



university of
groningen

faculty of spatial sciences

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Graduate Research Day – 23 January 2025

During the Graduate Research Day pictures will be made.
If you have any objections, please send an e-mail to the organization (grd@rug.nl).

Programme

- 09:00 - 09:30 Walk-in with coffee/tea (*Duisenberg Plaza*)
- 09:30 - 09:40 Welcome and opening by **prof. Sierdjan Koster** (*Blauwe Zaal*)
- 09:40 - 09:55 Keynote by **Hanna Heicks** (*Blauwe Zaal*)
- 09:55 - 10:10 Keynote by **Rienk de Groot** (*Blauwe Zaal*)
- 10:15 - 11:15 Thematic presentation sessions:
- 1. Room 5412.0025: Innovations for a sustainable energy future**
Victor Veldhuis Yvar Nederhoed
Jesse Wright Chayenne van Varsseveld
 - 2. Room 5412.0028: Pricing dynamics in real estate**
Pia Freudenberger Luuk Braakhekke
Martijn Huls
 - 3. Room 5412.0031: Regional development and innovation**
Werther Huzen Jordy van Otterloo
Paulina Slats
 - 4. Room 5412.0040: Equity in urban and social policy**
Bart van der Meulen Petar Tsonev
Lynn Daalman Merel Flap
- 11:15 - 11:45 Poster presentations + break with coffee/tea (*Duisenberg Plaza*)
- 11:45 - 12:00 Award ceremony and closing by the vice dean
dr. Arjan van den Assem (*Blauwe Zaal*)

Keynotes

Hanna Heicks

Unveiling destination choice: Place perception, job appeal, or both? Integrating regional and employer branding to attract international talent to the Northern Netherlands

Amid the war for talent, this thesis examines how regional and employer branding are integrated into highly skilled international migrants' destination choices in the Northern Netherlands and their subsequent role in attracting international talent. Based on interviews with migrants and branding experts, it was shown that destination choices reflect decision-making processes shaped by professional and place-based considerations at different stages. This ultimately suggests a more integrated branding approach, positioning the Northern Netherlands as an attractive destination to live and work.

Rienk de Groot

Accessibility beyond urban cores: Mapping accessibility perceptions of the elderly and young families using go-along interviews

Rural areas experience closure of facilities, causing accessibility challenges for vulnerable groups such as the elderly and young families. Therefore, this paper compares accessibility perceptions for seniors and young families living in peri-urban and peripheral areas using the go-along interview method. Results indicate the importance of individual attitudes and preferences, perceived social barriers and the social value of activity locations for perceived accessibility. An in-depth understanding of accessibility perceptions can help develop policies for more equitable accessibility.

Thematic presentation sessions

10:15 – 11:15 hours

1. Innovations for a sustainable energy future

Moderated by dr. Ferry Van Kann – University of Groningen
Room 5412.0025

Victor Veldhuis

Peak pricing tariffs to alleviate distribution grid congestion: A fairness survey among households in the Netherlands

This thesis examines the fairness of peak pricing for households in the Netherlands as a strategy to mitigate grid congestion. Through a survey among households and expert interviews with two ACM experts, it explores how demographic and economic factors influence fairness assessments of peak pricing. While no statistically significant variations in assessments were found, this study revealed a preference for cause-pay consumption-based tariff structures. These align with the principles of cost reflectivity and system efficiency while emphasizing the importance of maintaining transparency.

Jesse Wright

Accelerating strategies for high-voltage grid expansion in the Netherlands

High-Voltage Grid Expansion (HVGE) projects are the backbone of the energy transition in the Netherlands. Currently, projects take up to a decade to complete, which leads to grid congestion. Based on a literature review, reasons for delay are identified alongside possible solutions for megaprojects in general. By conducting semi-structured interviews with experts involved in HVGE projects, solutions that can accelerate these specific projects are analyzed. The situation is complex and uncertain, but certain solutions, pertaining to procedures and programmes, can accelerate efforts.

