



FEB Research



connecting for impact

2025 – 1

In this bi-monthly newsletter, we showcase our research activities, interdisciplinary themes and researchers.

In this first issue of 2025, Assistant Professor Arpan Rijal talks about his research project on personnel scheduling and employee well-being in labor-intensive workplaces, for which he recently received a Veni grant from the Dutch Research Council (NWO).

And PhD candidate Franzisca Fastje tells us about her research on how hybrid work shapes work outcomes, for which she spent time at the Future of Work Institute in Perth, Australia. We also present one of our Impact

cases: Shan Ahmad and Annika Mueller's research on microfinance and financial inclusion in Islamic countries, that has had a significant impact on financial inclusion in Pakistan.

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Exploring the future of work in an international setting

In her research, PhD candidate Franzisca Fastje focuses on how hybrid work shapes work outcomes such as job satisfaction and performance. Last year, she spent time at the Future of Work Institute in Perth, Australia. There she got the opportunity to work with one of her academic role models, an esteemed scholar in the field of work design research. FEB research talked to Fastje about her stay in Australia and the importance of adopting an international perspective and connecting with other academics to spur innovative thinking. [Read further](#)



Improving employee well-being through better scheduling: VENI grant for Arpan Rijal



Arpan Rijal recently received a Veni grant of € 320,000 from the Dutch Research Council (NWO). The assistant professor at FEB's Department of Operations was awarded the grant for his project on personnel scheduling and employee wellbeing in labor-intensive workplaces. He talked to FEB Research about the various factors that affect employee well-being and the role workforce scheduling and logistics can play in this issue.

[Read further](#)

Impact Case: Financial inclusion in Pakistan



Much of Dr. Syedah Shan E Ahmad's and Dr. Annika Mueller's collaborative research focuses on microfinance and financial inclusion in Islamic countries. The empirical findings of their research, conducted in collaboration with Professor Robert Lensink, contributed to the redesign of two key features of a savings account to facilitate formal banking access for economically disadvantaged individuals, offered by Pakistan's largest Islamic bank, Meezan Bank. The implemented changes have had a significant impact on financial inclusion in Pakistan. [Read further](#)



News

NWO XS grants for Christina Czura, Job de Grefte, Evert de Haan and Feicheng Wang

FEB is happy to announce that FEB-researchers Kristina Czura, Job de Grefte, Evert de Haan and Feicheng Wang have each received a grant of € 50,000 from the Dutch Research Council (NWO) for new research projects. The projects focus on a wide variety of topics: tackling menstrual stigma for female well-being in Nepal, individual and collective responsibilities in the Dutch nitrogen crisis, the impact of the Dutch online gambling market liberalization and subsequent advertising restrictions, and the Economic Impacts of the New Dutch Investment Controls. [Read more about the projects of Czura, De Grefte and de Haan.](#) and [Read more about Wang's research plans.](#)

Arjan Frederiks selected as Top Ten 2024 – 2025 High Impact Global MSME Researcher

FEB is pleased to announce that Assistant Professor Arjan Frederiks has been selected as one of the Top Ten 2024-2025 High-Impact Global MSME Researchers by the International Council for Small Business (ICSB). With this prestigious recognition, the ICSB honors individuals whose research has significantly contributed to advancing micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) worldwide. [Read more](#)

Peter Verhoef to receive AMA Retail & Pricing SIG Lifetime Achievement Award

FEB is proud to announce that FEB-dean and Professor of Marketing Peter Verhoef will receive the AMA Retail & Pricing SIG Lifetime Achievement Award. This award honors experienced scholars who have contributed significantly to research in the field of retailing and/or pricing in the past two decades. [Read more](#)

Kim Poldner and team receive RVO grant for Regenerative Renaissance project

Endowed Professor Dr. Kim Poldner and her team have received a grant of €333,928 from the RVO (Netherlands Enterprise Agency) for their Regenerative Renaissance project. The project is a collaboration with renowned sustainable fashion brand Joline Jolink, Lente Land farmer Gemeenschapsboerderij T'Gagel and communications agency Mumster. The initiative is funded through the KIA-Circular Economy (KIA-CE) 2024 grant program. [Read more](#)

Iris Vis appointed as Netherlands Academy of Engineering Fellow

FEB is proud to announce that Professor Iris Vis has been appointed as Fellow of The Netherlands Academy of Engineering (NAE). The NAE brings together leading experts in the areas of technological sciences and applied research and development from various knowledge institutions and the industry. [Read more](#)

Gerard van den Berg appointed as member of the Academia Europaea

Professor Gerard van den Berg has been appointed as member of the Academia Europaea, the European Academy for Sciences, Humanities and Letters. Just as national academies do, the European Academy aims to promote research, to advise governments and international organizations in scientific matters, and to advance on interdisciplinary and international research. Membership is by invitation only and implies a great recognition of one's academic work. [Read more](#)



Recent publications

Below we list a few examples of recent publications.

