

News from the Department



The **Master in Spatial, Transport and Environmental Economics (STREEM)** scores 4.2 (on a five-point scale) according to the results of the NSE (National Student Questionnaire) 2016. Students are particularly pleased with the teaching staff, the scientific training, and the group size. The score indicates that STREEM is one of the best performing masters in the Netherlands. [Read more](#).



Gerard van der Meijden obtained tenure as Assistant Professor as of May 1, 2016. He started working at VU Amsterdam in December 2011 as postdoctoral researcher on climate change economics within the ERC advanced Grant project on Green Paradoxes. He got a PhD from Tilburgen University on his dissertation '*The macroeconomic dynamics of trade liberalization, resource exploitation, and backstop technologies*'.



On April 21-22, the **TI/ERC Conference on [Combating Climate Change. Lessons from Macroeconomics, Political Economy and Public Finance](#)** was held at the Tinbergen Institute. The conference marked the completion of the ERC Advanced Grant 'Combating Climate Change – Political Economy of Green Paradoxes', directed by **Cees Withagen** and **Rick van der Ploeg**. Key note lectures were given by Geoffrey Heal (Columbia University) and Hans-Werner Sinn (CESifo). There were 54 presentations altogether and around 70 people attended the conference. The *European Economic Review* and *Environmental and Resource Economics* will devote special issues to the conference. Cees Withagen's valedictory lecture on '[Green and Gray Paradoxes](#)' concluded the conference.



Henk Scholten, Scientific Director of the Spatial Information laboratory (SPINlab) at the Department of Spatial Economics of VU Amsterdam, has been honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by Geospatial Media and Communications for the year 2015. Having very unique social characteristics and instincts, Henk has immensely contributed in overall development of GIS and geospatial community worldwide. [Continue reading](#).



On May 23, 2016, a special issue of [Tijdschrift Vervoerswetenschap](#) (vol. 52, no. 1, in Dutch) appeared on the results of the I-PR [hi-PRISM](#) (Innovative Pricing for Sustainable Mobility) project, of which Erik Verhoef is programme leader. The special issue covers a number of subjects:

- psychological effects of price incentives;
- the role of national newspapers in the policy debate on road pricing and kilometre charge
- modelling transport pricing with multiple actors;
- road pricing, why urban labour- and housing markets matter.



On May 26, the **Spatial Economics sports event** took place. Under guidance of running expert Theo, a hash run was held in the Amsterdamse Bos. Afterwards drinks and dinner were served at Restaurant De Bosbaan. With special thanks to Cooky Monster (Jesper de Groot and Jamie Chen) for organizing this event. [Click to see more pictures.](#)

Upcoming Events

Save the date: RE Away-day on 27-28 October

The RE Away-day (Heidag) is scheduled for Thursday 27 – Friday 28 October. So please save the date! Preparations have now started, in a small task force consisting of Thomas de Graaff, Gerard van der Meijden, Eveline van Leeuwen and Erik Verhoef. Further information will follow well on time.

Spatial Economics Seminars at the Tinbergen Institute

September 29

Maria Sanchez-Vidal (LSE)

Title: TBA

Time: 12.15-13.15 hrs

Location: Tinbergen Institute Amsterdam, Gustav Mahlerplein 117, 1082 MS Amsterdam

More information: S.Poelhekke@vu.nl

Staff

Welcome...



As of April 1, 2016, **Mathias Schläffer** started working as PhD within the project [U-Smile](#) (Urban Smart Measures and Incentives for quality of Life Enhancement) under supervision of Erik Verhoef. Mathias worked as part-time research assistant at our department this year, and completed the master's programme of STREEM in 2015. He studied Business administration and Economics in Berlin before.



Devi Brands joined the department as a PhD student with the project [IP-SUNTAN](#) (Innovative Policies for Sustainable Urban Transportation). He will be working on behavioural modelling of commuters, under supervision of Erik Verhoef. He obtained a master's degree in Spatial, Transport & Environmental Economics and one in Earth Science & Economics, both here at VU University.



Rixt Bijker joined our department as a postdoc researcher. She will work together with Eveline van Leeuwen on a project studying the effect of dynamic social networks on community participation using a discrete choice experiment. She obtained a PhD in Spatial Sciences at the University of Groningen with a thesis on migration to rural areas. She holds a Msc in Sociology and a Msc in Cultural Geography, both from the University of Groningen.



As of April, **Heleen Duinker** is working as researcher for SPINlab in the field of digital humanities. Graduated in Mediterranean Archaeology and Ancient History in Groningen, she started to work on several research projects conducted within the framework of [CLUE+](#) (Research Institute for Culture, History and Heritage).



Jacques Poot is Professor of Population Economics, National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis, University of Waikato, New Zealand. Every year Jacques visits our university. He will be here from June to August.



Gilberto Mahumane is researcher and lecturer at the Eduardo Mondlane University, department of Energy Planning and Environment, Maputo, Mozambique. Gilberto will visit our department from June to August.

