

## Editorial

I expect that you will get this Newsletter in the middle of December. So let me start with my best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I am a bit afraid to say so, but it seems that EURA remains in good shape at the end of a very difficult year!

Our big pride "Urban Research and Practice" is doing well, slowly but systematically reaching a difficult market of urban journals (once again many thanks to Rob Atkinson for his efforts).

Recently in the EURA Board we made a review of membership trends and we concluded that the number of institutional members (essential for any academic association) has been on an upward slope, which makes me feel optimistic about the EURA future. Of course, we are still a small organization (and to some extent this is our strength and beauty) but clearly we respond to a real demand.

EURA is very much about meeting people from other European countries and beyond, and building new links and networks. So it is very important to have concrete plans for our next events. I had pleasure to see many of you in Milan last October (thanks to Sandro and his team). My special thanks for excellent study tours, including a remarkable bike tour!), but now it is a time to think about the next meetings. First is June 2009 – a joint conference with UAA in Madrid (details – see inside), then Darmstadt and Copenhagen. And there are also some plans for smaller workshops in between. Our conferences often have a follow-up. It is my special pleasure to draw your attention to the Newsletter's information on the second post-conference publication (this time edited by R. Atkinson and C. Rossignolo) gathering a selection of papers presented during the conference that I had the honour to organise in Warsaw in 2006.

In my previous editorial I was mentioning the possibility of a new location for the EURA office. Now it is official – from January 1, 2009, our office will be in Darmstadt hosted by the Darmstadt University of Technology.

Last but not least, I want to draw your attention to the second edition of our competition for Young Urban Scholars. When we announced it for the first time, we received very interesting papers, including the

excellent work by Elsa Vivant, our first winner. I am very much looking forward to receiving more excellent papers this year. Details of the competition are inside the Newsletter.

Do not forget to send your abstracts for next EURA conferences! I am looking forward to seeing you again very soon!

Pawel Swianiewicz  
EURA President

## Editorial Team

Prof Rob Atkinson  
Dr Laurence Carmichael  
Julie Trigg

## The aims of EURA

- To encourage international exchange and co-operation in relation to urban research
- To stimulate and encourage interdisciplinary and cross-national urban research
- To contribute to urban policy debates.

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## Conference News and Information

This section provides news and information about international conferences in Europe and elsewhere. If you have any material you would like to see in the next issue please forward it to [marta.lackowska@pg.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:marta.lackowska@pg.tu-darmstadt.de)

### **3rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC ASSOCIATION ON PLANNING, LAW AND PROPERTY RIGHTS (PLPR)**

11-13 February 2009, Aalborg, Denmark

The Association is targeted to all who are interested in the broad fields that interface between planning and law: academics (or PhD students) in planning, law, real estate or related disciplines. Our academic association, although relatively new, already attracts participants from all parts of the world.

Representative of the Local Organizing Committee at Aalborg is Michael Sorensen [tophoej@land.aau.dk](mailto:tophoej@land.aau.dk). We have kept the conference fees low and have special low fees for participants from lower-income countries and for students (see the conference web site – details below).

For more information about PLPR and membership forms (membership is free and deducts from the conference fee!) see the web site. For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or other members of the ExCo of PLPR.

#### **For further details:**

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<http://planning-law.socsci.uva.nl/>

### **39th URBAN AFFAIRS ASSOCIATION (UAA) ANNUAL MEETING CONTESTING AND SUSTAINING THE CITY: NEIGHBORHOOD, REGION, OR WORLD**

4-7 March 2009, Chicago USA

"Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir [one's] blood. Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a nobler, logical diagram once recorded, will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing... Let your watchword be order and your beacon beauty," Daniel Burnham.

This was the message put forward at the turn of the century by Chicago visionaries who sought to bring order to what they saw as a chaotic and dangerous urban arena. The "well designed" city would be comprehensively planned, with regional transportation systems linking city to suburb, with accessible public parks and civic centers, widened streets, well-placed iconic structures and pleasantly designed water fronts. The "well planned" city would enable sustainable growth and keep populations contented within a visually appealing urban form. The "city beautiful" movement sought to integrate the aesthetic and the pragmatic. In Chicago such plans came together in 1909 in the Plan of Chicago, better known as the "Burnham Plan," and it is

considered by many to be one of the most influential urban plans ever conceived.

And yet, with all their ambitious ideals, others have considered plans such as these to be projects led by corporate interests seeking to control and contain the voices of an increasingly vocal urban working class and minority population. In *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, Jane Jacobs was especially critical of these early reform efforts, writing that, "There is a quality even meaner than outright ugliness or disorder, and this meaner quality is the dishonest mask of pretended order, achieved by ignoring or suppressing the real order that is struggling to exist (15)."

One century later, and policymakers, planners and scholars continue to debate the question of how we should govern our cities. If we should plan our cities. What place should aesthetic design hold in the process? Whom should we be building our cities for? And with whom should we be making these kinds of decisions? The twin forces of globalization and urbanization generate new contests among city dwellers, and new challenges for policy makers seeking to build the socially inclusive, environmentally sound and economically sustainable city. The search for competitive advantage between neighborhoods, cities and regions leads policy makers to focus more and more of their attentions on projects geared to enhance "quality of life." However, as the gaps between rich and poor continue to grow, the question that is left is, "For whom do we craft our urban world?" As policy makers seek to enhance their economic position locally, nationally and internationally, they are faced with a variety of tradeoffs—leaving winners and losers. Contesting and sustaining the city is the theme for the 39th Annual Meeting of the UAA in Chicago, a perfect location for us to consider whether cities should be tamed, sustained or nurtured. And if so, by and for whom?

#### **Registration Policy and Rates**

All participants (faculty, students, and practitioners) must pay the appropriate fees for their membership category. There are no one-day registration rates. Registration is completed online via the UAA website ([www.udel.edu/uaa](http://www.udel.edu/uaa)) by credit card, personal check or institutional check.

