

Dear NECTARists

Many NECTAR clusters have been preparing workshops in the past months and it is time for an update. We will have an exciting NECTAR year! NECTAR Cluster 3 (Logistics and Freight) has already successfully organized the first NECTAR event of 2018 in Venice. Six NECTAR events are scheduled for 2018. NECTAR workshops are upcoming in Salento (Cluster 5 - Leisure, Recreation and Tourism), Utrecht (Cluster 7 - Social and Health issues), Lyon (Cluster 6 - Accessibility) and Molde (Cluster 2 – Policy and Environment). Two special sessions are upcoming at RSAI in Gao (Cluster 5) and Mobile Tartu (Cluster 8 - ICT). A number of other NECTAR events are currently under preparation.

This news letter also includes an in memoriam for cluster 8 co-chair **Professor Rein Ahas** who sadly passed away last February.

Karst Geurs, NECTAR chair

CLUSTER 3 Workshop report – The Future of Freight Transport



On the 8th and 9th of March, Nectar cluster 3 came together in Venice to discuss the “Future of Freight Transport”. Cluster 3 was invited and warmly welcomed by Prof. Silvio Nocera from IUAV University of Venice. With 18 presentations on the topic it was possible to discuss the whole supply chain, ranging from the ocean itself with a contribution on the collection of plastics, the ports and how they are adapting towards more sustainable ways of organization, the hinterland with a focus on intermodal transport and finally many papers on the last mile and the challenges e-commerce is creating. The red line was clearly on how to make logistics more sustainable. So the future of freight transport is certainly green, if we would follow the interesting research that was presented. A special issue in European Transport Research Review (ETTR) is planned.

Cluster 2/6 report Smart Cities – Governing Accessibility, Air Pollution and Equity

A special joint Cluster 2/6 workshop was organized at the School of Public Health at the University of São Paulo in Brazil, August 24-25, 2017.



The Workshop brought together researchers from Europe, United States and Latin America. The local organizing committee included dr. John Pritchard and Prof. Karst Geurs from the University of Twente, the Netherlands, and dr. Anne Slovic, Prof. Adelaide Nardocci, Prof. Fatima Andrade and Prof. Mariana Giannotti from the University of Sao Paulo. There were two full workshop days with 22 presentations on mobility and equity. Professor Jan Antonio Carrasco from the University of Concepción, Chili, started the workshop with a keynote speech on Smart Citizens and “Smart” unequal cities, focusing on the role of ICT in mobility strategies of different socioeconomic groups in Chili. Presentations of workshop participants dealt with a wide range of topics related to the complex relationships between transport, urbanization, inequalities in accessibility and air pollution in cities and metropolitan areas in Brazil, Europe, United States and India. A special issue with papers from the workshop is currently under preparation.

In memoriam – Professor Rein Ahas

Professor Rein Ahas, cluster 8 co-chair suddenly passed away on February 18, at the age of 51. Rein was professor of human geography at the University of Tartu since 2006 and well known for mobile phone positioning research to understand and model human activity spaces. He successfully organised several international research meetings and conferences, including the bi-annual Mobile Tartu Conference. Rein joined NECTAR in 2014 as co-chair of the ICT cluster. In 2016, Luc Wismans, Karst Geurs and Rein organised a series of NECTAR special sessions at the Mobile Tartu conference. A special issue in the Journal of Urban Technology with papers coming from that conference is forthcoming. This special issue will be dedicated to Rein, who was working on the last contribution to the issue the day before he passed away. In honour of Rein, the Mobile Tartu team decided to continue with the organization of the planned Mobile Tartu conference in June this year. At the conference there will again be a special session organized by Cluster 8. Rein will be sadly missed at that conference. Our deepest condolences to his family and friends as well as his colleagues at University of Tartu.



Upcoming NECTAR Events

May 24-25 2018, Cluster 5 workshop [“Smart Transport for Sustainable tourism”](#), University of Salento, Italy

May 29 / June 1, 2018, Cluster 5 RSAI Special Session [The future of leisure: tourism, mobility and transportation](#), Gao, India

June 18-19 2018, Cluster 6 workshop on Accessibility in urban modelling: from measurement to policy instruction. Combined with Urban Europe Research Alliance (UERA) meeting (20th of June 2018). Lyon, France

June 7-8, 2018, Cluster 7 workshop on [Social and Health issues](#), Utrecht University, the Netherlands

27-29 June 2018, Cluster 8 Special Session “Mobile Phones, Travel and Transportation”, Mobile Tartu Conference, Tartu, Estonia

October 10-11, 2018, Cluster 2 workshop [“E-groceries, digitalization and sustainability”](#), Molde University College, Molde, Norway.