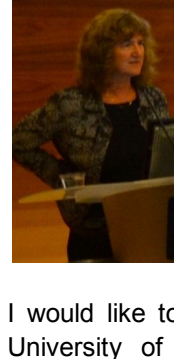
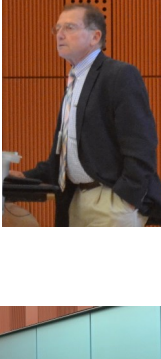


Dear NECTAR friends

The University of Michigan hosted 13th International NECTAR conference 'Smart Transport, Smart Planning' in Ann Arbor, Michigan, June 14-16 this year. For the second time in NECTAR history the NECTAR international conference was organized in the United States. There were over 90 participants, of which more than 30 from the United States. The conference had a very rich programme. It included keynotes from professor **Alain Kornhauser** (Princeton University, U.S.A.) on Smart



Transport and professor **Carey Curtis** (Curtin University, Australia) on Smart Planning (left photo), a subconference on "Accessibility-Based Evaluation from Laboratory to Practice", cluster thematic sessions organized by the NECTAR cluster and many other paper sessions. The conference ended with two interesting technical tours to the City Test Facility at the University of Michigan's Mobility Transformation Center (MTC) which will serve as a test facility for automated vehicles, and a bus tour of Detroit to learn about both the past disinvestment and exciting developments occurring in the city.



I would like to thank professor Jonathan Levine from the University of Michigan for organizing and hosting the conference, Alexandra Markiewicz for the perfect conference management, and the team of students from the University of Michigan for their assistance during the conference. Furthermore, I would like to thank the scientific committee and the cluster chairs for contributing to the success of the conference. The conference programme with PDFs of abstracts and papers can be found at <http://www.nectar-eu.eu/nectarconference2015/> (password: NECTAR2015).

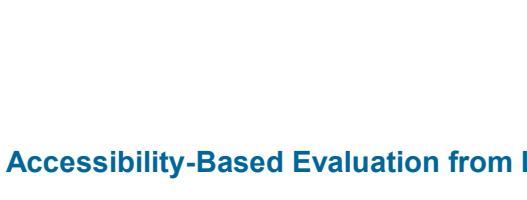


This news letter gives you a summary of the Ann Arbor conference with reports on the NECTAR PhD award, the accessibility subconference and cluster reports describing the cluster activities over the period 2013-2015 and plans for future activities. As usual, the news letter ends with the list of upcoming NECTAR events.

Karst Geurs, September 2015

First NECTAR PhD Award given to Niklas Arvidsson

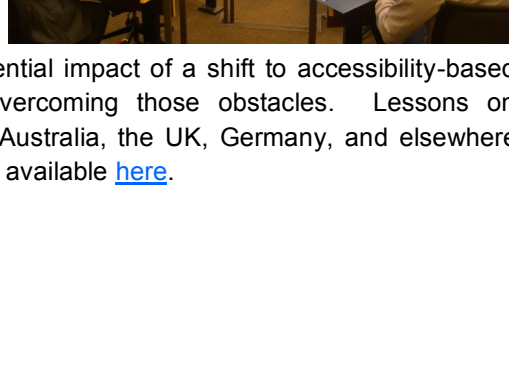
NECTAR aims to pursue high-quality research in the domain of communication and transportation, mainly with a social science orientation. The NECTAR organization recognizes the innovative and creative capability of NECTAR's 'next gen' by establishing a NECTAR PhD Award, to be given to a young researcher who has written the best PhD thesis in the NECTAR field in a relevant time period, in this case the period January 2013- June 2015. A jury led by Professor Peter Nijkamp and comprising NECTAR chairs and several NECTAR cluster chairs got the painstaking task to evaluate and read all proposed theses and to select a final candidate. A total of 12 PhD theses were nominated with a fair geographical and topical balance. It is noteworthy that all nominated studies reflected a high research quality. It is clear that NECTAR has been very successful in generating and attracting a great research potential, also-and in particular – among younger researchers. This good fortune is not in the last place due to the path breaking influence of one of NECTAR's chairman, Piet Rietveld, who chaired our organization from 2002 to 2007 and who with his exceptional academic abilities inspired and stimulated many researchers, and not only young researchers. Unfortunately, he passed away on November 1, 2013 at a relatively young age of 60 years. His seminal contributions to the transportation research community will be remembered through the NECTAR PhD Award, which has been established in memory of this great scholarly and human colleague. During the closing plenary session at the 13th NECTAR international Conference in Ann Arbor, the 1st NECTAR PhD Award 2015 was given to **Dr. Niklas Arvidsson**, who received his PhD from the University of Gothenburg on November 22, 2013. The title of his PhD dissertation was: "Essays on Operational Freight Transport Efficiency and Sustainability". The author introduces the new concept of operational freight transport efficiency, in particular in relation to transport-related emissions from the perspective of the transport operator. A particularly challenging conclusion is that – although most operational freight transport efficiency improvement measures are likely to reduce emissions – it is probable that more cost-reduction measures will not lead to reduced emissions in the long term. The author has published his results inter alia in leading journals, such as Transport Reviews, European Transport, and Transportation Research A.



