

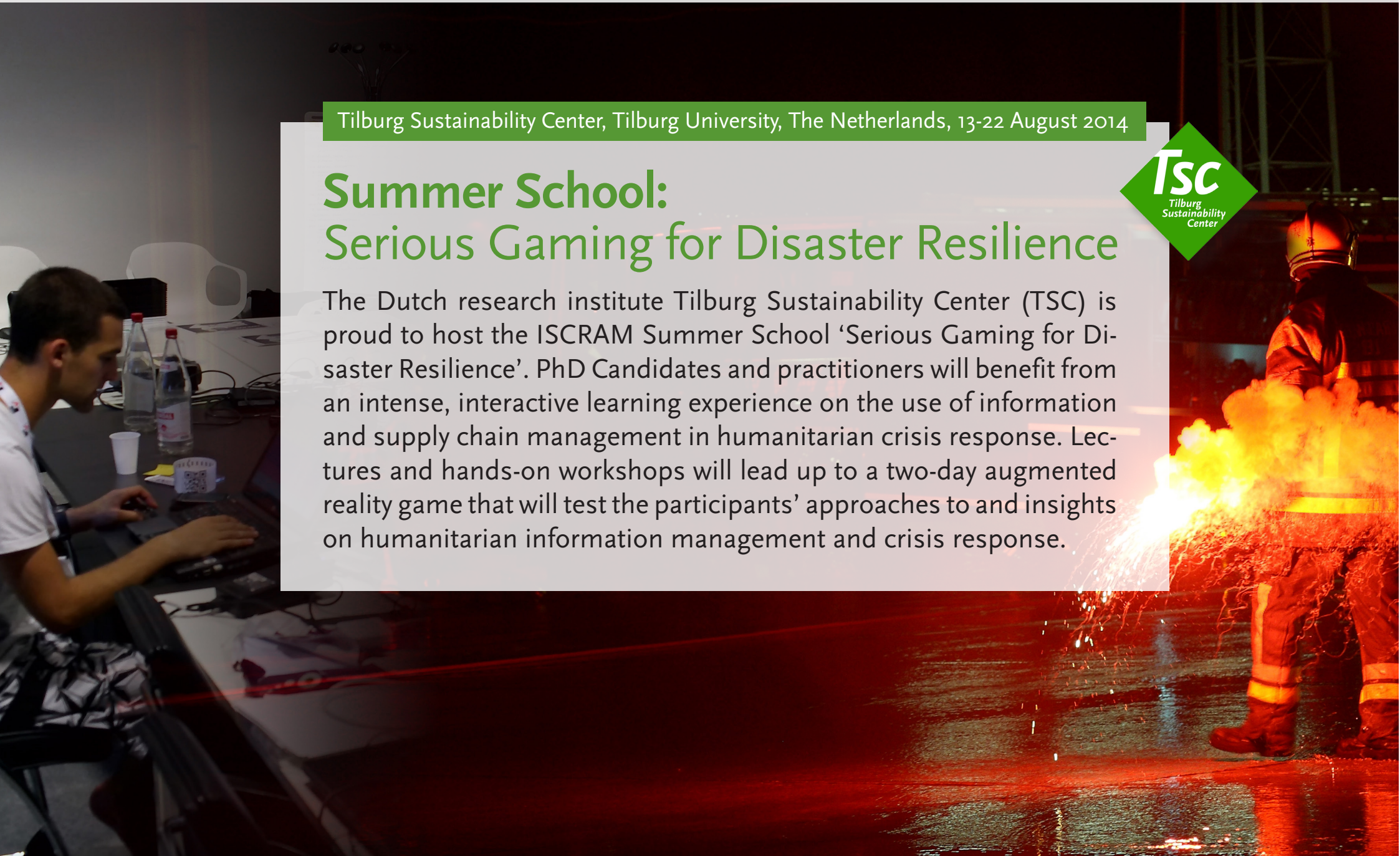
Tilburg Sustainability Center, Tilburg University, The Netherlands, 13-22 August 2014

Summer School: Serious Gaming for Disaster Resilience

The Dutch research institute Tilburg Sustainability Center (TSC) is proud to host the ISCRAM Summer School 'Serious Gaming for Disaster Resilience'. PhD Candidates and practitioners will benefit from an intense, interactive learning experience on the use of information and supply chain management in humanitarian crisis response. Lectures and hands-on workshops will lead up to a two-day augmented reality game that will test the participants' approaches to and insights on humanitarian information management and crisis response.



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Target group

This Summer School wants to bring together highly talented and motivated PhD candidates and mid-career practitioners working in the areas of serious games, information systems, and crisis and disaster response. To facilitate in-depth discussions and increase the quality of guidance, the number of participants is limited to 30.

- PhD students should have completed course work and developed a dissertation proposal. Ideally, they should have completed one year of dissertation work with at least one year remaining (at the time of the summer school) before completion.
- Practitioners should have at least one year work experience in humanitarian response and should possess a university degree. Applications based on significant professional experience will be considered.

