Where: School of Physical Sciences Room N115

When: 1oc Thursday 8th December

Speaker: Prof. Jens Ducree

Title: Satoshi Nakamoto and the Origins of Bitcoin

The mystery about the ingenious creator of Bitcoin concealing behind the pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto has been fascinating the global public for more than a decade. Suddenly lunging out of the dark in 2008, this persona hurled the decentralized electronic cash system "Bitcoin", which has intermittently reached a peak market capitalization in the region of 1 trillion USD; in addition to its substantial and controversial role as a financial instrument, Bitcoin has also become a polarizing cultural artefact, and even a digital-age belief system that formed around a captivating origin myth.

In a purposely agnostic, and meticulous "leaving no stone unturned" approach, this study presents new hard facts, which slipped through Satoshi Nakamoto's elaborate privacy shield, and derives meaningful pointers that are primarily inferred from Bitcoin's whitepaper, in particular its citations and follow-up communication, as well as its blockchain parameters, and data that were widely up to his own discretion.

This ample stack of established and novel evidence is systematically categorized, analyzed, and then connected to its related, real-world ambient, like relevant locations and happenings in the past, and at the time. Evidence compounds towards a substantial role of the world-class cryptography ecosystems in the Benelux, and possibly the UK, with strong transatlantic links to North America, in the creation of Bitcoin. A plausible biography, a psychogram, and gripping story of an ingenious, multi-talented, autodidactic, reticent, and capricious polymath transpire, which are absolutely unique from a history of science and technology perspective. A cohort of previously fielded and best matches emerging from the investigations are probed against an unprecedentedly restrictive, multi-stage exclusion filter, which can, with maximum certainty, rule out most "Satoshi Nakamoto" candidates, while some of them remain to be confirmed.

With this study, you will be able to decide who is <u>not, or highly unlikely</u> to be Satoshi Nakamoto, you will be equipped with an ample stack of consistently assorted facts and efficient methodologies to find suitable candidates, and you can possibly unveil the real identity of the creator of Bitcoin - if you want. The seminar presentation will give a glance at this upcoming publication.