For more information about UAA, please visit our homepage (<http://www.udel.edu/uaa/>).

We hope to see you in Chicago!

#### **For further details:**

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**47th INTERNATIONAL MAKING CITIES LIVABLE  
CONFERENCE TRUE URBANISM: CITIES FOR  
HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

10-14 May 2009, Portland, OR, USA

This conference will address the relationship between the built environment, social, and physical health, and how architects, urban designers, landscape architects and planners can reshape the built environment to improve health and well-being.

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**JOINT EURA/UAA EVENT – MADRID 2009  
CITY FUTURES IN A GLOBALISING WORLD**

4-6 June 2009, Madrid, Spain

**EURA EVENT**

The European Urban Research Association (EURA) and the Urban Affairs Association (UAA) will hold their second Joint Conference on City Futures in Madrid. We extend an invitation to colleagues from Europe, North America and from across the world to join us in a major forward looking conference examining the future of cities.

For further details: see page 8 of the newsletter

**5th URBAN RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM  
CITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE: RESPONDING  
TO AN URGENT AGENDA**

28-30 June 2009, Marseille, France

The Urban Research Symposium is a unique global forum to discuss specific policy issues related to urban growth and development. Academicians, practitioners, and decision makers from all countries and cities are urged to attend.

The Urban Research Symposium is a three-day event, launched in 2002, and is sponsored by the World Bank and a broad spectrum of partners.

**Purpose of the event**

- Provides a platform to both developing as well as developed country researchers to present their work, share their experiences, and debate subjects that are timely and relevant both from a research as well as a policy perspective.
- Understands that the fight against climate change will be won or lost in cities. There is increasing urgency to get cities involved not only in a political context but also in contributing to cutting-edge research at the city-scale, defining practical solutions for urban and peri-urban areas, and working with decision makers to ensure that this research is translated into local policy options.
- Sees cities as complex, inter-connected sectors and systems where policies in one sector impact and interact with other sectors.
- Gives a voice to cities in developing countries on issues that are at the forefront of urban development.
- Contributes to the advancement of the capacity of researchers and research institutions in developing countries.

**Role of cities**

At a time when climate change is a major priority for the international community, this Symposium focuses on the challenges and opportunities posed by climate change on cities. The role of cities and peri-urban areas in confronting climate change is being increasingly recognized.

- More and more, cities are showing their political dynamism by taking a leadership role in international climate change negotiations.
- Urban growth is projected to increase significantly in the coming decades. Urban population is expected to double from 3.3 billion in 2007 to 6.4 billion in 2050. Much of this growth will take place in developing countries, making them less resilient to climate change.
- 360 million inhabitants live in urban areas less than 10 meters above sea level, making them vulnerable to sea level rise and other coastal impacts of climate change.

**Key research areas**

The Symposium is structured around five research clusters which represent the most relevant issues faced by cities and peri-urban areas on climate change:

- Science and indicators of climate change and related impacts: Understanding and measuring how cities impact, and are impacted by, climate change.
- Infrastructure, built environment, and energy supply: Planning efficiently and effectively to increase the resilience and energy efficiency of cities.

- Role of institutions, governance, and urban planning: Improving management, coordination, and planning of cities to meet climate change challenges.

- Incentive policies, economics and finance: Understanding how and why cities respond to climate change.

- Social aspects of climate change: Understanding and reducing vulnerability of urban populations to climate change.

### **Approach and Attendance**

Research will be presented and shared through

- commissioned research,
- call for papers, and
- poster presentations.

These papers will have a strong emphasis on policy implications, sharing of practices and strategies for mitigation and adaptation, and new options for financing climate change-related policies and technologies.

In the past, Symposiums have attracted more than 300 participants from around the world.

### **Partnership and Sponsorship Opportunities**

Government agencies, NGOs, private companies, and other groups are welcome to partner with the Symposium. To make a contribution or discuss how your institution could partner with the 5th Urban Research Symposium, please e-mail us at [urbansymposium@worldbank.org](mailto:urbansymposium@worldbank.org)

### **For further details:**

<http://www.urs2009.net>

### **ENHR PRAGUE 2009**

#### **CHANGING HOUSING MARKETS: INTEGRATION AND SEGMENTATION**

28 June - 1 July 2009, Prague, Czech Republic

The next international ENHR Conference will be held in Prague from 28 June – 1 July 2009 and is organised by the Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic together with the Charles University in Prague Faculty of Science and University of Economics in Prague Faculty of Economics and Public Administration.

Do we need new paradigm to enable a better understanding of changing housing markets? Have traditionally local housing markets become global? Will record house price increases be followed by record price falls? How should we deal with the consequences of income polarization and housing market segmentation?

The conference theme is Changing Housing Markets: Integration and Segmentation. The role and “power” of housing and mortgage markets are changing quickly around the world, especially by the increasing influence these markets have on the wider economy and sustainable

development of many societies (social cohesion). The integration and segmentation of housing markets are two sides of the same coin. While market integration is following the globalization of financial flows the rising popularity of residential investments in abroad or capital pooling in the field of building materials production and housing development; increasing income inequalities, the worsening of housing affordability, ethnic segregation, social exclusion and new poverty are mostly cited to be behind growing market segmentation.

### **For further details:**

[www.enhr2009.com](http://www.enhr2009.com)

### **5th ECPR GENERAL CONFERENCE**

10-12 September 2009, Potsdam University, Germany

The academic programme will be organised in the format of sections and panels, each section containing between 4 and 10 panels. There will also be an 'open' section, consisting of stand-alone panels that do not fit neatly into any of the listed sections. Panel sessions are scheduled to last one hour and forty minutes and include a chairman, discussant and up to five paper givers.

The programme is very broad, with over 50 sections covering all the main areas of political science, from environmental politics, political theory and European studies to international relations.

The final academic programme is decided by the Academic Convenors for the Conference (Professor Luciano Bardi, University of Pisa, and Professor Martin Bull, University of Salford).

