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FEB Research



connecting for impact

2026 – 3

In this newsletter, we showcase our research activities, impact cases, interdisciplinary themes and researchers.

In this fall issue of 2026, postdoctoral researcher Kritika Saxena talks about her research project on women's land rights and economic agency in Rwanda, for which she recently received a Veni grant from the Dutch Research Council (NWO).

Professor Carsten de Dreu and Assistant Professor Zsombor Méder tell us about their research project CrossCoop, which studies what drives cooperation across group-boundaries.

We also spoke to Professor Michael Wyrwich, whose research focuses on why entrepreneurship thrives in specific regions.

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Driving Cross Group Cooperation



Professor Carsten de Dreu and Assistant Professor Zsombor Méder recently received a NWO L grant of 800,000 euros for their project titled ‘What drives cooperation across group boundaries.’ De Dreu and Méder recognize the increased need for cooperation between (members of) different groups, departments, and even entire societies. Yet, people tend to limit cooperation to their own groups and organizational departments. In their project, De Dreu and Méder examine when, how, and why cooperation between groups emerges and develops. Read further

Women’s land rights and economic agency in Rwanda: Veni grant for Kritika Saxena

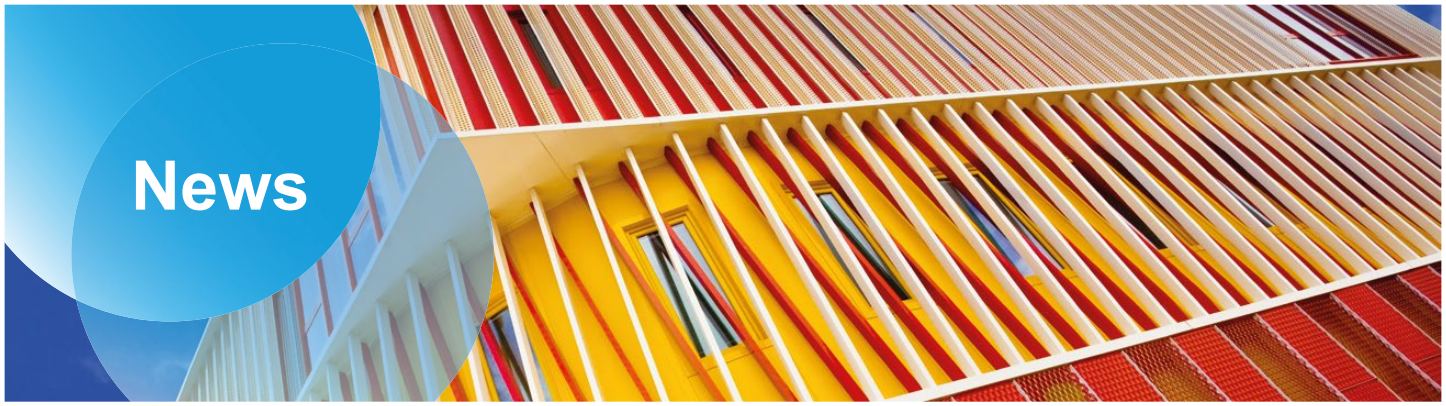


Kritika Saxena recently received a Veni grant of € 320,000 from the Dutch Research Council (NWO). The postdoctoral researcher at FEB’s Department of Economics, Econometrics and Finance was awarded the grant for her research on women’s land rights and economic agency in Rwanda. She talked to FEB Research about how policies, conflict, and social norms shape women’s lives and the importance of land ownership for women’s empowerment. Policies rarely operate in a vacuum. The social context is highly relevant for the outcomes. Read further

Lessons the Northern Netherlands can learn from the 19th century Gold Rush

Recently, Michael Wyrwich and co-authors published an article in the Journal of Business Venturing that explores how the 19th-century US gold rush shaped persistent regional differences in entrepreneurship through selective migration. For a region like the Northern Netherlands, this can be important knowledge, to maintain or even increase the level of entrepreneurship locally. FEB Research talked to Wyrwich about the research and the possible opportunities for the Northern Netherlands. Read further





