After the publication of the last issue of FEB Research, little did we know that the world was about to change and going to the office was simply not possible anymore. Education went online, research went online, conferences were cancelled and we all worked from home. Though the covid-19 measures eased up a little over the summer, they are back in place again. We are fortunate that part of our education and research can take place at the faculty buildings again, providing our researchers with the equipment they need.

In these months, we all had to adjust to new technology and new ways to communicate. It seemed an apt time to adjust our magazine FEB Research as well. From now on we will publish the magazine digitally.

You can now read FEB Research wherever you are, its design is meant to make it easy to read it on your tablet or laptop. You can also expect links to articles and videos. And if you send your email to a.c.koning@rug.nl, we will make sure that you know when a new issue has been published.

This 24th issue of FEB Research highlights how also our researchers have adapted to the current situation. For some, their field of research proofed very relevant as it could help with the challenges of the covid-19 times. Others received grants to start a research project that can help us do better if a new crisis appears or showed the impact covid-19 has on all of us.

We hope that you enjoy this new format. Stay safe and healthy.

Annemiek Koning
Rina Koning
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Robots to the rescue?
Social interaction between robots and humans is something we will have to get used to. In our health care system, investments in these robots are rising, especially during the covid-19 pandemic as it is harder to get enough personnel. The robots can fulfill functional tasks like cleaning a room or delivering a meal, but also social tasks to alleviate feelings of loneliness and social isolation, especially with elderly people. An advantage of using the robots during this pandemic is that they are less likely to be infected and easier to clean.

Although it is expected that social robots will be used more and more in public services, little is known about the acceptance of social robots by consumers. Recently, Professor Jenny van Doorn and her team started a new research project that looks into the factors that determine the acceptance of these social robots.

Customer experience

Until now robotica-research mostly concentrated on functional improvements. However, while technology is an important tool to deal with the challenges within the health care system, the interface between the elderly and technology is still a struggle, in particular when a speech-based interface is used. Shortcomings lie not only in the intelligibility of the speech, but also in the extent to which the elderly are accepting and willing to use the technology.

Van Doorn’s research focuses on the question how consumers experience robotic services in a social context. To describe this phenomenon, van Doorn and her team introduced a new term: Automated Social Presence. This is the extent to which machines (e.g. robots) make consumers feel that they are in the company of another social entity.

She argues that the use of social robots is fundamentally different from previous technological innovations in public services. With social robots it is not only about the functional service itself, like the use of a cash machine, but also about the automation of the social interaction between robot and user. This last part was until recently, eminently reserved for humans.

Negative feelings

Her research shows that this kind of automation of social interaction in public services by consumers is mostly not accepted because robots evoke negative feelings.

“I didn’t expect that beforehand, but nearly all studies have shown that to be the case,” says Van Doorn. “When robots replace a waiter or receptionist, we often find it a bit creepy and experience it as a threat to our identity. It causes us more stress and discomfort than when we have to deal with a human worker.”

Making a robot more human-like by e.g. giving it a human name intensifies this negative reaction. Yet, when robots are used in a social context, in which people feel connected to others, like having drinks or other gatherings, negative reactions to robots are mitigated.

Dialect

From a societal perspective, social robots are not only important to healthcare organizations. Other public services are also looking at technological solutions to maintain their service, while dealing with decreasing budgets. The police, for example, is experimenting with robots recording minor offenses.
Given the enormous potential of robots van Doorn is determined to discover how robots can be used for these social tasks without evoking negative feelings. Her latest research focuses on the use of local dialects by the social robots. Together with local housing corporations and researchers from the UG’s Faculty of Arts, she wants to find out if this helps with the acceptance of the social robot by elderly people.

Van Doorn hopes that the use of robots will help ease the large strain on the health care system. “With an ageing population and rising life expectancy, the number of elderly people in need of care will exponentially increase. And when people get older, they can experience language loss and retreat to the language of their youth. This can be a foreign language, but also a local dialect.”

Her multi-disciplinary project investigates whether the intelligibility of speech and the acceptance of technological solutions can be improved if technology, in this case a robot, speaks to the elderly in their native language, to start with the local dialect in Groningen, “Gronings”.

