**Spatial Economics Newsletter**  September, 2014

**NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT**

On Friday, August 29, 2014, **Raymond Florax** was awarded the EIB-ERSA Prize. Raymond received the prize during the ERSA (European Regional Science Association) 2014 Congress, held in St. Petersburg. The European Investment Bank (EIB)- European Prize in Regional Science was created in 2003 to recognize the outstanding contribution of scholars to the advancement in regional science and in related spatial area studies.

In July, 2014, **Hans Koster** was awarded a Veni grant by NWO for his research on ‘Planning, places, prices and politics: the economics of spatial planning policy’. This project will analyse the economic reasons for applying spatial planning. By making use of theoretical models and unique microdata Hans will analyse the influence of height restrictions, heritage protection, and social housing on the urban economy. Earlier this year, Hans was awarded the prestigious August Lösch Prize 2014 for his dissertation on ‘The Internal Structure of Cities’.

On May, 26, 2014, **Harmen Verbruggen** was appointed Officer in the Order of Orange-Nassau. Harmen Verbruggen was Dean of FEWEB until January 1, 2014, and will continue working at our department as Professor of International Environmental Economics.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Inaugural Lecture:**

October 23, 2014, 15.45-16.45 hrs
Wim Bernasco: *Route, routine and ratio: hoe misdadigers doelwitten vinden* (in Dutch).
Location: Aula, VU University

**Eureka Seminars:**

(Location: Room 1B-5/6, Time: 13.00-14.00 hrs, lunch included)

September 11, 2014,
Jan Rouwendal: *Cultural Heritage*
Dominic Hauck: *Vertical product differentiation and social network effects*

October 9, 2014
Hugo Silva-Montalva & Erik Ansink
November 13, 2014
Martijn Smit

December 11, 2014
Thomas de Graaff & Jan Möhlmann

Titles (from October onwards): TBA
More information: H.R.A.Koster@vu.nl or G.C.van.der.Meijden@vu.nl

**Spatial Economics Seminars at the Tinbergen Institute:**

(Location: Tinbergen Institute Amsterdam, Gustav Mahlerplein 117, 1082 MS Amsterdam, Time: 12.00-13.00 hrs)

22 September, 2014
Mark Kattenberg (CPB)

29 September, 2014
Arthur van Benthem (Wharton, University of Pennsylvania)

13 October, 2014
Giulia Faggio (London School of Economics)

27 October, 2014
Stuart Rosenthal (Syracuse University)

3 November, 2014
Piet Eichholtz (Maastricht University)

15 December, 2014
Jacques Thisse (UC Louvain)

Titles: TBA
More information: S.Poelhekke@vu.nl

**TE-Lunch Seminars:**

(Time: 13.00-14.00 hrs)

October 3, 2014
Leen Stougie (VU University, Dept. of Operations Research): *Network Algorithms*
Location: room 5A-10

November 21, 2014
Bruno de Borger (Antwerp University): *The political economics of transportation*
Location: room 1G-10 (Filosofenhof)

More information: P.R.Koster@vu.nl
Seminar ICT-tools en participatie in gebiedsontwikkeling (in Dutch):

FEWEB-RE participates in an evening seminar dedicated to ICT-tools for public participation in spatial development. The event is organized by NWO/Urban Regions in the Delta and the Roolijn journal. Eric Koomen will provide a general introduction to the use of geo-ICT tools in spatial development processes and demonstrate the Land Use Scanner model.

Date and time: September 10, 2014, 18.00-20.00 hrs
Location: Pakhuis de Zwijger, Piet Heinkade 179, 1019 HC Amsterdam

STAFF

Welcome...

Bo Andrée is a new student assistant. He studies STREEM and contributes to ongoing research projects related to the economic rationale behind land-use changes. Bo’s research interests include urban development, spatial economics within the agricultural sector, land-use change, spatial modelling and policy support.

Ana Maria Barufi is taking her PhD in Economics at the University of São Paulo, Brazil, and will stay as a visiting student at FEWEB until January 2015. She spent a semester at the GeoDa Center, ASU, and her research interests are related to agglomeration economies, regional labour markets and regional economic development.

Achim Czerny joined our department on July 1, 2014. Achim got his PhD at the TU Berlin, and from 2008, he was assistant professor of Regulatory Economics at WHU – the Otto Beisheim School of Management (Koblenz / Düsseldorf). His research interests cover microeconomics and industrial organization, more specifically, airport congestion management, airport pricing, airline pricing, airline alliances.

Liz Dobis is a Ph.D. student at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN, United States and visiting our department from August through October. Her dissertation is about the development of the urban system in the United States, and while at the VU she is researching central place theory and the population growth of cities.
**Xinying Fu** started working at the VU on 1 December, 2013. Her research interests are network congestion pricing and industrial organization. Earlier, she worked at the general economics department at the VU on uncertain demand and airline overbooking.

**Mark Opmeer** started working as a PhD candidate at Spinlab. His master’s was on History, Education and GIS. At this moment, Mark works on a project about spatial data infrastructures, cultural heritage and linked open-data technology.

**Toshi Otazawa** is from Kobe University in Japan and will work at the VU for one year, as from September. His research interest is the interrelationship between social interactions and urban geography. In addition, Toshi is interested in how commuting policies effect on the spatial structure of cities.

This August, fresh out of university, **Xander Wilcke** started working on Machine Learning and Linked Data within the archaeological domain. With a background in Artificial Intelligence, he will endeavour to form a bridge between the Network Institute and SPINlab, thereby bringing smart technologies into the field of digital humanities.

**Ting Zhou** (China) defended her PhD in November, 2013 at the Earth Sciences and Economics Department, and will continue her research at the Spatial Economics Department from this August on. Her research interest is ‘The provision of ecosystem services by the urban rural fringe: opportunities for optimization’.

**Goodbye...**

On September 1, **Martijn Dröes** started to work as Assistant Professor Real Estate Finance at the University of Amsterdam (Finance Department).

**Norikoh Itoh**, who spent a sabbatical year at our department, left for her hometown Kobe in Japan. Feel free to contact her on facebook or by mail: ishikawa@center.konan-u.ac.jp

**Jaap de Vries**, who is completing his PhD thesis, found a job as a consultant at Spoorgloren in Houten, starting from September 1. Spoorgloren is a consultancy agency in the railway sector. The job involves econometric analysis of data on passengers and trains, in several projects. On Tuesdays he will sometimes be at the VU for research.
On September 1, Christian Bogmans started to work as Lecturer in Economics at the Department of Economics, Birmingham Business School, the University of Birmingham.

**JOURNAL ARTICLES AND WORKING PAPERS January-August 2014**

**Journal articles**


Gubins, S., Verhoef, E.T. (2014). Dynamic bottleneck congestion and residential land use in the monocentric city. *Journal of Urban Economics* 80: 51-61. [http://ac.eis-cdn.com/S0094119013000776/1-s2.0-S0094119013000778-main.pdf?_tid=94e7a074-335a-11e4-93cb-00000aabf027&acdnat=1409742682_9038c0a512cc32a4d20a7247d7dfc4c0](http://ac.eis-cdn.com/S0094119013000776/1-s2.0-S0094119013000778-main.pdf?_tid=94e7a074-335a-11e4-93cb-00000aabf027&acdnat=1409742682_9038c0a512cc32a4d20a7247d7dfc4c0)


**Working papers / reports**


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The next *Spatial Economics Newsletter* will appear in December, 2014.