New blogs on spatialeconomics.nl

Economic growth
Amsterdam region
is at a tipping point

Ranking
researchers by
looking at co-author networks

How shops profit
from each other
without knowing

News from the Department

Congratulations Hans Koster! Hans has been selected to be one of the new members of the Amsterdam Young Academy (AYA). AYA is an independent platform where talented young scientists from different disciplines meet to develop views on science, scientific policy and how to build bridges between science and society in Amsterdam. Amsterdam Young Academy is an initiative of the University of Amsterdam and the Vrije Universiteit and was officially launched on November 6th, 2018. More information>>

We are pleased to announce that both our German-speaking associate professors at the Department of Spatial Economics rank high in the current Handelsblatt-Ranking. The ranking came out this September and comprises all economics researchers in Austria, Germany and Switzerland as well as economists who were born in these countries and work abroad. We congratulate Menusch Khadjavi and Michael König for being in the top 10%! Go to ranking >>>
Yue Bao was invited guest lecturer at the prestigious 2019 Annual Conference of Management Science & Engineering Society & the 17th Forum of Management Science & Engineering of China (October 2019). Moreover, Yue's PhD thesis 'Traffic management modelling and analysis based on tradable credits schemes' was awarded the Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation by the same Society of Management Science and Engineering of China in 2018. This Society is a first category discipline in China, sponsored by the founder of the discipline, Jingwen Li, who was a scientist of the Chinese Academy of Engineering.

Eric Koomen and Henri de Groot received a SURF Pop Up Grant from Verdus* for space-related research: Structural change in the economy impacts industrial land-use dynamics. What are the (spatial) conditions that make industries vacate land for other activities on some locations, and claim additional space on others? This is the question that Eric and Henri will answer in their research, informing spatial planning on the transformation potential of old business estates and assessing future demand for new ones.

*Verdus is an abbreviation of the Dutch term Verbinden van Duurzame Steden (Connecting Sustainable Cities). Within this knowledge initiative, scientific researchers work together with professionals to develop knowledge that helps address issues relating, for example, to urbanisation, the environment, mobility and transport. VerDuS is an initiative of NWO (the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research), Platform31 and various Dutch ministries.

Open University awards an honorary doctorate to environmental economist Jeroen van den Bergh, ICREA research professor at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and endowed professor at the Dept. of Spatial Economics. Jeroen receives the honorary doctorate for his groundbreaking contributions to environmental policy debates. The official ceremony took place on Thursday 26 September 2019 in Heerlen during the celebration of the 35th Dies Natalis of the Open University.

More information (in Dutch)>>>
**Upcoming Events**

**Spatial Economics Seminars at Tinbergen Institute**
24 October, 12:15-13:15
Knut Eimar Rosendahl: ‘Endogenous Emission Caps Always Induce a Green Paradox’

5 December, 12:15-13:15
John Gibson (Waikato University, New Zealand), title tba

More information: [H.R.A.Koster@vu.nl](mailto:H.R.A.Koster@vu.nl) or [M.D.Konig@vu.nl](mailto:M.D.Konig@vu.nl)

**Eureka Seminars**
7 November, 12:15-13:15, room 11A-22
Erik Verhoef: ‘Self selection in tradeable peak permit schemes’
Devi Brands & Francis Ostermeijer, title tba

19 December, 12:15-13:15, room 11A-22
Diana Garcia (Development Economics, VU), title tba
Gerben de Jong, title tba

More information: [G.C.van.der.Meijden@vu.nl](mailto:G.C.van.der.Meijden@vu.nl)

**Introducing project control**

“We are Christel Sneekes, Dick Hoogendoorn and Fatma Eroglu and we are the project controllers for SBE. As project controllers, we set up project budgets and coordinate the financial part of research projects from external funding agencies or companies, from 25,000 euro and up, with a minimum duration of one year. Do you need a budget for a project or proposal? You can mail us via [projectcontrol.sbe@vu.nl](mailto:projectcontrol.sbe@vu.nl). Besides from that, you can find one of us Tuesday afternoon in the main building, room 8A92. Feel free to come by! We work on laptops that can access the financial VU system on a distance, so we can also come by your office for a meeting if you prefer.”

