



Twenty-fourth International System Dynamics Conference Nijmegen, The Netherlands July 23-27, 2006

Organizing Chair

Etiënne Rouwette
Radboud University Nijmegen

Conference Chair

Jac Vennix
Radboud University Nijmegen

Program Chair

Andreas Größler
Mannheim University

Workshop Chair

Jack Homer
Homer Consulting

Conference Host

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Nijmegen School of Management,
Radboud University Nijmegen

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First Day Orientation Important Information—Please Read

Welcome to the 24th International Conference of the System Dynamics Society at Radboud University in Nijmegen, The Netherlands. We are providing the following information to help you get oriented. When you arrive at Radboud University, please look for our outdoor banner, flying between the two buildings we will be using: CollegezalenComplex (CC) and Thomas van Aquinostraat #1 (TA). These buildings are opposite each other and near the University library, and the bus stop you will probably use. We ask that participants and guests wear their name badges for all conference activities.

Events on Sunday include the PhD Colloquium starting at 9:00 AM, the Summer Policy Council Meeting starting at 11:15 AM, the Special Convened Session: Dynamics of Health Reform starting at 2:00 PM, and the Student Chapter meeting starting at 5:30 PM.

The Conference Registration and Information Desk (located in the CC building hallway) will be open on Sunday from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM, and throughout the conference. On Sunday, there is an Informal Gathering for registrants in the Cultuurcafé in the CC building during registration. Please find a free drink coupon in your registration envelope. The Cultuurcafé is available throughout the conference for buying drinks and small snacks. Tipping is not expected at the Cultuurcafé.

On Monday, in addition to the conference opening, we will have a morning and afternoon plenary session in room CC1, then in both the CC building and the TA building we will have morning and afternoon parallel sessions, and a variety of meetings and roundtables throughout the day. Morning and afternoon poster sessions will be held in the hallways of the CC building. Poster authors will be present for discussion. Please note the new Special Chapter and SIG Poster Session on Monday morning; these groups have been doing phenomenal work!

Each day between 10:30 AM and 11:30 AM., and between 3:30 PM and 4:30 PM, refreshments will be available in the poster hall and exhibitor areas. Coffee and tea will be served during the refreshment breaks. If you would like a beverage before or after the break, the Cultuurcafé will serve coffee for a fee along with snack foods (like stroopwaffles, a Dutch delicacy).

The exhibitor area, located within the Cultuurcafé, will be open all day Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Please note that
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Conference Manager: Roberta L. Spencer, System Dynamics Society, Milne 300 - Rockefeller College
University at Albany, State University of New York, Albany, New York 12222 USA
Phone: +1 518 442-3865 Fax: +1 518 442-3398 E-mail: system.dynamics@albany.edu
Conference website: www.systemdynamics.org

some meetings are scheduled to start at 8:00 AM on both Monday and Wednesday mornings. Regular conference sessions will begin at 9:00 AM on Monday and Wednesday and 8:30 AM on Tuesday.

The lunch break each day will be between 12:30 PM and 2:30 PM. The main place for food on campus is the Refter Restaurant, which will open daily at 11:00 AM (no breakfast service). Additionally, check your schedule for demonstrations, meetings, users' groups and special sessions taking place during lunch breaks.

The modeling assistance workshops have been individually prescheduled on Monday and Tuesday from 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Wednesday is a "Business Day" for local people attending just for one day with a focus on local issues. Thursday is the workshop day. Please go to the Conference Registration and Information Desk if you would like to sign up for workshops and to check availability.

Computers with Internet access will be available in TA for checking email.

The Regional Bureau of Tourism will have an info-point in the CC building from Sunday to Wednesday. The hours will be Sunday 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Monday and Wednesday from 12:00 noon to 7:00 PM, and Tuesday from 12:00 noon to 6:00 PM. Please feel free to access them for local sightseeing, etc.