Mid August van Doorn introduced the “Gronings” speaking robot via local TV and radio. Furthermore, locals could personally get to know the “Gronings” speaking robot in the Groninger Forum. For two days, the robot talked to around 150 visitors of the Forum Groningen in “Gronings”, but also Dutch. Van Doorn and her team asked the visitors of the Forum whether they found the Dutch or the “Gronings” dialect voice more pleasant and appealing. And last but not least, suggestions for a name for the still nameless robots were solicited from the public. Tammo and Aletta were the names that were most frequently suggested, but van Doorn and her team have not decided on a name yet.
This past summer, during the covid-19 pandemic, our vacation might not have been what we planned for. You may have chosen a different destination or even opted to stay home. Does this influence our mental work health once we are back to work? Associate Professor Jessica de Bloom has published several articles on this topic and FEB Research talked to her about the importance of taking a break from work, where and how you should spend it.

A weekend away or a weekend at home, does it make much of a difference?

“Some years ago, along with other researchers, I have done research that looked specifically into this question. We investigated whether employees behave, think, and feel differently during travel than during leisure time spent at home. We followed 24 employees for 5 weeks during free evenings after work, a free weekend at home, and on a free weekend of domestic travel.

While being away for a weekend, employees slept more, engaged more in physical and social activities and less in obligatory activities than during free evenings after work. Going for a hike, visiting a museum, meeting new people or attending a wine tasting are more likely to happen during a weekend away than when you stay at home. Travel may provide quite literally a distance from work and everyday hassles. You do not have to take care of the
laundry, at least not until you are back home. During a weekend at home, people engaged in different kind of activities such as hobbies and sports, but also ruminated a bit more about work. Despite giving their work a bit more thought, there were no major differences in experiences of pleasure and well-being compared to the employees who went away for the weekend.

Compared to a weekend spent at home, a weekend away seems to be a more natural opportunity to engage in resource-providing, preferred activities (e.g. social activities) rather than resource-consuming, non-preferred activities (e.g. work-related activities, household chores). It also seems easier not to worry about work when physically away from home. A remarkable result of this and earlier research is that the distance itself is not important. So, going to London is not necessarily better for you than spending the weekend in Utrecht.”

With the Christmas holidays coming up and travel restrictions still in place, what can employees do, if they spend their vacation at home?

“First of all, do not skip this time off just because you might not be able to go away. Like sleep, regular leisure time is important to keep your health and well-being up, especially after another rather stressful period of a possible second wave of the virus. Then, you can use the DRAMMA model for a successful staycation (see insert).”

Research has shown that there are 6 ingredients which help people recover from stressful times. Integrating these in your leisure time can help you to make the most of your free time and recharge your batteries.

Will covid-19 change the way we look at vacations?

“Spending some time away from your home is an excellent opportunity to recover from work. Traveling and spending time in a different surrounding supports many of the DRAMMA experiences, particularly, mental disengagement from work. This mental detachment is both beneficial to the employees’ well-being but also for maintaining high levels of work performances. However, a growing world population and a doubling of tourism resource use (e.g. water, energy, food, emissions), force us to reexamine our current tourism practices.

A staycation or holidays close to home may provide us with opportunities to reduce the negative impact of tourism consumption. Distance is considered an essential element of tourism. But, we as tourists perceive distance in terms of travel costs, time and the novelty/familiarity of a destination. Accordingly, looking for new experiences, using slower, sustainable modes of transportation (e.g. train, bicycle) and immersing ourselves in unfamiliar cultural environments may provide us with a sense of being far away while we may actually be physically close to home.”

Read the article ‘Don’t leave millions of vacation days on the table’
The DRAMMA model of successful recovery

- **Detachment/Mental disengagement from work**
  Set an out-of-office-reply and inform your team of the period that you will not be available for work. Tidy up your workspace, lock up your laptop in a closet to leave all work-related thoughts behind when starting your leave. Physical activities and activities such as walking or cycling in nature also help to mentally distance yourself from work.

- **Relaxation**
  Relax your body and mind by taking a hot shower or sauna bath, receiving a massage, or listening to your favorite music.

- **Autonomy**
  Feel in control by purposely setting aside some me-time. Even if this is only a short time, some brief moments just for you and the activities you enjoy most will give you a boost in your well-being. During family holidays, you could discuss everyone’s wishes beforehand and make a schedule together with time reserved for everyone’s favorite activities.

- **Mastery**
  Activities like mastering a new skill, learning something new or overcoming a pleasant challenge broaden your horizon, build new resources and make you feel competent. So, take up that online course you have long been pondering about.

- **Meaning**
  Engage in activities that provide you with a sense of purpose and the feeling of contributing something to society. The pandemic offers many opportunities to become engaged. You could for instance engage in voluntary work to help people confined to their homes or feeling isolated and who could use some (digital) company.

