**SIKS / BENAIS Conference:**

**The Language/Action Perspective– current status and future prospects**

**Tilburg, May 3-4, 2017**

The Language/Action Perspective was formulated in the 80's (Winograd &  Flores; Goldkuhl & Lyytinen) and distinguished itself from the IT and IS research at that time by its focus on what the philosopher Habermas called the "social world", as distinct from the subject and object world.
According to speech act theory, communication is bringing these three worlds together. Although the relevance of this social world focus can be seen as a lasting contribution to the IS field, the modernist approach in which this social world was addressed was also criticized, for better or for worse, in postmodern times. Postmodernism came with new concepts like "practice" and "actor-network". Some would argue that LAP could be continued very well in postmodern, or pragmatist, format, whereas others would prefer not to give up the modernist project so easily.

Within the Netherlands, LAP inspired the development of the Enterprise Engineering approach (Dietz) that has been quite successful and now has its own yearly conferences. LAP has also been an inspiration for Multi-Agent System research, in particular in the area of normative systems (Dignum and others) and negotiation.

The objective of the Language/Action workshop 2017 will be to reflect on the current status of LAP and to look forward. Is there still room for LAP as an IS theory or is it already incorporated in the mainstream? What elements of LAP need to be updated? What are important research directions for the coming years? We are proud that this LAP workshop will bring together key people that played an important role in developing LAP, including Goran Goldkuhl, Jan Dietz, Mareike Schoop, Paul Johannesson,Rodney Clark, Hans Weigand and Aldo de Moor.

The LAP workshop will be held in Tilburg, May 3-4 2017, and is supported by SIKS. Attendance will be free for SIKS students and SIKS members, but you have to register in advance by sending an email to Alice Kloosterhuis a.m.kloosterhuis@uvt.nl. Please indicate any special dietary wishes for the lunch.

We also invite young researchers to present their research and how it relates to LAP. If you would like to present, please send an email with title and short abstract to Hans Weigand: weigand@uvt.nl before April 1.

Time line:
-       April 1  deadline for research presentations
-       April 7  notification of acceptance
-       April 20  deadline for registration
-       May 3-4  workshop in Tilburg