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Dear TRAIL member,

This is the TRAIL *E-LINK* of December 2010. TRAIL *E-LINK* will keep you informed of the ins and outs of TRAIL Research School.

TRAIL CONGRESS NEWS

The theme of the 2011 TRAIL conference was: Connecting People - Integrating Expertise. This theme has shown to be highly relevant during the conference throughout the different sessions:

- Within the 'sustainability session' Jacqueline Cramer urged the need for (further) integrating transport and spatial development by, among others, intensifying the cooperation among the different TRAIL disciplines.
- The 'modelling session' focussed on improvements in TRAIL modelling. For instance by expanding existing models (e.g. include latent variables, combine micro- and macro traffic models) and/or test assumptions underlying a model. These improvements require that different expertises are brought together.
- Finally, within the 'design session' some integrated TRAIL designs were presented. Engineers, by nature, typically focus on what is called a 'functional design'. However future TRAIL designs require a broader perspective in which next to functions, behavioural aspects are incorporated. Examples are the design of super networks (integration of activity patterns and travel choices), supply chains which link internal production with warehousing and distribution and delivery of goods, up to the integrated 'Grand Design' of an area.

Overall we consider this conference a success in terms attendance of PhD students, interactions of participants, and the nice atmosphere! We look forward to the next edition of this event

Impression of this year's congress

NB More photos will appear on our website soon.



Keynote
Jacqueline Cramer



Speed dating



Walking Experiment



Conference dinner



Keynote
Michel Bierlaire



Poster sessions



Keynote
Winy Maas

VENI NEWS



Rudy R. Negenborn (TU Delft) received a VENI grant for his proposal "Large-scale detailed transport control: Coordination of transport flows at all levels". Global transport flows become increasingly large scale and complex. At the same time, transportation of goods has to take place in a more sustainable and economic way. This research will enable local transport hubs to continuously and autonomously cooperate and negotiate among themselves. This will result in a better coordinated and more efficient control of transportation systems.

PROMOTIONS OF NOVEMBER

Frank Zuurbier (DUT, CEG) on "Intelligent Route Guidance".

The research is has dealt with the topic of researching and designing a dynamic route guidance system (DRGS). A DRGS is a system that provides drivers on a (motorway) network with route guidance. A DRGS can be used as a means to better utilize existing infrastructure and combat congestion.



José Larco Martinelli (EUR, RSM) on "Incorporating Worker-Specific Factors in Operations Management Models"

Within any operations and logistics functions, for value adding activities to occur, people are required. Even in the case of automated systems, people act as operators and maintenance personnel. Operations research serves as support to the operations management field by developing decision-making models that assist in the choice of variables to optimize operations management performance. However, the emphasis of decision making models has traditionally been on the modeling of material and information flows.

Chris van Hinsbergen (DUT, CEG) on "Bayesian Data Assimilation for Improved Modeling of Road Traffic".

"Chris' thesis deals with data assimilation – that is, the smart combination of data and models – for a variety of subfields of transportation science. His thesis deals with the calibration, validation and comparison of models that predict car-following behavior, travel time and network-wide traffic states".



COURSES

7 December

Transport Innovations

To gain an overview of transport innovations.

Learn to ex ante assess transport innovations in order to support transport innovations policymaking

[**SUBSCRIBE**](#)

Course by Jan Anne Annema, Harry Geerlings, Vincent Marchau and Jan Willem van der Pas (TUD/EUR)

13 December

Profile of Future Employers

Presentation of possible future working environments of PhD students. In this way PhD students will gain insight into the type of work possibilities, responsibilities, career opportunities etc. with future employers. TRAIL Alumni will present you a clear, open and comprehensive insight into the world of a postgraduate career development. Three possible working environments will be presented: The government; A research institute; Consultant or company.

[**SUBSCRIBE**](#)

14 December

Policy Relevance of your PhD Research

To enable PhD students to gain understanding of and be able to describe the policy relevance of their PhD thesis results.

[**SUBSCRIBE**](#)

Course by Jan Anne Annema & Vincent Marchau (TPM, DUT/TRAIL)

The planning of the courses for 2011 will be announced soon!

COURSES INTERESTING FOR PHD STUDENTS

- ❖ [NWO Talent Classes](#)
- ❖ Course 'Endnote' by TU Library
- ❖ Course 'Research Methodology' by Transportnet (see <http://www.transportnet.org>, chose 'courses' tab, and 'Research Methodology')

VACANCY

Faculty position in Operations/Logistics/Supply Chain Management

The Rotterdam School of Management (RSM), Erasmus University, invites applications for a tenure-track position in the broadly defined area of Operations/Logistics/Supply Chain Management and/or Management Science (with a focus on Operations or Supply Chain Management research). The position is at the Assistant or Associate Professor level in the Department of Management of Technology and Innovation. More information on our website.

OTHER EVENTS

22 & 23 February 2011: 1st Asia-Pacific conference on Qualitative Research in Web 2.0 in Macau (China). [More info here](#)

24-25 February 2011: 2nd Annual Computer-Aided Qualitative Research Asia in Macau (China). [More info here](#)

22-24 June 2011: 2nd International Conference on Models and Technologies for Intelligent Transportation Systems @ Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. [More information](#) & [contact](#).

TRAIL Research School

Kluyverweg 4
2629 HT Delft

Telephone

(+31) (0)15-27 86046

Telefax

(+31) (0)15-27 84333

E-mail

info@rsTRAIL.nl

Visit our website!

www.rsTRAIL.nl

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