Papers can now be proposed to the sections and panels. A list of the sections can be found at:  
<http://www.ecpr.org.uk/potsdam/sections.asp>

Deadline for paper submissions: 1 February 2009

A step by step guide on how to submit a paper can be found at: <http://www.ecpr.org.uk/potsdam/howtosubmit.asp>

### **For further details:**

<http://www.ecpr.org.uk/potsdam/default.asp>

## **Past conferences**

See page 14 for a report of the recent EURA Conference held in Milan, Italy 'Learning Cities in a Knowledge Based Society', 9-11 October 2008



## Urban Research News and Information

This section provides news and information about research activities in Europe and elsewhere. If you have any material you would like to see in the next issue please forward it to [marta.lackowska@pg.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:marta.lackowska@pg.tu-darmstadt.de)

### Research News

#### Call for scholars

The Johns Hopkins University Institute for Policy Studies International Urban Fellows program is designed to create a worldwide network of professionals engaged in the study of urban policy. It brings scholars in urban policy studies outside of the U.S. to the Hopkins campus each year for a program of advanced study, research and training. Positions in the program are available at the Senior or Junior level and for either four or eight months.

The program will benefit promising researchers who will gain a semester or academic year of reflection, exposure to American and cross-national experience, and immersion in the literature and issues of urban policy. Successful candidates should have strong interests and a proven record of accomplishment in the urban policy field, the capability to conduct independent inquiry into some facet of the growth, decline and revitalization of cities and the welfare of urban

residents, and a solid fluency in spoken and written English. Please note that our application deadline for the 2009-2010 academic year is April 1, 2009.

Special sponsored fellowship opportunities are available for Swedish and Italian scholars and practitioners.

More detailed information and application procedures may be obtained by visiting our website at <http://www.jhu.edu/ips>.

Questions may be directed to Marsha R. B. Schachtel at [mschacht@jhu.edu](mailto:mschacht@jhu.edu)

### Write about your research

We welcome news of your research for inclusion in the next EURA newsletter.

Please e-mail your information to [marta.lackowska@pg.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:marta.lackowska@pg.tu-darmstadt.de)

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## Recent Publications

This section provides news and information about recent publications by members. If you have any material you would like to see in the next issue please forward it to [marta.lackowska@pg.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:marta.lackowska@pg.tu-darmstadt.de)

### CROSS-NATIONAL LESSON DRAWING FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Robin Hambleton writes about a UK initiative to improve exchange between local authorities in different countries

In the late 1990s UK central and local government set up a new agency – the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) – to improve the performance of local government in England. The IDeA is an influential organisation in the UK and has a well respected website that is heavily used by local government policy makers and practitioners.

Earlier this year the IDeA commissioned Robin Hambleton to research and write five short articles on local government innovations in other countries. The articles are intended to stimulate fresh thinking within the UK local government community in relation to international lesson drawing. The articles were published on a fortnightly basis in *Municipal Journal (MJ)* – a leading UK local government management magazine – as well as on the IDeA website. The versions on the website are longer than the MJ versions and they provide guides to further sources.

The articles – which were published as an integrated series under the title 'International Insights' – are concerned with various aspects of local government innovation, from urban regeneration to improving the user experience of public services.

The series employs a 'lesson drawing' methodology – meaning that explicit attention is given in each article to the implications of experience abroad for policy and practice in the UK. The five topics covered are:

- Learning from others globally
- Melbourne makeover
- Planning the Milan city region
- Service responsiveness – lessons from Chicago
- Adapting to climate change in Malmo

The articles are available for free download from:  
[www.idea.gov.uk/international](http://www.idea.gov.uk/international)

The series represents part of a strategic move by the IDeA and MJ to work with other partners to develop a more sophisticated approach to international lesson drawing at the locality-to-locality level. This initiative enjoys the support of the Local Government Association (LGA), the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE), the European Association of Chief Executives (UDITE), the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and, of course, the European Urban Research Association (EURA).

The EURA logo appears on all the articles and the IDeA website now has a link to the EURA website. It is hoped that the articles will enhance the profile of EURA in the period ahead.

Robin Hambleton is Professor of City Leadership, in the Cities Research Centre at the University of the West of England, Bristol.

A book based on papers given at the EURA Warsaw conference 'Cities in City Regions' has just been published:

### THE RE-CREATION OF THE EUROPEAN CITY. GOVERNANCE, TERRITORY AND POLYCENTRICITY.

Rob Atkinson and Cristiana Rossignolo (eds) October 2008

ISBN 978 90 8594 022 7, 47.50. Published by Techne Press

Cities and city regions have become key drivers of national and European economic development and, at the same time, have become nodes of new forms of societal interaction, calling for a major role in territorial and social development and addressing issues of sustainability and social cohesion. With these changes, the effects of spatial and urban planning on economic development and on territorial and social cohesion have become relevant.

The Re-creation of the European City investigates the position of regions and cities and presents different views of how cities and regions are conceived and planned at different scales in different European contexts. It reveals some shared assumptions and approaches, while simultaneously illustrating the continuing importance of national contexts in institutional and organisational traditions, social and policy history, and, in the largest sense, the process of change itself.

The contributions advance our understanding of cities, in some cases pointing towards the resurgence of cities. One clear conclusion that emerges is that different approaches and different solutions have been developed in response to common problems. However, at the same time what also emerges is that there is a common context for all these practices – the European Union. Cities and regions are where Europe's future is being made.

#### Table of contents

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Part II: Re-thinking the varsity state in Scotland's city-regions— Urban sprawl and planning policy in Europe—Mapping the cities of the Randstad Holland—National planning systems and the emergence of city-region planning in England and France—City-regions as territorial pacts and institutional 'concertation' in a devolved Scotland—Trends in interactions between cities and surroundings—The battle between retailers and planners  
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#### For further information or to order

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## Secretariat Move to Darmstadt, Germany

From the 1st of January 2009 the EURA secretariat will be hosted by the unit of "Public policy, public administration and urban research" at the Institute of Political Science, Darmstadt University of Technology.