Complete notes from the subconference are available [here](#).

Accessibility-Based Evaluation from Laboratory to Practice

As part of the 2015 NECTAR conference in Ann Arbor, a subconference was held under the title "Accessibility-Based Evaluation from Laboratory to Practice." The conference, which brought together practitioners, researchers, and decision-makers from North America and Europe focused on the shift from mobility-based to accessibility-based evaluation of transportation, a shift that has occurred much more in research than in planning practice. The conference considered the impact of mobility-based evaluation, the potential impact of a shift to accessibility-based evaluation, obstacles to the shift, and approaches to overcoming those obstacles. Lessons on implementation of transport-evaluation reform in California, Australia, the UK, Germany, and elsewhere were discussed. Complete notes from the subconference are available [here](#).



Cluster 1 Report

NECTAR Cluster 1 (Networks) has been quite active since the previous NECTAR biennial meeting held in the Azores in June 2013. In April, 2014 a Cluster 1 Workshop 'Efficient European Multi-Modal Networks' was organized in Liege, Belgium. This workshop featured 15 papers and included approximately 30 academics and young researchers. The principal focus of the workshop was exploring how networks can improve energy effectiveness and facilitate a better modal balance by increasing transfer opportunities from road transport to more environmentally-friendly modes. On May 7-8 2015, a Cluster 1 Meeting 'Enhancing Network Efficiency: Air Transport and Sustainability' was organized by Chika Miyoshi at Cranfield University, UK. This meeting featured 12 paper presentations and included a mix of graduate students and researchers, most of whom were new to NECTAR. The organizer and participants are exploring the publication of select papers from this meeting in a possible special issue of the Journal of Air Transport Management. At the NECTAR conference Ann Arbor, two sessions on "Smart Transport Network Investments and Smart Outcomes?" were organized with 6 papers. Future activities firstly involve the organization of a launch event, Sept 28, 2015, for the Publication of ICT for Transport: Opportunities and Threats (edited by Nikolas Thomopoulos, Moshe Givoni, and Piet Rietveld) and published in the Edward Elgar NECTAR Series. Secondly, two workshops are planned for 2016. One in Molde (Norway) in May, 2016, on the wider economic and social impacts of transport networks (organizer: Svein Brathen) and one joint CL1-6 workshop in Oct, 2016 in Warsaw (Poland) on Transport infrastructure, accessibility, equity and territorial cohesion (organizer: Marcia Stepniak). Other events for 2017 and 2018 are being discussed.

Cluster 2 Report

The work of Cluster 2 over the period 2013-2015 was quite intense. Following the International Conference in the Azores (2013), a selection of papers from Cluster 1 and Cluster 2 were published in an edited volume by Emerald in their Transport and Sustainability Series entitled Sustainable Urban Transport, edited by Maria Attard and Yoram Shiftan. This is now available at <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/doi/full/10.1108/S2044-99412015000007007>. The Cluster also organized a Joint Meeting with Cluster 7 on Safety and Security in Beer Sheva, Israel. The meeting was hosted by Dr Wafa Elias from the Shamoon College of Engineering. Fifteen papers were presented at the meeting and participants enjoyed tours of Jerusalem, the Negev and the Dead Sea. At the Ann Arbor Conference, Cluster 2 published a Call for Papers entitled The Environmental, Planning and Policy Implications of Advanced Technologies and organized two sessions with six papers. Cluster 2 is now looking at organizing a joint event with Cluster 3 on Logistics and Freight in Brno, Czech Republic in May 2016. The meeting is entitled The role of planning towards Sustainable Urban Mobility (see upcoming events). **Prof. Yoram Shiftan**, a co-chair of Cluster 2 will this year retire from his position in the Cluster and will be replaced by **Dr Wafa Elias** from SCE, Israel. The Cluster thanks Prof. Shiftan for his stellar work and contribution to the development of the Cluster.

Cluster 3 Report

Within Cluster 3 (Freight and logistics) we discussed the previous and future activities at the Ann Arbor cluster meeting. Within the Algarve meeting in April 2015, 22 papers were presented and 40 persons were attending the session. A special issue is being prepared in the Journal of Urbanism on the topic of urban logistics <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/rjou>

Cooperation with the WCTR-special interest group on intermodal transport was established and in the Shanghai conference in July 2016 special sessions in intermodal transport with the SIG intermodal and will be organized (see upcoming events). Finally, also a new cluster meeting was announced. This time we will collaborate with Cluster 2 in a joint event, as described above.

Cluster 4 Report

The NECTAR cluster 4: Travel, Migration, Housing, and Labor Markets organized two special sessions at the 13th NECTAR International Conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA in June 14-16, 2015. A range of papers on the theme "The Dynamics of Migration, Housing, and Labour Markets in Land Use and Travel Patterns" were presented. The papers were well received and generated lively discussions on a variety of topics including continuing to expand the cluster activities.

