

PE&RC Messages

November 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

Current Themes in Ecology 2016: Ecological Networks – Networks in Ecology (24 November 2016)

Why are there so many species on earth?" It is one of the most fundamental questions in understanding life on earth. The question becomes even more prominent when we realise that it can be posed for nearly any ecosystem on earth. In the present Current Themes in Ecology symposium, *Networks in Ecology*, we will address a wide variety in novel approaches to understand the functioning of ecological networks and the consequences for biological diversity and ecosystem dynamics. Studying ecological networks is not only crucial for understanding population dynamics and persistence, but also ecosystem processes like energy and nutrient cycling, the spread of pests and diseases, and in this way human welfare.

Uncertainty Propagation in Spatial Environmental Modelling (5-9 December 2016)

The purpose of this course is to familiarize participants with statistical methods to analyse uncertainty propagation in spatial modelling, such that they can apply these methods to their own models and data. Both attribute and positional errors are considered. Attention is also given to the effects of spatial auto- and cross-correlations on the results of an uncertainty propagation analysis. Computer practicals make use of the R language for statistical computing.

PE&RC Postgraduate courses

- [European Forest Resources and the Bio-economy](#) (27 November – 2 December 2016)

This postgraduate course addresses the role of European forests in the bio-economy and the changes that are taking place in management and forest industry such as: European forest resources, management and governance challenges, new demands in bioenergy & bio-economy, changes in demand from industry, criteria for Sustainable Forest Management and for solid biomass production, and trade-off issues with biodiversity. To address the elements above, we bring together experts on European forest ecology, but also experts from industry, economics, and policy. At the same time, we will make excursions to field sites as well as organisations dealing with forest products.

- [GIS in Practice](#) (12 - 23 December 2016)

This course aims to give an overview of this conceptual model, after which it will go in-depth in the use of ArcGIS using a number of practical cases.

- [Basic Statistics](#) (14, 15, 16, 22, 23 December 2016)

This is a refresher course (so it goes into category 2A of the PE&RC TSP). The level is that of a second course in Statistics. We will refresh basic knowledge of Probability, Statistical Inference

(*Estimation and Testing*), *t*-tests, simple cases of Regression and ANOVA, Experimental Design, Non-parametric Tests, and Chi-square Tests. Some time is reserved to discuss statistical problems of the participants.

- **Design of Experiments** (19 - 21 December 2016)

This course is organised by the graduate school for Animal Sciences and by PE&RC. The course deals with an introduction to statistics and basics of good experimental design. Amongst others, the principle of the three R's are discussed; Replication, Randomization, and Reducing noise factors. Furthermore, specific experimental design are being discussed (e.g., CRD, RCBD, split-plot design, mixed models, Latin-squares, etc.). Finally, participants apply what they learn in the course to their own specific case(s) and discuss this in small groups.

- **Spring school on soil mapping, classification and assessment** (15 -19 May 2017)

5-day training course on mapping, classification and assessment for soil and environmental scientists, students and professionals in natural resources management.

PE&RC Discussion group meetings

- For a complete overview of all PE&RC discussion groups, please click [here](#).
- **Next meeting Ecological Theory and Application Discussion Group**. Colloquium Room, NIOO-KNAW, Droevedaalsesteeg 10, Wageningen, The Netherlands (24 November 2016, from 3 – 5 pm). The topic of the meeting is 'Ecology in agricultural landscapes'.

Career development, skills and competences courses by Wageningen Graduate Schools

- For a complete overview of all Wageningen Graduate Schools courses, please click [here](#).

Symposia, Lectures, Workshops, Seminars and other activities

- [WASS seminar 'Africa 2016-2100: population growth, urbanization; migration'](#) @ Wageningen University, Room C75, Leeuwenborgh, Wageningen, The Netherlands (16 November 2016)
- [Symposium: Biodiversity and global change in the Tropics](#) @ University of Amsterdam, Lecture Room H0.08, Science Park 904, Amsterdam, The Netherlands (17 November 2016)
- [International Master Class on Healthy and sustainable diets: synergies and trade-offs](#) @ Conference Centre Hof van Wageningen, Wageningen, the Netherlands (28 - 30 November 2016)
- [2nd Annual FLARE meeting](#) @ University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom (2 - 5 December 2016)
- [Global soil security conference](#) @ Paris, France (5 - 7 December 2016)
- [CWE Symposium: From Wadden Sea to Marker Wadden: functioning and restoration of large aquatic ecosystems](#) @ University of Groningen, Linnaeusborg, Zaal 'Het OOG', Groningen, The Netherlands (9 December 2016)
- [INTERWOVEN: How Science and art meet belowground](#) @ Impulse, Wageningen University Campus, Wageningen, The Netherlands (14 December 2016)
- [Symposium 'Nutrient Pollution in Water Systems: Sustainable solutions for Europe, China and the world](#) @ ATLAS Building, Atlas 2 Impulse, Wageningen University Campus, Wageningen, The Netherlands (14 December 2016)

- [1st Symposium 'WURomics: Technology- Driven Innovation for Plant Breeding](#) @ Wageningen University, Orion, Combi Room, Wageningen, The Netherlands (15 December 2016)
- [Entomologendag](#) @ De Reehorst, Ede, The Netherlands (16 December 2016)
- [Zoology 2016-congress](#) @ University of Antwerp, Belgium (15 - 17 December 2016)
- [VI Southern-Summer School on Mathematical Biology](#) @ São Paulo, Brazil (16 - 27 January 2017)
- [European Conference of Tropical Ecology](#) @ Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Belgium (6 - 10 February 2017)
- [3rd International Conference "Plant Nutrition, Growth & Environment Interactions](#) @ Vienna, Austria (20 - 21 February 2017)
- [International Conference "Plant Molecular Physiology](#) @ Vienna, Austria (23 - 24 February 2017)
- [AGILE International Conference on Geographic Information Science](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (9 - 12 May 2017)
- [Conference Pedometrics 2017](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (27 June – 1 July 2017)
- [International Conference: The Value of Life: Measurement, Stakes, Implications](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (28 - 30 June 2017)

Position Announcements

- For job vacancies, check out [our website](#).

Others

- [NWO Visitor's Travel Grants](#). Researchers in the Netherlands can apply for a visitor's grant for highly qualified senior researchers from abroad who hold a PhD. With this grant these researchers can stay in the Netherlands for a maximum of four months.
- [PE&RC Research Master Programme: Agricultural Systems Resilience](#). The programme is meant for MSc students interested in pursuing a career in scientific research. Besides the MSc Degree the outcome of the programme will be a PhD project proposal for the NWO Graduate Programme call 2017 as well as a separate Research Master certificate awarded by PE&RC.
- [Van Gogh Programme](#). Dutch and French researchers who wish to start or continue research cooperation under the Van Gogh Programme can now submit their application for a travel grant for 2016-2017.
- [New guidelines on teaching duties for PhD candidates of Wageningen University](#)

If you have information that you would like to have included in PE&RC messages, please send this information to Claudius.vandeVijver@wur.nl before the first of the month.

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