- **Affiliation**
  Foster the feeling of relatedness and feeling connected to the people around you and in your local community. Have you already tried some online board games or organizing a digital party for a friend?

“Like sleep, regular leisure time is important to keep your health and well-being up.”
FEB is proud to announce the appointment of Gerard van den Berg as Professor of Health Econometrics. Van den Berg is well-known for his research on the long-run effects of conditions very early in life (economic condition, nutrition, stress exposure, and so on) on cognition, health and economic productivity later in life. After his time as a student at the Faculty of Economics, van den Berg is back in Groningen.

Why did you choose Groningen?
“It was a case of all pieces of the puzzle falling into place. First, Groningen has a dedicated focus on health research, including successful interdisciplinary cooperation within the Aletta School of Public Health. This fits in with my own research interests in the effects of the economy on health and the effects of health on economic outcomes. I am therefore also happy to have positions both at the university and at the university medical center. A second major advantage of Groningen for me is the strong tradition in econometrics and quantitative research in social sciences. My roots are in econometrics (as a student in Groningen!) and I always strive to use or apply novel methods to improve the quality of empirical work.

A third reason to choose Groningen is the sustained good atmosphere in the economics department. If you are used to such a working environment for many years then you may just take it for granted, but in fact it is surprisingly rare to encounter this in the academic world. Last but not least, as a fourth reason, there is the exceptional quality of life in Groningen. Again, those who have lived here since many years may not even notice it, but if you come from overcrowded areas or from an ill-governed country with malfunctioning public sectors then it is quite a difference. Of course, there are the earthquakes, and I keep wondering why the North hasn’t gotten more generous compensation, but that is a different story.”

Could you tell us more about your previous career/your career so far?
“I spent most of my career at the VU University Amsterdam (1993-2009). This is where I became a full professor in 1996 at the age of 34. I was head of the economics department for a period of six years and I guided the department through a generational transition as well as a transition into micro-oriented economics and applied econometrics. In 2009 I was awarded the Alexander von Humboldt Professorship Prize which consisted of a research subsidy of 3.5 million euro as well as a permanent chair at the University of Mannheim in Germany. In 2015 I moved to Bristol in the UK where I got heavily involved in research collaborations with epidemiologists. In the past, I have also held short-term professorships in Princeton and Stockholm.

During these years, I have always worked with large data sets covering different aspects of individual behavior. Sometimes this includes registers on health or taxes or other sensitive information. The data are typically from continental European countries. A “push factor” in my decision to leave the UK is that with the upcoming Brexit it is likely that my data access would be adversely affected. Of course, the way Brexit seems to be playing out, it will also have many other disadvantages for the academic community there.”
Your chair is in micro-econometrics. What issues are dealt with in your research?

“In this field we aim to understand individual behavior by way of empirical analyses using real-life data. In addition, we aim to find out if there are causal effects from one variable or characteristic or event on another. This includes studying the effectiveness of policy measures and other treatments. In all this work, we develop novel methods hand in hand with applications. But in the end, the research we do is driven by the aim to understand behavior.

As a concrete example, I am interested in effects of active labor market policies for the unemployed. Recently I have been involved in the design, implementation and analysis of randomized controlled trials involving 10,000s of unemployed individuals who are assigned to different treatments or programs. Even though these are randomized experiments, the analysis of the data poses some econometric challenges. For example, how do we figure out if the total effect is affected by private information of the unemployed about future treatments? These are issues that are natural to consider in economics but are less prominent in experiments in medical sciences or biology.

I have also been interested since many years in the effects of recessions on health. This topic has gained relevance in the current corona crisis, as recent lockdowns have been leading to dramatic recessions. Pundits and politicians have framed the damage to the economy as a price to be paid for the protection of health (“health is more important that the economy”). That is highly misleading. Recessions and economic adversity have negative health effects themselves. We know that they cause worse health later in life for those born in a recession, worse health and cognition for children who are excluded from daycare and school, increases in stress and suicides, worse nutrition for adults suffering from poverty, and more mental and physical health problems for victims of domestic violence. This may sound dramatic, but bear in mind that, all in all, large sections of society are currently being affected. The health losses and costs for children and prime-aged individuals will play out over many decades, possibly even into subsequent generations.”

And how about societal relevance?

