Items in this letter

1. New Staff Members
2. PhD defences
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4. Awards and Subsidies

1. NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Tenure Track
Kerstin Bunte research group Intelligen Systems as of 01-07-2016

UD
Bart Besselink research group SCAA as of 01-09-2016

PhD
Koen van Geffen research group SCAA as of 15-08-2016
Godliver Owomugisha research group Intelligent Systems as of 01-09-2016
Yongjiao Zhang research group DSGMP as of 01-09-2016
Ronald Remmerswaal research group CMNM as of 01-06-2016
Talko Dijkhuis research group Distributed Systems as of 01-08-2016
Jia Jiajia research group SCAA as of 01-09-2016
Junjie Jiao research group SCAA as of 01-09-2016
Mark Jeeninga research group SCAA as of 01-09-2016
Laura Fiorini research group Distributed Systems as of 01-07-2016
Eric Endo research group DSGMP as of 01-06-2016
Jian Gao research group DSGMP as of 01-10-2016

2. PHD DEFENCES

10-06-2016: S.R. Ranciati
Promotor: E.C. Wit
Title: Statistical modelling of spatio-temporal dependencies in NGS data

10-06-2016: N. Strisciuglio
Promotor: N. Petkov
Title: Bio-inspired algorithms for pattern recognition in audio and image processing
28-06-2016: N.P. Gill
Promotor: E.C. Wit
Title: Generalizations of linear modelling in the biomedical sciences

07-10-2016: S. Ringers
Promotor: J. Top
Title: Quantization using Jet Space Geometry and Identity Management using Credential Schemes

18-10-2016: R. Rodrigues Oliveira da Silva
Promotor: A.C. Telea
Title: Visualizing Multidimensional Data Similarities

07-10-2016: A.R.F. Everts
Promotor: M.K. Camlibel
Title: A. Geometric Approach to multi-modal and multi-agent systems: from disturbance decoupling to consensus

3. NEWS

- Arjan van der Schaft was elected as Fellow of the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC) “for contributions to the systems theory of nonlinear, Hamiltonian, and hybrid systems”.

4. AWARDS AND SUBSIDIES ETC.

- **Thomas Hoeksema wins Aart Bosman Student Excellence Award**
  Thomas Hoeksema was awarded a cum laude distinction for his Bachelor’s degree in Computing Science and is now following the Masters Honours College in High Tech Systems and Materials, with an average mark of 9.5. Always on the lookout for extracurricular challenges, he works as a software developer for a game company, is a team that is developing a method to register earthquakes in the province of Groningen, and is a teaching assistant for several Computing Science course units. The first Aart Bosman Student Excellence Award was awarded in 2009 to mark the establishment of the University of Groningen Honours College. The winner, who is selected from the GUF-100 winners, receives EUR 2,500 prize money on top of the GUF-100 prize money. The winner of the Aart Bosman Student Excellence Award is usually a student who, alongside outstanding results, stands out from the crowd in extracurricular activities that benefit society.

- **Noorma Yulia Megawati** (PhD student Systems, Control and Applied Analysis) was selected as one of the five finalists for the Best Student Paper Award of the European Control Conference 2016 (June 29 - July 1, Aalborg, Denmark) for her paper (co-authored with Arjan van der Schaft) “Equivalence of Regular Matrix Pencil DAE Systems by Bisimulation”.

*If you have items for the coming issue of this Newsletter, please mail to: h.m.steenhuis@rug.nl*