

## 2020 UK-Ireland Planning Research Conference



# Conference Guide

## Conference Overview

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

**Round Table: Future of the Planning Profession 2020  
(organised in association with the PRC)**

**15:30 – 17:15**

Chair: Professor Gavin Parker (University of Reading)

Confirmed speakers:

Dr Ben Clifford (University College London)

Finn Williams (Public Practice)

Paul Willmott (Managing Director, RPS)

Discussants:

Dr Lisa Bates (Portland State University, US)

Sue Manns (President, Royal Town Planning Institute)

**Register here:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/future-of-the-planning-profession-2020-tickets-111813031788>

## **RTPI Awards for Research Excellence**

**17:30 – 18:30**

Join us to celebrate the best and most impactful spatial planning research from RTPI members and accredited planning schools at this year's Research Awards Ceremony.

The winning and commended entries will be announced during a live online webinar, which will also celebrate the anniversary of the Planning Theory and Practice Journal (the RTPI's peer-reviewed academic journal).

**Register here:** <https://www.rtpi.org.uk/events/2020/september/rtpi-awards-for-research-excellence/>

## Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September

09:00 -10:55

### Pedagogy 1

**Chair: Lucy Natarajan**

Gemma Moore & Marie Xypaki

*Pedagogies of engagement: A case study of co-designing education assessment with community partners*

Iain Cross & Alina Congreve

*Teaching super-wicked problems: authentic learning about climate change*

Pablo Sendra, Leslie Barson & Toby Laurent Belson

*Radical Teaching In Collaboration With Communities: Civic Design CPD Course*

Teresa Strachan

*The Healthy High Street Board Game: Learning To Participate In Planning*

### Land, Housing & Development 1

**Chair: Nicola Livingstone**

Ada HY Lee

Re-emergence Of The Political, But From What? Depoliticisation And Hegemony In Hong Kong

Rohit Dabas

Envisioning Garh Mukteshwar As Green And Resilient Pilgrimage City

Yang Zhao

Party-corporatism Governance And Redevelopment Of Marginalized Community:A Case From Shanghai

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[Click here to join.](#)

11:00 – 12:30

## **Plenary**

Conference welcome (Iqbal Hamiduddin + Claudio de Magalhaes)

**Keynote address:** Richard Sennett

Chair: Pablo Sendra

<https://ucl.zoom.us/j/97260084951?pwd=TUQ1dGpqMjRNZzdiSE05MGxpM1EvQT09>

Passcode: 569378

13:00 – 14:55 **Pedagogy 2**

**Chair: Pablo Sendra**

Adriana Allen & Julia Wesley

Generative Pedagogies from and for the Social Production of Habitat: Learning from HIC-AL ‘School of

Grassroots Urbanism’

Sue Brownill & Elena Besussi

Co-Producing Planning? Neighbourhood Plans, Student Researchers and Policy Engagement

Raphael Sedlitzsky

City-to-city Learning As Chance For A Sustainable Urban Future

Gloria Cecilia Figueiredo & Alex Apsan Frediani

**Land, Housing & Development 2**

**Chair: Nicola Livingstone**

Quintin Bradley

Opposition To Housing Development And The New Ethico-politics Of Planning

Nicola Livingstone, Danielle Sanderson

Governance, Capital Flows And New Investment Landscapes: An Analysis Of London's Residential Property Market

Charles Goode

'The People Where Will They Go'? England's Housing Crisis And Reforming The Green Belt: Towards A 21st Century Green Belt

[Click here to join.](#)

**Infrastructure & Transport 1**

**Chair: Iqbal Hamiduddin**

Dr Daniel Durrant, Dr Tania Kossberg

Performing Infrastructure Planning: The A303 Stonehenge

Graziano Di Gregorio

Major Infrastructure Projects And Community Consensus In Climate Change Crisis. Discussing The Case Of Heathrow Airport

Mengqiu Cao

Using Different Approaches To Evaluate Individual Social Equity In Transport

Ian Mell, Fearghus O’Sullivan, Sarah Clement

Engineering Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) - the role of nature in promoting urban sustainability

Guibo Sun

Contesting urban imaginations through  
engaged learning: the case of the DPU/Lugar  
Comum Collaboration

**Sara Hassan**

Co-production And The Pedagogy Of  
Exchange: Lessons From Community &  
Research Training In

Birmingham

**Geetika Anand & Ruchika Lall**

Co-learning with Housing Rights Activists in  
India: Reflections from IIHS's Experience

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China's Belt And Road Urban Rail Transit  
Development In Sub-Saharan Africa

**Juhyun Lee**

Questioning The Social Outcomes From  
Mega Urban Transport Infrastructure:  
Long-Term Consequences Of Spatial  
Changes And Varied Interests At Multiple  
Levels

[Click here to join.](#)

**15:00 – 17:15 Pedagogy 3**

**Chair: Michael Short**

Daniel Fitzpatrick

Forms of engaged learning: Learning  
planning from, for and with ....

Lee Crookes, Andy Inch, Jason Slade

A little less conversation? Participatory  
cultures and engaged learning in Sheffield

Silvia Gullino

Podcasting: Supporting Students' Learning  
Experience And Enabling Innovative  
Practices Among

Academic Staff

Pablo Sendra & Domenico Di Siena

Adapting the Civic Design Method to digital  
learning and collaboration with communities



Liam O'Farrell, Aleksandra Kazłowska and  
Peter Lee

Where is agency in the context of urban  
transformation? Narratives from stakeholders  
and local activists in Birmingham, UK

[Click here to join.](#)

## Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September

09:00 -10:45

### Urban Design 1

**Chair: Pablo Sendra**

Karla Barrantes Chaves

Talking And Tracking: New Approaches For Exploring Spatial Distribution Of Fear Of Crime In Public Spaces.

Robert Kennedy

The Application Of The Urban Design Concept Of Legibility To The Management Of Change To Historic Environments

Javiera Godoy

Traces: New Ways To Engage With The Urban Environment

Yaling Shi

### Governance 1

**Chair: Iqbal Hamiduddin**

Brad Jessup

Material Participatory Encounters: Lessons From A Conflict About A Statue On A Vineyard

Wei Yang

Good Planners, Better Communities -- Developing A Modernised Planning Profession For The 21st Century

Sonia Freire Trigo

Regulation Meets Materiality. The Intersubjective Dimension Of Brownfield Registers In England.

John Sturzaker, Hannah Hickman

### Inclusion & Equality 1

**Chair: Karen Horwood**

Komal Jaiswal

Inclusive Education In India- Through The Lens Of Different Types Of Disabilities

Elisabeta Ilie, Hyunji Cho, Lucy Natarajan

A Civil Society Perspective On Inequalities: The COVID Revision

Lucy Natarajan, Sara Hassan

Participatory Planning With Left Behind Places: Empowerment, Influence And Inclusion

Charlotte Morphet

Social Network Change And Conservation In Historical Areas Of Mountainous Towns In Chongqing, China

Matthew Carmona

The 'public-isation' Of Private Space -- Towards A Charter Of Public Space Rights And Responsibilities

[Click here to join.](#)

Why Do Private Sector Planners Do What They Do? Ethics And The Public Interest In A Newly Diverse Planning Profession.

