

Curriculum Vitae

Erik Stam was born on the fourth of July (1975) in Nieuw-Lekkerland. From 1987-1993 he cycled to Rotterdam five days a week for his secondary education. In 1993 he started his degree in Human Geography at Utrecht University. During these years, his studies had to rival with cycling as he competed in road races ranging from the *Lichfield Circuit Race* (United Kingdom) to the *Piccolo Giro di Lombardia* (Italy). In 1995 he changed track to Economics and Geography and graduated in 1998 with a thesis on innovation networks of small and medium-sized ICT enterprises. During the last year of his degree he exchanged his focus on cycling for a focus on science when he became a research assistant in a Dutch project on the survival of young firms and a European Union project on *Networks, collective learning and regionally clustered high-technology SMEs*.

In 1998 he entered the PhD programme of the Netherlands Graduate School of Housing and Urban Research (NETHUR) at the Urban and Regional research centre Utrecht (URU), Faculty of Geographical Sciences, Utrecht University. Next to participation in this PhD programme, he gave lectures to students in Economics and Economic Geography at the same university. He also taught in executive courses on innovative entrepreneurship and strategic management. In this period, he also undertook other research projects on for example fast-growing firms, regional development in Brabant (Netherlands) and Uddevalla (Sweden), and team start-ups.

Since the start of 2002 he has been assistant professor in Strategy and Organization at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration of the Free University Amsterdam, and he is currently also working as assistant professor in Economic Geography at the Faculty of Geographical Sciences of Utrecht University.