“I think it is hard to find many fields in economics where the immediate societal relevance of research is so high. Let me give you another example, from a project about sanctions for young unemployed welfare recipients. Sanctions are punitive reductions in welfare benefits that the unemployed receive if they don’t search hard enough for a job. In Germany the sanctions regime was extremely tough. After a few minor offences people would
lose their benefits completely. This drove many youths out of welfare into homelessness and so on. These people disappear from the radar and there is a serious risk that they turn their back to mainstream society. Due to our study, the policy was modified so that youths are not punished so heavily anymore. This has substantially improved the quality of life of millions of youths every year, year after year. It is immensely satisfying to have such an impact."

**What can we expect of you in the future?**

“Often it is not clear why economic conditions early in life affect health much later in life. It is interesting to understand the pathway from cause to outcome, and one can often distinguish between economic or social pathways on the one hand and biological or medical pathways on the other. I would like to be able to know more about this. In line with this I aim to work on econometric methods to properly analyze such pathways. I am also interested in health differences between Dutch and Germans in the border region. To what extent can these be understood by institutional settings, and to what extent do economic, genetic and environmental issues play a role? For this, I aim to intensify collaborations with universities and research centers in Germany.”

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**Key publications**


“It is highly misleading to frame the damage to the economy as a price to be paid for the protection of health.”
Aline Seepma was one of FEB’s PhD students affected by the covid-19 measures taken by the Dutch government. Although this created uncertainty for her, in the end there were also some positive side effects.

“I handed in my PhD dissertation at the beginning of March 2020 and scheduled my defense for the 2nd of July 2020. Soon after handing in my dissertation the first measures were taken: closing down University buildings and only facilitating defenses online. I realized that I, for sure would have to let go the idea of having a big ceremony and celebration with all my family, friends and colleagues over a diner and party. It was strange to work from home, not seeing any colleagues and not having small talks on preparing for the defense. The biggest downside was the uncertainty the situation gave on whether and under what circumstances I would defend my thesis on the planned date.

I was relieved that on the 2nd of July the circumstances made it possible to defend my PhD in the Aula of the Academy Building, albeit with at most thirty people present. Due to the well-organized online facilities for conference calls and the livestream a lot of people were able to see my defense online. The nice thing about this was that, in the end, more people were able to attend my defense (online) compared to regular pre-Corona defenses where physical presence would have been a prerequisite. All in all, despite the unusual situation, I did have a wonderful day, with my closest family and friends present and many following the ceremony via a livestream”
Summary of the thesis

A seamless, sustainable and trustworthy criminal justice system is essential to a country’s rule of law and good governance. Such a criminal justice system consists of criminal justice organizations, like the police, public prosecution, and the court. The effective work of these core organizations relies on information exchange, collaboration and process alignment. However, reaching those can be challenging. One of the main difficulties in achieving collaboration and alignment relates to the multiple, sometimes contradicting, performance objectives of these different organizations.

Despite their distinct tasks, responsibilities and resources, the police, public prosecution and court act as a supply chain. The output of one organization serves as input for the next organization, and together they deliver a final product.

Aline Seepma explores how supply chain management is applied in criminal justice. She studied the interactions between these three core parties throughout the detection, investigation, and jurisdiction of high-impact crimes, such as burglaries, robberies, and violent crime.

Seepma concludes that planning often assumes infinite capacity, leading to huge delays and large stacks of cases remaining on the shelf. The capacity of the parties within the supply chain is limited, but a better alignment allows the supply chain as a whole to perform much better. Also, while the parties extensively use information and operational integration, they hardly use relational integration mechanisms, such as establishing strategic links based on trust, commitment and a long-term vision. Too often, criminal justice professionals take an independent standpoint regarding scheduling, although some tentative change is already happening.

Through her research, Seepma identifies the avenues of improvement for the criminal justice supply chain, demonstrating that it is possible to successfully implement integration without compromising the goals, interests and legal independence of the intervening parties.

Recently one of the chapters of the thesis entitled “On publicness theory and its implications for supply chain integration: The case of criminal justice supply chains” is accepted in the Journal of Supply Chain Management (co-authored with Dirk Pieter van Donk and Carolien de Blok).

Representation of the Dutch criminal justice supply chain
Over the past couple of months, Pedro de Faria’s research was influenced by the covid-19 pandemic. Together with his colleagues, Bart Los and Florian Noseleit, he published two FEB blog articles about the pandemic. FEB Research asked him to tell more about his activities.

