Three PhD positions
University of Groningen - Faculty of Economics and Business - Department of Operations

Note: use the link "apply" at the indicated web page to apply for a position

PhD position "Towards virtual ports in a physical internet"

The researcher will develop approaches for designing early-stage PI core network structures within existing logistics networks, which allows reaping benefits from PI without requiring a full transition. Furthermore, algorithms will be developed for real-time decision-making for transport planning, modal shifts, and transhipment decisions of (sea) containers, as enabled by the PI initiative, yet usable within the current logistics context.

We are looking for a candidate with a background in operations research or quantitative logistics. He or she has a thorough training in modelling skills, speaks and writes fluently English and has obtained excellent results in the master phase.

For more information please contact prof. dr. Kees Jan Roodbergen (k.roodbergen@rug.nl).

PhD position "The collaboration and governance aspects of service logistics"


The PhD candidate will look at how and which contracts and incentives align interests between supply chain actors in service settings, and will consider the challenges sustainable logistics poses for, for instance, incentive alignment, multi-party logistics networks, cooperation over multiple wind farms and the incorporation of trust. The goal is to better understand collaboration and governance aspects of sustainable offshore wind farm service logistics. The PhD candidate will most likely make use of game-theoretic approaches.

Applicants need to have demonstrated competences for quantitative methods (i.e. Operations Research), with a background in logistics, supply chain management, industrial engineering, operations research or equivalent fields. Applicants with a background in Economics (e.g. Industrial Organization or related) are also welcome to apply.

For information you can contact dr Jasper Veldman (j.veldman@rug.nl)
PhD position "Adaptive Logistics in Circular Economy"


The PhD project is part of a larger project concerning the production of biogas out of agricultural products in the northern part of The Netherlands. This larger project is called Adaptive Logistics in Circular Economy. The PhD project concentrates on the synthesis of principles from business logistics and from ecology in the biogas supply chain. Three pilot cases will be analysed. The work implies:

1. Analysis of the existing biogas supply chain from a business logistics and from an ecological point of view
2. Design of alternative concepts, with the aim to create viable business models
3. Validation of these designs via e.g. simulation and gaming.

We are looking for a candidate with a research master or master of science degree in engineering or technology management, with a substantial knowledge of logistics and supply chain management and demonstrated interest in sustainability. Alternatively, students with a strong background in sustainability combined with a demonstrated interest in logistics and supply chain management can also apply. Preferably, this knowledge should not only be evident from courses followed, but also by practical experience in cases via e.g. internships. Candidates should have excellent marks for their courses and be trained in academic writing, in such a way that their competencies can be verified via their writings. Good communication skills also in the Dutch language are a must. Applicants who do not meet this requirement cannot be taken into account.

For information you can contact Prof. dr. ir. Hans Wortmann (for more information on the project), j.c.wortmann@rug.nl