A number of colleagues who have been engaged in several EURA activities work in this unit – namely Björn Egner, Michael Haus, Sonja Löber, Marta Lackowska, Karsten Zimmermann and Hubert Heinelt (as the director). The unit is part of the interdisciplinary Urban Research Centre of Darmstadt University of Technology which will organise the bi-annual EURA conference in September 2010.

Beside Hubert Heinelt, especially Marta Lackowska (who collaborated closely with Pawel Swianiewicz) and Dorothee Böttcher will be in charge for the EURA secretariat. The contact details are as follows:

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## EURA Award for Junior Urban Researchers

EURA is announcing a competition for junior research scholars working on urban issues.

1. Competition is open for PhD candidates or persons who obtained a PhD not earlier than in 2008 and who are under 30 years old.
2. Interested scholars should send their research papers in electronic version to: Pawel Swianiewicz at [pswian@uw.edu.pl](mailto:pswian@uw.edu.pl) or Liliana Padovani at [padovani@iuav.it](mailto:padovani@iuav.it) before 1 June 2009.
3. One person can submit only one paper.
4. Papers should be 5,000-9,000 words long and should refer to original empirical research conducted by the applicant.
5. Papers may represent urban studies of different disciplines, such as planning, political science, urban sociology, urban geography, economics etc.
6. Papers will be assessed by the jury nominated by the EURA Board.
7. Prizes to be awarded include:
  - a. Presentation at the 13th EURA Annual Conference in Darmstadt in September 2010 (the conference fee will be paid by EURA).
  - b. Recommendation for the publication of the paper in the EURA journal "Urban Policy and Practice"
  - c. Publication of summary of the paper (about 1,500-2,500 words) in EURA Newsletter (probably Spring 2010 issue)
  - d. Letter of appreciation sent to the authors of an awardee paper and published on EURA website and in EURA Newsletter.



## City Futures 09

### The Conference Co-Presidents write about the plans for EURA/UAA conference - in Madrid, 4-6 June 2009

Plans are advancing at great pace for the next EURA/UAA conference to be held in June 2009 in Madrid. Abstracts are now welcomed. The conference will focus on City Futures in a Globalising World and full details are available on the Conference website:

[www.cityfutures2009.com](http://www.cityfutures2009.com)

The important date to note is that abstracts need to be submitted by January 10, 2009.

We provide more information below about the nature of the conference and the main conference tracks. We expect this conference to be oversubscribed so we encourage you to submit your abstract as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

#### Background

The European Urban Research Association (EURA) and the Urban Affairs Association (UAA) will hold their second Joint Conference on City Futures in Madrid. We extend an invitation to colleagues from Europe, North America and beyond to join us in what will be a major forward looking conference examining the future of cities.

The Madrid conference will build on and take forward the international dialogue that started at the first City Futures Joint Conference held in Chicago in July 2004. Hosted by the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs (CUPPA) at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), and attended by over 250 participants from 36 countries, our first Joint Conference was intensely international. Over 160 papers were presented and all the panels were cross-national. Full details: [www.uic.edu/cuppa/cityfutures](http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/cityfutures)

#### City Futures 09 in Madrid – The prospects for cities

The world has 'gone urban' since we held the first City Futures Joint Conference. More people now live in urban areas than in the entire history of the world and, more than that, the urban population now outnumbers the rural. Population projections prepared by the UN suggest that the world urban population is set to rocket – from around 3.3 billion today to over 5 billion in 2030. This staggering urban

expansion presents major new challenges for all concerned about the future of cities. At the same time some cities – notably in Central and Eastern Europe – are shrinking and this presents different problems for city leaders and communities.

#### Aims of City Futures 09 Conference

The central aim of the City Futures 09 International Conference is to lift the quality of international dialogue about urban issues by:

- Creating a whole conference sharply focussed on international exchange
- Engaging different disciplinary perspectives and approaches
- Welcoming papers that address policy concerns – local, regional, national and international – that speak to the impact of policy on the ground

#### City Futures 09 Conference Themes

The International Conference Committee for City Futures 09 conference has, with the help of Track Co-Chairs on both sides of the Atlantic, identified five major themes for the conference:

- Track 1: Sustainable cities and regions, climate change, resource use, and adaptation
- Track 2: Knowledge and technology in urban development
- Track 3: Community development, migration and integration in urban areas
- Track 4: Urban governance and city planning in an international era
- Track 5: Architecture, design and planning of the public realm

#### Conference Track descriptions

Here we provide brief statements about the content of each track. All the tracks are multi-disciplinary and we hope the statements will inspire you to submit an abstract.



## **Track 1): Sustainable cities and regions, climate change, resource use, and adaptation**

### ***How sustainable are modern cities? What policies are being introduced to tackle climate change?***

Twenty-first century cities and metropolitan regions are facing big challenges regarding their environmental, economic, and social sustainability. Cities and regions must adapt to climate changes like warmer weather and more flood risk, the result of the current global warming trend. They have to tackle the sources of gas emissions, reduce air pollution, and improve water quality. They have to conserve land and energy and facilitate access to open green spaces. Cities and metropolitan regions also have to maintain and attract the type of industries and economic activities that secure their residents' quality-of-life. Not less important, they ought to provide education, jobs, and services to all their residents including the more vulnerable lower socio-economic groups.

This track welcomes studies focusing on these challenges and the policy efforts taken by cities and metropolitan regions to ensure their future sustainability. Typical questions to be addressed by these studies include: How sustainable are cities and metropolitan regions? How cities and regions around the world address the challenges of sustainability and climate change? What specific policies and planning tools they adopt to address these challenges? What policy implementation lessons they can learn from each other? The final question is about the role of education and goes beyond politics, adaptation, and planning: is citizen education the ultimate requirement to improve future sustainability and to respond effectively to climate change?