First, can you tell us a bit about yourself?
“I joined the department of Innovation Management and Strategy in 2009 after finishing my PhD in Engineering and Industrial Management at the Technical University of Lisbon. I was one of the first to join the tenure track program at my department. And since last May, I am full Professor of Innovation Management. My research focuses on understanding how firms define cooperation and knowledge protection strategies and on how human capital plays a role in internationalization strategies. I am currently also Associate Editor of the Journal Industry and Innovation.”

In the last months you have done research related to covid-19, what were the results?
“Together with my colleagues Bart Los and Florian Noseleit, I wrote a couple of reflections on the challenges associated to covid-19. We published them on the FEBlog in order to stimulate the discussion on the lessons that can be learnt from this crisis.

The first blogpost is focused on the pressure under which health systems around the world were in the beginning of the crisis due to the shortages of ventilators and testing equipment. Profit-maximizing firms do not have incentives to make the substantial and uncertain investments necessary for the world to be prepared for global pandemics. We advocate a strategy for fighting future pandemics in which...
governments play a more active role in the coordination of production capacity, strategic stockpiling and logistics of essential products.

Our second blogpost followed the numerous reports of firms adapting their activities to help fighting the covid-19 pandemic. We argue that national governments and international organizations should incorporate some lessons about such ‘adaptive innovations’ in future innovation policies. In order to make societies more resilient to crises, these policies should include tools such as subsidies, tax breaks and procurement aimed at encouraging cross-industry collaboration in the manufacturing of essential health products.

The fact that the crisis has been very impactful for small firms and has placed many entrepreneurs out of work led me to reflect on the implications of my paper recently published in the Journal of International Business Studies (with Andreas Distel, Wolfgang Sofka, Miguel Torres Preto and António Ribeiro). In this paper, we show that multinational companies perceive the unique skills of entrepreneurs as valuable for their activities. In times of crisis, entrepreneurial creativity and judgement are highly needed, so I expect that many multinational companies will actively try to hire entrepreneurs that are now willing or forced to change their career plans."

Has covid-19 influenced your research?
“Yes, the covid-19 crisis impacted my research in two ways. It influenced, as discussed above, the content of my research but it also affected the way I conduct it. While it did not change how I work with most of my co-authors (a lot of meetings were already virtual before the lockdown) or limited my access to data (I mostly use secondary data), it impacted the serendipitous dimension of my research. I believe that the lack of informal meetings with my colleagues at the office and with other researchers at conferences might negatively affect my stock of future research ideas.”

What other research have you planned for?
“During the quarantine, I mainly worked on two articles that soon will be submitted to journals. One contributes to the debate on the advantages and liabilities of earmarking for public research funding. We (I together with Holmer Kok and Dries Faems) find that earmarked projects receive lower expert evaluations than non-earmarked projects. However, and surprisingly, we also find that they do not underperform, and sometimes even outperform, non-earmarked projects in terms of tangible research outcomes (i.e. number of patents and publications).

The second project deals with human capital transfers from multinational companies to domestic firms. We (I together with Wolfgang Sofka and Torben Schubert) explore how certain characteristics of domestic firms, like age, workforce diversity and hierarchical specialization, affect their ability to translate the knowledge and skills of former multinational employees into performance gains.”

To read more:

Blog Pandemic-Related Innovation: Don’t Leave It to Markets
Blog Masks instead of coffee filters and ventilators rather than cars

FEB Researchers want to help solve COVID-19 problems in healthcare

Recently, several FEB researchers received a grant from ZonMW (the Dutch organization for Healthcare Research and Innovation) to look at specific problems in the healthcare system that occurred during the covid-19 pandemic. Project leaders Joost van de Brake and Paul Buijs talk with FEB Research about their new projects and what the results can mean for especially the healthcare system.

Joost van de Brake is an assistant professor in the field of HRM&OB. In 2019 he obtained his PhD degree from the University of Groningen (UG). The title of his thesis is “Individual employees’ multiple team membership: a double-edged sword”. His research focuses on the challenges and opportunities associated with complex modern work arrangements (e.g., the transition from face-to-face to virtual teams, the impact of covid-19 on healthcare workers).

Paul Buijs is an assistant professor in the field of sustainable logistics. He received his PhD degree in 2014 from UG, his thesis’ title is “Horizontal and vertical collaboration in distribution networks with cross-docks”. His research focuses on the development and implementation of innovative concepts aimed at improving logistics sustainability.
Joost van de Brake

What is the main focus of your project?
"In our project, we look at the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on the psychosocial and emotional well-being of hospital staff. Questions we hope to answer are: Which factors contribute to this well-being? And what can a hospital do to make sure that their staff is more equipped to deal with this or another crisis?

