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Dear TRAIL member,

This is the TRAIL *E-LINK* of August. TRAIL *E-LINK* will keep you informed of the ins and outs of TRAIL Research School.

NEWS**NEW T&E PROGRAM**

We like to present you the TRAIL T&E PhD Course Program 2011 – 2012. On our website you will find PROM-courses, courses of other research schools and also a lot of courses especially designed for TRAIL, with the help of TRAIL researchers! So visit www.rstrail.nl/agenda and see you soon @ TRAIL!

UPCOMING EVENTS

16 August 2011 – TRAIL lunch meeting on “**Policy and Regulation of Public Transport in Thailand: Status, Issues and Challenges**” by **Dr. Sumet Ongkittikul** (Thailand Development Research Institute). For more details please visit the website www.rstrail.nl/agenda, for registration please send an e-mail to info@rstrail.nl.

27 September 2011 – TRAIL course “**Traffic Safety**” by **Prof. ir. Fred Wegman (SWOV & Delft University of Technology)**. For more details please visit the website www.rstrail.nl/agenda, for registration please send an e-mail to info@rstrail.nl.

NEWS BY PHD COUNCIL

The TRAIL PhD Council is looking for new members for the council. Curious or interested? Please feel free to contact any of us through phdcouncil@rstrail.nl and also have a look at the website on <http://www.rstrail.nl/phd-council>.

**PHD DEFENSES TO COME**

21 September - Tamas Mahr on “Vehicle Routing Under Uncertainty”.

11 October - Solomon Zegeye on “Model-Based Traffic Control for the Reduction of Vehicular Emissions”

27 October - Vincent van der Vlies “Solving deadlock situations between urban planning and rail transport of hazardous materials in the Netherlands”.

PROMOTIONS OF JULY

Fangfang Zheng on “Modelling Urban Travel Times”. Urban travel times are intrinsically uncertain due to a lot of stochastic characteristics of traffic, especially at signalized intersections. However, due to the complexity of modeling traffic processes at intersections, most urban travel time models do not model explicitly traffic processes and delays at signalized intersections. In this thesis, an analytical travel time distribution model for urban signalized roads is proposed. Results show that this model is able to estimate the travel time distribution accurately.





Adam Pel on "Transportation Modelling for Regional Evacuations". Regional evacuation planning is complex and timely. These planning studies can be assisted by a transportation model. In this thesis, we investigate the requirements for such a model, and develop, implement, and test a new model, called EVAQ, which meets these requirements. Two case studies show how EVAQ can be used to assess the success and robustness of an existing evacuation plan, as well as design an optimal plan anticipating uncertainty in traveller compliance behavior. The analyses yield a number of practical recommendations to improve evacuation planning.

NWO VENI/VIDI/VICI INFORMATION

Are you planning to apply for a Veni, Vidi or Vici and do you want practical information and tips from successful applicants, coordinators and committee members? Then make sure you attend one of NWO's information meetings. There you will hear from successful applicants, coordinators and committee members about what to pay attention to when completing your grant application, what not to write and why some applications are successful and why. Data:

2 September, 9.00 - 12.30 hrs.: info for alpha/gamma researchers

2 September, 13.00 - 16.30 hrs.: info for beta and life sciences researchers

13 October, 9.00 - 12.30 hrs.: info beta and life sciences researchers

13 October, 13.00 - 16.30 hrs: info for alpha/gamma researchers

The days will be held in English at NWO, Laan van Nieuw Oost-Indië 300, Den Haag. Programme, directions, [more information](#)

Direct link to [registration form](#)

COURSES INTERESTING FOR PHD STUDENTS/PHD SUPERVISORS

- ❖ [PhD-supervisor as coach](#) by Aletta Wubben (only for DUT supervisors)
- ❖ [NWO Talent Classes](#)
- ❖ Course 'Endnote' by TU Library
- ❖ Course 'Research Methodology' by Transportnet (see <http://www.transportnet.org>, chose 'courses' tab, and 'Research Methodology')

OTHER EVENTS

29-31 August: 5th International Conference on Traffic and Transport Psychology @ RU Groningen. We now welcome proposals for special symposia and sessions on topics relevant for this conference. [More info here](#)

8 September: 12th PREBEM Conference (ERIM) for PhD researchers as well as Research Master's students in Business Economics and Management @ Hilton Hotel Rotterdam. Keynote a.o. by Jan Peter Balkenende. [More info here](#)

8 September: 11th Workshop on algorithmic approaches for transportation modeling, optimization and systems (ATMOS) @ Saarbruecken, Germany. [More info here](#)

26-28 September: The 9th biennial conference on Environmental Psychology @ the Auditorium of the Eindhoven University of Technology. Deadline Call for Abstracts 20 March 2011. [More info here](#).

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