Yvar Nederhoed

The spatial fight in the Netherlands: A case study how to organize land in Hoeksche Waard in combination with solar energy generation

This thesis describes how agriculture, housing, industry, infrastructure, and nature can be combined with solar energy generation, in order to make a municipality energy neutral. This is important, since land is scarce, energy goals have to be completed, and the energy transition asks for smart solutions. As a case study, the Hoeksche Waard has been selected, and promising results have been found. Several scenarios show different possibilities, which allow for a focus on economical, ethical, or political aspects, or a combination of them.

Chayenne van Varsseveld

From policy to participation: Navigating highs and lows in local energy transition through the case of Ubbena's floating solar park

In response to the global energy transition, regions in the Netherlands are exploring ways to increase renewable energy production. This research explores the integration of public participation in local energy transition projects, focusing on a case study of the floating solar park in Ubbena, Drenthe. The research employs a modified version of the 4D framework to evaluate how public engagement influences project success and stakeholder satisfaction. Preliminary findings highlight the challenges and motivators into the effectiveness of participatory approaches in energy projects.

2. Pricing dynamics in real estate

Moderated by dr. Mark van Duijn – University of Groningen
Room 5412.0028

Pia Freudenberger

A comparative analysis of property price dynamics of post-flood-events: An examination of the differential impact of different types of flooding on property values using a case study of three English cities

This study examines the economic impact of distinct types of flooding on property values in England, with the analysis of river and flash flooding. I adopt a three-city case study approach comparing Leeds, Carlisle, and York to examine possible different price effects. Two of the cities demonstrate river flooding, while the other shows a combination of both flood types in one flood event. Differences between the diverse types of floods can be found. A hedonic pricing model is used to analyze the short- and long-term effects of floods on property prices.

Martijn Huls

Quantifying the influence of Asylum Seeker Centers on housing prices: A Dutch case study using econometric analysis

The presence of Asylum Seeker Centers (AZCs) in residential areas has become a prominent topic of discussion in the Netherlands. Asylum seekers' arrival and the establishment of AZCs often spark significant public debate, largely driven by concerns over possible impacts on neighborhood safety, community quality, and property values. These concerns are not solely based on direct observations but are often intensified by political discourse, which can heighten public apprehensions. Despite widespread nature of these concerns, there is limited data that measures AZCs' effects on housing markets.

Luuk Braakhekke

De invloed van het huurprijsniveau op de verhuurbaarheid van een woning op de Nederlandse huurmarkt

Het is een bijzondere tijd op de Nederlandse woningmarkt, met schaarste voor zowel koop- als huurwoningen. Of de huurmarkt voor meergezinswoningen nog naar behoren functioneert zal in dit artikel worden onderzocht met behulp van een ruime dataset met 650.000+ huurtransacties. Dit onderzoek draagt bij aan inzichten in de huurprijnsdynamiek en verhuurbaarheid van meergezinswoningen in Nederland. Vanuit het perspectief van een woningbelegger zal dit inzicht geven in de trade-off tussen leegstandsrisico en direct rendement.

3. Regional development and innovation

Moderated by Mihyun Seong – University of Groningen
Room 5412.0031

Werther Huzen

Designing pathways to circular construction: Examining challenges and opportunities in the implementation of circular Mission Innovation Policies

This study examines how regional Mission Innovation Policy (MIP) supports circular construction, focusing on regional characteristics, barriers, and opportunities in policy implementation. Using the path creation framework, it explores regional dynamics, stakeholder collaboration, and institutional factors shaping MIP effectiveness. The study aims to identify policy instruments that foster sustainable pathways and support innovation. Following observations and a survey, interviews are being conducted to further explore key themes.

Paulina Slats

De invloed van virtuele mobiliteit op lokale consumptiepatronen in dorpen in Noord-Nederland na de COVID-19 pandemie

De veranderende perceptie op woonvoorkeuren werden tijdens de COVID-19 pandemie gevoed door thuiswerken en online winkelen. Deze oorspronkelijke opgelegde coronamaatregelen faciliteerden een hernieuwde blik op plaats onafhankelijkheid. Alom bekend binnen de geografie is Friedman's (2005) 'The world is flat', waarin hij pleit dat globalisering leidt tot een 'eind aan geografie'. Zou virtualisering van arbeid en kopen dit stokje overnemen, en door haar structurele invloed op lokale consumptie daarmee door de winkelstraat, economische dorpskarakters beïnvloeden?