It is very important for our society that hospital workers are able to function well. The goal of this project is to map the effect covid-19 has on the psychosocial and emotional well-being of hospital staff as well as find out how we can diminish the negative effects and possibly, enforce the positive ones."

How are you going to set up this research?
And with whom?
“We received a 200K grant from ZonMw and along with fellow researchers dr. Peter Essens, drs. Maxim Laurijssen and prof. Gerben van der Vegt, we will work together with a large hospital in the south of the Netherlands. For two years, during our research, hospital staff can share their experiences via a questionnaire with statements and open questions. They can tell us which obstructions and challenges they went through. Our expectation is that the more the current crisis is seen as a positive challenge (i.e., rather than a hindrance), the more an employee is capable of handling everything in the long-term.

Team processes may also influence whether an employee experiences the crisis as a challenge or a hindrance. If the communication within a team is open, free and honest, team members are less likely to experience the covid-19 pandemic as a hindrance. Finally, we will also look at whether the demographic diversity of a team influences the impact of covid-19 on employees. For instance, a younger employee might experience more pressure if older co-workers (who are more likely to experience severe complications from covid-19) have dropped out.”

Can any hospitals participate?
"Yes, other hospitals can certainly participate. They can get in touch with us and we can discuss possibilities."

What results can we expect?
“The results of the research will be shared with Dutch hospitals. We will develop a website that lists key recommendation on how to make their staff members more resilient during the current crisis or other stressful situations.”
**Paul Buijs**

**What is the main focus of your project**

“It seems so obvious, one hospital has too many ICU-patients, another still has ICU-bed available. So you just move patients from A to B, right? It is far more complicated than that. First, there are many aspects at a patient level that can impede the possibility to move patients, or make moving less effective. Think about the patient’s specific health status and prospects of recovery. At an organizational level, the movement of patients is hindered by difficulties in getting access to reliable data about available resources and by different stakes of individual hospitals and regions.”

**How are you going to set up this research? And with whom?**

“Together with colleagues professor Taco van der Vaart, dr. Gerdien Regts, dr. Roel Post and Sam van Huet during the next two years, I will look into the role that national and regional coordination can have to manage scarce resources in healthcare. We received a 150K grant from ZonMw to do this research. We will look at the lessons we can learn from the first wave of the corona pandemic. How did the national and regional coordination efforts function? Is it wise to spread the covid-19 patients across the Netherlands more evenly to avoid either overcrowding one hospital versus under-utilization of another hospital, and if so, how to structure the coordination? At the moment there is a large cry for more ICU beds - structurally, but with a flexible layer - but is this really necessary and if so, how many beds would be sufficient?

We also focus on personal protective equipment, where we see similar issues. How to distribute masks, gowns, gloves and other protective equipment across different types of healthcare organizations when the nation is in short supplies? Is it necessary to keep large stock of these items? And, do we store those items nationally or regionally? Or, is it possible to solve a sudden surge in demand by having a flexible local production ready?”

Another part of the project is an evaluation of the existing regional coordination structures, i.e. the public healthcare regions, the safety regions, the ICU regions and the acute healthcare regions. Should we use these regional structures to spread both patients and resources? And, which of these structures fits the job in times of scarcity and when is scaling up to national coordination required?”

**Can any hospitals participate?**

“Yes, definitely. We have interviewed many key stakeholders already and will keep interviewing stakeholders in the national and regional coordination structures, as well as doctors, nurses and managers of hospitals in the Netherlands. If hospitals would be interested to contribute to the project, they can contact us.”

**Wat results can we expect?**

“We are in the process of writing up the main lessons learned from the first wave and hope those lessons will help further improve the national and regional coordination needed the coming months. In the longer term, our goal is to develop more general insight into when regional or even national coordination is helpful in addressing issues with scarce resources in healthcare, and how such coordination should be organized.”

The results of both projects will be shared via Open Access.
Herman de Jong receives 800K grant for new Dutch database
Professor de Jong receives the grant for building a new Dutch database holding Dutch corporate and stock exchange data for the period 1796-1980. The grant is awarded by the KNAW (Royal Dutch Academy of Science) in cooperation with digital infrastructures CLARIAH and ODISSEI.

