

Dear NECTAR friends

This is the first NECTAR news letter for 2016. A good moment to look back on the past year and look forward to NECTAR events planned for this year. But first I would like to wish you a very happy and healthy new year!

We can look back on a very fruitful year. Firstly, several NECTAR cluster organised events in 2015. Cluster 1 (Networks) organised a workshop in Cranfield, Cluster 3 (Logistics and Freight) in the Algarve and Cluster 6 (Accessibility) organised a special session at the ERSA conference. Many of you have attended the biannual NECTAR conference organised by Jonathan Levine at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. All NECTAR clusters organised cluster meetings and workshops at this conference. The conference also included the first NECTAR PhD award and the first meeting of Cluster 8 on ICT. Secondly, 2015 was a productive year. Two books have been published in the NECTAR series in 2015. The book "Accessibility and Spatial Interaction" edited by Ana Condeço-Melhorado, Aura Reggiani and Javier Gutiérrez was published early 2015 and the book "ICT for Transport", edited by Nikolas Thomopoulos, Moshe Givoni and Piet Rietveld, was launched in September. A report on the book launch event can be found in this newsletter. Furthermore, Andrea de Montis, Aura Reggiani and myself edited a special issue on advances in accessibility modelling in Computers, Environment and Urban Systems in 2015. More special issues are planned for publication in 2016.

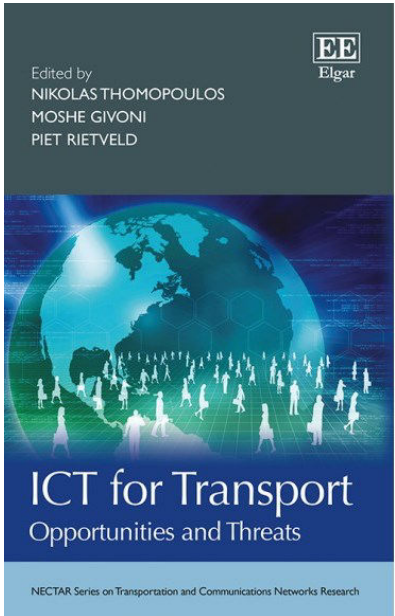
I would like to thank all cluster chairs, organisers and sponsors of NECTAR events, and contributors of NECTAR books, conference and journal papers for your efforts in making NECTAR such an active, lively and productive network! Also I would like to this opportunity to thank Ana Condeço-Melhorado (NECTAR secretariat), Thomas de Graaff (treasurer) Stefanie Peer (webmanager) and Sandra Melo (news letter editor) for all your hard work in the past year.

The year 2016 promises to be a very exciting year. All NECTAR clusters will organise one or more events. Nine events are already planned! I am also excited that for the first time in NECTAR history cluster workshops are organised in Eastern European countries. Clusters 2 (Policy and Environment) and 3 (Logistics and Freight) organise a joint workshop in Brno (Czech Republic) and clusters 1 (Networks) and 6 (Accessibility) will organise a joint workshop in Warsaw (Poland). Moreover, Cluster 8 (ICT) will organise a special session at the Mobile Tartu Conference July 1) Estonia. Other NECTAR events are planned in Spain (Seville and Toledo), Norway (Molde), France (Marne-la-Vallée), Switzerland (Lugano) and China (at the WCTR in Shanghai). See the upcoming NECTAR events section for more details. Call for papers are already published for most events, for others these will follow soon.

We hope to see many of you at these events!

Karst Geurs, NECTAR chair

ICT for transport: Opportunities and threats. NECTAR series book launch event



The NECTAR series book launch event of "ICT for transport: Opportunities and threats" by Nikolas Thomopoulos, Moshe Givoni and Piet Rietveld took place at the Old Royal Naval College in London on 28th September 2015. More than 30 academics, local policy makers and practitioners attended the event hosted at this historical maritime transport site by the Department of Systems Management & Strategy of the University of Greenwich.

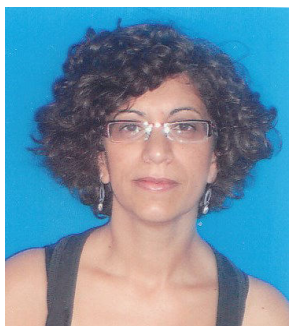
Following the welcome and opening by Petros Ieromonachou, the Head of Department, Moshe Givoni and Nikolas Thomopoulos introduced NECTAR to participants and offered an overview of the book highlights. After a brief introduction of a selected book chapter by Heidi Herzogenrath-Amelung, the three panellists, Professor David Banister, Adam Greenfield and Hiro Aso, kick started the discussion by commenting on the book and the preceding presentations. Their interventions triggered a lively discussion, addressing various challenges raised within the book and at

the same time responding to several participant questions. The book can be ordered [here](#). NECTAR members receive a 50% discount.

Moreover, since ICT for transport is a contentious topic spanning across a range of NECTAR clusters, there was also interest to host another NECTAR event at Greenwich, so this option will be further explored.



Cluster 2 news



Prof. Yoram Shiftan, co-chair of Cluster 2 (Policy and Environment) stepped down from his position in the Cluster and is replaced by Dr Wafa Elias from SCE, Israel. The Cluster thanks Prof. Shiftan for his contribution to the development of the Cluster and continuous support of NECTAR. Dr. Wafa Elias is a senior lecturer and the Head of Civil Engineering Department, SCE-Shamoon College of Engineering, and lecturer at the Transportation Research Institute, Technion - Israel Institute of Technology. Dr. Wafa Elias received her Ph.D. from the Technion, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, and since then has been involved in a lot of studies that deal with travel behavior, road safety and Sustainability and Security in Transport.

Her research studies include factors that impact travel behavior and road safety among the Israeli Arab minority. In most of her studies, women issues play an important role in changes shown in behavioral patterns of children and drivers. She has published extensively in the area of travel behaviour and road safety.

Upcoming NECTAR Events

10-11 March 2016 Cluster 8 workshop [Big data: a new opportunity for urban transport and mobility policies](#) Seville, Spain

17-18 May 2016 Joint Cluster 2 and Cluster 3 workshop [The role of planning towards sustainable urban mobility](#) Brno, Czech Republic

19-20 May 2016 Cluster 1 workshop [The Wider Economic and Social Impacts of Transport Networks](#) Molde, Norway

June 2-4 2016 Cluster 6 workshop "Accessibility and big data", Marne La Vallée, France

29 June -1 July 2016 Cluster 8 special session [Mobile phones, travel and transportation](#) at the Mobile Tartu Conference, Estonia

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

6-7 Oct 2016 Cluster 4 Meeting on [Travel, migration, housing and labour market in a context of crisis. Lessons for the future](#) Toledo, Spain