The announcement of the 2016 NECTAR Cluster 4 meeting in Toledo (Spain), October 6-7, 2016 was well received and generated enthusiasm regarding the possibility of the special issue in the Regional Studies journal based on the papers presented at An Arbor conference and papers will be presented in Toledo conference. The cluster 4 meeting in Toledo will particularly focus on the topics related to the theme: "Travel, migration, housing and labor market in a context of crisis: Lessons for the future." Deadline for submission of abstracts is February 15, 2016.

Cluster 5 Report

The 2015 edition of the annual ITEA (Kuhmo-Nectar) Conference and Summer School was hosted by The Institute of Transport Economics – Norwegian Centre for Research in collaboration with the Department of Economics at the University of Oslo. The three-day Summer School was held on June 15-17, and offered a high-quality programme primarily targeted at PhD students and practitioners, introducing the just over 25 students to recent advances in academic research in Transport Economics. As in previous years, the Summer School was integrated with a two-day conference that followed immediately after the Summer School. Over 100 papers were presented at the conference, while this year's keynote address was given by Edward Glaeser from Harvard University.

Cluster 6 Report



At the International NECTAR Conference held in Ann Arbor, Aura Reggiani and Juan Carlos Martín (NECTAR Cluster 6) organised – jointly with Jean-Claude Thill (RSAI) – a Special Session on "Accessibility, Resilience and Vulnerability". This Special Session resulted very successful, with the presentation of 9 papers, related interesting discussions. In particular, here, as well as during the Cluster 6 Meeting Session, the necessity of more theoretical insights on the relationships between accessibility and resilience/vulnerability, as well as the need of more empirical studies in different geographical landscapes and countries, was outlined, in the light of a policy implementation of innovative practices for multi-modal and socio-economic equity transport. The next plans of Cluster 6 appear to be rich of events, which consisted the following: (1) Organisation of a Special Session based on the papers presented at the mentioned Special Session held in Ann Arbor, (2) A Special Cluster 6 Session on 'New Data and Methods in Accessibility Analysis' at ERSA 2015, 25-28 August 2015, Lisbon (Portugal) (organised by Ana Condeco, Javier Gutiérrez, and Aura Reggiani), (3) a Cluster 6 Workshop, 3-5 June 2016 in Marne la Vallée (Paris, France) (organised by Pierre Zembri), and (4) a CL 1+6 Workshop, October 2016 in Warsaw (Poland) (organised by Marcin Stepniak). Furthermore, the organization of further meetings in very exotic-isolated places are discussed in order to thoroughly develop and discuss specific topics. The Cluster 6 Coordinators wish to thank all the Cluster 6 members for their active participation.

Cluster 7 Report

In 2014, Cluster 7 on "Transport Security" co-hosted a meeting on "Evolving Perspectives on Sustainability and Security in Transport" in Beer Sheva, Israel jointly with Cluster 2. Three cluster coordinators (Joseph Szyliowicz, Genserik Reniers and Luca Zamparini) are co-editing with Dawna Rhoades a book on Multimodal Transport Security for Edward Elgar. Moreover, Joseph Szyliowicz and Luca Zamparini will co-edit a book on Aviation Security and participation of other Nectar members is welcome.

At the 2015 Transatlantic NECTAR Conference, a Special session was organized and chaired by Luca Zamparini. Four papers were presented in a lively atmosphere. At the same Conference, a discussion was started in order to widen the scope of the cluster to adjoining themes, as safety, and to renew the coordinating team.

Cluster 8 Report

The inaugural Cluster 8 meeting took place during the Ann Arbor Conference. It attracted more than 20 participants and resulted to a lively discussion around the cluster objectives and focus. Cluster 8 research activities cover a wide spectrum from transport to urban research, which understand ICTs both as a research tool, but also as a changing behavior phenomenon. Two very successful special sessions were organized under the title 'Big Data and Mobility: A Digital Framework of Human Communications for Smarter Cities'. The interesting paper presentations were followed by intriguing debates and discussions. The future plans of Cluster 8 include a joint workshop with JRC and a special session in Mobile Tartu 2016.

Upcoming NECTAR Events

Sept, 28, 2015 NECTAR book launch "ICT for transport: opportunities and threats" at the University of Greenwich, organized by Nikolas Thomopoulos and Moshe Givoni

17–18 May 2016, Joint Cluster 2 and Cluster 3 workshop "The role of planning towards sustainable urban mobility", Brno, Czech Republic

3–5 June 2016 Cluster 6 Workshop, Marne la Vallée (Paris, France)

June 29–July 1, 2016, Cluster 8 special session "Mobile phones, travel and transportation" at the Mobile Tartu Conference, Estonia

July 10-16, 2016, Joint Cluster 7/WCTR Special Interest Group G5 on Transport and Security, World Conference on Transport Research, Shanghai (China)

6-7 October 2016, Cluster 4 Meeting on "Travel, migration, housing and labour market in a context of crisis. Lessons for the future." Toledo, Spain