Dennis Veltrop appointed as Professor of Corporate Governance and Behavior

Dennis Veltrop has been appointed Professor of Corporate Governance and Behavior at the Faculty of Economics and Business. His research focuses on leadership, boardroom dynamics, and the relationships between executives and supervisory boards. He studies how these relationships affect decision-making and how organizations work. In his new role, he will continue his research and teaching in this field and work with academic and societal partners. Read more

NWO XS Grants for six FEB researchers

FEB is happy to announce that six FEB-researchers have each received a grant from the Dutch Research Council (NWO). Swarnodeep Homroy, Lingwei Kong, Mikolaj Malinowski, Christiaan van der Kwaak, Ahmed Skali, and Yingjie Yuan received a NWO Social Sciences and Humanities grant of 50,000 euro. The awarded projects focus on a wide range of topics, from free speech protection, the impact of climate policy, misperceptions of democracy to human leadership of multi-AI teams. Read more

FEB researchers receive grant for project on geopolitical shocks and bank lending

Daniel te Kaat and PhD student Francesco Febbraro from FEB have received a €71,108 grant from the Frankfurter Institut für Risikomanagement und Regulierung (FIRM). Their project examines how geopolitical events, such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine, affect lending between banks and non-bank financial institutions. The researchers aim to understand how these connections affect lending and financial stability. Read more

Halit Gonenc, Asad Rauf and co-author win AFS Best Paper Award

FEB associate professors Halit Gonenc and Asad Rauf, together with Gizem Ari from Hacettepe University, have won the Best Paper Award at the 2026 African & Mediterranean Finance Society Conference. Their paper, 'Carbon risk premium in multinational corporations', examines how multinational companies manage financial risks related to climate change. The findings show that companies operating in different countries may be better able to manage these risks, especially when they operate in countries with stricter environmental rules. Read more

Evrim Ursavas appointed scientific director of Wubbo Ockels School

Professor Evrim Ursavas from FEB has been appointed scientific director of the Wubbo Ockels School for Energy and Climate, starting 1 September 2026. Her expertise includes the energy transition, hydrogen, and renewable energy. Under her leadership, the School will expand its focus to include green sustainability, alongside energy transition and climate adaptation. Read more

NWO L grants for three projects by FEB researchers

Three research projects by FEB researchers Carsten de Dreu, Zsombor Méder, Floor Rink, Janka Stoker, Aico van Vuuren and Gerard van den Berg have each received a grant of around €800,000 from the Dutch Research Council (NWO). The projects focus on cooperation between different groups, leadership in times of inclusion and resistance, and the effects of policies on inequality. Read more

Recent publications

Below we list a few examples of recent publications.

Bäckman, C. P. Moran, **P. van Santen** (2026). Mortgage Design, Repayment Schedules, and Household Borrowing, The Review of Financial Studies, 2025, https://doi.org/10.1093/rfs/hhaf115

Berger, S., H.J. van de Brake, H. Bruch, and G.S. van der Vegt (2026). The Connectivity Paradox of Flexible Team Arrangements. Academy of Management Journal, forthcoming. https://doi.org/10.5465/amj.2023.0869

Boustanifar, H., and **Mansouri, S.** (2026). Management Disclosure and Media Coverage. Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/10.1017/S0022109026102634

Moshtari, M., and **Seepma, A.** (2026). How Governmental Policies Shape Supply Chain Learning and Responsiveness: A Service Triad Approach to Higher Education. Journal of Supply Chain Management, 62(2), 24-43. https://doi.org/10.1111/jscm.70013

Nieuwenhuis, A., and **A. Postepska** (2026). Daughters like mothers? New evidence of inter-generational transmission of labor market stereotypical behavior. Journal of Population Economics, 39, 42. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00148-026-01185-9

Wang, Z., **Wang, F.,** & Zhou, Z. (2026). All Roads Lead to Rome: Global Air Connectivity and Bilateral Trade. American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 18(4), 1-36. https://doi.org/10.1257/app.20240370

Xu, S. Y., Mulder, L. B., Rink, F. A., Bijmolt, T. H. A., & **Leliveld, M. C.** (2026). The Behavioral Impact of Moral Appeals: An Integrated Framework and Meta-Analysis. Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/10.1177/01461672261437934

Zimmermann, J. and **J. Holthöwer** (2027). The Transformative Impact of Prosthetics on Well-being of Consumers with Disabilities. Journal of Business Research, 218, 116560. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2026.116560