[Click here to join.](#)

Women working in planning

[Click here to join.](#)

11:00 – 12:45

## Urban Design 2

**Chair: Matthew Carmona**

Anon Chaimanee

The Residual Rhythm: An Essential Element Of Urban Design In Sustaining A Sense Of Place Over Time

Francesca Piazzoni

Visibility as Justice: Immigrant Street Vendors and the Right to Difference in Rome

## Governance 2

**Chair: Ben Clifford**

Lucy Natarajan

Citizen Environmental Monitoring

Monica Lopez Franco

Urban Conservation And Housing Policies On Residential Displacement. Cases Of The Historic Centres Of Mexico City And Guadalajara.

## Inclusion & Equality 2

**Chair: Karen Horwood**

Karen Horwood

Women And Core Strategies/Local Plans

M. Reza Shirazi

Spaces Of Agonism And The Fight For Environmental Justice

Stefania Fiorentino

Adam Wood, Jos Boys, Anna Jeffery

(Re)Locating The School In Urban Contexts

Michael Hebbert

Mendacious Utopias ? Vertical Forests And Green Skyscrapers Reexamined.

[Click here to join.](#)

Robin Ganser, David Valler

Strategic planning for growth in Oxford and Stuttgart city-regions: A comparative evaluation

Mike Raco, Frances Brill

Liquid Planning, Private Law And The Production Of Urban Housing In London

[Click here to join.](#)

Delivering Coworking Spaces As New Social Infrastructures.

Ian Mell, John Sturzaker, Alice Correia, Mary Gearey, Neale Blair, Fearghus O'Sullivan, Luciana Lang

When is a park more than a park?

Rethinking the role of parks as “shared space” in post-conflict Belfast

Carey Doyle

UK Planning Practice and Inclusion: How things are(n't) done, and how we move on

[Click here to join.](#)

13:00 – 15:00

**Round Table Plenary**  
**Participation, Pandemics and Planning Reform**

**Chair: Prof Sue Brownill**

<https://ucl.zoom.us/j/94613172965?pwd=RWQ2cWgyRTUrVTRkS0xrbUFKNHJvdz09>

Passcode: 518210



## Notes to Session Presenters

- **Session presentations should be no longer than 15 minutes long**
- **Sessions will be conducted in MS Teams – if you don't already have it installed on your computer then please visit here: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-365/microsoft-teams/group-chat-software>**
- **Join the session by clicking on the relevant link in the programme overview (above)**
  - **Slides and other visual aids should be presented using the 'share screen' function (there is no prior submission to the conference organisers)**
- **Participants are requested to 'mute' their microphones until requested to speak by the session chair**
  - **Do use the 'chat' function to comment / ask questions**
    - **Please bear with the inevitable technical glitches!**

# Abstracts

## **Pedagogy 1**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 09:00 – 11:00**

**[Please refer to the separate track brochure]**



## **Land, Housing & Development 1**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 09:00 – 11:00**

### **Re-emergence Of The Political, But From What? Depoliticisation And Hegemony In Hong Kong**

**Authors:** Ada HY Lee <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** University of Cambridge<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

Hong Kong has been described as an "administrative state" (Harris 1988: p1) and "bureaucratic polity" (Lau 1984: p25) and its planning system is often said to be "technocratic" (Chui and Ng 1998; Tang, Lee, and Ng 2011; Ng 2015b). Contrasted against the growing visibility of land activism in the recent decades, the Umbrella Movement in 2014 and the ongoing protests since June 2019, these descriptions seem to point to the city as a prima facie case of "the re-emergence of the political", where attempts to suture the political space backfire. In Western democracies, the re-emergence is often referred to backlashes following Third Way politics and "consensus at the centre" (Mouffe 2005a, 2018; Rancière 2010). However, in semi-democracies such as Hong Kong, what the political is exactly re-emerging from is less clear. This chapter seeks to explore the current political, economic and cultural hegemony in the city, with the aim of providing a clearer background for subsequent empirical research on the topic of the re-emergence of the political. It discusses how the political space is foreclosed, drawing on existing literature as well as desktop research of media and government reports. Rancière's (1999) logic of archipolitics, parapolitics and metapolitics, as

well as the critique of neoliberalism and consensual politics by Mouffe (2005, 2018), Swyngedouw (2007, 2009) and Oosterlynck and Swyngedouw (2010), will form the theoretical framework of this literature review.

### **Envisioning Garh Mukteshwar As Green And Resilient Pilgrimage City**

**Authors:** Rohit Dabas <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** Indian Institute of Technology - Roorkee<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

India as we all know is a land of spirituality, philosophy and heritage. River Ganges is the most sacred river for Hindus and cities through which river Ganges flows are considered to be holy cities. Garhmukteshwar is one of the holy city and is the nearest city from the National Capital Territory of Delhi (58 miles away from NCT Delhi) where the River Ganges flows and was always imagined to act as a counter tourism magnet to Haridwar. It is a city with a population of almost 60000 and consists of various sacred Hindu temples, yearly 14 days Garh Ganga fair which attracts 1.5 million pilgrims in addition to the one day Jeth Dusshera fair in July every year are few other added attractions of the city. Despite having huge tourism potential Garhmukteshwar is still longing for its due recognition and requisite planning intervention.

Due to the negligence by political leaders as well as the planning authorities the condition of Garhmukteshwar is unacceptable and the numbers of pilgrims visiting this holy city are decreasing day by day. Water pollution, dilapidated temples & Brijghat, lack of infrastructure facilities &

amenities etc. are some of the major problems faced by the local residents as well as tourists/pilgrims visiting the city. Green covers of the city are decreasing and degrading, there are no resiliency measures in the city. The management of Garh Ganga fair is below par in comparison to various other mega events such as Oktoberfest, Munich.

Through this research paper “Envisioning GarhMukteshwar as Green and Resilient Pilgrimage City”, an attempt will be made to evolve a planning model to integrate heritage with environmental sustainability and frame a strategic plan for a green & resilient pilgrimage city.

### **Party-corporatism Governance And Redevelopment Of Marginalized Community:A Case From Shanghai**

**Authors:** Yang Zhao <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** Peking University<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

Redevelopment of marginal communities has always been an impending challenge that plagues urban governance study. In redeveloping the impoverished communities, party-corporatism attempts to propose new solutions with its urban renewal model based on the unique party and political systems in China. Building upon the relevant theories of the political economy of space and urban regime, this paper provides an in-depth analysis of Chinese party politics with a case study of Shanghai 228 Neighborhood (228 dikuai). Deep diving into the essential fabric of the local community, this case examines how street and neighborhood organizations (jieju zuzhi) "hold the political direction (bawo zhengzhi

fangxiang)" while making use of the authority and resources to maximize the benefits and fairness of urban renewal and realize the redevelopment of impoverished communities. This study of China's new megacity renewal model points out that under the guiding functions of party-corporatism, there is an inherent political logic to take both efficiency and fairness into account.

**Pedagogy 2**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 13:00 – 15:00**

**[Please refer to the separate track brochure]**

## **Land, Housing & Development 2**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 13:00 – 15:00**

### **Opposition To Housing Development And The New Ethico-politics Of Planning**

**Authors:** Quintin Bradley <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** Leeds Beckett University<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

Contemporary planning theory and practice continue to struggle with the ethical challenges posed by community opposition to housing development. Localised resistance to housebuilding articulates a sense of injustice in a planning system that promotes ideals of consensus, engagement and the public interest. While it is a maxim of town planning that you can't always get what you want, the inevitable clash of personal and public interest is cushioned by an ethics of procedural justice. Planning policy and procedure appear rooted in principles common to most justice systems and they promise equal treatment, absence of bias, transparency and rights of representation. As planning systems are deregulated, with outcomes distributed by market forces, these principles of procedural justice continue to serve as moral standards through which the fairness of property markets can be judged. An ethical struggle appears now underway in many planning systems, as ideals of procedural and distributional justice collide with the morality of property rights and economic freedoms. Drawing on field research with community groups in England opposed to market housebuilding, this paper argues that a new ethico-politics of planning has emerged in a popular mobilisation against the marketisation of land and housing supply.