When contacting project control, please make sure that you keep Hadewijch van Delft ([h.t.van.delft@vu.nl](mailto:h.t.van.delft@vu.nl), department manager) always in cc. She will check the budget in relation to the research proposal and assess any financial risks.
In the Media

- **Verhoef ziet vooral nog geen einde komen aan de prijstijgingen binnen het OV** (radio interview, BNR Nieuwsradio, 2 September)
- **Ruimtegebruik in Nederland** (Eric Koomen, radio interview, NPO Radio 4, 27 August)
- **We slapen allemaal wat langer uit… en komen toch op tijd op het werk** (Erik Verhoef, radio interview, BNR Nieuwsradio, 23 August)
- **Hebben we straks helemaal geen eigen auto meer nodig?** (Erik Verhoef, radio interview, NPO radio 1, 13 August)
- **Kilometerheffing: bedrijven in Noord-Nederland slijpen de messen** (Erik Verhoef, radio interview, BNR Nieuwsradio, 12 August)

Staff

Welcome…

**Menusch Khadjavi** is an associate professor at the Department of Spatial Economics since September 2019. His work uses behavioral insights and experimental methods to answer research questions from environmental economics, public economics and ethics. Currently he works on farmers’ risk preferences and climate change in Afghanistan, smallholders, social aspirations and public goods management in Zambia and ethical behavior of scientists around the world.

**Dhaniel Ilyas** got a DIKTI scholarship from the Indonesian government, which enabled him to join our department per October 2019 as PhD student for four years. His supervisor is Erik Verhoef, who he met early 2018 when he took the Intensive Course Program of Urban, Regional, Transport and Environment held in Universitas Indonesia. Dhaniel’s research interest is urban transport economics: he wants to create various transport economic models of Jakarta Greater Area in order be able to simulate several policy options to reduce congestion and pollution. Before commencing this PhD, he worked as a lecturer and researcher at the Dept. of Economics, Faculty Economics and Business, Universitas Indonesia. Dhaniel holds a bachelor degree in economics from Universitas Indonesia and a master degree in econometrics from the Universiteit van Amsterdam.
Since joining the SBE Marketing department in 2001, associate professor Jaap Boter has often been working together with colleagues from Spatial Economics and SPINlab. He will now be more closely involved, spending 0.5 fte on the 9th floor. His main focus is on the programme management of the MSc UNIGIS as well as the new five year framework agreement with Rijkswaterstaat.

Jaime Carrion Fialkow is a three-year PhD candidate, supervised by Henri de Groot. Originally, Jaime comes from Brazil. Recently, he finished his MPhil at the Tinbergen Institute. His research deals with the links between agricultural productivity, industrialization and agglomeration advantages at a regional level.

After five years in Paris and the OECD, Alexandros Dimitropoulos is back in the cozy environment where he wrote his PhD thesis, this time as part of his appointment at the PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency. Alexandros enjoys conducting policy relevant research at the intersections of environmental, transport and energy economics. He will be hosted once a week at the Department (Wednesdays or Fridays), working on the ex-post evaluation of policy instruments to promote sustainable mobility and the transition to a low-carbon and circular economy.

Tormo Scherer joined the secretariat to help Jenny and Elfie on Wednesdays and Fridays. He is also a student here at the bèta faculty studying Science, Business and Innovation. His personal interests cover environmental and energy sciences. You can also ask him about any current movie, as he is a filmfan.
Pengfei Lin is a visiting PhD student from the Beijing University of Technology in China. He majored in transportation planning; the topic of his PhD research is spatial and temporal distribution characteristics of public transport travel demand and its impact model. Pengfei will stay with us for one year, under supervision of Erik Verhoef and Paul Koster.

Lanping Tang is a visiting PhD student from Huazhong Agricultural University (China), who will stay at our department for one year as of September. She will work under supervision of Eric Koomen. Her research interests cover the impacts of land use changes on ecosystem services, and she is exploring all questions related to this field. She is very much looking forward to staying with us.

Joris Klinge will be visiting Imperial College London for the coming six months until February 2020. He joins the Transport Strategy Centre (TSC) where he will work together with Dan Graham to do research on road safety with a specific focus on bicyclists. Despite London being a great environment for any spatial economist, Joris will definitely miss Amsterdam, the VU, the Eureka seminars, and all the people from our department.

Haohan Xiao (‘Han’) left our department in order to finish his PhD at Beijing Jiaotong University. Expectedly, he will defend his thesis in May 2020. After that, he considers a postdoc position to continue his research. If you know of any postdoc position related to the transport / economics / engineering / policy / modelling, please feel free to contact him at haohanxiao@bjtu.edu.cn.
Recent publications

Journal articles


Micheli, M., Rouwendal, J., & Dekkers, J. (Accepted/In press). Border Effects in House Prices. Real Estate Economics. [https://doi.org/10.1111/1540-6229.12255]


Working papers


All publications >

Our mailing address is:
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