

In the time I have worked here I had an opportunity to teach two students. Both intelligent, nice and never disappointed me. Dian, you never gave up on the project that at some point even I started to doubt. Working together was a pleasure, and I know it will all go well for you in Amsterdam. Laetitia, sorry that the project did not work. But I think you are smart and positive enough to know it was not your fault. You are a very fast learner and it was pleasure to work with you.

I think, it is time to mention Tjeerd. Around this point you should be annoyed for not being mentioned yet, but still not putting my thesis into shredder. I do now want to write too personal, because I know how sensitive you are and I do not want to make you cry (again). You are a great friend, and I enjoyed the time we spend together. RPG, board games, Civ nights and the movies, and all the other things we did together were always fun. Most of our plans and schemes worked out, only one plan still needs to be finished. I do not want this chapter to become the longest in my thesis, so I will finish your paragraph now. Thank you, may the unicorn magic never leave you. Hope you will find new Krówki supplier soon. Keep using all the dad jokes, I should not be the only one that had to suffer through it.

I always found office 115 to be a good place to work. Rianne, I was here to teach you when you started, and to see you defend your PhD. I always enjoyed our conversations (and not only because you almost always agreed with me). Ria, sharing an office with you was great despite all the people that were always looking for you. Since you left the number of phone calls to the office dropped by at least 99%. Joury, we were the last ones standing. Talking to you was always informative and interesting, even when I did not share your opinion. You always made sure that everyone is included in the lab events and organised few of them. Your input was always appreciated, both in the office and in the yeast meeting. Cecile, I barely had time to get to know you, but you are happy and positive, which may have been lacking in the office over the summer.

Ryan, having you in yeast meeting was very helpful, hanging out with you was fun. Our meetings always made me feel better, even if their conclusion was not positive for me.

Michiel, working with you was a pleasure. With few people “I am not sure if I could make the thesis without”, but with you I know it. Your help saved me a lot of time, and the discussions we had gave me extra ideas to pursue.

Frans, wiem, że bardzo lubisz Google translate. Pomimo twoich prób zarażenia mnie twoją paniką, współpraca szła naprawdę dobrze. Nauczyłeś mnie wiele, mam
nadzieję, że chociaż trochę mojego spokoju przeszło na Ciebie. Odkąd wyjechałeś, nie było dla mnie godnego przeciwnika w grach planszowych.

**Gea**, I cannot imagine this lab working without you. You are always helpful and responsible for so many things. Luckily, I figured out how to deal with you relatively early, which made ordering things much quicker. I will miss game and movie nights.

**Marysia**, apparently our Polish is terrible, so I will write in English. Thanks for all your help. Without it, settling down in Groningen would be much more difficult. You were always around and ready to help if I needed something. Thanks for trying to improve my Polish summary.

**Joana**, knowing you was definitely fun, although a little painful. I still do not agree with your description of my face (though I know “few” people that do). Thanks for all the help and the laughs we had together. Still waiting for you to buy me a dinner.

**Weronika** and **Ruslan**, I miss our Sunday movie nights, Saturday brunches, or any of our other activities. Hope there will be an opportunity to catch up together in a near future. **Ruslan**, we need to jog again some time.

**Adi**, I still do not know when you disappeared for half a year, but what I know that I did not hear 500 names. I am sorry I will probably miss your house warming party.

**Wojkék** and **Kostas**, you are similar enough to mention you in one paragraph. Not sure which one of you will be more offended by that statement, but its true if you really think about it. The discussions and games we had together were always... interesting. That is a good word to describe it. Thanks for sharing all those stories.

**Bauke**, I am glad that The Snap did not happen yet, and hopefully it won’t happen while I am here. When you are not trying to make jokes you are great to hang out with. You are a unique person, keep it up.

This is getting too long, so I would like to thank all current and past members of the **Membrane Enzymology** group and all other scientists that I had a pleasure of interacting with. The friendly atmosphere in the lab always made the day a little brighter, which is usually needed in the Netherlands, especially if while doing microscopy in winter. Thank you for scientific and/or personal help.

**Allersmaborg** group, I think we stuck together pretty well. The lunches were always nice, and it is a little sad they do not happen anymore.

I would also like to thank my **RPG** groups. Listing all people that I played with would be too long, especially if I include friends from Poland. And deciding the “cut off” is impossible, so I will not name any of you. You know who you are. I always had fun during the games, even if some specific moments annoyed me.
Ben, Lisa, recently we started talking a lot. Our conversations are mostly about BS, but I think your names should be here. Even when you did not realize it, you help me stay sane through the writing process. Lisa, I am still only 60% sure.

And I would like to thank all the other people I spend some time with, not involved in my work, but involved in my life. As with the RPG groups, hard to make cut off, and to not offend anyone, so I am not even trying.

A big thanks to all the teachers and all the other people that taught me anything. I might have not appreciate your work at the time, but time always bring wisdom.

Wielkie dzięki dla wszystkich moich nauczycieli i innych ludzi, którzy mnie czegoś nauczyli. Nawet jeśli nie doceniłem waszej pracy, mądrość przychodzi z czasem.

Damian, Irek, ze względu na dystans ciężko jest utrzymać kontakt. Mimo to, jak jestem w Polsce, zawsze znajdziecie czas żeby się spotkać.

Marta, zawsze mogę z Tobą rozmawiać o wszystkim i o niczym. Postaraj się troszkę odpocząć. Dzięki za pomoc przy polskiej wersji streszczenia. Mój polski nigdy nie był idealny, ale najwyraźniej popsuł się do tego stopnia, że nie da się go zrozumieć.

Remik, lata spędzone na nauce Aikido bardzo mnie zmieniły. Dodały mi pewności siebie i możliwe, że to one spowodowały, że podjąłem się wszystkich wyzwań, które mnie doprowadziły do obrony doktoratu. Już dawno nie byłem w formie, ale wiedza którą mi przekazałeś dalej jest pomocna. Dziękuję.

Bożena, Bogdan, odwiedziny u was to coś, na co zawsze czekałem (chociaż przyznaję, że mogło to być spowodowane, tym, że nie musiałem wtedy chodzić do szkoły). Z czasem widzieliśmy się coraz mniej, ale zawsze będzie dla mnie ważni.

Paweł, Martin Zawsze znaleźliście dla mnie czas. Do dzisiaj pamiętam długie wieczory spędzone na Mario Kart, albo HoMM3. Nawet teraz, gdy macie rodziny i dzieci ciągle naglejcie, bym was odwiedził. Przepraszam za to, że nigdy nie mam czasu. Postaram się wygospodarować więcej czasu w przyszłości, by trenować nowe pokolenie młodych naukowców. Martina, Zsófia, thanks for all the hospitality you showed me. Leon, Alicja, Florian, you cannot read yet (I think. When kids actually learn to read?), but maybe at some point you will be interested in science enough to look at this book. It will be nice to see your name in it. Leon, Alicja, Florian, jeśli kiedyś będziecie zainteresowani nauką na tyle, by zajarzyć do tej książki. Miło będzie zobaczyć swoje imię.

Piotr, Kasia, nie zawsze się zgadzaliśmy i często się kłóciliśmy, ale taka jest rola rodzinnego. Najważniejsze jest to, że teraz możemy na siebie liczyć, niezależnie od problemu. Mieliście ogromny wpływ na moje życie i gdyby nie kłótnie i wsparcie,
prawdopodobnie nie kończyłbym pisać mojej książki. Aga i Michał, mieliśmy okazję spędzić mniej czasu niż bym chciał, ale cały ten czas wspominam pozytywnie.