The course

The program consists of in-depth lectures, workshops and exercises at the Tilburg University campus, which lead up to a 2-day augmented reality serious game that will be played at a Belgian training center of the Antwerp Province and the Belgium First Aid and Support Team (FAST). There is also a fun-filled social program.

All lectures are taught by experienced experts in the areas of humanitarian information management, serious games, humanitarian action, disaster response, and information systems. To prepare for the final game, participants will join one of two teams: Game Development or the Disaster Response team. The game developers will focus on enhancing the game to achieve learning and improve resilience. The disaster responders will work on improving and combining their tools, procedures, approaches and models to be ready for the challenges of the game. Together, both teams will have a unique opportunity to work on new approaches for decision support and sense-making for disaster resilience.

An impression of the ISCRAM Summer Schools

Since its inception, more than 140 students from over 25 different countries and 50 lecturers from international universities and organizations have participated in the ISCRAM Summer School. Previous editions of the Summer School were consistently rated very highly by the participants.

See a video impression of the alternate reality game '*Disaster in my backyard*', played during the 2012 ISCRAM Summer School.

"The Summer School was one of the most encouraging experiences during my doctoral studies. I met people with the same interest in crisis management, either techies or people oriented, but all sharing this same passion. Gathering students, academics and professionals from everywhere, all driven "to make a difference", no wonder the atmosphere was just "AAA"."





The **Summer School** is hosted by the **Tilburg Sustainability Center (TSC)** at Tilburg University for the Disaster Resilience Lab. The event is also affiliated to the association Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management (ISCRAM). TSC is home to three research groups: Climate Action, Resource Efficiency & Related Societal Challenges, Corporate Social Responsibility, and Sustainable Governance & Social Innovation. Learn more about TSC on our [website](#).

Course Directors

Dr. Bartel Van de Walle (TSC and Department of Management, Tilburg University, the Netherlands) and Dr. Tina Comes (Centre for Integrated Emergency Management, University of Agder, Norway). Bartel Van de Walle has worked on information systems for better crisis response in the field for twenty years. Tina Comes develops systems and tools to support decision makers dealing with complexity and uncertainty. Together they have established the Disaster Resilience Lab as a platform for joint work, such as recently a field research mission to the disaster-struck Philippines.

Costs

The cost for the full program is €800 (€900 after the registration deadline). This fee covers all lunches, dinners, coffee breaks and materials

provided for the lectures and cases. Wireless internet access will be provided on campus for the duration of the summer school for free. Interested parties (practitioners, academics, journalists, etcetera) can register as observers to the final game, to be played on August 19, 2014 for €300 (or €350 after the registration deadline). This includes costs of venue and catering for the day of the game, access to the lectures and tutorials of this day, and the opportunity to observe the game and discuss with the Summer School team.

Accommodation

Please note that travel expenses and accommodation costs are not covered by the registration fee. Special rates will be negotiated with the local hotels and communicated as soon as possible, yet rooms need to be booked and paid by

"If you study humanitarian issues from a purely academic point of view, the Summer School is a great opportunity to expand your outlook and get a sense of how the actual humanitarian practice looks/feels like. This thanks to the highly experienced practitioners that gave talks and also to some practitioners that enroll... Don't worry, you'll also find academics there :P"



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the participants directly to the hotel. Indicative rates: single room (€ 85) and a twin (€110), breakfast included.

Registration

All participants should register by sending an email to the Summer School Course Directors (summerschool@disasterlab.org). The following three documents should be included:

- A one page document in which you summarize your research or work experience, as well as why you are interested in the theme of the Summer School and indicate the relevance of the theme to your research or work;
- A Curriculum Vitae;
- A formal nomination letter.

Application Procedure

PhD students must be formally nominated by the chair of the students' department or any other faculty member who is familiar with the student's research. Practitioners must be nominated by their organization. A letter of nomination (with the institution's or employer's official letterhead) should include:

- The title of your PhD dissertation or current position in your organization;
- Information on the nominating faculty

member or superior: name, address, department/institution, email address, phone, and fax numbers.

All applicants will be evaluated by the Course Directors, and applicants will be informed of acceptance. After acceptance, registration at Tilburg University Summer School is possible on the [website](#). Only after successfully completing your registration and receipt of payment in time you will be admitted as PhD student to the Summer School. Practitioners and those interested in the one day registration for participating in the game (August 19th, 2014) should make their registration arrangements directly through TSC. Please email: tsc@tilburguniversity.edu

Important dates:

- **March 31st, 2014:**
Application deadline
- **April 14th, 2014:**
Notification of acceptance/rejection
- **June 1st, 2014:**
Registration deadline

More information

For more information, contact:
tsc@tilburguniversity.edu

"If you are into crisis management and open for new ideas, other perspectives and curious what others do, you definitely should join the summer school. The talks are one aspect but more important is your story. And all the other stories from other participants. What are they doing? And why? It forces you to think in a different way. And at the end of every day a fantastic dinner and Belgium/Dutch beer waits."