**Co-Chairs: Jan Erling Klausen and Efraim Ben Zadok**

## **Track 2): Knowledge and technology in urban development**

### ***How are cities harnessing knowledge and technology to increase the quality of life for their citizens? Whether local economic development in a rapidly changing world?***

In today's knowledge society, how have cities and their leaders harnessed knowledge and technologies to increase the quality of life of their citizens, and what opportunities exist for more innovation? Are local policy-makers increasingly relying on new evidence and using different forms of knowledge to make choice, or do inertia and short-term political pressures continue to control the decision landscape? What typologies of knowledge can help inform policies? How have improvements in urban quality of life been documented? Which cities have embraced new technologies for better urban living and what challenges are they facing? Do local governments that do not embrace knowledge and technology to enhance urban life quality operate at a competitive disadvantage? What characteristics make some communities better placed to take advantage of such innovations to improve urban life? Are reforms needed to ensure that knowledge and can be exploited by public policy-makers for the benefits of the majority, not simply the corporate minority? We welcome papers that address the above, but also welcome other

proposals. We are also particularly interested in comparative papers which explore how dissimilar structural, institutional, cultural, or other characteristics of urban areas in North American and Europe lead to different processes and outcomes of adopting knowledge and technology.

**Co-Chairs: Laurence Carmichael and Kris Wernstedt**

## **Track 3): Community development, migration and integration in urban areas**

### ***How are cities coping with rapid population movements – both into and out of cities? What are the implications for housing, urban regeneration and community building of international population shifts?***

A globalised world entails considerable scope for migration, both internationally and within national borders. Cities and urban areas are key sites in the migration process, as hosts and sources of migrants. This track explores migration and its impacts on cities in at least the following three ways. First, it will explore the impacts on communities of migration. Within this theme, we welcome contributions exploring gendered and inter-generational aspects of migration, as well as those that explore cultural diversity and social inclusion. Second, the track will explore the responses of urban actors to population shifts caused by migration - for example how authorities, service providers, and community organizations respond to the expansion and contraction of population, and respond to increased social divisions within urban populations. Third, the track will explore the impacts of migration on the physical environment - e.g. on housing, transport, and open spaces. The track welcomes theoretical and empirical papers, comparative contributions, and case study approaches.

**Co-Chairs: David Sweeting and Gordana Rabrenovic**

## **Track 4): Urban governance and city planning in an international era**

### ***Sound city governance and urban planning are critical to urban success. What are the implications of current trends for political and managerial leadership? How should cities position themselves internationally?***

Sound city governance and urban planning are critical to urban success. What are the implications of current trends for political and managerial leadership? What institutional and planning arrangements are possible in a changing context of political decentralisation, multiple actors, both public and private, and sprawling cities? What forms of public participation can be developed and how can the voices of both new and old urban populations be heard? What sorts of cross-sector partnerships can be more effective for planning implementation? What lessons can be learned through European-North American comparisons? What particular challenges and practices do problems that cross borders, such as climate change, pose for planning? Are specific planning arrangements needed to complement those provided by soft forms of collaborative planning?

**Co-Chairs: Inés Sánchez de Madariaga and Mara Sidney**



## Track 5): Architecture, design and planning of the public realm

The quality of architecture, urban design and urban planning affects the quality of life in cities. What innovations are taking place in urban design and planning at street level? How are citizens being involved in those efforts? How does urban theory inform those efforts? Are cities redesigning themselves to cope with new challenges relating to public safety, social equity, efficiency and overall quality of life within the context of urban competitiveness? Or must it be seen as an designing out of social problems within inner cities?

**Co-Chairs: Jens Dangschat and Bill Rohe**

### Madrid – world-class city

Madrid, the largest city in Southern Europe, with more than 3.2 million people (6.5 in the metropolitan area), is a vibrant, dynamic metropolis, with a dense cultural and social life. Madrid is today an important cultural, university, scientific and financial centre, and the main hub between Europe and Latin America.

The City Futures 09 Conference will include a number of urban tours and workshops so that participants can learn about the changing dynamics of this remarkable city.

### Conference Venue

The City Futures in a Globalising World Conference will take place in the Municipal Training Centre of Madrid City, a splendid building in the heart of the City (Almagro Street, Metro Station “Alonso Martinez” in the same block), recently renovated and completely equipped for international events.

Plenary sessions will take place in the auditorium of the Cultural Centre “Fernando Fernán Gómez”, located in front of Paseo de la Castellana, the main avenue of Madrid (Plaza de Colón, 5 minutes on foot from the Municipal Training Centre).

## Hotel

A special room rate has been negotiated for the conference with diverse hotels in the heart of Madrid. Addresses, phones and websites of the hotels are published on the website of the International Conference.

### Welcome Reception

On the first evening of the conference participants will be welcomed by the Mayor of Madrid at a Reception at the Jardines de Cecilio Rodríguez (Parque del Retiro). This beautiful location in the main park of Madrid is specially designed for receptions of this kind and will provide a splendid opportunity for social networking.

### Outline Programme 4-6 June 2009

The conference will start on the morning of Thursday 4 June and will run until Saturday 6 June.

### Our invitation to you

We invite you to visit the website of the conference to find out more about what is in store:  
[www.cityfutures2009.com](http://www.cityfutures2009.com)

More specifically, we invite you to submit an abstract and join in this important conversation on the future of cities. You will meet new people from many other countries and we are confident that you will enjoy a stimulating experience in the wonderful City of Madrid.

Professor Manuel Arenilla Saez, Universidad Ry Juan Carlos, Madrid

Professor Ed Goetz, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Professor Robin Hambleton, University of the West of England, Bristol

Co-Presidents of the City Futures Madrid 09 International Conference



# Urban Research & Practice Journal of the European Urban Research Association (EURA)

The European Urban Research Association (EURA) journal Urban Research and Practice has now successfully completed its first year. We feel very proud about the journal's achievements in the first year (see below the contents list for each issue). I am sure you will agree that the journal has included papers that cover a wide range of interesting and topical issues. I would particularly draw your attention to the Special Issue on "The Future of European Cities" that makes a valuable contribution to our understanding of the changes that are currently taking place within our cities.

