

Dear NECTAR friends

We are less than on month away from the 15th International NECTAR conference in Helsinki, June 5-7. The conference promises to be an exciting event with nearly 150 participants. In addition to regular paper sessions and cluster meetings, there will be thematic sessions organized by the 8 NECTAR clusters and special sessions organized by the Joint Research Center, the Transport and Geography Commission of the International Geographical Union (IGU) and the Regional Science Academy.

At the closing session of the Helsinki conference, we will award the 3rd NECTAR PhD Award for the 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. Thirteen excellent theses had been nominated by their PhD supervisors, and the PhD Committee, chaired by Professor Aura Reggiani, had a very difficult task selecting the winner. The PhD Thesis by Joram Langbroek (KTH, Stockholm) on "Understanding Processes and Travel Behavior Changes Connected to Electric Vehicle Adoption" was selected as winner of the 2019 NECTAR PhD award. The committee appreciated the richness of fundamental methods and models from transport economics, combined also with socio-psychological theories. Joram will present his thesis at the closing session of the conference.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Helsinki!

Karst Geurs, NECTAR chair

## NECTAR conference update

The NECTAR 2019 conference is approaching fast and the registration period is now closed. We are very happy to tell that nearly 150 participants registered to the conference and are coming to Helsinki on early June to join the event! The conference also has a new keynote as the original keynote speaker Jan Gehl was awarded a significant award for his achievements by The American Institute of Architects and he will be in USA at the time of the NECTAR 2019 conference to receive his prize. The keynote of the opening event of the conference on 5th of June will be given by **Mikael Colville-Andersen** who is an urban planner and cycling advocate. His work has extensively focused on promoting human-scale cities, which makes him a great fit with the conference theme. On the second conference day 6th of June, we are very happy to have a keynote talk by **Tim Schwanen** who is the Director of the Transport Studies Unit in University of Oxford and has studied extensively the geographies of the everyday mobility of people, goods and information during his career. After his talk, there will be a panel discussion with the theme "*How to plan open and happy cities?*". We are looking forward to having a great conference and good time among the conference participants.



## Workshop report “Celebrating the 10th anniversary of Cluster 6 ”

The Cluster 6 on Accessibility started in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria on 27-28 June, 2008. On December 14 and 15, 2018, the cluster celebrated its 10th anniversary. The anniversary workshop was organized by Juan Carlos Martin, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, at Gran Hotel Costa Meloneras in the South of Gran Canaria. On the first day of the workshop 16 participants presented recent accessibility research, organised in 4 sessions. Topics were, amongst others, related to the temporal dimension of accessibility, accessibility and new mobility services, environmental, economic and equity impacts of accessibility, measuring walkability and public transport accessibility. On the second day of the workshop a special Regional Science Academy session was organised. During a hike to Roque Nublo topics for future research and next steps were discussed. During the 10 years 19 cluster events have been organised including workshops and special sessions at conferences such as AAG, RSAI, ERSA and NARSC. Given the lively debates, we expect the cluster will thrive in the next 10 years as well.



## Workshop report “Transport infrastructures: Investments, Evaluation and Regional Economic Growth”

University of Roma 3 and TReLab (Transport REsearch lab) hosted NECTAR cluster 2 and 1 workshop “Transport infrastructures: Investments, Evaluation and Regional Economic Growth” in Rome (Italy) on March 2019, 22nd and 23rd. 18 abstracts (out of 24 sent) were accepted covering many different



topics related to the link between Transport infrastructures and Regional Growth, including: accessibility, rail, land-use, transport infrastructure and regional growth, emerging economies, evaluation & assessment. Researchers from Poland, United Kingdom, U.S.A., The Netherlands and Austria joined Italian scholars in 7 Sessions, providing a unique interdisciplinary atmosphere and a rich and fruitful discussion. A special issue on ReTrEc will collect the contributes which have been presented and others papers about the topic. Further information on the workshop and on the open call for the special issue are available at <http://www.trelab.it>

## NECTAR agenda

NECTAR/Aalto Summer School on, Aalto University, Helsinki, **May 29-June 4, 2019**

**June 5-7, 2019.** [NECTAR International Conference](#), University of Helsinki

NECTAR cluster 4 special session “Modelling place attractiveness in the era of Big and Open data” 59th ERSA Congress **27 – 30 August 2019**, Lyon, France

NECTAR cluster 5 international workshop on Sustainable Tourism in the Digital World, Uppsala University, Campus Gotland, Visby, **24-26 Sept 2019**

NECTAR Cluster 6 Special session , “Accessibility and quality of life”, **July 13-16, 2020**, WSTLUR Conference, Portland, USA