

Financial Leadership and Risk Management at the Duisenberg School: Applications of Extreme Value Theory to the Financial Industry and Credit Crisis

4:00 p.m. Monday, February 28, 2011
Science Center 309



Prof. Dr. Casper de Vries,
Programme Director MSc in Risk
Management



Dr. Mia de Kuijper,
Dean of External Relations and
Executive Education

Dr. de Kuijper will give a presentation about the [Duisenberg School of Finance](#), Amsterdam, including an overview of the degree programs, the Duisenberg Leadership Program, internship opportunities, and illustrative finance career tracks of Duisenberg graduates.

The Duisenberg School (DSF) has established itself as an institution that bridges the gap between the financial industry and academia. It attracts students from around the world to its highly selective programs. DSF offers M.Sc. degrees in Risk Management, Corporate Finance and Banking, and Finance and Law. The Duisenberg School also offers an LLM program in Finance and Law and an MPhil/PhD program in Finance.

Professor de Vries will outline the curriculum of the Risk Management program at the Duisenberg. He will also illustrate a part of the program's teaching and research by discussing two applications of statistical extreme value theory to the financial industry and the credit crisis. One application involves the smoothing of reported Hedge Fund returns. The other issue concerns systemic risk. Standard economic and financial modeling has adopted the normal distribution, partly because it is the basis for pricing derivatives and partly because most econometric techniques rely on this distribution. The recent financial crisis has shown, however, that many financial and economic data exhibit distributions with heavy tails. For these two topics, it is shown that alternative distributions generate dramatically different views of the world.

AM students in statistics and undergraduate students in statistics and economics are particularly encouraged to attend, but the event is open to all interested. There will be a reception on the 7th floor of the Science Center after the talk.