More generally the first year's issues have succeeded in combining high quality academic papers with thoughtful and informative papers on policy and practice. This is an essential part of EURA's ethos that we have sought to carry over into the journal. In addition we have contributions from all parts of Europe (and beyond) which reflects another key element in EURA, and the journal's, approach seeking to ensure that a wider range of views and perspectives are present within the journal.

Your support, through an institutional subscription, will be vital to the journal's long term survival. Can I also point out that individual members of EURA qualify for a reduced individual journal subscription of 40 euros per year (this is a significant reduction on the normal individual subscription rate of 62 euros per year).

Rob Atkinson, Editor

For further information on subscriptions and submissions or to view a free sample copy please visit:  
<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/rurp>

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## Institutional Member Profile

In this section we profile two institutional members

1). Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada

2). HAS Centre for Regional Studies Hungary

### 1) NEW PLANNING PROGRAM AT RYERSON UNIVERSITY-TORONTO, CANADA

Beginning September 2008, the Ryerson School of Urban and Regional Planning in Toronto (CANADA) launched its new Master of Planning (MPI) program in Urban Development.

The Master of Planning program builds on the School's reputation as a long-established and well-regarded institution with strong faculty and alumni, and unique studio-based pedagogy. The undergraduate program (Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning) is one of the oldest and largest in North America, and has been giving degrees for over thirty years.

This new graduate program has a focus on urban development, defined as the restructuring, regeneration and revitalization of existing metropolitan areas. The focus is activated through an innovative integration of 'culture' and 'nature', providing a combined multicultural and ecological framework to facilitate the study and practice of sustainable development. The program will ground students in emerging practices so that they are equipped to respond effectively and creatively to new planning challenges; challenges that are arising out of rapidly growing urban populations, complex demands from culturally diverse groups, deteriorating environmental and ecological conditions, and exacerbated by constrained local government resources.

It offers a new holistic process for addressing design and development in contemporary cities and regions. It combines an examination and analysis of economic, socio-cultural, political, ecological and spatial demands in retrofitting urban areas. This framework is significant in that it is structured around the intertwined dimensions of urban culture and nature through addressing explicitly the principles of inclusivity and sustainability in designing for development.

The structure of the program is based around a core sequence of design studios, core courses on issues of culture and nature in planning, electives and a major research paper or project. Studios form the backbone of the curriculum. In this context, the studio is a forum for experiential 'hands-on' critical inquiry into complex planning problems that may be physical, spatial, cultural, ecological and/or economic nature, and they provide the physical learning space in which this applied scholarship and practice take place.

The Master of Planning (MPI) program is offered in two streams: (i) a two-year (five-term) regular stream that started in September 2008; and (ii) a one-year (three-term) accelerated stream which will start in September 2009.

Students entering the program in 2008 came from all parts of Canada, and the international community. Twenty-four students were admitted.

Applicants to the two-year regular stream will require a four-year honours bachelor's degree (or equivalent) with a minimum B average in the last two years of study from a recognized university. The undergraduate degree may be in a field other than planning. All applicants are expected to have taken a university-level course in statistics.

Applicants to the one-year accelerated stream must have completed a four- or five-year accredited bachelor's degree in planning, or equivalent, with a minimum B average. Applicants with a bachelor's degree (four- or five-year) in a related discipline who show evidence of relevant professional experience in planning will be accepted. Degree holders with professional experience in planning will be considered for admission on a case-by-case basis.

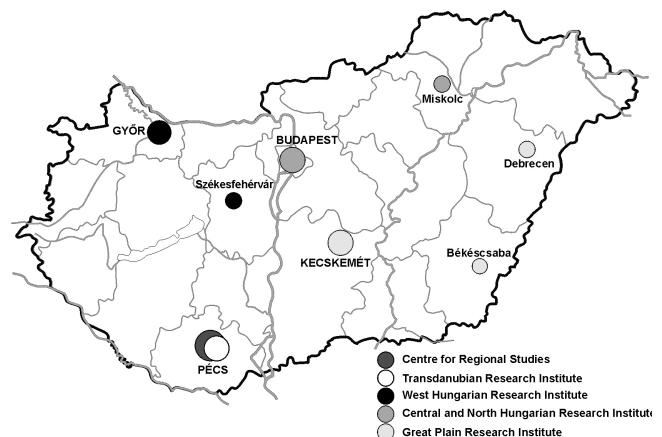
Dr. Sandeep Kumar Agrawal is the Program Coordinator, and can be contacted at [sagrawal@ryerson.ca](mailto:sagrawal@ryerson.ca). Application forms and instructions are available at [www.ryerson.ca/graduate/admissions](http://www.ryerson.ca/graduate/admissions)

### 2) HAS (HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES)

#### Mission:

Research; Consulting; Teaching

The Centre for Regional Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS); was founded as a network of institutes in 1984 as the legal successor of the Transdanubian Research Institute founded in 1943. The CRS has its headquarters in Pécs and four institutes with further four departments covering the entire territory of Hungary.



CRS employs economists, geographers, political scientists, sociologists and lawyers whose researches are aimed at European and Hungarian regional development. 70% of



researchers have PhD and DSC title, hold significant positions at universities and are internationally known. Centre for Regional Studies is an important actor of Hungarian and CEE regional science, has its own periodical, scientific society called Regional Science Association. The fellow workers of CRS lead Master and PhD schools and courses in regional development and policy. The researchers of CRS regularly provide scientific establishment for the local-regional and central decision making processes concerning development plans and regulation of regional policy. The several disciplines of CRS researchers' allow the elaboration of complex interdisciplinary works. All researchers carry out basic researches in their fields, the results of which are also utilised in applied research done on external contracts. HAS Centre for Regional Studies conducted more than 150 national and international projects since 1990 among others several ESPON, INTERREG, 5th and 6th Framework Programmes, researches for the European Commission's Directorate Generals. Acknowledging its scientific excellence CRS was awarded the right of the organisation of the annual international conference of Regional Science Association 2010.