## **Governance, Capital Flows And New Investment Landscapes: An Analysis Of London's Residential Property Market**

**Authors:** Nicola Livingstone <sup>1</sup>, Danielle Sanderson <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** UCL<sup>1</sup>

### **Abstract Body**

This paper examines investment landscapes, the diversity of private sector actors, and the dynamic types of institutional investment active in London's residential sector, and presents initial findings from ORA-ESRC funded research entitled 'What is Governed in Cities: Residential Investment Landscapes and the Governance and Regulation of Housing Production' We will discuss our institutionalist framing, which focuses on why and how institutions emerge in a certain way within a given context and offer reflections on key governance mechanisms in the London market. We analyse datasets on the actors and flows of investment into urban housing markets, longitudinally tracking investment churn and new development activity that creates additional housing. Using RCA data, we map the main investment channels that flow into residential property, generating visual representations of investor landscapes, processes, and trends. Our analysis highlights changes in value of residential investment in terms of Rents; Transactions and Capital Value shifts.

## **'The People Where Will They Go'? England's Housing Crisis And Reforming The Green Belt: Towards A 21st Century Green Belt**

**Authors:** Charles Goode <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** University of Birmingham<sup>1</sup>

### **Abstract Body**

There is a growing academic literature on the global housing (affordability) crisis, centred on world cities (Wetzstein, 2017), but England's housing crisis is particularly acute as homeownership is both the dominant housing tenure and main route to household wealth (Gallent, 2019). The lack of housing supply due to planning restrictions, of which the Green Belt is the most famous, has been highlighted by academics, think tanks and commentators as a key cause of the housing crisis (Cheshire, 2014) although this is disputed by other researchers (e.g. Bramley, 1993). Moreover, Green Belt is often vigorously defended, by the public and politicians, both locally and nationally, with campaign groups, like CPRE (2015), arguing that the housing crisis can be mostly met by brownfield development, is largely caused by 'demand' issues, like the mortgage market and that (most) new housing is unaffordable.

This paper seeks to move on the debate beyond these two polarised, economic and conservationist perspectives. Most of the focus has been on London and the South East (Mace, 2018) whereas this paper focuses on regional Green Belts, especially the West Midlands one. Moreover, whereas the debate is often framed in economic terms, this project has engaged extensively with planning practitioners, politicians and protestors through 72 interviews, data analysis and 2 focus groups to explore what is politically possible.

Findings include the need for Green Belt to move towards a sustainability purpose with the twin pillars of environmental and social objectives to help create a 'greener' Green Belt. This purpose would be shaped by national debate and 'conservation' on its purpose and spatial extent (based



upon increased public planning education and engagement). The need to ensure the majority of housing built in Green Belt is affordable and for its governance to move to the strategic, regional level is also stressed.

## **Infrastructure & Transport 1**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 13:00 – 15:00**

### **Performing Infrastructure Planning: The A303 Stonehenge**

**Authors:** Dr Daniel Durrant <sup>1</sup>, Dr Tania Kossberg <sup>2</sup>

**Affiliations:** Humboldt University/UCL<sup>1</sup>, Independent Researcher<sup>2</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

This paper considers the way that conflicts over heritage and access to valued landscapes, the local and to an extent the wider impact of road infrastructure are played out in the planning system. Despite attempts to streamline infrastructure planning through both governing time within the process and shifting from an adversarial to an inquisitorial role for the public hearing phase, these conflicts can still be seen enacted within these hearings. Drawing on observations of the inquiry into the expansion of the A303 between Amesbury and Berwick Down in Wiltshire, a strategic road passing through the UNESCO World Heritage site of which Stonehenge is a key element we argue this case illustrates the difficulty of insulating infrastructure planning from wider conflicts. The current regime in England seeks to fix the acceptability of infrastructure in principle prior to the process of acquiring consent for a specific project thus filtering out debates about its value and necessity. In the case of the A303 at Stonehenge this approach can be seen challenged by a series of unruly actors. Archaeologists, landowners, local authorities, druids and the Mesolithic and Neolithic people who constructed the first layers of meaning with which the landscape and monuments are imbued all

pull the process of planning in different directions. Through their interests, actions and struggles - most of which pre-date contemporary aspirations to facilitate flows of traffic to the Southwest of England - they challenge the temporal, technocratic realm in which infrastructure planning operates.

### **Major Infrastructure Projects And Community Consensus In Climate Change Crisis. Discussing The Case Of Heathrow Airport**

**Authors:** Graziano Di Gregorio <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** University College London<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

On February 2020, The Court of Appeal ruled in favour of campaigners fighting to block plans for a third runway at Heathrow Airport. Judges said that Governments' plans were unlawful because did not adequately take into account its commitments to tackle the climate change when setting up plans for the expansion. The Court of Appeal's ruling against a third runway at Heathrow was one of the first in the world to measure a state's infrastructure plans against its promises under the Paris Agreement on climate change.

This decision has thrown Heathrow expansion plans into doubt and has opened a completely new frontier for planning challenges to major projects in Britain and around the world. Another campaigner group has now launched a legal bid to stop the Government's plan to expand Britain's road network and, most likely other developments will undergo that same scrutiny of their impact on the target of net-zero emissions by 2050.

In light of these recent events and changing attitudes towards climate change, this paper investigates how the public and the private sector will be able to secure the necessary social and environmental consensus to ensure that the industry will continue to succeed to 2050 and beyond. This will be key in order to respond to the future challenges such as population growth, urbanisation, new working and living demands, and at the same time remain competitive on the global stage.

### **Using Different Approaches To Evaluate Individual Social Equity In Transport**

**Authors:** Mengqiu Cao <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** University of Westminster<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

Inequalities not only exist in the field of economics in relation to income and wealth, but also in other areas, such as the transport sector, where access to and use of different transport modes varies markedly across population groups, and which provides the means to access everyday living activities. A key concern within the transport sector is that inequality has extended beyond the traditional measures of travel, and now covers a wide range of effects relating to social exclusion, freedom, well-being and being able to access reasonable opportunities and resources. In order to address the aforementioned issues, an important question to resolve is what type of methods can be used to measure inequalities in transport most effectively. Therefore, this study aims to apply different approaches, including the Capabilities Approach (CA) and a further six inequality indices, namely the Gini coefficient, the Atkinson index, the Palma ratio, the Pietra ratio, the Schutz coefficient and the Theil index, to the case

study using the relatively migrant-rich lower-income neighbourhood of Tuqiao, in Beijing, in order to assess individual transport-related social inequity issues. The findings suggest that the CA is useful in assessing transport-related inequalities where there are significant barriers to the take up of accessibility, for example where there are high levels of disadvantaged groups and disaggregated analysis can be undertaken. The Palma ratio appears to have a larger effect than the Gini coefficient and the other inequality indices when measuring transport-related social inequity. Finally, we argue that to what extent politicians or transport planners can use appropriate management tools to measure transport-related social inequalities may be significant in terms of the progress that can be made in the fight against social inequity in the transport field.

