

Dear NECTAR friends

We are less than two weeks away from the 13th International NECTAR conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan, June 14-16. For the second time in NECTAR history the international conference is organised in the United States.

In Ann Arbor, we will award the first NECTAR PhD Award for best recent PhD thesis work in the NECTAR field. The award is established in memory of Professor Piet Rietveld, who chaired NECTAR in the years 2002-2007 and who with his exceptional academic abilities inspired and stimulated many young researchers, PhD students and the NECTAR community in general.

Twelve excellent theses had been nominated by their PhD supervisors, and the PhD Committee, chaired by Professor Peter Nijkamp, had a difficult task selecting the winner. However, I am proud to announce here that Niklas Arvidsson from the University of Gothenburg wrote the winning thesis Essays on Operational Freight Transport Efficiency and Sustainability. Niklas has been invited to present his thesis in the closing plenary session of the conference. Congratulations Niklas!

Furthermore, in this newsletter you will find news on upcoming NECTAR events and two workshop reports.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Ann Arbor!

Karst Geurs, NECTAR chair

Thematic cluster sessions at the 2015 international conference

Clusters's animators suggested thematic sessions along the conference, related with each of the cluster's main topic. The following thematic sessions will take place at the annual [NECTAR conference](#):

Cluster 1: Smart transport network investments and smart outcomes?

Cluster 2: The Environmental, Planning and Policy Implications of Advanced Technologies.

Cluster 3: Smart freight transport: the way forward.

Cluster 4: The Dynamics of Migration, Housing, and Labour Markets in Land Use.

Cluster 6: Accessibility, Vulnerability and Resilience.

Cluster 7: Smart Securing of Transportation Activities.

Cluster 8: Big data and mobility: a digital framework of human communications for smarter cities.

Cluster 5: Kuhmo-NECTAR School

The Kuhmo-NECTAR School of ITEA (International Transport Economics Association) is organized annually, together with the annual ITEA conference. The School offers a high-quality program covering recent advances in transportation and urban economics and is targeted to PhD students, practitioners, and practicing researchers from related fields. It has been highly successful in attracting young researchers from around the world.

So far, the Kuhmo-NECTAR School has taken place in Helsinki in 2006, Urbino (Italy) 2007, Amsterdam 2008, Copenhagen 2009, Valencia 2010, Stockholm 2011, Berlin 2012, Chicago 2013, and Toulouse 2014. The next School will take place in Oslo 15-17 June 2015. Further information on the 2015 edition of the School can be found [here](#).

Cluster 7: Joint Session of WCTR Interest Group G5 and NECTAR Cluster 7

The World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS) announces that the 14th World Conference will be held from the 10-16 July 2016 in Shanghai (China) at Tongji University. A special joint session of WCTR Interest Group G5 and NECTAR cluster 7 on Transport and Security is being organized by **Yoram Shiftan**, Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, and **Luca Zamparini**, University of Salento, Italy, the SIG co-chairs. Further information can be found [here](#).

Cluster 1 Report: Enhancing the network efficiency: air transport and sustainability

The Cluster 1 meeting was organized by Centre for Air Transport Management Cranfield University at Martell House Cranfield Bedford in England on 7 and 8th May 2015 sponsored by SITA. More than 30 people from the academia and industry discussed 'Enhancing the network efficiency: air transport and sustainability as a core theme. Two distinguished guests were invited: Mr Carlos Kaduoka from the meeting sponsor SITA, and Mr Roger Gardner, the former CEO of UK OMEGA Project from University of Southampton.

Thanks to the wonderful weather in England, all participants had a pleasant time in a friendly atmosphere at Cranfield. Thirteen papers were presented by the speakers from around the world, such as Italy, Norway, UK, Israel, Belgium, Middle East and Japan. The importance of strong linkages between the academic outputs, policy making and decision making has been confirmed during the meeting.

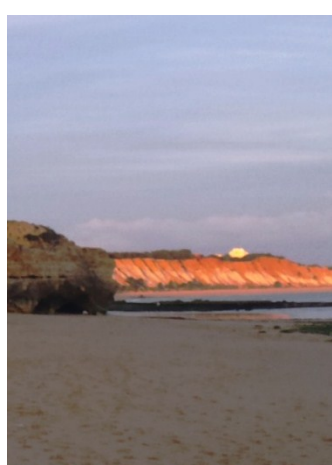
Future activities of Cluster 1 were discussed and plans to organize a special issue of the Journal of Air Transport Management for publication of the workshop papers. We would like to thank the meeting sponsor SITA for supporting for the NECTAR meeting, as well as all participants and the supported staff members.

Chikage Miyoshi, Keith Mason, Moshe Givoni



Cluster 3 Report: City Logistics and Sustainable Freight Transport

NECTAR Cluster 3 organized a meeting entitled "City Logistics and Sustainable Freight Transport" on April 16-17, 2015 in Algarve, Portugal. During two days, about 30 academics and researchers discussed on how can cities, industry and research institutions deal with the recent advances on transport technologies and use them to achieve a more environmentally friendly freight transport.



At a tranquil location over the sea, 17 presentations authored from European and American researchers were presented and discussed. Finally, future developments of Cluster 3 and the option to publish selected workshop outcomes in a special journal issue or an edited book were discussed.

Cathy Macharis, Sandra Melo, Anne Goodchild and Johan Woxenus

Upcoming NECTAR Events

14 — 16 June 2015 NECTAR international Conference, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, United States of America

25—28 August 2015 NECTAR Cluster 6 Special Session in ERSA 2015 on New data and Methods in Accessibility Analysis, Lisbon; Portugal