INAGURAL LECTURE

Practical Combinatorial Optimization

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

TU/e
EINDHOVEN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

INVITATION

Prof.dr. Frits Spieksma joined the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science of Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e) as a full professor in Combinatorial Optimization on January 1, 2018. He will deliver his inaugural lecture on February 21, 2020.
The Executive Board of Eindhoven University of Technology cordially invites you to attend the inaugural lecture of Prof.dr. Frits Spieksma on **Friday, February 21, 2020, at 4.00 PM**. The public lecture will be delivered in the Blauwe Zaal of the Auditorium. You do not need to register.

The lecture concerns

*Practical Combinatorial Optimization*

After the lecture, drinks will be served in the Senaatszaal.

All full professors are invited to join the cortège. If you want to join the cortège, please register in advance with the P&P office which organizes all academic ceremonies, telephone +31 (0)40 247 33 02, e-mail: penp@tue.nl.

Prof.dr.ir. F.P.T. Baaijens  
Rector Magnificus

After February 21, 2020, the text of the inaugural lecture will be available online at www.tue.nl/lectures.

Frits Spieksma (1964) obtained his MSc in Econometrics from the University of Groningen (1987) and his PhD in Operations Research from Maastricht University (1992). After a short stay at the University of British Columbia, he worked as assistant and associate professor at Maastricht University. In 2001, he became full professor at KU Leuven. He has published over a 100 papers in scientific journals, supervised more than 10 PhD students, and is on the editorial board of a number of scientific journals.

He is founder of the EURO Working Group OR in Sports, which aims to bring together quantitative research related to sport. He is a member of the European Network on Collaboration for Kidney Exchange Programs, which intends to stimulate European cooperation for the use of optimization techniques for kidney exchange. Frits Spieksma was director of the Leuven School of Business and Economics, and was president of the Belgian Operations Research Society; he is currently one of the Principal Investigators within the research program NETWORKS. He was recently appointed chairman of the mathematics cluster DIAMANT.

**About the lecture**

In his lecture Frits Spieksma will illustrate the presence of combinatorial optimization in different parts of today’s society. From improving the lives of patients with kidney failure to constructing schedules for sports competitions and from finding a seating arrangement in parliaments to scheduling inland waterway traffic, combinatorial optimization plays an instrumental role in all these fields. He sketches these applications, and shows that there is an increased need for incorporating dynamics, fairness and environmental considerations. Scientific research helps in providing satisfying answers to these challenges.

**Visiting address** Auditorium, Building 1, Groene Loper, Eindhoven  
**Navigation address** De Zaale, Eindhoven, www.tue.nl/map