### **Engineering Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) - the role of nature in promoting urban sustainability**

**Authors: Ian Mell, Fearghus O’Sullivan, Dr Sarah Clement**

**Affiliations: University of Manchester, University of Liverpool**

A growing body of research is examining how Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) to climatic, socio-economic and infrastructure change are offering planners, politicians and engineers options to promote the management of sustainable cities. However, there remains a lack of examination related to how these ‘solutions’ fit with urban problems, at what scale they are most effective, and what costs are associated with investment in urban nature. The following paper analyses current approaches to urban sustainability via an analysis of the Horizon 2020 Urban GreenUP project in Liverpool (UK) to deconstruct the rhetoric from the practical applications associated with NBS. It will interrogate the interactions of

projects, policies and political buy-in for NBS, and argue that an integrated understanding of scalar, functionality, and location analysis is needed to successfully address issues of environmental resilience. This will be contextualised against the wider discussions of NBS associated with other EU-funded projects. It will conclude that although investment in NBS offer a useful approach to delivery that existing barriers to investment in environmental improvements remain. Moreover, the paper will argue that to achieve best practice we must understand what the problems are before promoting a nature-based solution.

### **China's Belt And Road Urban Rail Transit Development In Sub-Saharan Africa**

**Authors:** Guibo Sun <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** the University of Hong Kong<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

In 2013, China proposed the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Under the BRI umbrella, Chinese state-owned enterprises (SoEs) are actively exploring abroad markets, with several conducting urban rail transit projects in belt and road countries. However, in-depth studies are lacking. In this paper, we used the Addis Ababa light rail transit (AALRT) project to present a concrete BRI infrastructure case. We interviewed 28 staffs who were in charge of the planning, construction and operation of the AALRT. We found divided interests between China and Ethiopia, and between Ethiopia federal government and Addis Ababa municipal government. The transit was constructed as a national modernity showcase by Ethiopia federal government. By all actors the project was justified for solving traffic congestion for Addis Ababa. It turns out, visually,

AALRT's surface tracks divided the city centres and development corridors into four quadrants, with limited road connections among them; and empirically, network detour analyses showed the divided road designs are significantly associated with current traffic congestion. We argue that BRI may bring infrastructures to developing countries with multiple interests. Caution should be given in how actual needs were justified by and what effects the infrastructure might bring to the local cities.

### **Questioning The Social Outcomes From Mega Urban Transport Infrastructure: Long-Term Consequences Of Spatial Changes And Varied Interests At Multiple Levels**

**Authors:** Juhyun LEE <sup>1</sup>, Frank Vanclay <sup>1</sup>, Jos Arts <sup>1</sup>, John Ward <sup>2</sup>

**Affiliations:** University of Groningen<sup>1</sup>, UCL<sup>2</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

This research investigates how social outcomes from mega urban transport projects typically play out by reflecting on multi-scale spatial changes induced by projects over time, and the extent to which such changes meet varied interests in project outcomes. It used a multi-methods case study approach using two exemplars, a metro project in London and Seoul, which established extensive public transport networks to support urban growth in the metropolises. The study highlighted that urban transport network expansion alone does not always enhance life opportunities for all due to intermediate and cumulative impacts of the multi-scale spatial changes induced by projects. Immediate benefits such as enhanced accessibility were often undermined by long-term consequences of incremental spatial changes at local scales. This study also indicated that differential patterns of spatial changes around nodes between centre and periphery could be attributed to multiple negative impacts on people

living in the most deprived areas. To enhance social outcomes, it suggests an integrated approach to urban transport and spatial development that focuses on scale and temporal dimensions of spatial transformation enacted by projects. In conclusion, achieving sustainable and equitable effects from mega urban transport infrastructure requires careful examination of broader societal consequences of long-term spatial changes and locational contexts, especially function and socio-economic conditions.



### **Pedagogy 3**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 15:00 – 17:15**

**[Please refer to the separate track brochure]**

## Urban Design 1

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 09:00 – 11:00

### **Talking And Tracking: New Approaches For Exploring Spatial Distribution Of Fear Of Crime In Public Spaces.**

**Authors:** Karla Barrantes Chaves <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** University College London<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

Fear of crime has a profound impact on the quality of life; it modifies the way public spaces are used and people's interpersonal relationships.

This multidimensional phenomenon could vary by factors such as gender, age, income inequalities, previous victimisation experiences or features and familiarity with the built environment. Commonly, the methods to measure fear of crime have been represented by surveys.

However, those quantitative approaches sometimes might not capture the complexity of this phenomenon in depth.

The methods used in this research try to contribute to capturing the spatial distribution of fear of crime in public spaces. The overall aim of the study is to explore the effects of gated communities and their physical features in the perceived safety outside their walls. Gated communities have spread quickly in Latin America; the general consensus is that fear of crime has driven their increase. Paradoxically, factors such as isolation around their walls and residential segregation might be affecting the perceived safety in the surrounding communities.

The research is based on eight study cases from the urban area of Costa Rica. They are neighbourhoods bordering gated communities. Those cases represent different levels of poverty, considering housing, educational level, health and access to goods and services. In each

neighbourhood was carried out a walking interview with community members; those walks were tracked with GPS and audio-recorded.

Additionally, there were focus groups, observations and interviews. People's comments were georeferenced by combining qualitative analysis and software (NVivo) with Geographic Information Systems (GIS). That information was used to create maps of perceptions.

In summary, the spatial data show mostly a higher intensity of fear of crime next to the gated communities' edges in comparison with the internal roads of neighbourhoods. Perceptions also vary by gender, poverty levels and community ties.

## **The Application Of The Urban Design Concept Of Legibility To The Management Of Change To Historic Environments**

**Authors:** Robert Kennedy <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** Ulster university<sup>1</sup>

### **Abstract Body**

The emergent Historic Urban landscape Approach has witnessed a move away from any perceived notion of a preservationist approach to an acceptance of change / the cultural value of contemporary architecture. It has however left practitioners with a number of unresolved questions; indeed many commentators have stressed the need for further research to underpin the historic urban landscape approach. These include the relative importance of the spirit of place versus the physical fabric, the importance of the intangible and the limits of acceptable change. Accordingly, the purpose of this paper is to address some of these issues through the impact that new development has on the how

historic environments are perceived by their users; i.e. their legible qualities. These shall be contrasted with those of heritage regulators (experts) to assess the validity of the contention that an authorised heritage discourse operates to the detriment of the values of the public

## **Traces: New Ways To Engage With The Urban Environment**

**Authors:** Javiera Godoy <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** University of the Arts London<sup>1</sup>

### **Abstract Body**

Urban environments are constructed by diverse visual languages that constantly interact with us. Buildings, roads, signs, traffic lights, among others, were designed to have a certain look and a certain meaning; they were planned. Other examples, such as forgotten things, trash left on sidewalks and marks, seem to be there just because; they are incidental, therefore unplanned.

What kind of new insights of society can we extract from these “unplanned elements”? How do these elements relate to the way we engage with urban spaces? What type of methods are required to decipher these incidental elements? And, How can these readings be represented?

This research focuses on the unplanned products of our activities in cities. It takes these "traces"—the materiality of what is incidentally left behind by society in public spaces— as a new approach to read our urban environments, not only by adults but also by children. "Traces" are used as a starting point for young people to speculate about recent activities that could have occurred within their built environments.

By building a new methodology, the research set up more than 10 workshops, where different London based youth groups were invited to find marks and objects that look interesting/unfamiliar/incidental, to then reflect on the question, “What could have happened in my neighbourhood?”

The method consists of street exploration and search for traces, collective speculation, and on-site re-enactments.

Fiction is used as a way to reflect on present situations, to critique social and urban systems, and to imagine possible futures from what is to be found.

