



The Tourism Management Group, part of the School of Management, Victoria Business School, invites you to attend the following seminar:

Tourism, Insularity and Remoteness: a Gravity-Based Approach

Dr Vincent Dropsy

Associate Professor of Economics at the University of French Polynesia, Tahiti

Tuesday 21st November

12.30 – 1.30pm

**Room MZ06, Mezzanine Floor, Rutherford House
Pipitea Campus, Wellington**

The purpose of this presentation is to share the results of a collaborative research project whose goal is to investigate the sensitivity of bilateral tourism flows to distance, relative prices, cultural and political proximity variables, for all tourism destinations in the world, but also for a subset of small island destinations, using a gravity model. The authors of this research found that doubling the distance between origin and destination countries reduces the tourist flow by about two third. For small island destinations the (positive) effect of population size and the (negative) effect of the cost of living at destination are much higher. Cultural, historical and institutional ties with the sending country (language, currency, colonial links and political dependency) have very large positive effects on bilateral tourism flows, while a gain in political independence leads to a large fall in the number of visitors.

About the presenter:

Dr. Vincent Dropsy is currently Associate Professor of Economics at the University of French Polynesia, Tahiti. He obtained his Ph.D. in International Economics from the University of Southern California (1989) and joined California State University, Fullerton, where his research interest revolved around international economics, and in particular exchange rates. He then joined the University of French Polynesia (2008) where he is doing research on small island economies, tourism, culture and development, and other international topics of interest.

ALL WELCOME

Any queries please email: tourism@vuw.ac.nz