#### **Basic research activities:**

The primary field of study of the Hungarian and international features of regionalism:

- regional economic development and urban and rural development: development of the territorial structure of the economy, the appearance of new organisation forms, the spread of innovations in space, correlations of the territorial factors and the economic structure, territorial analysis of financial and income processes, regional competitiveness

- survey of the urban structure and the spatial structure of the society: Modernisation of urban functions, spatial structure of the urban network, differentiation of rural settlements, demographical and sociological analyses;
- Hungarian regional policy and regional administration: Theoretical establishment of the further development of the structure of Hungarian regional administration, analysis of the regional development activities, establishment of the professional and effectiveness requirements becoming more and more important within the local governmental system (regional planning, financing, other means and institutions of the regional policy);
- regional policy in the European Union, international and interregional co-operations; new driving forces of regional development of the post-industrial Europe;
- environmental researches: survey of the breaking points leading out of the environmental crisis and examination of the requirements, objectives and tools of sustainable development.
- Lately increased attention is devoted to towns, urban networks and the issue of urban development, urban governance and the topic of city and its surrounding. The Centre for Regional Studies was assigned by the Hungarian Government with the professional establishment of the Hungarian Settlement Network Development Concept, in the course of which we have utilised our experiences collected during our participation in the different ESPON Programmes.

#### **Frequent publications:**

- Space and Society, published every quarter year since 1987, periodical,
- Regional and Urban Studies (35 monographs have been published until currently),
- Regions of the Carpathian Basin – series of monographs (8 volumes published),
- Europe of Regions (3 volumes)
- Great Plain Studies (19 volumes),
- Discussion Papers, English language series (63 published).

#### **Main indicators:**

Total staff – 115 persons (70 researchers)

Total budget: 35 Million Euros

Publication Items: 400 per year

Books published: 10 per year

Number of strategic partners: national: 15; foreign: 10

#### **Contact details:**

7601 Pécs, PoBox: 199, Hungary

E-mail: [rkk@rkk.hu](mailto:rkk@rkk.hu)

Website: [www.rkk.hu](http://www.rkk.hu)

#### **Management of CRS:**

Director-General: Dr. Gyula Horváth

Deputy Director General: Dr. László Faragó

Director of Transdanubian Research Institute: Ilona Pálné dr. Kovács

# Report on the EURA Conference held in Milan, Italy

## 'Learning Cities in a Knowledge Based Society'

9-11 October 2008

### LEARNING CITIES IN A KNOWLEDGE BASED SOCIETY - XI EURA conference in Milan

The 11th EURA conference took place in Milan, on 9th-11th October 2008. More than 200 scholars participated in this special event, hosted by the Faculty of Architecture and Society of Politecnico di Milano, in particular by the Department of Architecture and Planning.

- The conference gathered 126 papers presented by 178 authors who presented a vibrant image of a growing scientific community (most participants were not EURA members) from all over Europe and beyond. Many PhD students and young researchers were interested in presenting their research results and discussing them. 204 people registered and took part in the event; some 80 students of master courses of Politecnico also took part in the opening and closing session.

- The title of the conference showed its consistency and relevance for a reflection on the role that cities play and are asked to play in a Knowledge based society. The conference discussed the paradoxes offered by cities: cities central competitive nodes, where concentration and exchanges of information and innovation go on producing new forms of economy, welfare and richness, but also, cities, where new forms of poverty and exclusion have emerged. It looked at cities also as significant and provoking social laboratories, in which the notion of citizenship is questioned and people learn to deal with change and the multiplication of differences generated by a mobile, multicultural society. And, finally, cities as settings for institutional and political innovation: where major transformations compel institutions to face new emerging societal problems and to develop new skills and experience, new forms of governance, leadership, democracy, policies and politics.

### EMERGING SPATIAL PLANNING PRACTICES

Track chairs: Liliana Padovani, Carolina Pacchi,  
Track coordinator: Paola Briata

- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND URBAN CHANGE**

Track chairs: Roberto Camagni, Gabriele Pasqui  
Track coordinator: Simonetta Armondi

- **LEARNING THROUGH GOVERNANCE**

Track chairs: Pierluigi Crosta, Valeria Fedeli,  
Track coordinator: Davide Ponzini

- **INTEGRATION AND COHESION IN KNOWLEDGE-BASED URBAN SOCIETIES**

Track chairs: Serena Vicari, Antonio Tosi,  
Track coordinator: Marianna d'Ovidio

- Keynote speeches in the opening and final sessions were thought provoking: in the closing session Mario Pezzini (OECD) proposed to reflect upon the way in which cities are still important places of concentration, although this is neither sufficient nor necessary in terms of development. In fact he has shown that current processes of urbanization are not actually reducing disparities. On the contrary differences and inequalities are still persisting (and growing), though changing in their profiles. This has implications for urban policies, since they have to face a role of cities which cannot be taken for granted and for urban studies, as there are territories and cities whose competitiveness is not linked with the traditional characteristics of an urban environment. In this sense the closing and opening sessions tried to answer a double question: what can we learn from cities and to what extent are cities learning? Cities are real "working site": the local level appears stressed by processes of social, economic and political change. And in certain cases they organised to learn through action and research: as Lucy De Groot showed, this is one of the major tasks cities are undergoing. Efforts for producing interpretation of ongoing processes and visions for the future are evident all over the world. Cities are engaged in complex processes of interpretation and at the same time trying to innovate in their modes of action. Of course, this is rather difficult, as discussed by prof. Dente in the opening session. "Has urban government learned new ways to cope with old and new problems? How has this affected the institutional dimension? And which are the implications for future research?". He argued that "it is not clear whether some cities have engaged themselves in these exercises far better than others". Mostly in the field of institutional innovation (forms of government) and planning: he concluded that "both institutions and planning have very slightly changed in order to face the new challenges of society". Much work has to be done in this direction. As prof. Martinotti discussed in his presentation, it is always more difficult to talk about society. What we are facing are actually the challenges proposed by a network society, "VERNETZUNGSSCHAFT". This implies