Looking to empower young communities and generate urban engagement, "traces" gives free space for young people to have a voice on what is happening around them, through a method that aims to visualise how the youth perceive, understand and relate to their urban environments.

## **Social Network Change And Conservation In Historical Areas Of Mountainous Towns In Chongqing, China**

**Authors:** Yaling SHI <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** University College London<sup>1</sup>

### **Abstract Body**

Over recent decades, the conservation of historical areas has become an important strategy to improve urban competitiveness in the global economy. As shown by existing studies that the conservation of historical areas mainly focused on the physical environment, there is still room for the non-physical study, and researches on the social network change and conservation in mountainous towns are insufficient. Therefore, the present study establishes a system to evaluate the social network change at 5 different time points, namely, 1978, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2019 in

historical areas, based on the technical method named social network analysis(SNA) and the information of social relationships gathered in field surveys using a specifically designed questionnaire method in four mountainous towns in China. The evaluation system of the social network change was analyzed from three perspectives, i.e., by the basic statistical properties, condensate subgroup, and centrality. Then five analysis indicators were conceived, including density, lambda set, k-core, degree centralization, and betweenness centralization. The results demonstrate that the social networks of the four towns show different indicators, which are respectively relevant to completeness degree, edge-relatedness level, local stability, structural balance, and concentrated trend of social relationships. Results from SNA modeling also illustrate that social network of these historical areas have changed significantly within these years, which may be influenced by the terrain, form, and function of historical areas. And then causes of social network changes have been analyzed from the three aspects of "individual-family-society", that is, population migration, family structure change, and social class differentiation. Finally, the strategies to guide the social network conservation in historical areas are put forward from two aspects. These findings suggest that the conservation and management of social network and aborigines in historical areas should be emphasized to increase the collective benefits and vitality of Historical areas.

## **The 'public-isation' Of Private Space -- Towards A Charter Of Public Space Rights And Responsibilities**

**Authors:** Matthew Carmona <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** The Bartlett, UCL<sup>1</sup>

### **Abstract Body**

There has been much written about the 'privatisation of public space' going back decades. Using an analysis of secondary data and action research in London, this paper explores the phenomenon by questioning whether we have seen a privatisation at all. It concludes that, in London at least, we have actually witnessed the reverse, a 'public-isation of private space' and asks what are the management implications of the trend? The paper concludes that negative associations around so called privatisation are often misplaced and that public-isation processes have the potential to deliver a substantial net gain to society. At the same time, the public interest management implications are just as real for public-isation as for privatisation processes, and so the idea of a public authorities adopting a local charter of public space rights and responsibilities is advanced and tested in order to capture the potential benefits and avoid any negative impacts from public space projects.

## Governance 1

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 09:00 – 11:00

### Material Participatory Encounters: Lessons From A Conflict About A Statue On A Vineyard

**Authors:** Brad Jessup <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** The University of Melbourne<sup>1</sup>

#### Abstract Body

This paper concerns a conflict over a statue built by a wealthy landowner in the Margaret River (Australia) wine region in contravention of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* (WA). Despite community disagreement about the statue and a refusal of the local council to grant a retrospective approval for it on the ground that it was inconsistent with local and regional landscape values, the landowner resisted dismantling the statue, and instead succeeded in obtaining permission from the state tribunal. Throughout the legal process there was no formal community consultation, but there was persistent media coverage and resident letter writing, while the nearby township subsequently erected its own statues as a way of reasserting its claims over the landscape.

The paper explores the material of the statues and local media which represented material participatory encounters that ought to be captured and analysed as part of the deliberations about, and reflections on, the values of a landscape and the merits of developments. It is argued that planning officials can find an articulation of value about place in the material of the landscape and in the community debates over locally controversially developments that may be absent from legally conditioned participatory processes.



## **Good Planners, Better Communities -- Developing A Modernised Planning Profession For The 21st Century**

**Authors:** Wei Yang <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** Wei Yang & Partners<sup>1</sup>

### **Abstract Body**

It has been more than one hundred years since the planning profession was formally formed in the early 20th Century. Such timeless issues as identity and belonging, social justice and inclusivity are still high on the agenda, but pressing contemporary issues as climate change, biodiversity decline, the digital revolution, public health crisis, and the changing nature of work are affecting the way our towns and communities function.

Facing the diverse and urgent global challenges, the paper argues that currently there is a global vacuum to be filled by a profession taking the lead and enabling the built environment to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Despite the importance of ‘urban planning and design’ is highlighted in the New Urban Agenda, strong evidences suggest that in many countries, urban planning has been instrumentalised by politicians and developers. Planners seem to have become invisible and voiceless to the public. Technology giants take smart-city contracts for a whole city without involving planners; in some countries, strategic infrastructure deliveries are driven by engineering solutions without fully exploring potential socio-economic consequences, as well as environmental and cultural impacts.

The paper suggests that professional planning bodies and planning schools should take joined-up strategic actions to set ‘the new professional standard for planning’ to be a ‘global force for good’. On the one hand, the value and purpose of the planning profession should be advocated to

the wider public. On the other hand, the modernisation of the profession should be accelerated with skills required in the 21st Century. Five key attributes, i.e. global vision, skills, trust, leadership, and sense of pride, should be possessed to ensure the planning profession is future proofed to cultivate interdisciplinary leaders and enablers, and continually attract talent from future generations.

### **Regulation Meets Materiality. The Intersubjective Dimension Of Brownfield Registers In England.**

**Authors:** Sonia Freire Trigo <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** UCL - Bartlett School of Planning<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

In 2015, the UK Government directly put the blame of the housing crisis on the planning system because, they argued, it increased “*the cost and uncertainty of investment, hence reducing the efficient use of land and other resources*” (HM Treasury 2015:45). As a result, a new set of legislation and policy guidance were introduced to facilitate a ‘fast-track’ process to establish a ‘permission in principle’ for development that would eventually result in a greater supply of housing. One of the key documents in this process is the Brownfield Land Register, which should identify all available brownfield land suitable for development (The Town and Country Planning (Brownfield Land Register) Regulations 2017).

Despite the clear government guidance on how to identify and assess ‘brownfield sites’, research has already highlighted notable differences between registers of different local planning authorities (CPRE 2019).

This paper uses the case of brownfield registers in England to explore ‘how regulation is done’. It focuses on the role of planning officers in the production of these registers, which requires them to balance their ‘expert knowledge’ about what should be considered a ‘brownfield site’ with the pro-development expectations of this new regulations and the material reality of the sites assessed. Through this exploration, the paper aims to highlight the intersubjectivity dimension of regulations and the consequences of presenting them as objective tools to address objective realities.

### **Why Do Private Sector Planners Do What They Do? Ethics And The Public Interest In A Newly Diverse Planning Profession.**

**Authors:** John Sturzaker <sup>1</sup>, Hannah Hickman <sup>2</sup>

**Affiliations:** University of Liverpool<sup>1</sup>, University of the West of England<sup>2</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

In many contexts planning originated as a state-led activity, resting ‘on notions of an extension of public control over private interests in land and property’ (Cherry, 1996, p. 17), with most professional planners thus working for the state. Whilst this remains the case in some jurisdictions, this paper focuses on the UK, where the nature of the planning profession is now very different. As of 2019, around 40% of the

members of the UK's professional planning institute work in the private sector (RTPI, 2019). This is a dramatic rise, up from 22% only seven years ago (Koch & Harris, 2014).

