

Dear NECTAR members,

The year 2021 has almost come to an end. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on working and social lives and it has not been an easy year for many of us. The pandemic also restricted possibilities for international travelling and organization of physical networking events. NECTAR has not been very active in organizing online meetings to replace planned physical events. NECTAR focuses on organising face to face events where you meet fellow researchers, meet old friends, make new friends, enjoy food, drinks and socialize during lunches and dinners. But NECTAR has not come to a full stop. A few NECTAR events have been organized online, we published our first open access book in the Edward Elgar series, and preparations for a new volume are on its way. This newsletter presents a brief overview of these activities.

Several clusters are now preparing workshops in 2022. And we are preparing for the 16th international conference in Toronto, July 20-22 2022. The NECTAR conference will be organized by the University of Toronto and hosted on its downtown St. George campus. The conference will have keynote sessions on the conference theme "[Mobilizing Justice: Moving Toward Action for an Equitable Transportation Future](#)", special thematic sessions organized by the different NECTAR clusters and general sessions on other topics within the NECTAR field. This newsletter will announce the call for papers for the thematic sessions organized by the different clusters.

In this newsletter you will also find information on the NECTAR PhD Award which will be awarded at the Toronto Conference and upcoming NECTAR events.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and I look forward to seeing you in 2022!

Karst Geurs, NECTAR chair

Thematic cluster sessions at the Toronto international conference

NECTAR clusters organize thematic sessions at the Toronto Conference. The number of papers presented at each thematic cluster session is limited to 8. Criteria for acceptance are scope, scientific quality, NECTAR membership and the possibility to fit the presentation in a coherent conference session. Abstracts out of scope for the thematic session can be transferred to the general sessions of the conference. The general call for papers and all cluster thematic calls can be found at the abstract submission page of the conference [website](#).

- Cluster 1, Transport Infrastructure Impacts and Evaluation, will organise a thematic session on "Participatory foresight and discourse analysis as approaches to understanding subjectivity and uncertain futures". Call for papers: [here](#).
- Cluster 2, Policy and Environment, organises a thematic session on "Equity in Transport Policy". Call for papers: [here](#).
- Cluster 3, Logistics and Freight, will organise a thematic session on "Delivering Equity: Intersections between Urban Delivery, Transportation and Environmental Justice." The call for papers: [here](#).
- Cluster 4, Travel, Migration, Housing and Labour Markets, organises sessions on "Low emission zones: potential effects on vulnerable households, housing prices and labour markets". Call for papers: [here](#).
- Cluster 5, Tourism, Leisure and Recreation, organizes a thematic session on "Tourism in Liveable, Healthy and Equitable Cities". The call for papers: [here](#).
- Cluster 6: Accessibility organizes a thematic session on "Accessibility as an (in)equality indicator". The call for papers: [here](#).
- Cluster 7, Social and Health Issues in Transport, organizes a thematic session on "Transportation Digitalisation and Transport equity". Call for papers: [here](#)
- Cluster 8, ICT, organises a thematic session on "Digitalization a gift or curse for policy making". Call for papers: [here](#)

NECTAR PHD award 2022



Joram Langbroek, winner of the 2019 PhD Award and Aura Reggiani, chair of the 2019 PhD Award Committee

At the NECTAR international conference in Toronto, the fourth NECTAR PhD Award will be awarded for the best recent PhD thesis work in the NECTAR field. PhD thesis work can be submitted by a PhD supervisor who is a running NECTAR member. We will consider PhD theses which have been or will be defended between July 2019 and June 2022. To be considered, the PhD thesis should be in the general realm of NECTAR research, including topics from the fields of regional economics, urban economics, urban/regional planning, geography, transport planning and transport engineering. The author of the winning paper is expected to present the research at the plenary closing session at the Toronto conference. The winner will receive a reimbursement for travel and accommodation cost for the conference.

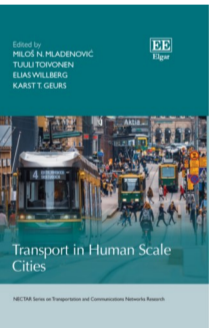
The call for submissions is found [here](#).

2021 NECTAR activities

Cluster 1, Transport Infrastructure Impacts and Evaluation, organized a one day online cluster workshop on Critical Discourses on Transport and Urban Development on 15 June 2021. The workshop was hosted by Robin Hickman (Cluster 1 co-chair) and Christine Hannigan from UCL. The workshop aimed to present and discuss contributions to a new NECTAR volume in the Edward Elgar series. The aim of the edited book is to draw on the use of discourse analysis in transport and urban development, theoretically or through case study analysis, critically engaging with an understanding of the different viewpoints evident in sometimes controversial new projects. The workshop comprised 20 presentations on draft book chapters, each addressing discourse analysis in relation to transport and urban development from a particular angle or viewpoint. After the workshop, draft book chapters have been submitted and reviewed. Contributors are currently working on the final versions of their chapters and the book is expected to be published end 2022.

Cluster 6 co-chair Ahmed El-Geneidy (McGill University), Cecilia Silva (University of Oporto) and Karst Geurs (University of Twente) organized and moderated two special Accessibility sessions with 6 papers at the World Symposium of Transport and Land and Use Research (WSTLUR). The conference was held virtually August 9-11, 2021, hosted by Portland State University in Portland, Oregon, USA.

Transport in Human Scale Cities



The 9th volume "Transport in Human Scale Cities" in the NECTAR book series has been published by Edward Elgar in September 2021. This is the first NECTAR book in the Edward Elgar series which has been made available as open access. The book calls for a paradigm shift in urban transport, which remains one of the critically uncertain aspects of the sustainability transformation of our societies. The book 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, and other invited contributions. The book is edited by Miloš Mladenović (Aalto University), Tuuli Toivonen (University of Helsinki), Elias Willberg (University of Helsinki) and Karst Geurs (University of Twente).

The open access book is available for download [here](#).

NECTAR agenda

March 17-18 2022, Cluster 4 workshop **Teleworking, commuting and the housing market in the post COVID19 era**, Université Gustave Eiffel, Marne-la-Vallée, France. Find the call for papers [here](#).

23-25 March 2022, Cluster 5 workshop **Smart Transport for Sustainable Tourism**, University of Évora, Portugal. Find the call for papers [here](#).

28th – 30th of June 2022, Cluster 8 (ICT) special session **Mobile Phones, mobility and Transportation** at the Mobile Tartu international conference in Tartu, Estonia. Please find the call for abstracts [here](#).

July 20-22, 2022, NECTAR international conference, Toronto, Canada.