Jenny van Doorn receives NWO funding for project ‘Food Waste, from Excess to Enough’
Estimates are that worldwide a third of the food that is produced for human consumption is waste. And it is not just the food itself that is wasted – resources are expended to grow, cool, transport, and stockpile food. All that goes to waste if the food is thrown out instead of being eaten.

Van Doorn will look at the dynamics in the food system, the demand from customers and the supply side. Van Doorn will work together with colleagues from Wageningen University, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, TU Delft, Voedingscentrum, Stichting Samen Tegen Voedselverspilling, Hello Fresh, ACV, Levarht, Iglo, Hak, EFMI, and Capgemini.

GGDC co-leads major international project: tools for poverty reduction in Sub-Saharan Africa
The UK’s Department for International Development has awarded a large-scale multi-year research grant to a consortium of renowned researchers, with the GGDC as one of the core partners. Dr Gaaitzen de Vries, professor Robert Inklaar and professor Marcel Timmer will be the GGDC members most closely involved in this project.
The Groningen Growth and Development Centre (GGDC) will conduct research on structural transformation in sub-Saharan countries. This project will provide governments new tools to enhance growth and reduce poverty. The GGDC will lead the work on generating novel measures of (sectoral) development, to put country experiences in international perspective.

Awards and prices

ZonMw grant for FEB researchers to help improve coordination around ICU bed utilization

The recent corona pandemic has shown us that we can quickly reach the maximum ICU bed capacity and that the supply of medical equipment can be largely disrupted. Faculty of Economics and Business researchers Professor Taco van der Vaart, Dr Paul Buijs and Dr Gerdien Regts will look into the role that national and regional coordination can have to manage such scarcity. The Dutch organization for Healthcare research and innovation (ZonMw) has made 150K available for a two-year research project. See page 18 for an interview with Paul Buijs about this project.

FEB researchers will look at covid-19 impact on hospital staff’s well-being with ZonMW grant

What is the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on the psychosocial and emotional well-being of hospital staff? Which factors contribute to this well-being? And what can a hospital do to make sure that their staff is more equipped to deal with this or another crisis? FEB researchers Dr Joost van de Brake, Dr Peter Essens, Maxim Laurijssen MSc and professor Gerben van der Vegt will start a new research project in September to look at these questions. They received a 200K grant from ZonMw, the Dutch organization for Healthcare research and innovation. See page 18 for an interview with Joost van de Brake about this project.

Peter Verhoef winner of two awards for his publications

Professor Verhoef’s 2007 IJRM paper ‘Multichannel customer management: Understanding the research-shopper phenomenon’ is this year’s winner of the Jan-Benedict E.M. Steenkamp Award for Long-Term Impact. The Jan-Benedict E.M. Steenkamp Award for Long-Term Impact is given annually to papers published in International Journal of Research in Marketing (IJRM) in recognition of their exceptional contributions to academic marketing research by demonstrating long-term impact.

Along with co-authors professor Scott Neslin (Dartmouth University) and dr. Bjorn Vroomen (Authority for Consumer and Markets, ACM), Verhoef’s paper developed a model for understanding the causes of research shopping. This phenomenon is the tendency of customers to use one channel for research and another for purchase.

Verhoef also received the 2020 Davidson award for the best paper published in the Journal of Retailing in 2019. The article ‘Loyalty formation for different customer journey segments’ by professor Peter Verhoef with co-authors Dennis Herhausen (Kedge Business School), Kristina Kleinlerchen (University of Sankt Gallen), Oliver Oemrich (University of Mainz) and Thomas Rudolph (University of Sankt Gallen) is published in the Journal of Retailing, 95(3), September 2019 issue (pp. 9-29).
Gerard van den Berg appointed as Professor of Health Econometrics
FEB is proud to announce the appointment of Gerard van den Berg as Professor of Health Econometrics. Van den Berg is well-known for his research on the long-run effects of conditions very early in life (economic condition, nutrition, stress exposure, and so on) on cognition, health and economic productivity later in life.
Van den Berg previously worked as a professor at the VU University Amsterdam, The University of Mannheim and the University of Bristol. In 2009 he was awarded the Alexander von Humboldt Professorship Prize which consisted of a research grant of 3.5 million euro. He has also held short-term professorships in Princeton and the University of Stockholm.

WCM Award for Michiel uit het Broek
Last month, Dr Michiel uit het Broek, defended his thesis “Condition-based production and maintenance decisions” and received the distinction ‘cum laude’. Uit het Broek also received the PhD World Class Maintenance Award for his thesis. The jury compliments him on the extensiveness, level and depth of his research and the societal relevance of his subject.

