**NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT**

On July, 22, 2015, **Henk Scholten** received the title of honorary Doctor of Science from the Manchester Metropolitan University for his extensive contributions to GIS (Geographical Information Systems). Henk Scholten is founder and CEO of Geodan, and also Professor of Spatial Economics, Scientific Director of SPINlab and Educational Director of UNIGIS.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**PhD Defenses:**

October 8, 2015, 15.45 hrs, Aula – VU University  
**Andrea Caragliu:** “The Economics of Proximity: Regional Growth Beyond Geographic Proximity”  
Promotors: Prof. dr. P. Nijkamp & Prof. dr. R. Capello

**Eureka Seminars:**

10 September, 2015: Andres Dominguez & Niko Jaakkola  
8 October, 2015: Ilias Pasidis (IEB, University of Barcelona) & Zhiling Wang  
5 November, 2015: Mehmet Kutluay (IVM) & Steven Poelhekke  
10 December, 2015: Gilberto Mahumane & Jamie Chen

Titles: TBA  
Time: 13.00-14.00 hrs, lunch included.  
Location: TBA

More information: [H.R.A.Koster@vu.nl](mailto:H.R.A.Koster@vu.nl) or [G.C.van.der.Meijden@vu.nl](mailto:G.C.van.der.Meijden@vu.nl)
**Spatial Economics Seminars at the Tinbergen Institute:**

September 14, 2015: Antonio Russo (ETH Zurich)
September 28, 2015: Kristian Behrens (University of Quebec, Montreal)
October 12, 2015: David Genesove (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
November 23, 2015: Simon Dietz (London School of Economics)
December 7, 2015: Helene Ollivier (Paris School of Economics)

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

More information: S.Poelhekke@vu.nl

**TE-Lunch Seminars:**

October 16, 2015: Niek Mouter (TU Delft)  
“Value of Time – A Citizens’ Perspective”

Time: 13.00-14.00 hrs  
Location: TBA  
More information: P.R.Koster@vu.nl

**STAFF**

**Welcome...**

![Liesbeth Tangerman](image)

**Liesbeth Tangerman** is projectmanager at the Spatial Information Laboratory (SPINlab), Center for Research and Education in Geo-Information Science. She obtained a master degree in social geography at the RUG in Groningen and is now finalizing higher professional education in computer science. She received several trainings in projectmanagement and has a few years of experience in this profession.

![Anna Kolomijeca](image)

**Anna Kolomijeca** is from Latvia, works at the University of Barcelona, and will be staying at our department for 3 months. She is a postdoc on multipos Marie Curie, and will be working closely with Niels van Manen. Anna’s research topic is positioning technologies and its applications, more specific, emergency management and smart cities.
Duco de Vos just graduated from the STREEM programme and now works at our department as a research assistant, with Jos van Ommeren and Hans Koster. Duco is interested in transport policy and the economic effects of changing infrastructures, and in all kinds of natural experiments. Currently he is investigating the social benefits of speed limits on highways in the Netherlands.

Stuart Donovan is a MPhil student studying at the Tinbergen Institute. Stuart previously completed the STREEM masters' degree at the VU, where his research considered the topics of agglomeration economies and spatial equilibrium. Stuart is originally from New Zealand, where he previously worked as a consultant.

Niko Jaakkola is a postdoc at the Ifo Institute, Munich, working on environmental and resource economics; in particular, on dynamic games related to climate change, fossil resources and green innovation. He holds a DPhil in economics from the University of Oxford and a BSc in environmental sciences from the University of East Anglia. Niko is visiting the department until mid-February.

Jenny (Chinese: Jingjing) Liu is a visiting PhD from China, supervised by Peter Nijkamp. Jenny will be in our department for one year. Her research field is tourism economics, with a focus on innovation, livability and other influences of tourism development on the destination. In addition to the VU, Jenny studies at the Management School of the Xiamen University, majoring in Tourism and Hospitality Management.

Ryan Beij is a Master student Earth Sciences at the VU and did, during his participation in the National GI minor, his internship at Geodan. Here he was asked to work as a student assistant at our department. Ryan is more specialized in Geology, but wants to use GIS as a tool. Except his participation in the minor, Ryan followed a course dedicated to GIS, and did two geological fieldworks using GIS.
Mathias Schläffer studied Business Administration and Economics in Berlin. He will work as a part-time research assistant at our department until the end of the year. His tasks include conducting spatial economic research under the supervision of Hans Koster and providing additional support for this year's STREEM students in the microeconomics course. He just completed the STREEM programme himself.

Goodbye...

In July, 2015, Hugo Silva left our Department and returned to his hometown Santiago in Chile. He had been here since February 2011 as a PhD student and afterwards as a postdoc researcher. Hugo’s email address is hugosilvam@gmail.com.

In August 2015, Ioannis Tikoudis left our Department to take up duties as an OECD official in Paris. Ioannis has been a PhD student in Spatial Economics since October 2011. His email address is ioannis.tikoudis@oecd.org.

Zeynep Elburz will leave Amsterdam in the mid of September and will continue doing her PhD at Dokuz Eylul University in Izmir, Turkey. Zeynep's e-mail address is zeynepelburz@gmail.com.

On October 1st 2015, Ton van den Bremer will be leaving our Department to take up a position at the University of Edinburgh as a Chancellor's Fellow. Ton's email address and research website are: tonvandenbremer@gmail.com and https://sites.google.com/site/tonvandenbremer/
Journal articles


**Working papers**


The next Spatial Economics Newsletter will appear in December 2015.

Are your publications not in the above list? Register – if you have not done yet – at METIS and add your publications:

https://metis.vu.nl/metis/personal/login/login.view%3bjsessionid=2Qt1J8GH21VrQXG0R39DK6qkyNb7wtJpQjrfH8gKhsIq1S1qln61732445808?moduleOfOrigin=personal