Publications January-June 2016

- Anthoff, D., Estrada, F. & Tol, R.S.J. (in press). Shutting down the thermohaline circulation. *American Economic Review*.
- Bernasco, W., Van der Beek, K. & Lammers, M. (in press). [Cross-Border Crime Patterns Unveiled by International Exchange of DNA Profiles](#). *Security Journal*. doi: 10.1057/sj.2015.27
- Dekker, T., Hess, S., Brouwer, R. & Hofkes, M. (2016). [Decision uncertainty in multi-attribute stated preference studies](#). *Resource and Energy Economics*, 43 (February), 57-73. doi: 10.1016/j.reseneeco.2015.11.002
- Donselaar, P. & Koopmans, C.C. (2016). [The fruits of R&D: Meta-analyses of the effects of Research and Development on productivity](#). (Preprints, Research Memorandum, no 2016-1). Amsterdam: Faculty of Economics and Business Administration.
- Haan, J. de & Poelhekke, S. (2016). Het groeiperspectief van China op de lange termijn. *Economisch Statistische Berichten*, 101 (4727), 102-105.
- Hwang, I.C., Tol, R.S.J. & Hofkes, M. (2016). [Fat-tailed risk about climate change and climate policy](#). *Energy Policy*, 89, 25-35. doi: 10.1016/j.enpol.2015.11.012
- Javorcik, B. & Poelhekke, S. (in press). Former Foreign Affiliates: Cast Out and Outperformed? *Journal of the European Economic Association*.
- Kagan, M.S. (2016, April 20). [Issues in Climate Change Economics: Uncertainty Renewable Energy Innovation and Fossil Fuel Scarcity](#). VU Vrije Universiteit (146 pag.) (Amsterdam: Tinbergen Institute). Prom./coprom.: prof. dr. C.A.A.M. Withagen & prof. dr. F. van der Ploeg.

- Kangur, A., Bockarjova, M., Jager, W. & Verbrugge, R. (2016). An agent-based model for diffusion of electric vehicles. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, .
- Knockaert, J.S.A., Verhoef, E.T. & Rouwendal, J. (2016). [Bottleneck congestion: Differentiating the coarse charge](#). *Transportation Research. Part B: Methodological*, 83 (January), 59-73. doi: 10.1016/j.trb.2015.11.004
- Koster, H.R.A., Cheng, F.F., Gerritse, M.J.A. & Oort, F. van (2016). [Place-based Policies, Firm Productivity and Displacement Effects: Evidence from Shenzhen, China](#). (Preprints, TI Discussion Paper, no 16-021/VIII). Amsterdam: Tinbergen Institute.
- Levkovich, O.D. & Rouwendal, J. (2016). [Spatial Planning and Segmentation of the Land Market](#). (Preprints, TI Discussion Paper, no 16-018/VIII). Amsterdam: Tinbergen Institute.
- Los, B., Lankhuizen, M.B.M. & Thissen, M. (2016). New Measures of Regional Competitiveness in a Globalizing World. In P. McCann & F.G. Van Oort (Eds.), *Smart Specialisation for Regional Innovation*.
- Mouwen, A.M.T. (2016, April 29). [The impact of public transport reform: An assessment of deregulation policies](#). VU Vrije Universiteit (171 pag.) (Amsterdam: Vrije Universiteit). Prom./coprom.: prof. dr. J.N. van Ommeren & prof. dr. C.C. Koopmans.
- Othoniel, B., Rugani, B., Heijungs, R., Benetto, E. & Withagen, C.A.A.M. (2016). [Assessment of life cycle impacts on ecosystem services: promise, problems and prospects](#). *Environmental Science and Technology*, 50 (3), 1077-1092. doi: 10.1021/acs.est.5b03706
- Peer, S., Knockaert, J.S.A. & Verhoef, E.T. (2016). [Train commuters' scheduling preferences: Evidence from a large-scale peak avoidance experiment](#). *Transportation Research. Part B: Methodological*, 83 (January), 314-333. doi: 10.1016/j.trb.2015.11.017
- Rafiee, A., Dias, E.S. & Koomen, E. (2016). [Local impact of tree volume on nocturnal urban heat island: a case study in Amsterdam](#). *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening*, 16, 50-61. doi: 10.1016/j.ufug.2016.01.008
- Ryszka, K.A. (2016, April 20). [Resource Extraction and the Green Paradox: Accounting for Political Economy Issues and Climate Policies in a Heterogeneous World](#). VU Vrije Universiteit (165 pag.) (Amsterdam: Tinbergen Institute). Prom./coprom.: prof. dr. C.A.A.M. Withagen & dr. G.C. van der Meijden.
- Subtil Lacerda, J. & Bergh, J. van den (2016). [Diversity in solar photovoltaic energy: Implications for innovation and policy](#). *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 54 (February), 331-340. doi: 10.1016/j.rser.2015.10.032
- Tikoudis, I., Ommeren, J. van & Verhoef, E.T. (2016). [Prijnsbeleid op de weg: waarom stedelijke arbeids- en huizenmarkten er toe doen](#). *Tijdschrift Vervoerswetenschap* 52 (1), 62 - 74
- Verhoef, E. (ed.) (2016). Innovative Pricing for Sustainable Mobility, special issue of [Tijdschrift Vervoerswetenschap](#) 52 (1).
- Withagen, C.A.A.M. (2016). [Green and Grey Paradoxes](#). Afscheidsrede (2016, april 22). Amsterdam: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.
- Zang, Z., Graaff, T. de & Nijkamp, P. (in press). [Cultural Diversity and Cultural Distance as Choice Determinants of Migration Destination](#). *Spatial Economic Analysis*. doi: 10.1080/17421772.2016.1102956

The next **Spatial Economics Newsletter** will appear in September 2016.

Are your publications not in the above list? Register – if you have not done yet – at METIS and add your publications:

<https://metis.vu.nl/metis/personal/login/login.view%3bjsessionid=2Qt1J8GH21VrQXG0R39DK6qkyNb7wtJpQpJrfH8gKhsIQ1S1qIn6!732445808?moduleOfOrigin=personal>