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groningen center for
 social complexity studies



Opening seminar Groningen Center for Social Complexity Studies

June 15, 2012

Location: Donald Smitszaal, Center for Information Technology, Groningen

11:00: **Welcome** – Wander Jager

11:05: **Openings speech** by Elmer Sterken, Rector Magnificus of the University of Groningen

11:20: Keynote speech by Guy Theraulaz, University of Toulouse: **Secrets of swarms architects: understanding construction dynamics in ant colonies**

12:20: Lunch

14:00: **Using behavioural theories in simulating social complexity.** Wander Jager, Economics and Business

14:30: **Self-organization of social behaviour of fish, birds and primates.** Charlotte Hemelrijk: Behavioural ecology and selforganization

15:00: **The complexity of social integration in a diverse society.** Andreas Flache, Sociology

15:30: teabreak

16:00: **Cognitive systems in interaction:** Rineke Verbrugge

16:30: **It's all a matter of choice - Understanding decision making in a non-linear world:** Gert de Roo, Spatial Sciences

17:00: response Maarten van Steen (chairman NWO theme complexity)

17:15: drinks & project posters

Registration: send an e-mail to Astrid Beerta a.beerta@rug.nl

If you would like to present your work we invite you to **bring a poster**. Please inform us beforehand so we can prepare the space for posters.

Please indicate if you plan to come by car so we can arrange for reserved parking lots



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Groningen Center for Social Complexity Studies

'Where social theory and complexity meet'

How interactions between individual people or animals give rise to group phenomena such as the diffusion of new behaviours, social networks, societal polarisation, crowd behaviours and spatial arrangements is the key question around which researchers from the GCSCS gather. Using empirical and simulation methodologies, we try to identify the processes that explain such phenomena, and if possible, identify managerial strategies.

The GCSCS serves as a platform connecting researchers at or affiliated with the University of Groningen working in the field of social complexity. The aim of the GCSCS is to provide high quality research and education, interacting actively with business, government and the public, and in particular to address the goal of stimulating cross-border research and education.

Within the GCSCS many topics are being studied, such as consumer behavior, market dynamics and innovation, dynamics of social organizations, task allocation in teams, social network dynamics, social structures and self-organisation in animal societies, opinion dynamics, social conflict and dynamics of crowds.

The Groningen Center of Social Complexity Studies is run by:

Wander Jager (managing director)

Charlotte Hemelrijk ,Centre for Ecological and Evolutionary Studies

Andreas Flache Sociology

Gert de Roo Spatial Science

Rineke Verbrugge Artificial Intelligence



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