This paper contends that the profession and the wider discipline has yet to understand the scale of this change and reflect upon its implications for what it means to be a professional planner. For many planning scholars, there remains an assumption that the “activist mode of planning” (Albrechts, 2018, p. 291) held to be necessary to effect meaningful societal change is only possible within the public or third sectors. The private sector, and by extension Planners working in or for it, is seen to be concerned only with the protection/expansion of the interests of “capital”.

This paper draws upon interviews with planners working in the private sector. It complements the valuable work done in the ongoing “Working in the Public Interest” (Slade et al., 2019) project which focuses on private sector planners working for public sector clients, by exploring the wider range of private sector activity, including for the development industry. It suggests that we need new ways of understanding what motivates such planners, how they make decisions and how they interpret concepts such as “the public interest”.

## **Inclusion & Equality 1**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 09:00 – 11:00**

### **Inclusive Education In India- Through The Lens Of Different Types Of Disabilities**

**Authors:** Komal Jaiswal <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** Manipal School of Architecture and Planning<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

Inclusiveness and active participation is the key to sustainable development and also the ultimate goal of policymakers which requires including marginalised population in development and decision-making processes (Agenda 2030). **Persons with Disabilities (PWD)** are among the most marginalised groups in the world (WHO). In developing countries, persons with disabilities often have lack of access to health care, education, employment opportunities, and further contribute to higher rates of poverty. Considerable discrimination and different barriers restrict these people from fully participating in society on an equal basis leading to segregation. As per the Census of India, only 61% of students with disabilities (age group 5-19 years) have attended formal educational institutes. This statistic may not be completely relevant as many cases go unreported due to misconceptions, societal fears, lack of diagnosis, or other pressures. Also out of these statistics, students with learning deficiency (41% Census, 2011) and intellectual disabilities (49% Census, 2011) are often segregated from mainstream education. Despite, existing "game-changing" legislation and initiatives, the government is falling short on implementation, and majority of students with disabilities end up unemployed and dependant on others. The ground situation in India is leaning towards providing inclusive education to "mild"

disabilities (usually physically challenged). This paper intends to analyse paradigm of inclusive education in India, through the lens of different types of disabilities and different barriers faced by students with disabilities. The expected outcome of the study will provide recommendations and priority actions for different stakeholders to design inclusive education as a flexible system taking different types of disabilities into account.

### **Civil Society Perspective On Inequalities: The COVID Revision**

**Authors:** Elisabeta Ilie <sup>1</sup>, Hyunji Cho <sup>1</sup>, Lucy Natarajan <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** University College London<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

This paper deals with civil society in areas of England facing economic inequality due to the unbalanced distribution and pays attention to the current pandemic and potential response of civil society. In 2019, a series of events were held for the UK2070 Commission's inquiry into inequalities with civil society organizations in left-behind places. Following on from that work, we produced a report that set out the civil society perspective on inequalities in England. In addition to the messages about the nature of local challenges experienced in the places where these organizations were working to support communities, we relayed the strong message that processes needed to be carefully and co-productively crafted with localities. In light of the pandemic we revisited our report and asked those who had engaged in the events whether the advice ought to be revised or updated in any way. This engagement work was itself a challenge, and the processes and the feedback from it are being used to update the Commission. We share our findings in this working paper. It is based on the data from email exchanges and an online questionnaire, in the summer of 2020, as a 'revised' perspective on the outputs from qualitative research with civil organizations in 2019.

## **Participatory Planning With Left Behind Places: Empowerment, Influence And Inclusion**

**Authors:** Lucy Natarajan <sup>1</sup>, Sara Hassan <sup>2</sup>

**Affiliations:** UCL<sup>1</sup>, University of Birmingham<sup>2</sup>

### **Abstract Body**

In this article, participatory planning is examined in relation to so-called ‘left-behind places’, which have not benefitted from recent economic development and have high deprivation scores. The authors revisit long-standing debates about participation inclusion with new data co-produced with communities to examine the value of stakeholder engagement and concerns around participatory development explicitly for such communities. The purpose is not simply to identify ‘what works’ in terms of procedure, but to examine the community-state relationship and how it might produce institutions of governance where left-behind places better participate.

We review the literature on stakeholder engagement in development, and ask what might matter in terms of *processes* and *knowledge and learning*, for stakeholder engagement in left-behind places. In the UK, such places are identified through indicators of ‘multiple deprivation’ but we approach engagement of people in these places as a live and situated socio-spatial practice. In other words it is rooted in place, with respect to cultural norms of present society and the material particularities of the existing development context. Our interest is driven by a normative argument that stakeholder engagement has the potential to reshape values and practices and here in this paper we look at an English case using interviews conducted by community researchers to unpack aspirations and fears in this regard.

Previous studies have identified a series of concerns about the relationship between communities and powerful institutional structures at a series of scales of governance. Yet, sociological understandings of communities suggests their priorities are constructed in a double hermeneutical (Giddens 1986) with respect to the feedback loop with institutional norms that produce, reproduce and potentially reshape development practices. As discussed here, there are diverse considerations, which can be categorised as relating to issues of *empowerment, influence and inclusion* of the public that must be understood in context.

### **Women working in planning**

**Author: Charlotte Morphet**

**Affiliation: Leeds Beckett University**

At 40%, women make up a significant proportion of the UK planning profession (RTPI, 2019) yet what do we know of their experience? This paper seeks to set out what existing research has been undertaken into women working in the UK planning profession from Clara Greed's seminal work 'Women and Planning' (1994) to more recent research undertaken by Women in Planning, 'Who's leading Planning?' (2019) and the RTPI 'Women and Planning' (2020). It looks at comparisons with research undertaken about women working in planning within other countries including the USA and Australia. It concludes that there is a research gap in women's experience of becoming managers and leading in the profession. Further research into the lived experience of women who ascend to leadership and management positions is vital if the absence of female leadership, to address the wider leadership gap in the UK planning profession (RTPI, 2019).



## Urban Design 2

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 11:00 – 13:00

### **The Residual Rhythm: An Essential Element Of Urban Design In Sustaining A Sense Of Place Over Time**

**Authors:** Anon Chaimanee <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** Bartlett School of Planning<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

Under the influence of globalisation, transformed urban landscapes have been diminishing identity and sense of place in a modern city.

Accordingly, to sustain a sense of place, urban practitioners have mainly focused on the reinvention and conservation of historic architectures, sites, and landscapes. However, some scholars argue that such practices equated to bringing the ‘dead past’ into the contemporary city, because the historic structures sometimes represented a spasmodic and fragmented history that might fail to sustain a sense of place to people in today's society.

Given such gaps, this paper proposes the “residual rhythm” to deal with the declining sense of place in the modern cities. The “residual rhythm” refers to the everyday life activities, traditional events, and practices that have regularly occurred in a place, stretching from the past to the present. Such rhythms are the traces of the urban past that contain the continuity of history and the evolution of socio-cultural features of the society, over time. Therefore, this paper argues that a residual rhythm delivers a wide range of history and also sustain a sense of place to people of different generations.

The study uses both observation-based methods and ethnographic techniques to demonstrate the relationship between the performance of residual rhythms and people's feelings of attachment and memories with the place, over time. The lesson learnt from Thai cities, where Sino-Thais' livelihoods have represented the rhythmic characteristic in the Thai urban landscape for long time.

This study provides an alternative approach for urban design research in the locality where the everyday life patterns represent themselves as an essential urban feature. In this urban characteristic, a sense of place is not static, not only attached to physical entities. Rather, it is temporal, and performative, attaching to a dimension of time and everyday life patterns.

