Newsletter

Department of Geography, Planning and International Development Studies

2009/01
23 January 2009

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Agenda

Fri 23 January  Inaugural speech Prof. Dr. ir. Luca Bertolini, Beleid moet negatieve effecten mobiele samenleving opvangen, 14.30 hrs Aula
Fri 6 February  Farewell lecture Graciella Pailet, 15.00-17.00 room Room A 4.04
Fri 13 February Valedictory speech Jan van der Schaar, “Twintig jaar verder, reflecties op het volkshuisvestingsbeleid” 14.00 hrs Aula
Tue 24 February AMIDST lecture by Elizabeth Currid, The Warhol economy. How fashion, art and music "work", 15.30 hrs. Drinks afterwards in hall 1st floor G-building
Wed 25 February PhD defence Anja Rudnick, Working gendered boundaries. Temporary migration experiences of bangladeshi women in the malaysian export industry from a multi-sited perspective, 10.00 hrs, Agnietenkapel
Tue 10 March    PhD defence Bart Lambregts, The polycentric metropolis unpacked. Concepts, trends and policy in the Randstad Holland, 14.00 hrs, Agnietenkapel
Thur 12 March   AMIDST lecture by Prof. C.K. Prahalad, The future of global business gateways: Network innovation. Implications for the Randstad economy, 9.30-12.00 hrs, Aula
Fri 20 March    Launch of new AMIDST research programme for the 2009-2013 period
Fri 15 May      PhD defence Marjolein van der Klis, 14.00 hrs, Agnietenkapel

Letter from the AMIDSt director, Ton Dietz

Dear colleagues,

The year 2009 has started nicely. With successful PhD ceremonies of Fenne Pinkster (January 16; promotors: Sako and Joo), Cathelijne de Busser (January 20, promotors: Hans and Gert-Jan), and - at the Free University - Bram Büscher (January 14, cum laude; I was his promoter, together with two colleagues at the VU), and with a changed wind blowing from Washington, AMIDST joins those who look at the future with hope and confidence. Our University surprised me with a very nice Dies Natalis (January 8), followed by a ‘professor’s diner’, where those of us who went expected to get a Japanese treat (it was in Okura), but were getting a Flemish fun speech instead. At the Department we had our New Year’s meeting, where Joos thanked Jan Beenakker and Valentina Mazzucato for their work for our Department and wished them well in their new lives: Jan in his ‘third age’, and Valentina as professor of globalisation studies at the University of Maastricht. The year 2009, although still very young, already had many management and academic meetings: MARE conference preparation, a social sciences management meeting, a departmental meeting, a klankbordgroep meeting, a lunch lecture, an AMIDSt programme leaders meeting, a meeting of the Faculty finance committee, a meeting with the Dean, and of course Luca Bertolini’s inaugural lecture and the start of a series of meetings around four candidates for the new
professorship in political geography. Sometimes it feels slightly overwhelming. It is probably good that we have separate responsibilities. I go to all those meetings. You pick and choose (and concentrate on what is really important).

All over the world, the start of a new year for many people means: formulating good intentions. We do so as AMIDSt as a whole: we are almost ready with the first round of formulating our new research programme texts. As you know we are four research groups now, and our plans will soon be sent to the members of our external advisory committee. They have also been invited to the March 20 meeting, where all of us (and many former colleagues and PhD graduates) will hopefully enjoy discussing these plans and good intentions for the next five-year period. But beyond those plans I think we should also formulate some good intentions with regard to putting ourselves a bit more in the limelight; more than we would ‘naturally’ do, following our Dutch cultural habit of shying away from exhibitionism.

If I look in my English language thesaurus, ‘limelight’ is equivalent to ‘attention’, ‘celebrity’, ‘fame’, ‘glare of publicity’, ‘prominence’, ‘public eye’, ‘publicity’, ‘public notice’, ‘recognition’, ‘stardom’, and ‘the spotlight’. British colleagues generally are much less hesitant than we are to do it all. For most of us, here in the Netherlands, some of these words are frowned upon. I don’t think all of us should be in that limelight continuously, but a bit more than we currently are would do us good.

If we do research, the process and the results can be limelighted in various ways, and I think every research project should contain strategic plans with regard to ‘communication’: actively looking for those limelights. Internally: on your personal websites (did you start making those?), on the AMIDSt website, on our faculty website, sometimes even on dedicated project websites. Scientifically: in the ‘right’ (adequate) journals and in books, and informing those who matter in your field, at conferences, and by approaching your heroes and peers directly. Socially: your research population, newspapers, internet sites, radio and tv, professional outlets, your students, etc etc. Many of us are so busy (and often so successful) that we do some of it, but forget about the other communication possibilities. We run and rush from one research adventure to the next, from one contract to the next, and from one publication to the next, and many of us simply do not take enough time to sit back and think strategically. Did we milk our cows well enough? What about the effect and impact of our results? Can’t we do more? Can’t we do better? And what facilities would be useful at the level of AMIDSt or its research clusters to share the burdens of doing it all?