Recent PhD Graduates

Nils Brouwer
Trust in Central Banks and Crypto: The Influence of Households' Knowledge
Promotor: Prof. J. de Haan, co-promotor: Dr. R.H.T. Wiese
Defended on 11 June 2026
Download

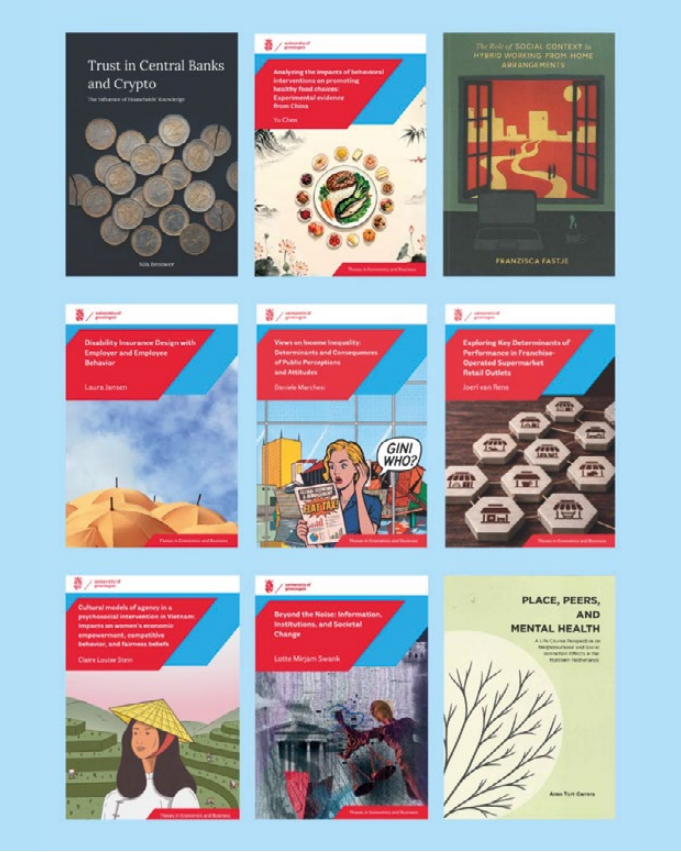
Yu Chen
Analyzing the Impacts of Behavioral Interventions on Promoting Healthy Food Choices: Experimental Evidence from China
Promotor: Prof. B.W. Lensink, co-promotor: Dr. A.M. Mueller
Defended on 26 June 2026
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Franzisca Fastje
The Role of Social Context in Hybrid Working-From-Home Arrangements
Promotor: Prof. G.S. van der Vegt, co-promotores: Dr. H.J. van de Brake and Dr. P.J.M.D. Essens
Defended on 17 September 2026
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Laura Jansen
Disability Insurance Design with Employer and Employee Behavior
Promotores: Prof. V. Angelini and Dr. M. Groneck, co-promotor: Dr. R. van Ooijen
Defended on 25 June 2026
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Daniele Marchesi
Views on Income Inequality: Determinants and Consequences of Public Perceptions and Attitudes
Promotores: Prof. V. Angelini and Prof. M.V. Nikolova
Defended on 7 September 2026
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Joeri van Rens
Exploring Key Determinants of Performance in Franchise-Operated Supermarket Retail Outlets
Promotores: Prof. L.M. Sloot and Prof. T.H.A. Bijmolt
Defended on 18 June 2026
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Claire Stein
Cultural Models of Agency in a Psychosocial Intervention in Vietnam: Impacts on Women's Economic Empowerment, Competitive Behavior, and Fairness Beliefs
Promotor: Prof. B.W. Lensink, co-promotores: Dr. M. Treurniet and Dr. N. Hansen
Defended on 14 September 2026
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Lotte Swank
Beyond the Noise: Information, Institutions, and Societal Change
Promotores: Prof. M.A. Haan and Prof. L. Schoonbeek
Defended on 26 October 2026
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Anna Tort-Carrera
Place, Peers and Mental Health: A Life Course Perspective on Neighbourhood and Social Interaction Effects in the Northern Netherlands
Promotores: Prof. J.P. Elhorst and Dr. G.E. Bijwaard
Defended on 1 October 2026
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Useful links

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