

Dear NECTAR members,

The COVID-19 pandemic has a huge impact on NECTAR as any other international network. Only one NECTAR event was organised in 2020. The ICT Cluster (Cluster 8) organised a NECTAR special session at the online Mobile Tartu Conference end of June. I am sure you are also missing NECTAR events to get inspired by fellow researchers, meet old friends, make new friends, and to enjoy food, drinks and laughter during social events.

In this news letter I would like to give you an update of upcoming events and some other NECTAR news. Some clusters decided not to wait longer for the pandemic to improve and have started making plans for online events. Cluster 1 and 3 are organising an online NECTAR workshops in June this year. And several clusters will organise special sessions at international conferences. Firstly, a special Cluster 6 session will be organised at the (postponed) World Society for Transport and Land Use Research (WSTLUR) Conference, August 9-13, 2021, Portland State University. Secondly, some clusters are considering to organise special sessions at regional science conferences such as ERSA, hosted in 24-27 August in Bolzano and NARSC, Nov 10-13 in Denver. If you would like to join the organisation of a NECTAR event or special session, please contact me.



Finally, I am happy to let you know that the new NECTAR book 'Transport in Human Scale Cities' is currently in production and will be published in the spring. The book, edited by Milos Mladenovic, Tuuli Toivonen, Elias Willberg and Karst Geurs brings together contributions from the 15th biennial NECTAR conference "Human Scale Cities: Open and Happy" organized at the University of Helsinki, June 5-7, 2019. The book will be published as the 9th volume in the Edward Elgar Series.

I wish you a happy and healthy 2021!

Karst Geurs, NECTAR chair

Upcoming events

Critical Discourses on Transport and Urban Development

Cluster 1 (Transport Infrastructure Impacts and Evaluation) is organising an online workshop on Critical Discourses on Transport and Urban Development on June 15, 2021. The workshop is hosted by cluster co-chair Robin Hickman from the University College London. The call for papers can be found [here](#).

Intermodality and synchronomodality in the European Modular System

Cluster 3 (Logistics and Freight) will organise an online workshop on "Intermodality and synchronomodality in the European Modular System" on the 3rd and 4th of June 2021. The workshop is organized by University of Zaragoza. The call for papers can be found [here](#).

Accessibility and Quality of Life

A Cluster 6 Special session "Accessibility and Quality of Life" at the World Society for Transport and Land Use Research (WSTLUR) Conference, August 9-13, 2021, Portland State University, United states. WSTLUR is planned as a hybrid conference - with in-person and remote engagement, with contingencies for a totally online conference if necessary. **Submission deadline for full papers is March 15, 2021.** For details please visit the WSTLUR conference [webpage](#).

2021 NECTAR International Conference



The Biennial NECTAR conference in Toronto scheduled for 2021 will be postponed to July 20-22, 2022. The organization of the conference in 2021 is too challenging given the uncertainty on the developments of the pandemic. The new date will allow NECTARists to combine the trip with participating in WCTR planned in Montreal for 24 - 28 July 2022. There's a direct train from downtown Toronto to downtown Montreal.

Cluster 1 News



Niek Mouter new cluster co-chair for Cluster 1

Niek Mouter has joined Cluster 1 (Transport Infrastructure Impacts and Evaluation) as co-chair, replacing Moshe Givoni who sadly passed away at the end of 2019. Niek is Assistant Professor of Infrastructure Policy Appraisal at TU Delft's Transport & Logistics group, with a background in economics (MSc) and philosophy of law (LLM). His research focuses on improving the appraisal of infrastructure projects and in my work he combines insights from various disciplines such as economics, philosophy, political science and urban planning. His current work addresses the inclusion of ethical considerations in appraisal models, such as the Cost-Benefit Analysis, and improving the usability of appraisal models for politicians, civil servants and other stakeholders. He (co) developed new appraisal approaches such as 'willingness to allocate public budget experiments' and 'Participatory Value Evaluation'.

Award



Peter Nijkamp received the Roger R. Stough Outstanding Mentor Award

The Roger R. Stough Outstanding Mentor Award has been awarded to **Peter Nijkamp**, cluster 5 (Leisure, Recreation and Tourism) co-chair. The award recognizes regional scientists who have been exceptional mentors to students, junior faculty members and underrepresented populations and communities over a lifelong career. Peter received the award at the recent conference of the North American Regional Science Association (NARSC). Congratulations, Peter!

NECTAR agenda

June 3-4 2021, Cluster 3 online workshop on "Intermodality and synchronomodality in the European Modular System", University of Zaragoza, Spain

June 15, 2021, Online Cluster 1 workshop on Critical Discourses on Transport and Urban Development, UCL, London

August 9-13, 2021, Cluster 6 Special session "Accessibility and Quality of Life" at the World Society for Transport and Land Use Research (WSTLUR) Conference.

July 20-22, 2022, Biennial International NECTAR conference, University of Toronto, Canada