

Propositions

accompanying the dissertation

Connecting science and policy in Dutch coastal management

The role of system understanding and conceptual models

by

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1. Research that synthesizes coastal system understanding into shared conceptual models is pivotal in achieving policy impact. (this PhD thesis)
2. The sediment budget of the Dutch coast was, is and always will be the linchpin of coastal policy in the Netherlands. (this PhD thesis)
3. For policy relevant long term morphological simulations, a dynamic morphological equilibrium approach is required. (this PhD thesis)
4. Operational decision making at Rijkswaterstaat requires a broad awareness of the current strategic, tactical and operational objectives throughout the organization.
5. International cooperation provides an indispensable mirror to national coastal management agencies in assessing their strengths and weaknesses.
6. The fact that policy advisors are 'objects' of research is both intriguing and intimidating.
7. Cultural heritage and sense of place are undervalued in flood risk management cost benefit analyses.
8. One cannot set foot on the same beach twice (adapted from Heraclitus, 540 BC — 480 BC).
9. Combining family life, a full time job and a PhD requires finding one's own equilibrium 'morphology'. If the critical work rate (r) is exceeded for a long time, one can drown. (inspired by this PhD thesis)

These propositions are regarded as opposable and defensible, and have been approved as such by the promotors Prof.dr. J.H. Slinger and Prof.dr.ir. Z.B. Wang.