Dr. Henk Weerts is a physical geographer trained at Utrecht University who works with Holocene landscape modeling, reconstruction and planning as part of the Dutch Cultural Heritage Agency oversight for cultural resources. His work is widely published in geoarchaeology, geography, and geology. Dr. Weerts will provide a short description of how archaeological research in the Netherlands is organized in terms of pertinent legislation, various agency responsibilities, and the position of the Cultural Heritage Agency with respect to review, oversight, planning and other activities.

Dr. Weerts’ talk will include two important case studies. One will illustrate how long term heritage planning is accomplished in The Netherlands through an example of the involvement of the Cultural Heritage Agency in a regular excavation at the *Forum Hadriani*, one of two former Roman cities in the Netherlands and the northernmost Roman incursion into northwestern Europe.

The second case study is a quite contemporary and ongoing involvement of the Cultural Heritage Agency in the expansion of the *Port of Rotterdam* to accommodate increased intermodal container capacities. This project has substantial underwater impacts. The *Maasvlakte2 Project*, as it is called, is an example of an innovative geo-archaeological landscape modeling and research program under challenging circumstances, and well illustrates the tandem role of geographic landscape reconstruction and archaeological prospection in modern development activities and contexts.

The lecture will be illustrated with PowerPoints of the two case studies, and will be followed by a workshop session to discuss pertinent topical items that may arise.

*Refreshments will be served following the presentation and during the workshop.*

Dr. Weerts’ presentation is sponsored by:
The Department of Anthropology
MSU Graduate School