### **Visibility as Justice: Immigrant Street Vendors and the Right to Difference in Rome**

**Authors:** Francesca Piazzoni <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** University of Liverpool<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

Dominant constructions of “the appropriate” stigmatize and banish immigrants from public spaces across the world. The case of Rome's street vendors is emblematic. Every day, roughly two thousand immigrants occupy the touristic center of Rome by selling trinkets without vending licenses. Most vendors are men from Bangladesh, and often lack a regular immigration status. This paper analyzes how Bangladeshi vendors challenge exclusion by tactically appearing and disappearing in Rome's iconic landscapes. Through interviews, observations, and surveys, I mapped the interactions among Bangladeshis and other vendors, residents, workers, police officers, and tourists who also inhabit central Rome. While xenophobic, “pro-decorum” regulations seek to eliminate fragile urbanites from the tourist-friendly city center, I find that immigrant vendors mobilize their own visibility by enacting urbanisms of opportunity, refuge, and belonging. Learning from these urbanisms, I argue that

planners should deploy a spatial lens of visibility to advance rights to difference. I theorize *In Plain Site*, a policy and place-making approach that empowers oppressed groups to see and be seen in the city.

### **(Re)Locating The School In Urban Contexts**

**Authors:** Adam Wood <sup>1</sup>, Jos Boys <sup>2</sup>, Anna Jeffery <sup>3</sup>

**Affiliations:** UCL Institute of Education<sup>1</sup>, UCL Bartlett Real Estate Institute<sup>2</sup>, Architecture Initiative<sup>3</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

The school once played a central role in understandings of the city – for theorists and urban planners such as Lewis Mumford and Giancarlo De Carlo it was *the* centre of urban life but even when the school was outright attacked by educationalists (Ivan Illich, for example) or critiqued (Colin Ward), its influence nevertheless signalled a powerful force that needed understanding. Then, from approximately the mid-1970s onwards, the school – as both tool and focal point of planning – largely disappeared. This paper draws on historic literature and new interdisciplinary research to ask where we might (re)locate the school in urban contexts: what role does the school have now in planning? How are conceptions of the school in urban space shaped by (and shaping of) educational discourses? How are phenomena of concern to planning (regulation, density, etc) in dialogue with school form?

These questions are explored via two ongoing research projects which illustrate changing school-planning and building practices, and their contexts – from the increasing use of Section 106s and Community Infrastructure Levies to reduced play areas, increased building height and

proposals for shared use – the increasing financialization of land and development is leading to a renewed focus on schools as urban “resources”. As such, schools are used strategically to leverage community gain but where community itself is increasingly reframed in economic terms of added value. However, alternatives exist both in the mid- and late 20th century writing on planning and schools that we use comparatively to reflect on new data from interviews and panel discussions with built environment experts, and in recent work on grounded and social infrastructure. In this way, the paper brings a timely challenge to reductive visions of school planning, by broadening the terms of reference of both debate and practice.

### **Mendacious Utopias ? Vertical Forests And Green Skyscrapers Reexamined.**

**Authors:** Michael Hebbert <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** UCL<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

A frequently recurring vision of the Good City in architectural literature involves intensive high-rise buildings sheathed in living greenery. Most images of green skyscrapers or vertical forests prove to be digital visualisations rather than actual photographs, given the impracticality of cultivating shrubs and trees in artificial pits on rooftops and balconies. The difficulties are both climatic (wind-shear factor) and managerial (service contract factors), but architects such as Ken Yeang in Singapore and Stefano Boehri in Milan claim to have achieved prototypes and are both active promoters of the idea that sustainable development should aim to create super-intensive clusters of humans and plants. Long popular with impressionable architecture undergraduates, this brand of environmental utopianism seems to have a growing attraction for policy-makers.

For example, in March 2020 the municipality of Utrecht announced plans for the new city district to the west of the railway station, centring on a 300ft-tall apartment tower which - according to press releases - would contain half as many trees and shrubs as the whole of Central Park, New York. This one building was predicted to absorb about 5.4 tonnes of carbon dioxide emission per year and produce about 41 tonnes of oxygen, equivalent to that generated by 1 hectare of forest. My paper will weigh the evidence for the Yeang-Boehri model of urban intensification, asking whether this compelling image of utopia offers a viable path to the Good City or a dangerous distraction.

## **Governance 2**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 11:00 – 13:00**

### **Citizen Environmental Monitoring**

**Authors:** Lucy Natarajan <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** UCL<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

This paper is concerned with the role of the public in regulating major infrastructure development, which is framed as agency of lay actors within the socially constructed practices of control. It takes a high profile set of cases of regulatory activities in the UK, around major renewable energy infrastructure consenting and examines the post-consent stage. It deconstructs the presence and interactions of the lay public with the regulatory activities, looking particularly at monitoring processes. Monitoring activities that occur post-consent can test the effectiveness of protective measures within consent, which are mainly based in assumptions such as the findings of modeling exercises (Lee et al., 2018). They also implicitly rely on local observations, including those of the public. Thus monitoring is a critical point for socially-oriented studies of regulation, in that it can be a point for contesting the evidence and knowledge claims used in determining planning consent and, in principle at least, expands the set of actors involved. Inspection of prevailing practices in the UK (Rydin et al. 2018, Rydin 2019) have unsettled notions of reliance on expertise for ‘good decisions’. Here the notion of ‘citizen environmental monitoring’ is offered as a challenge to the normatively ‘minor’ role of the public within regulation (Natarajan et al., 2018, 2019), proposing that ‘ordinary’ local people who witness the outcomes of

regulatory decisions and may have a greater influence on decision-making than previously acknowledged. The study will examine monitoring by the public post-consent to investigate how shapes the bounds of 'regulatory action'. It will explore the extent to which the networks of socially constructed regulation beyond formal planning stages might also be embedded in the evolving norms of decisions-making, and how that (re-)distributes the means to control development activities.

### **Urban Conservation And Housing Policies On Residential Displacement. Cases Of The Historic Centres Of Mexico City And Guadalajara**

**Authors:** Monica Lopez Franco <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** University College London<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

Historic centres within Latin American cities are under considerable strain to address social and urban challenges as well as cultural value within a re-centralised urban model. Mexican historic centres face significant stress this in relation to different social groups. Traditional heritage conservation approaches to historic places have been embedded in aesthetic economic models, with a growing gap to address social urban needs. While recently addressed by urban conservation frameworks (UNESCO, 2011, 2016; Labadi&Logan, 2012; UN-Habitat, 2016; Colomb&Novy, 2017), there is still a clear gap to fully bridge urban conservation and planning to benefit local populations. This research addresses the role of urban conservation in planning instruments to promote social equality and well-fare through the provision and access to housing.

Examining frameworks within local planning instruments as informed by urban conservation national agendas and UNESCO values to assess housing processes and provisions. Considering official discourse has positioned housing development in historic centres as a key housing market strategy and an opportunity for heritage conservation. Based on the assumption that deterioration is a product of abandonment, identifying low-income residents as problematic for heritage management and introducing a 'need' for new residential stakeholders. Local low-income groups with tenure challenges and access limitations have been overlooked in the historic centres of Mexico City and Guadalajara.

Discourse analysis was used to evaluate cultural and economic place value and significance-based developments, with the lens of the Right to Housing framework (UN) to assess urban displacement processes. Spatial analysis of key areas identified within policy and interviews with local governments and residents evidenced asymmetrical conservation and housing policies within both historic centres. Findings suggest heritage conservation policies enable area financialisation processes and exclusionary urban developments in relation to existing residents.