There is also another way of enhancing our visibility, and that is: strive for more recognition as individual scholars by getting prestige awards. This form of cultural capital has become quite important in science management, nowadays. Our national research foundation NWO has Rubicon, VENI, VIDI, and VICI awards, and at the European and international level there are some prestige awards as well. Rubicon is meant for scholars who have just graduated (<one year) and who want to spend a period abroad at some prestigious knowledge centre. Particularly those who would like to continue their academic career should take this opportunity serious. I think, and in our group of recent graduates I think we have clear candidates. VENI is for those who have had their PhD ceremony between two and five years ago (that is: in 2005, 2006 and 2007). Competition is quite overwhelming, but if you have 4-8 refereed publications, if you have spent some time abroad, and if you have made a convincing plan, it is possible to get this VENI award. In our staff we currently have a few people who have or did have this award, but more should follow, I think. VIDI is for those who have graduated between five and eight years ago (between 2002 and 2004), who have a convincing publication record (again: you have to compete with colleagues, in this case with >10 refereed publications, and you really have to prove that you are capable of leading a research group, with an innovative research design; and it is ever more important that you have an ‘international profile’). But we do have these bright and shining scholars in our staff. VICI is for those who graduated between eight and fifteen years ago (between 1994 and 2001), and who are about to become key leaders in their research domain, with a convincing record of publications and impact, and with a major plan for academic breakthrough work. For all those who graduated before 1994 the VENI-VIDI-VICI award system does not work any more. But there are alternatives, at least for those senior colleagues who want to avoid obscurity (my thesaurus gives many equivalent terms, which I better avoid repeating here). In the next few months, while we will do individual performance assessments for all members of staff, we will also start strategic discussions about the possibilities of stimulating colleagues to ‘go for it’. And we will discuss ways and means of facilitating the extra mile that is needed to be covered.

I wish you comparable good intentions, but first and foremost: good health and happiness.
Ton Dietz

Link for submitting publications
http://www2.fmg.uva.nl/amidst/jaarverslag/publicaties.html

Call for papers for New Towns for the 21st Century: the Planned vs. the Unplanned City conference
June 4-5, 2009 - International New Town Institute, Almere, The Netherlands
What happens after planners leave the brand new New Town and complexity of society takes over? Does overruling of the planners’ concepts imply the failure of planning? Or are these ‘unplanned’ additions and unforeseen use of the planned city actually the key to its success? In a two-day conference in June 2009 the
International New Town Institute (INTI) wants to explore the relations between the planned city and the unplanned city. INTI invites researchers and professionals of a variety of disciplines (economists, historians, architects, planners, artists, sociologists, anthropologists, politicians, policy makers, etc.) to take part in our call for papers and to contribute to this conference. Deadline for abstract submission is postponed to February 5, 2009. More information can be found on http://newtowninstitute.org/?q=node/2

Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Residency Opportunity

For nearly fifty years, the Rockefeller Foundation has hosted scholars, creative artists, and practitioners at Bellagio for concentrated work on major projects. Talented professionals use time at Bellagio to advance work that has impact across disciplines, while interacting daily with an active and diverse intellectual community. Artists and scholars stay for one month of work at Bellagio, away from their usual daily demands, and flexible schedules are available for practitioners working at non-profit or NGO organizations. Residents at the Bellagio Center from 2007-2009 represent a diverse group of more than 20 countries, including: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Austria, Denmark, Germany, Macedonia, Poland, Russia, the United Kingdom, Israel, Lebanon, Canada, the United States, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and Togo.

Applicants from outside the United States and Western Europe are especially encouraged to apply, as are individuals working on projects aligned with the Foundation’s objective to expand opportunities for poor or vulnerable people. The Bellagio residency provides room/board and high-speed internet access to all residents free of charge. Please note that financial assistance can be made available to successful applicants whose limited means might otherwise prevent them from accepting a residency. The selection process for Bellagio is very competitive, and will ultimately favor professionals with significant experience and strong project proposals. The Bellagio opportunity is not a grant, but rather a time to interact with a professional community while working toward tangible personal achievement.

The deadline for applications to the Summer and Fall 2009 residency period is February 11, 2009. To learn more about Bellagio, peruse accepted projects, and review a list of requisite application materials, please visit http://www.rockfound.org/bellagio/bellagio.shtml. We invite you to visit the website and learn more about the Bellagio residency opportunity, but we cannot guarantee you will be accepted if you apply.” The Institute of International Education Bellagio Office is more than happy to assist you with any questions you may have as you navigate the application process. They can be reached at bellagio_res@iie.org or +1 (212) 984-5537.

Farewell lecture of Graciella Paillet on Friday 6th February 2009

During this lecture former colleagues and students will report on the lessons drawn from Graciella’s courses on Onderwijs en Ontwikkeling and Kinderen en Ontwikkeling and how they still work with this in daily practice.