Boscari, S., D.P. van Donk, M. Pullman, and C. Xiao (2024). Different paths to improving together: a taxonomy of buyer-supplier collaborations for sustainability in food supply networks. *Supply Chain Management: An International Journal*, forthcoming.

<https://doi.org/10.1108/SCM-02-2024-0119>

Janssen, O., T. Vriend, R. Said, and B. Nijstad (2024). Leader regulatory goal setting and employee creativity. *Journal of Organizational Behavior*, forthcoming.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/job.2853>

Jong, N. de, A. Aslan, and I. Bakir (2024). Dynamic service of geographically dispersed time-sensitive demands. *Transportation Research Part C: Emerging Technologies*, 163, 104625.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trc.2024.104625>

Kavadis, N., **N. Hermes**, J. Oehmichen, A. Zattoni, and S. Fainshmidt (2024). Sustainable value creation in multinational enterprises: The role of corporate governance actors. *Journal of World Business*, 59 (1), 101503.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jwb.2023.101503>

Slooten, A.C.A. van, P.M.G. Dirks, and S. Firk (2024). Digitalization and management accountants' role conflict and ambiguity: A double-edged sword for the profession. *British Accounting Review*, 101460, forthcoming.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bar.2024.101460>

Smailhodzic, E., A. Fernandes, N. Dube and M. Tarafdar (2024). Navigating tensions between indigeneity and social media participation: A case study of the Guarani community in South America. *Information Systems Journal*, forthcoming.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/isj.12574>

Soetevent, A.R. (2024). I'd like to move it! The effect of consumption rivalry on demand estimation: Evidence from the EV public charging market. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 124, 102929.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeem.2024.102929>

Wacker, K.M., B. Casella, and M. Borga (2024). Measuring multinational production with foreign direct investment statistics: Recent trends, challenges, and developments. *Journal of Economic Surveys*, forthcoming.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/joes.12662>



Recent PhD Graduates

Frederick Amon-Armah

Harvesting Prosperity: Unveiling Intergenerational Dynamics in Smallholder Farmers' Aspirations and Savings Decisions

Promotor: Prof. B.W. Lensink, co-promotores: Dr. A.M. Mueller and dr. K. Czura
Defended on December 9, 2024

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Arno Kasper

Orchestrating the Manufacturing Symphony: Designs, Decisions, and Dynamics of Production Planning and Control

Promotor: Prof. R.H. Teunter, co-promotor: Dr. M.J. Land
Defended on November 15, 2024

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Robin Konietzny

Workers' Responses to Increasing Import Exposure and the Implications of these for their Well-being
Promotores: Prof. B. Los and Prof. M.V. Nikolova
Defended on November 21, 2024

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Hagen Kruse

Structural Change and International Trade: Evidence from Developing Countries

Promotores: Dr. G.J. de Vries and Prof. M.P. Timmer
Defended on December 16, 2024

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Recent PhD Graduates

Samuël Nelemans

Asset Pricing with Economic Inequality:
 A Macrofinancial Approach
 Promotor: Prof. R.J.M. Alessie, co-promotores:
 Dr. L. Dam, and Dr. J.V. Tinang Nzesseu
 Defended on October 31, 2024

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Martin Pit

Beyond the Contract: Exploring the Multi-faceted
 Nature of Governance and Disruptions in Strategic
 Alliances
 Promotores: Prof. F.A. Rink and
 Prof. D.L.M. Faems, co-promotor:
 Dr. I. Estrada Vacquero
 Defended on November 11, 2024

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Ibrahim Shaheen

Regional Resilience and Interconnectedness:
 a Multilevel Approach
 Promotores: Prof. S. Brakman and
 Prof. J.H. Garretsen, co-promotor: Dr. J. Canello
 Defended on December 12, 2024

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Xin Tian

The Global Financial Cycle: Measurement,
 Transmission, and Spillovers
 Promotor: Prof. J. de Haan, co-promotor:
 Dr. J.P.A.M. Jacobs
 Defended on December 5, 2024

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Van Gia (Karen) Tu

Signals, Shortfalls, and Search: Organizations'
 Processing of Informational Cues
 Promotores: Prof. J. Surroca and
 Prof. P.M.M. de Faria, co-promotor:
 Dr. P.J.O. Kuusela
 Defended on November 18, 2024

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Wout de Vries

Taking the Helm in Dire Straits: Leadership in
 Times of Crisis
 Promotores: Prof. J.I. Stoker and
 Prof. J.H. Garretsen
 Defended on January 9, 2025

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Amber Werkman

Waist versus Waste: Understanding the Interface
 Between Consumer Food Consumption and Waste
 Promotores: Prof. J. van Doorn and
 Prof. K. van Ittersum
 Defended on November 7, 2024

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Tom Wielheesen

Unveiling the Power of Local Marketing in
 Grocery Retailing
 Promotores: Prof. T.H.A. Bijmolt and
 Prof. L.M. Sloot
 Defended on December 12, 2024

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Colophon

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