## **Strategic planning for growth in Oxford and Stuttgart city-regions: A comparative evaluation**

**Authors:** Robin Ganser and David Valler

**Affiliations:** HFW University Nuertingen & Oxford Brookes University

Oxford, UK, and the Verband Region Stuttgart (VRS) in Germany are two of Europe's high-tech powerhouses, facing similar challenges of housing and infrastructure provision and accommodating regional and local economic growth. Based on desktop-studies and semi-structured expert interviews, this paper examines the respective institutional, political and cultural contexts for strategic planning in the two distinct settings, to identify the evolving balance of socio-spatial dimensions influencing each case. While the interplay of territory, place, scale, and network is different across the two cases, both face ongoing dilemmas. In VRS, an established and smoothly running economic and spatial growth machine has stuttered as growth has reached capacity and localities have asserted their constitutional controls on urban expansion. However, while structural growth challenges are exacerbated, VRS is also characterised by an elected regional assembly and the sustained national commitment to comprehensive spatial planning, which has characterised the German context; the institutional foundations for effective strategic planning thus largely remain in place. In Oxford (and the wider county of Oxfordshire), there is dislocation between the overall growth agenda and a more fractured and fragmented governance context. Additionally, Oxford/Oxfordshire has operated since 2010 against the background of localism in planning and an increasing reliance on city- and housing/growth- 'deals' negotiated with central government to access

planning flexibilities and infrastructure funding. In this context, the bases for strategic planning are weaker. We conclude with some thoughts on prospects for learning from this international comparative experience.

### **Liquid Planning, Private Law And The Production Of Urban Housing In London**

**Authors:** Mike Raco <sup>1</sup>, Frances Brill <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** University College London<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

The presentation draws on recent writings in political studies on liquid regulation and the growing power of private law and governance arrangements in shaping the production of housing in cities. It argues that planning systems have become increasingly liquid in character and that too much research in housing studies still draws on an out-dated separation between public and private sectors, notably planners/policy-makers on the one hand and the real estate sector on the other. Drawing on in-depth research on housing market investment and regulation in major European cities, the presentation critically assesses the form and character of contemporary modes of housing production. It argues that a stronger focus on liquid planning and private law sheds light on the growing importance of softer modes of regulation, organisational legitimisation and authority-making in shaping policy practices and outcomes. The paper concludes by highlight directions for future research and conceptual-methodological approaches in housing studies.



## **Inclusion & Equality 2**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 11:00 – 13:00**

### **Women And Core Strategies/Local Plans**

**Authors:** Karen Horwood <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** Leeds Beckett University<sup>1</sup>

#### **Abstract Body**

This paper examines the core strategies/local plans for planning authorities across England to ascertain the extent to which they engage with women, gender and broader equalities. Following a period of gender mainstreaming in the UK as part of the EU, and within a legislative context that requires the advancement of equality of opportunity, this paper undertakes a content analysis of core strategies/local plans to identify the extent to which these priorities are represented within strategic planning in England. The paper concludes that there is evidence to suggest a lack of significant engagement, although more qualitative research is needed.

## **Spaces Of Agonism And The Fight For Environmental Justice**

**Authors:** M. Reza Shirazi <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** Oxford Brookes University<sup>1</sup>

### **Abstract Body**

This paper argues that in marginalised neighbourhoods that have been historically suffering from systematic negligence, and are under endless threat of displacement and gentrification, creating ‘spaces of agonism’ that establish a perpetuated strife to delegitimise the dominant narrative imposed by the governing city administration is an effective strategy for resistance and change. Spaces of agonism go beyond conventional participation and set up new possibilities and alternative visions from below.

I investigate the case of the Hunters Point Shipyard redevelopment project. Located in Bayview-Hunters Point (BVHP), one of the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods in San Francisco, it is a former military base with very high chemical and radioactive contamination. I will show how BVHP community was aware of the power of strife and assembled a collective ‘space of agonism’ that disputed the adequacy and sufficiency of the clean-up work. This space of agonism was created around two avenues of strife: ‘argumentation’ that was based on the rigour of argumentation in the form of commenting and litigation, and ‘performative action’ that included a range of actions such as protest, press conference, and speech. Examples will be presented to demonstrate how this perpetuated strife culminated in the revelation of the truth: remediation work was discovered to be fraudulent, and the dominant narrative of safety was found to be false. As the result of this strife, the ‘biggest redevelopment project in San Francisco’ turned to the ‘biggest case of eco-fraud in US history’.

## **Delivering Coworking Spaces As New Social Infrastructures.**

**Authors:** Stefania Fiorentino <sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** Bartlett School of Planning, University College London<sup>1</sup>

### **Abstract Body**

This article investigates the delivery of co-working spaces of different typologies as strategic spatial planning tools to rebalance lagging socio-economic contexts and trigger processes of urban regeneration. The research draws upon case studies from Italy, the UK and Belgium. The cases of Rome and London offer different socio-economic and political conditions as well as institutional frameworks, representing interesting benchmarks to understand the emergence and growth of the new working spaces. The local real estate trends are also very different. The case Rome demonstrates the regenerative potential of the new working spaces in lagging socio-economic contexts. In London the commercial cases - like WeWork - have outnumbered the number of spaces developed with the support of the public sector, with local authorities lacking adequate capacity and tools for the delivery of affordable spaces for SMEs. The case of Brussels adds up the important institutional dimension offered by the EU Commission and demonstrates the importance of the public sector involvement in delivering those spaces for regenerative purposes. This article compares data from the three cities and offers valuable recommendations for the delivery of affordable workspaces for SMEs in the local offer of strategic planning tools. Such tools are particularly relevant for more balanced and inclusive urban regeneration strategies.

## **When is a park more than a park? Rethinking the role of parks as “shared space” in post-conflict Belfast**

### **Authors:**

Dr Ian Mell\* (University of Manchester)  
Dr John Sturzaker (University of Liverpool)  
Dr Alice Correia (University of Salford)  
Dr Mary Gearey (University of Brighton)  
Dr Neale Blair (Ulster University)  
Mr Fearghus O’Sullivan (University of Manchester)  
Dr Luciana Lang (University of Manchester)

With the signing of the Belfast Agreement, Belfast (Northern Ireland, UK) entered a new phase of urban development. Moving away from notions of division, Belfast City Council envisaged an inclusive and accessible city. Over a 20-year period there have been significant changes in Belfast’s physical, socio-cultural and political structure reframing the city as a post-conflict space. However, there has been limited analysis of the role of parks in this process. This paper examines perceptions of parks asking whether the promotion of “shared spaces” is aligned with local uses of the environment. Through a mixed-methods approach, communities of interest were surveyed to reflect on the socio-cultural meanings of parks. We argue that although residual interpretations associated with historical socio-cultural divisions remain, parks are considered to be predominately multi-community amenities. Analysis illustrates that although destination parks attract greater patronage, there is visible clustering around ‘anchor’ sites at the local scale.

## **UK Planning Practice and Inclusion: How things are(n't) done, and how we move on**

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This presentation will review current methods for addressing equality and diversity within UK planning practice, drawing on examples from research and planning practice, and provide initial priorities for changes to improve outcomes. It will start with a review of the processes through which social issues are considered in planning practice, focusing on legally required processes (Public Sector Equality Duty, Sustainability Appraisal, Environmental Impact Assessment, etc) as these represent both the minimum requirements and a point of challenge (and consequently power). This practical overview will be contrasted with outcomes from practice and qualitative research, evidencing key issues and opportunities in experiences of these processes. The paper will conclude with initial priorities towards improved approaches for a more inclusive planning system.