Programme:
03.00-05.00 pm: Farewell Lecture, Room A 4.04 (REC), from 05.00 pm onwards: Drinks in hall 1st floor of the G-building

More information and registration:
Mieke Lopes Cardozo (T.A.LopesCardozo@uva.nl) / Nicky Pouw (N.R.M.Pouw@uva.nl)

Atlas-ti training

We would like to organise a one-day training for the data analysis programme AtlasTi. Jeanine Evers from Kwalon (www.kwalon.nl) would be able to provide a ‘beginners training’ on Monday 16 (preferably) or maybe on Tuesday 17 of February at Amidst for a maximum of ten people. The costs are 1950 euro in total (divided by the number of participants). Please send an email to Mieke Lopes Cardozo (T.A.LopesCardozo@uva.nl) as soon as possible if you would like to join, what day you would prefer (16 or 17), and if you have your own laptop.

Cursussen Didactiek basiskwalificatie UvA-docent - voorjaar 2009

In het voorjaar biedt het Centrum voor Nascholing Amsterdam wederom cursussen aan die in het kader van het UvA-basiskwalificatietraject worden georganiseerd. Het gaat om de volgende cursussen.
- de 3-daagse cursus Didactiek basiskwalificatie UvA-docent.
- de 6-daagse cursus Didactiek basiskwalificatie UvA-docent.

Deze cursus is zowel bedoeld voor beginnende docenten als ook voor promovendi met onderwijstaken. In deze cursus staat het oefenen van vaardigheden centraal die ondersteuning bieden bij de voorbereiding en uitvoering van het onderwijs. De cursus met open inschrijving vindt plaats in maart 2009. De cursusdagen zijn vrijdag 13 maart, 20 maart en 27 maart van 9.30 tot 17.00 uur. De cursuskosten bedragen € 850,--.
Deze cursus is bedoeld voor docenten met (enige) onderwijservaring. In deze cursus verwerven docenten kennis en vaardigheden die nodig zijn voor een adequate uitvoering van hun onderwijstaken. De cursus met open inschrijving vangt aan op donderdag 5 maart 2009. De overige cursusdagen zijn donderdag 26 maart, 9 april, 23 april, 7 mei en 28 mei van 9.30 tot 17.00 uur. De cursuskosten bedragen € 1850,-.

Meer informatie over deze cursussen kunt u vinden op onze website http://www.centrumvoornascholing.nl/programma/didactiek_basiskwalificatie_uva-docent_3-daagse (3-daagse cursus)
http://www.centrumvoornascholing.nl/programma/didactiek_basiskwalificatie_uva (6-daagse cursus).

Op bovengenoemde pagina's kunt u ook het aanmeldingsformulier downloaden, waarmee docenten zich kunnen inschrijven voor de cursus. Wij verzoeken u vriendelijk deze mail zoveel mogelijk door te sturen naar docenten en promovendi verbonden aan uw instituut of afdeling. Wij bieden deze cursussen ook aan als maatwerkcursus voor docenten van uw instituut of afdeling.

Voor informatie over de basiskwalificatie verwijzen wij u naar de volgende website: http://www.medewerker.uva.nl/professionalisering-ontwikkeling/docentprofessionalisering.cfm/B6F2FEA1

Mocht u nog (inhoudelijke) vragen hebben, dan kunt u zich wenden tot de coördinator van het team Hoger Onderwijs van het Centrum voor Nascholing Amsterdam, drs. Marja Bekers. Zij is te bereiken op telefoonnummer 020 525 1287 of via e-mail mbekers@cna.uva.nl.

Training/workshops for PhD students

- 13 én 20 februari 2009 Projectmanagement voor promovendi, 9.30-17.00, Inschrijven voor 3 april
- 13 én 20 maart 2009, 9.30-17.00 uur: Promoveren en Communiceren. 9.30-17.00, Inschrijven voor 27 februari
- 29 mei én 5 juni 2009, 9.30-17.00 uur training Looppak Oriëntatie voor Promovendi, Inschrijven vóór 15 mei
- 23 januari 2009 13.30-17.00 Research and finance (for PHD students), deadline for registration 9 january

More info: www.uva.nl/promovendi

Information about the IT services for UvA employees

The Useful Guide contains an overview of the relevant IT services for employees of the University of Amsterdam. All the services have been described in outlines. Information is also included on where the services can be requested and the type of support offered. Download the guide: http://www.medewerker.uva.nl/uvawerkplek

Personal webpage

For all staff members there’s a possibility to make their own personal page, which you can update yourself. It’s accessible at: https://home.medewerker.uva.nl/homepage; log in with your UvAnetID. When you’re done, click on “Activate” to publish your personal page.

Update your CV on the AMIDSt website

- Updates for your personal page on the AMIDSt website (http://www.fmg.uva.nl/amidst/staff.cfm): send the relevant information/changes/photo to the AMIDSt secretariat at amidst-fmg@uva.nl

Mercator Sapiens

If you are looking for a present with the logo of the University of Amsterdam: check the new website of Mercator Sapiens: www.mercatorsapiens.nl
Out of office
In order to be more helpful towards our colleagues it's important that the secretariat has a good overview of the room occupations. Therefore, we kindly ask you to report to the secretariat the days you are out of office (due to holidays, fieldwork, illness, etc.)

Common room
The common room and kitchen is communal space. We would appreciate it if everyone keeps this space tidy and does his/her own washing-up. It should not be seen as the task of the secretariat.