

Dear NECTAR friends.

I am very pleased to announce the 2015 NECTAR International Conference, to be held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States, June 14-16, 2015. I would like to thank Professor Jonathan Levine from the University of Michigan for hosting the conference. This will be the second transatlantic NECTAR conference and will facilitate interaction between North American and European transport and communications researchers. A call for papers will be distributed soon.

In this newsletter, we also announce changes in the leadership of three NECTAR clusters. As you all know, cluster 1 co-chair Prof. Piet Rietveld sadly passed away last year. NECTAR Cluster 2 on Policy and Environment has changed the composition of its leadership with the departure of Prof. Harry Geerlings after many years supporting the work of the cluster. We take the opportunity to thank Prof. Geerlings for all work and support over the years. The chair news item below will introduce the new cluster 1 and 2 co-chairs. Prof. Aura Reggiani, our former NECTAR chair, will join cluster 6 on Accessibility. We are very happy that Aura will remain active in NECTAR.

Furthermore, this newsletter presents workshop reports from Cluster 1 workshop in Liege, Belgium, and the joint Cluster 2 / 7 workshop in Beer Sheva, Israel. We close the newsletter with a very nice list of upcoming NECTAR events

Karst Geurs, May 2014

### 13th NECTAR international conference: Smart Transport—Smart Planning



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The transportation field is undergoing a technological revolution in information and communication technologies including “big” data, connected vehicles, modeling techniques, and—just over the horizon—self-driving cars. For these smart transport developments to fulfil their promise, they need to be guided by and deployed in service of smart planning: a planning that improves the fairness of transportation’s distribution and lessens its environmental impact and societal costs. Fundamentally, technological advances must be part of a shift that values accessibility over simple movement as the overarching purpose of transportation.

Ann Arbor is a great venue for the 2015 NECTAR conference. Located at the edge of the metropolitan Detroit region, Ann Arbor and the University of Michigan have deep connections with the North American auto industry cluster. The town itself is a quintessential example of an American college town, with a lively downtown, attractive facilities and destinations for visitors, and a pleasant college campus.

### Nectar chair news



**Dr Robin Hickman** is the new co chair of **Cluster 1**. Robin is a Senior Lecturer in Transport Planning and the City at the Bartlett School of Planning (BSP), [University College London](#), and a Visiting Research Associate at the Transport Studies Unit (TSU), University of Oxford. He is Director of the MSc in Transport and City Planning at UCL. He has research interests in transport and climate change, urban structure and travel, integrated transport and urban planning strategies, the affective dimensions of travel, and sustainable transport strategies in the UK, Europe and Asia. His most recent book is: Hickman, R. and Banister, D. Transport, Climate Change and the City, Abingdon, Routledge.



**Deb Niemeier** will join **Cluster 2** as co-chair. Deb is a Professor in the Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of California, Davis. She joined UC Davis in 1994 as an Assistant Professor after completing her Ph.D. at the University of Washington. Her research interests span transportation-air quality modeling, energy consumption and land use interactions, sustainability and the project development process for major infrastructure projects. Working with an interdisciplinary research group of graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and faculty collaborators, she has published more than 110 journal articles and book chapters. Dr. Niemeier’s other activities include teaching and outreach. Over the next year, Dr. Niemeier will be working on organizing special sessions at various conferences happening in 2015 and 2016, exploring the intersection of affordable housing, policy and the environment or the linkages between travel demand models and air quality models.

### Nectar workshop report: Cluster 1

The Centre for Quantitative methods and Operations Management (QuantOM) of the Management School of the University of Liege organized, on 24-25 April 2014, a **Cluster 1 meeting**, in Liege (Belgium). This meeting was focused on **Efficient European Multi-modal Networks**, and was also the first since the passing away of Piet Rietveld.



During two days, as a tribute to his memory, about 30 academics and young researchers discussed on how these networks can improve energy effectiveness and allow a better modal balance by increasing transfer opportunities from road to more environmentally friendly transportation modes. Beside the 15 papers that were presented, an interesting debate took place, during which the opportunities to link our scientific output with the needs of firms active in logistics were discussed with Emilie Parthoens, project manager of Logistics in Wallonia, the Competitiveness Cluster for Transport, Logistics and Mobility for Wallonia. Finally, future developments of Cluster 1 and the option to publish selected workshop outcomes in a special journal issue or an edited book were discussed.

### Nectar workshop report: Cluster 2

Cluster 2 has just concluded a very successful Joint Meeting, organised with Cluster 7 Transport Security and Vulnerability jointly with WCTR SIG14. The Meeting was entitled **Evolving Perspectives on Sustainability and Security in Transport** and was held in Beer Sheva, Israel on the 30th April and 1st May 2014. Academics from around Europe delivered 20 presentations on both the issues of security and sustainability. The meeting was hosted by the Shamon College of Engineering with local organiser Dr Wafa Elias hosting the group to excellent dinners and trips to the Negev, the Dead Sea and Jerusalem.



### Upcoming NECTAR Events

**27 — 29 May 2014** (Bangkok, Thailand): Special Cluster 4 Session on “Migration and Commuting—Consequences for Local Labor and Housing Markets”, within the Regional Science Association International (RSAI) 10th World Congress

**12 — 13 June 2014** (Stockholm, Sweden): Cluster 4 Meeting on “Commuting, Migration, Housing and Labour Market”

**24 — 27 June 2014** (Delft, The Netherlands): Special Cluster 6 Session on “Accessibility and Evaluation”, within the World Symposium on Transport and Land Use Research (WSTLUR) Conference.

**23 — 24 October 2014** (Porto, Portugal) Cluster 6 special session within the Conference ‘Bridging the Implementation Gap of Accessibility Instruments and Planning Support Systems’

**16 — 17 April 2015** (Algarve, Portugal): Cluster 3 Meeting on “Sustainable freight transport – are cities willing and ready for the recent advances in transport technologies?”

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