

Nominations FSS Dissertation award 2020

Jie Du (Communication Science): [*Social Media Self-Control Failure: Measurement, Predictors and Consequences*](#)

People nowadays live in a media-rich environment, where social media use (e.g., Facebook, YouTube, Twitter) is pervasive in daily life. While enjoying the benefits of being 'permanently online' (e.g., having contact with one's social network and getting entertained any time anywhere), there is also an increasing concern about the potential costs of being 'permanently online'. One of the costs, that appear to be a highly prevalent phenomenon among many social media users, is the experience that the desire to use social media often disturbs the pursuit of other important goals or obligations (e.g., study, work). The aim of this dissertation project was to increase our understanding of this phenomenon of social media self-control failure. Through four empirical studies, this dissertation shed light on (a) how to measure social media selfcontrol failure, (b) its potential predictors and (c) its psychological consequences.

Iteke van Hille (Organization Sciences): [*A balancing act: Convening cross-sector partnerships to strengthen sustainable development in global supply chains*](#)

Collaboration between business, non-profit organizations and/or governments in 'cross-sector partnerships' (CSPs) are considered a promising approach in furthering sustainable trade. However, CSPs are complex organizational forms and certainly not a guaranteed recipe for success. Therefore, CSPs can benefit from the involvement of conveners, to mitigate potential conflicts or challenges that can arise, and ensure an effective CSP-process. This dissertation focuses on the role of conveners as initiators of CSPs, and explains how mission-driven conveners initiate and convene cross-sector partnerships to strengthen sustainable development in global supply chains. This question is answered through a qualitative study of three cases in the coffee, tea and timber industries. The study shows that, while conveners are faced with tensions and conflicting demands on multiple levels, they cannot be simply considered as 'problem solvers'. Instead, conveners perform a balancing act, navigating these demands and tensions, as a means to safeguard a transition towards sustainable trade.

Hester Paanakker (Political Science & Public Administration): [*Value Divergence: How Professionals, Managers, and Policy Makers Perceive Public Values and Street-Level Craftsmanship in the Prison Sector*](#)

Hester Paanakker's thesis addresses the concrete role, meaning and enactment of public values in hands-on street-level professions. In the Dutch prison sector, the thesis examines the extent to which professionals, managers, and policy makers share a common understanding and evaluation of the values that relate to craftsmanship at the frontline of public service delivery. The results reveal a complex dynamic of convergence on key street-level values, but also a dynamic of divergence, toxic value stereotypes, and putting targets over content. Value divergence is shown to create implementation problems and organizational paralysis, to negatively affect street-level attitudes, and to undermine the realization of public values in public service delivery, but also to spur creative coping mechanisms. In a plea to better understand the value divergence on the surface and to better facilitate the value convergence that goes unnoticed, the thesis advances knowledge on the role of public values and frontline craft.

Tjeerd Piersma (Sociology): [*Blood donor careers: A dynamic approach to donating blood*](#)

Annually, four million patients in Europe are treated with blood-derived products, after traumatic events or during treatment of cancer and autoimmune diseases. To ensure a

sufficient blood supply, hospitals heavily rely on voluntary donations benefiting anonymous recipients. To successfully recruit sufficient amounts of donors, scholars have identified donor characteristics and motivations. Yet, these studies lack knowledge on whether and how blood donor behaviour changes over the life course. By adopting a life course perspective on blood donation, using large, representative and international donor surveys and registers, this dissertation provides a better understanding of donor careers. We show how donation decisions are susceptible to change as a result of individual life events, social influence from friends and family, and contextual (blood bank) factors (e.g., closing donation centres). Without adequate interventions, a vast percentage of donors is at risk to stop donating across their career. Designing personalized, evidence-based interventions is key in guaranteeing a stable and sufficient future blood supply.

Younes Saramifar (winner) (Social and Cultural Anthropology): [*Future Past & Past Future: knowability & memory assemblage in postwar Iran*](#)

How does memory assemblage work in post-war Iran? By studying the politics of memory, insight can be gained into the way in which the state orchestrates memory and memory regimes. The Iranian state uses memory as an instrument to deny history, and therefore Iranians, as a nation, do not need history as a series of fixed narratives, but as an amalgamation of disputed dialogues. In three chapters: martyrdom, memory and main narrative, we analyze how memory becomes memory. By analyzing commemorations and the circulation of war stories among Iranian revolutionary youth, it is shown that dealing with and engaging in memory are specific ways of expressing revolutionary passion of some Iranians. Memory and remembrance are practices of world-making regardless of the history of those memories. It is memory that functions as a form without content, as a genre without substance, as an empty designation.