

International ICT for Sustainability (ICT4S) Summer School 31 July - 4 August 2017 Lorentz Center @Oort

The ICT for Sustainability (ICT4S) research community has coalesced over the last five years around a common set of research challenges that address the relationship between ICT and sustainability, focusing both on how to make ICT greener, and how to leverage the power of ICT to develop sustainable solutions in diverse areas such as urban planning, transport, buildings, food, clean water, and sustainable development. After four successful conferences in Europe (Zurich in 2013; Stockholm in 2014; Copenhagen in 2015; and Amsterdam in 2016), ICT4S will be venturing across the Atlantic for its first North American conference, in Toronto in May 2018 (see <http://ict4s.org> for more information).

The conference has been successful in developing an interdisciplinary community of researchers, and providing a platform for discussing and presenting new ideas. However, in planning for the next conference, we realized that we currently have few opportunities in place to nurture the next generation of ICT4S scholars. This first ICT4S summer school has been designed to fill this gap.

We invited leading thinkers in the field to contribute lectures on interdisciplinary topics. This sparked broad discussion and reflection. The event attracted a broad range of 34 postgraduate students and researchers from different disciplinary backgrounds. Much of the program was dedicated to working groups on topics of interest of the attendees. All attendees, and especially the PhD students, expressed appreciation for the the informal and inspiring atmosphere, and the constructive research discussions that resulted in abstracts and time plans for the development of six scientific papers to be developed by six different groups of participants from various disciplines and with different seniority.

We were five main organizers who with good support from the team from Lorentz Center set up a program for the week. The program consisted of alternating seminars, working groups and social activities. Altogether, there were ten lectures held by professors from nine universities from seven countries on three continents. Moreover, there were between two and three working sessions each day, with groups of PhD-students formed the first day, and complemented with professors. Each group aimed at, and succeeded in, developing both a good start to a research paper and a time plan for finishing it in time for submission to the next ICT4S conference. The preliminary titles being researched as a result of our workshop, are:

- Urban bike sharing and the role of ICT as a success factor
- An exploratory study on the effects of disconnecting without compromising necessities
- On the verge of giving up: sustaining ICT research in danger zones
- Spectrum-based energy hotspot localization
- The footprint of things
- Modular smartphones as a service and their sustainability

In summary, we are happy our Summer School has been successful in creating new collaboration among young and energetic researchers: they are the hope of the future of research in ICT4S, and in fact of our future.

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