Jordy van Otterloo

A patent-based search for the differences in regional employment outcomes as a result of exposure to the automation technologies of industry 4.0

A lot of attention goes to Industry 4.0 and the automation effects of it. A task framework sheds light on how technology can impact employment of a certain occupation. Too few attentions are on the regional scale of study. The study tries to fill this gap by trying to uncover how technological exposure influences employment on a regional level. In other research regional dynamics such as industrial diversity and population density have found to be important. (Empirical results have yet to be developed fully.)

4. Equity in urban and social policy

Moderated by dr. Christian Lamker – University of Groningen

Room 5412.0040

Bart van der Meulen

Consolidation without connection? A critical analysis of the potential of urban consolidation centres for micro enterprises

While vital for city centres, logistic operations are also seen as a problem. In the search for a solution, many cities turn to logistic hubs at the city's edge. While academic theory is primarily positive, practical success remains limited. As city's increasingly restrict access for delivery vans, concerns among local retailers are growing. Based on desk research and expert interviews, this study develops a framework to assist policymakers in selecting the most suitable strategy for hub-development. This framework was tested in the Municipality of Leeuwarden.

Lynn Daalman

Inclusive resilience: A study on social justice in HafenCity Hamburg

My thesis explores the role of social justice in HafenCity Hamburg's resilience strategy. Having received criticism in the past for lacking inclusivity, HafenCity now emphasizes social development. Using distributional, recognition, and procedural justice as frameworks, the study analyses practices through interviews with diverse stakeholders, including employees, participants in public engagement, local organizations, and resident. It evaluates HafenCity's approach to inclusive resilience, drawing lessons and identifying areas for improvement.

Petar Tsonev

How do educational policy and practice address the cultural and linguistic differences of the Roma communities in Bulgaria?

This study examines how Bulgaria's educational policies address cultural and linguistic challenges faced by the Roma. Bulgaria faces obstacles in the educational integration of the Roma. Through a policy analysis and interviews with educators and Roma community members, a critical language barrier is identified. Despite long-term recognition, this issue persists, impeding equal access. Recommendations include bilingual education and teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language. It also highlights challenges like low attendance, school segregation, and inadequate cultural sensitivity in schools.

Merel Flap

Rethinking housing | Exploring alternative living arrangements through a degrowth lens for more sustainable and equitable housing solutions

This research explores Alternative Living Arrangements (ALAs). ALAs focus on sustainability, accessibility, and social connections. Grounded in degrowth principles, the study examines how these models reduce resource depletion and rethink societal priorities. Through site visits and resident interviews, the research shows how ALAs address these issues. Findings are visualized through Rhizomatic drawings, inspired by Deleuze and Guattari's rhizome concept, presenting a decentralized, non-linear approach that mirrors the dynamic, interconnected nature of ALAs and their solutions.

Poster presentations

Daan Dijkstra

Long distance walking: The future of mobility?

This study explores factors influencing long-distance walking as sustainable transport, focusing on Groningen, Netherlands. Using a mixed-methods approach, it combines a survey inspired by the OnDerweg In Nederland (oDiN) dataset and Voetgangersbarometer with geospatial data from Maptionnaire. The survey captures walking habits, while Maptionnaire maps participants routes, showing how urban features affect walking. Findings provide guidance for sustainable mobility, highlighting walking as an eco-friendly alternative to car-based transport.