Appointments

Laurens Sloot holds new chair of Entrepreneurship in Retailing
As from 1 February, FEB appointed Laurens Sloot as Professor by special appointment of Entrepreneurship in Retailing. Sloot will focus on the success factors of independent entrepreneurs and on the consequences of the increasing digitization of retailing. The new chair was established at the request of Stichting Lokaal Retail Ondernemerschap (LRO; the foundation of local retail entrepreneurship) for a period of five years.
Publications

Please find below an overview of publications in top journals (with an AIP of 85+), PhD theses, books & research reports in the period January – June 2020.


PhD theses

Broek, Michiel uit het
Condition-based production and maintenance decisions
Promotor: Prof. R.H. Teunter, copromotores: Dr. J. Veldman and Dr. B. de Jonge
Defended on March 12, 2020

Feenstra, Sanne
Power in organizational life: An investigation of how stable and unstable power affect important organizational and leadership outcomes
Promotores: Prof. J.I. Stoker, Prof. J. Jordan and Prof. F. Walter.
Defended on February 3, 2020

Freeman, Daan
Factor income dynamics: An exploration
Promotores: Prof. R.C. Inklaar and Prof. M.P. Timmer
Defended on May 25, 2020

Aobo Jiang
Offshoring, Functional Specialization and Economic Performance
Promotor: Prof. M.P. Timmer, copromotor: Dr. G.J de Vries
Defended on June 8, 2020

Kleinhempel, Johannes
Essays in comparative international entrepreneurship research
Promotor: Prof. S. Beugelsdijk, copromotor: Dr. M.J. Klasing.
Defended on January 9, 2020

Olango, Proscovia
A document enrichment approach to facilitate reading comprehension
Promotores: Prof. H.G. Sol, and Prof. J. Nerbonne
Defended on January 16, 2020

Pahl, Stefan
Global value chains and economic development
Promotores: Prof. M.P. Timmer and Prof. R.C. Inklaar
Defended on May 4, 2020

Qiao, Kenan
Leverage and inefficiencies in financial markets
Promotores: Prof. P.A. Bekker, and Dr. L. Dam
Defended on March 16, 2020

Schasfoort, Joeri
Agent-Based Simulations of Monetary Policy and Financial Markets
Promotores: Prof. D.J. Bezemer, and Prof. L.H. Hoogduin
Defended on June 11, 2020

Schrotenboer, Albert
Exact and heuristic methods for optimization in distributed logistics
Promotores: Prof. I. Vis, copromotor Dr. E. Ursavas
Defended on February 6, 2020
Seepma, Aline
Just integrating or integrating justice? Understanding integration mechanisms in criminal justice supply chains
Promotor: Prof. D.P. van Donk, copromotor: Dr. C. de Blok
Defended on July 2, 2020

Trinks, Arjan
Falling for rising temperatures? Finance in a carbon-constrained world
Promotores: Prof. M. Mulder, and Prof. L.J.R. Scholtens
Defended on May 11, 2020

Books

Fennis, Bob M.; Stroebe, Wolfgang (2020), The psychology of advertising. 3rd ed. Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group


Bezemer, Dirk (2020), Een land van kleine buffers: Er is genoeg geld, maar we gebruiken het verkeerd, Uitgeverij Pluim
Research Reports

2020001-OPERA: Foreest, N.D. van, and J. Wijngaard. On Proportionally Fair Solutions for the Divorced-Parents Problem


2020003-I&O: Bogt, H. ter, Performance and other Accounting Information in the Public Sector: A Prominent Role in the Politicians’ Control Tasks?


2020006-GEM: Oosterhaven, J. Decomposing Economic Growth Decompositions


2020008-EEF: Heijnen, P., On the Computation of Equilibrium in Discontinuous Economic Games

2020009-EEF: Romensen, G.J. and A.R. Soetevent, Improving Worker Productivity Through Tailored Performance Feedback: Field Experimental Evidence from Bus Drivers


2020011-EEF: Kwaak, C. van der, Unintended Consequences of Central Bank Lending in Financial Crises
Organisation of Research

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  Dr Eelko Huizingh
• Institute for Governance and Organizational Responsibility (IGOR)
  Dr Kees van Veen
• Leadership (In the LEAD)
  Prof Harry Garretsen & Prof Janka Stoker
Colophon

Autumn 2020

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