BUS TRAVEL TO/FROM CONFERENCE: The first time you travel from the city center to Radboud University by bus, you will need to pay for this trip yourself. The bus station is next door to the rail station, and there are bus stops throughout the city. For information on a bus stop near your hotel that goes to Radboud University, visit the "How do I get there?" link on the conference website, or when you arrive, ask at your hotel or at the main bus station.

At registration conference participants (not guests) will receive a special bus ticket which will enable you to make five (5) round trips (from your hotel or bus/rail station to the conference venue and back): one round trip for each of the five days of the conference. This special "Strippenkaart" (a special multi-journey ticket) must be stamped when you get on the bus. Each participant will also get a small book with a complete timetable of local buses and a large map of Nijmegen indicating bus lines. Special attention should be paid to the following regarding buses:

- o You must have a valid ticket on the bus: inability to show a valid ticket results in a monetary fine.
- o When using public transportation (bus or train) you must be able to show your passport upon request.
- o All bus lines have a distinct starting and ending point, except one. That 'special' bus is line #10, the so-called Heyendaal-Shuttle. This route is not a "line" but more like a circle; it goes in only one direction. So, if you stay on the bus, you will keep on riding the same route.

If you would like to travel more by bus, please purchase a regular Strippenkaart at the bus/rail station or a tobacco-shop. Your guest may purchase this as well.

Information is online for bus stops, to-and-from routes from hotels, the bus/rail station, and conference venue, as well as times and distances. Please visit the "How do I get there?" link on the conference website.

SOCIAL HOURS ON MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY: You will find a drink coupon in your registration envelope for Monday at 6:00 PM and Wednesday at 6:00 PM for the Social Hours at Cultuurcafé. Second drinks are available for purchase at the bar (no credit cards).

OTHER FREE DRINKS AND SPECIAL FOOD PRICES: In your registration envelope, please find coupons provided by local establishments that are working with the conference team to help make your evenings as enjoyable as possible. Since we are not all staying at one hotel, this is a way to have groups of conference-goers gather after the Social Hours. In restaurants, a tip of 5% is appreciated but certainly not necessary; in bars, tips are even less expected (but again appreciated).

CONFERENCE STAND-UP BANQUET, SPONSORED BY VENTANA SYSTEMS, INC.

6:30 PM to 10:00 PM
Museum Het Valkhof, Nijmegen
Kelfkensbos 59

Telephone: 024 - 360 88 05
<http://www.museumhetvalkhof.nl/>

The museum is located near the city center. The welcome reception is from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM. Upon arrival, an open bar will be available, sponsored by the City of Nijmegen. Arrival snacks will be served.

City bus service (line #10) will be increased for us to travel from Radboud University to the museum. These buses will follow the regular schedule departing every 10 minutes starting at 6:00 PM.

At 7:15 PM, volunteers will ask everyone to move to the gallery on the second floor for the official part of the banquet event. A representative of the City Council of Nijmegen and the banquet sponsor, Ventana Systems, Inc., will give a short commencement speech. After the speeches you are welcome to explore the museum and at your leisure arrive at the museum café on the first floor for dinner. Participants will be asked to indicate to waiters if they would like the vegetarian choice. The *diner ambulante* (walking dinner) will consist of several courses served in small bowls. Dessert will also be served.

The museum exhibit space will close at 9:00 PM. Coffee and tea will be served and the bar will remain open until 10:00 PM, the end of the evening at the museum.

We will need some volunteers on Thursday to help move poster boards, tables and furniture back into storage. If you are feeling strong and want to help, please talk to Roberta.

In your satchel, please find the printed abstract proceedings, the conference program with related information, a participants list, the venue floor plan, a city map with all related locations identified, the 2007 conference preliminary Call for Papers, and the sponsor inserts.

The Conference Organizing Team and volunteers (identified by smiley face stickers on their name badge ☺) are available to help in any way we can.

Enjoy the conference and your stay in Nijmegen.

Etiënne Rouwette, Jac Vennix, Andreas Größler, Jack Homer and Roberta Spencer
The Nijmegen Conference Organizing Team
24th International Conference of the System Dynamics Society