Elène Hesse

Housing policies and housing transactions: A panel data study on the effects of the housing policies implemented in the Netherlands after the 2008 recession on the number of housing transactions within different household prosperity groups

This thesis examines the Dutch owner-occupied housing market over a full economic cycle, focusing on post-2008 policies. It analyses transfer tax reductions, mortgage interest deductibility, LTV ratios, and NHG adjustments for their associations with transaction volumes. While researching the correlations, particularly with NHG thresholds and mortgage annuity regulations, it avoids causal claims. Subgroup models reveal potential heterogeneity in policy impacts across socioeconomic groups, contributing to the ongoing discussion of housing policy design and its role in shaping market outcomes.

Esmée Schimmelpenninck van der Oye

Is it worth keeping up with the joneses? Exploring the impact of income in transit-oriented developments

This research examined the experiences of residents in Dutch neighborhoods to explore the impact of income on their perception of the TOD built environment. The 5D framework was used as a metric to analyze levels of satisfaction with the TOD built environment between individuals of different incomes. Broadly, it seeks to understand how TODs affect spatial justice. Results showed that income has a central role in how satisfied residents are with their environment and that residents of different incomes value elements of the 5Ds differently.

Hester van Rossem

Every step you take: An analysis on the usage pattern of shared living spaces in elderly care homes in the Netherlands

This research examines the impact of physical layout and healthcare indications on the usage patterns of older adults in shared living spaces. By observing six care homes and conducting a quantitative analysis, the study reveals that both apartment size and care indication influence usage patterns, with the interaction term showing a more moderate result. Larger apartments are associated with longer durations in shared spaces, although fewer visits overall, suggesting that autonomy and self-direction, central to supported living, play a crucial role in space usage. Additionally, residents with cognitive impairments (VV5/7) utilize shared spaces more than those with physical impairments (VV6/8), indicating that care indications shape space utilization. The research highlights the importance of dementia-friendly spaces, as well as the mismatch between shared spaces and the needs of residents with physical impairments. A significant interaction was found between apartment size and care indications, moderating the negative significant effect of residents with cognitive impairments on duration of stay. The study underscores the importance of integrating individual needs, care indications, and physical layout in care housing. Limitations include the observation timeframe and the challenge of categorizing residents by care profiles. Future research should explore the needs and preferences of current and future elderly populations, particularly in the context of evolving living concepts.

Jelle Tamminga

Optimizing green spaces for public use: Improving student experience at Zernike campus through interviews and case study

This thesis investigates how to improve the user experience at Zernike Campus in Groningen through a case study. Using interviews, it explores the campus's accessibility, functionality, and user satisfaction. The research also examines the history of campus planning, comparing American models with post-war German and Dutch campuses, while considering Zernike's future development plans. By combining historical analysis and user insights, the study aims to enhance understanding of campus design and its impact on users.

Jesper Lier

The influence of neighbourhood typology on resident adoption of green facades

This research examines how neighbourhood typology affects residents' behaviour towards adopting green facades as climate adaptation measures to mitigate heat stress and waterlogging. By analyzing physical and social neighbourhood characteristics, it explores how these factors influence residents' capacity, opportunities, and motivations for climate action. Using a quantitative survey approach with residents, the study identifies barriers and enablers to adopting green facades.

Jildou Gerritsen

The power of participation: The impact of citizen participation on socio-economic externalities of neighborhood redevelopment projects

Neighborhood redevelopment projects are initiated to accommodate growing populations and to address aging neighborhoods. These projects can significantly alter the physical environment and socio-economic status of neighborhoods, potentially causing externalities. With the Omgevingswet (2024), Citizen Participation (CP) is part of Dutch redevelopment plans. Yet, the effect of CP in neighborhood redevelopment projects on socio-economic externalities remains undetermined. This research analyzes the spatial distribution of these externalities and assesses the impact of CP on their distribution.

Madita Hohenhövel

The governance of urban stormwater management: Analyzing regulatory policy instruments benefiting the implementation of the sponge city concept in Wuppertal

Despite a growing body of literature is the diversity of regulating instruments unexplored. This research explains the interplay between formal institutions and their regulatory policy instruments while drawing on their influence on the realization of water sensitive concepts based on literature and case findings. Preliminary results indicate a mixture of instruments in practice. However, the importance of regulatory policy instruments on the implementation of policy ambitions seems to be unrecognized. This results from the unsuccessful implementation of the sponge city concept in Wuppertal.