the relevance of “simulation” (rather than the stress on will); of “avatar” (rather than “individuals” and “persona”); on “credit” (rather than “possession and wealth”), of “derivates” (rather than “land and money”) and on “covenants” - and of an “I accept” perspective- (rather than on “family law” or “contracts”). What this implies in terms of the role of planning, was the focus of prof. Amin’s key note lecture. In front of what he defined the “decline of ‘knowing’ tradition in urban planning” he discussed the “rise of ‘pragmatist or deliberative’ tradition”. One able to acknowledge complexity but also to act programmatically, to “plan with contemporary social visionaries”, to “plan in contexts of emergencies” such as “Infrastructural collapse or militarization, sprawl, disconnection, polarisation, economic exposure and vulnerability, risk assessment and preparedness, racism, social intolerance, poverty, public culture on hold”.

- All presentations will be available on the EURA Milan conference website.

### OPENING SESSION KEYNOTE SPEECHES

“The Urban Public Realm After The Good Citizen”, prof. Ash Amin, Durham University

“Is urban government able to learn?”, prof. Bruno Dente, Politecnico di Milano



### CLOSING SESSION KEYNOTE SPEECHES

“Surfing the tsunami. Understanding places in meta-cities”, prof. Bruno Martinotti, Fondazione SUM

“Learning Cities in a Knowledge Based Society – a local government perspective”, Mrs Lucy De Groot, IDEA

“Competitiveness FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT”, Mr Mario Pezzlani, OECD

- The conference organizers offered participants a further learning experience on the city and the urban context of the Milan city-region through an exhibition devoted to the exploration of Milan urban region and promoted by the province of Milan in collaboration with the Department of Architecture and Planning. Videos, maps, data, interviews presenting a complex urban context, living

profound processes of transformations, which care challenging cities and laboratories. Mobile workshops organized on Thursday afternoon have tried to offer EURA conference participants an overview of the ongoing major challenges and processes and some hints on the reaction from the city via policies and projects.

### Mobile workshops

1. Sectioning the city region. A bike tour along the Martesana canal
2. The Bicocca neighbourhood. Knowledge city: the University and the Metropolis
3. Visiting the new exhibition area in Rho-Pero
4. Visiting Sarpi, a Chinese neighbourhood
5. From Duomo to Rozzano: discovering Milan urban region
6. Parco Nord
7. Milan and Its Music Places. A Historical Introduction

- Finally it was for us a learning experience also from the organizational point of view: three departments of three different universities, PhD students, master students, researchers and full professors, have collaborated in building this event, in line with EURA’s philosophy.

The conference was organized by the Department of Architecture and Planning of Politecnico di Milano, in collaboration with the Department of Sociology and Social Research of University Milano-Bicocca and the Department of Planning, Università IUAV di Venezia

### CONFERENCE CHAIR

Alessandro Balducci

### SCIENTIFIC BOARD

Alessandro Balducci, Guido Martinotti, Enzo Mingione, Liliana Padovani, Gabriele Pasqui, Costanzo Ranci, Antonio Tosi, Luciano Vettoreto, Serena Vicari.

### CONFERENCE ORGANISERS

Valeria Fedeli (coordinator), Simonetta Armondi, Giulia Amadasi, Paola Briata, Carolina Pacchi, Davide Ponzini, Marianna D’Ovidio, Giulia Fini, Marianna Giraudi, Valeria Inguaggiato, Gabriele Pasqui, Anna Moro, Lina Scavuzzo, Daniele Villa.

### SPONSORS

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AIM [www.aim.milano.it](http://www.aim.milano.it)

DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA E PIANIFICAZIONE

[www.diap.polimi.it](http://www.diap.polimi.it)

## EXHIBITIONS

### SPAZIO MOSTRE

VIVIMI 6-11th October

In the occasion of the 11th EURA conference, the Faculty Exhibition Hall has hosted an exhibition dedicated to "PROGETTO STRATEGICO CITTÀ DI CITTÀ", promoted and produced by the Provincial Administration of Milan in collaboration with DiAP. The Exhibition "VIVIMI" was originally held in Triennale di Milano in 2007 and was then, after a restyling, reproduced in several Municipalities of the Province: it provides interpretative description of Milan Urban Region and a vision for its future.

[www.cittadicitta.it](http://www.cittadicitta.it)

Next to the Exhibition Hall, the "Tunnel" and Agorà area, have hosted: the outcome of a photographic competition launched on the web on the themes of the mobile workshops organized for the conference; a sound installation by the architect and musician Nicola Ratti which reflected upon the correspondences between visual and auditory perception of territory; a series of videos about the spaces of the contemporary city from the photographer and video artist Cedrick Eymenier; Posters and installation of GFOSS <http://www.gfoss.it/mapparemilano>.



**POLITECNICO  
DI MILANO**

Piazza Leonardo da Vinci, 32  
20133 Milano

## NUMBERS

198 participants

- 178 authors/ 126 papers
- 20 visitors

85 eura members

113 non members

7 Eastern EUROPE

9 Non EUROPE // 3 usa, 1 japan, 1 israeli, 4 iran  
35 ph d students

### PAPER/ sessions

Track 1/ 9 parallel session/ 33 authors

Track 2/ 7 parallel sessions/ 25 authors

Track 3/ 42 authors

Track 4/ 7 parallel session/26 authors

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## Your views

We would welcome your views and reactions on any aspect of this newsletter. If you have any material for inclusion in the next issue the copy deadline is **1st March 2009**.

Please send your material to Marta Lackowska

Email: [marta.lackowska@pg.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:marta.lackowska@pg.tu-darmstadt.de)

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