

INVITATION

Lecture

Big Data, Urban Informatics and the City

By Prof Dr Piyushimita Thakuriah



When: 15 September 2016, 15.30-17.00. There are drinks afterwards.

Where: Erasmus Paviljoen (Theatre / Grote Zaal)
Campus Woudestein of Erasmus University
Burgemeester Oudlaan 350, Rotterdam
Please find directions [here](#).

Entrance: Entrance is free. Registration is not required.

Abstract

New sources of Big Data are rapidly emerging as a result of technological, institutional, social, and business innovations, and are stimulating the emerging area of Urban Informatics. Urban Informatics focuses on the exploration and understanding of urban systems. The potentials of Urban Informatics research and applications are in four areas:

1. Improved strategies for resource management
2. Discovery of urban patterns and processes
3. Strategies for public engagement and civic participation
4. Innovations in urban management

The objective of this talk is to describe emerging sources of urban Big Data, and their use in Urban Informatics, along with the challenges that arise. The talk will survey the kinds of problems being considered by going from a data-poor environment to a data-rich world, with a particular focus on four challenges that are likely to arise: technological (in terms of information management needs), methodological, theoretical, and the emerging political economy of Big Data.

Biography

Prof Dr Piyushimita Thakuriah (Vonu) is the Ch2M Chair of Transport and Professor of Urban Studies and Affiliated Professor at the School of Engineering in the University of Glasgow, UK. She is the founding Director and Principal Investigator of the Urban Big Data Centre, a consortium of 7 universities funded by UK's Economic and Social Research Council. Vonu's research interests lie in smart, socially just and sustainable transport, and theories and methods explaining transport policies and services and traveler behaviour. She is more broadly interested in Urban Informatics or the analytics of emerging sources of Big Data to understand complex urban problems. She is a founding co-chair of the joint subcommittee on Computational Transportation and Society of the Transportation Research Board, and a co-chair of the Urban Data Interest group of the Research Data Alliance.