Marten Tolsma

The effect of life events on commuters mode choice behaviour: Exploring the possibilities of electric cargo bikes

Young adults, often faced with life events like childbirth, relocation, and job changes, experience shifts in mobility demands, frequently increasing automobile use. However, the revival of electric cargo bikes provides an opportunity to address these demands sustainably. Electric CBs offer convenience, reducing reliance on cars and enhancing urban liveability, health, and environmental benefits during life events. However, it is not yet clear how they are being used in relation to child birth. Hence, focus groups were conducted to understand the effect of child birth on electric CB usage.

Nikki Janssen

Een gezond gebouw: Betere leerprestaties? Een onderzoek naar de relatie tussen de leerprestaties van Nederlandse basisschool leerlingen en hun fysieke leeromgeving

De relatie wordt onderzocht tussen de het binnenklimaat van Nederlandse basisscholen en de leerprestaties van leerlingen. Aangezien veel schoolgebouwen in Nederland verouderd zijn, wordt gekeken of modernisering bijdraagt aan niet alleen een betere gezondheid, maar ook hogere toetsresultaten. Het geheel van de factoren luchtkwaliteit, licht, geluid en temperatuur wordt

onderzocht. De prestaties worden onderzocht van leerlingen vóór en na verhuizing naar schoolgebouwen die voldoen aan de eisen van het PvE Frisse Scholen. De resultaten kunnen bijdragen aan beleid gericht op gezonde scholen.

Nina Levy

Planning to settle rural: Possibilities explored for local communities and planners

This study examines the role of local community-based housing initiatives for young adults in rural areas. It explores how planners and local communities can collaborate to improve housing possibilities for rural young adults. This research contributes to the knowledge gap on how local community housing initiatives in rural areas help rural young adults obtain housing and how these initiatives can contribute to strengthening rural communities. With the facilitating role of planners, local housing initiatives seem to serve as a ticket to stay or return for young adults in rural areas.

Pim van Dam

The social impact assessment of smaller impact urban projects: Grote Markt case study

This study explores the applicability and relevance of Social Impact Assessment (SIA) to smaller-scale urban redevelopment projects, using the Grote Markt redevelopment in Groningen as a case study. Combining a literature review and qualitative interviews with diverse stakeholders, the research examines stakeholder perceptions, challenges in addressing social impacts, and the adaptability of SIA methodologies. The study contributes to bridging the knowledge gap on SIA's potential in smaller-scale contexts, offering insights for urban planners and policymakers.

Rebecca Nieuwenkamp

Climate advocacy by NGOs in the Netherlands

This research explores how climate advocacy NGOs in the Netherlands utilize different advocacy strategies to impact policy and reduce CO₂ emissions. It examines the characteristics of these NGOs, their framing of climate advocacy efforts, the factors driving their strategic choices, and the effectiveness of their advocacy activities.

Thor Kroeske

Making Europe more bikeable - implementing bicycle infrastructure in Europe based on the Netherlands

The transport sector the most pollution sector in the European Union. To ensure that this sector gets greener a paradigm shift towards sustainable mobility is needed. This can be done with the implementation of bicycle infrastructure. The Netherlands is a front-runner when it comes to this type of infrastructure. But how can other countries learn from the lessons of the Netherlands? This thesis examines the bicycle infrastructure of the Netherlands and applies the lessons learned to four different cities in Europe, to setup a framework that help these cities implement bicycle infrastructure.

Vaughan van Inge

Success factors in the governance of district heating

The thesis examines governance factors influencing the implementation of District Heating Networks (DHNs) in the Netherlands. As part of the broader heat transition, DHNs offer a significant alternative to natural gas heating. However, their implementation is complex and requires collaboration among diverse stakeholders. This study focuses on two case studies of DHNs at different stages of implementation. Through interviews, it develops an understanding of governance factors at play. By analyzing these cases, the research identifies governance factors influencing the adoption of DHNs.