



## *NETTELBOOSJE 2*

ALUMNI MAGAZINE STRATEGIC INNOVATION MANAGEMENT

Editorial for: S1-Q2: September 2014

### *Two Boys – ‘One of a Kind’*

Dear all,

I hope that you –just as me – enjoyed the Summer break, and that you are fully recharged for the new year. This edition of Nettelbosje 2 – S1-Q2 – has the stories of two former alumni of the year 2008-2009: **Joost Rietveld** and **Thom de Vries**. Both have successfully started a career in academia and published articles in prestigious academic journals.

I have come to know Joost Rietveld as a very ambitious person, not only during his studies, but also since I am his co-author. I was stunned about how quickly he can achieve goals. Although he started relatively late with sprinting, he quickly became a skillful sprinter through a lot of training and dedication. He participated in international (student) competitions, and after he went to London he trained with some of the best sprinters in the world. London was just a brief stop for him, before he could work in the US. I like to work with him, also because he also finds it important to maintain good personal relationships. I foresee a great career in academia.

Thom is completely different, but also one of a kind. I remember that I had read his reports during Capturing Value from Innovation (about Gillette) and Specialization Course (van der Klauw watches), and that I saw the potential for him to become an academic. He was surprised when I asked him if he would be interested in a PhD. After successfully completing his Research Master, he became a PhD at HRM at the University of Groningen. He went to the US to work with leading scholars, and became a very skillful academic. This has led to a recent publication in the *Academy of Management Journal*, one of the most prestigious management journals.

Who would have thought...these two (little) boys....