

Cities News

Issue 5
Lent Term 2010

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Ian Gordon
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Michael Storper

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Anna Livia Johnston

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Faculty News

Dr Ayona Datta has recently been awarded the ESRC-ICSSR India-UK Scholar Exchange Award in 2009-2010. She will be based in Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai to carry out research on politics of sustainable development along the Mumbai-Pune expressway from July-September 2010.

Ayona is chairing the European Science Foundation conference on 'Home, Migration and the City: New Narratives, New Methodologies' in Linköping from 6th-10th August 2010. The Call for Papers has been announced on the website www.esf.org/conferences/10317 through which abstracts should be submitted. There are limited funds to support the attendance of young researchers. Deadline for abstracts is 16th April 2010.

Ayona was on sabbatical during Michaelmas term 2009-2010. Apart from completing her current research projects, she delivered lectures in Jawaharlal Nehru University, National Institute of Urban Affairs, and to the LSE Alumni in New Delhi, in Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich and in University of Essex, Colchester.

Professor David Frisby, who convened and taught on the Foundations of Urban Studies course which has been a vital part of the MSc in City Design and Social Science, retired at the end of 2009. He will be missed by all and we wish him a happy retirement.

Professor Robert Tavernor recently wrote the introduction for a new translation of *Vitruvius: On Architecture* published by Penguin Classics in the autumn of 2009. He is also editing a special issue on London for a new academic journal from Elsevier: *City, Culture and Society*, which will include joint essays by Cities Programme PhD students and LSE academics, and will be published in autumn 2010.

As a member of the masterplanning team for the Russian city of Perm (see 'Perm 2020', Cities News Issue 2), **Robert** was appointed in August 2009 to produce 'A Heritage, Conservation Principles and Strategic Views Report' for Perm, the first stage of which will be completed in April 2010. In September 2009 he was appointed Visiting Professor in Architecture at the University of Bath for three years (2009-12).

Dr Fran Tonkiss was Visiting Professor on the International Master's in Sustainable Urban Design at Lund University, Sweden in September-October 2009 (http://www.lth.se/english/education/master/sustainable_urban_design/).

Fran visited the ETH Zurich in November as a member of the European Scientific Committee for the development of a spatial sciences framework for Switzerland (<http://www.s3f.ch/>), with a second workshop at the EPFL in Lausanne in February 2010. Fran's most recent publication is (2009) 'Trust, confidence and the economic crisis', *Intereconomics* 44/4: 196-202.

Visiting Fellows

Professor Aysegul Baykan's article 'Politics and culture in the making of public space: Taksim Square 1 May 1977, Istanbul' - co-written with Tali Hatuka - will be appearing in *Planning Perspectives* Vol 25, No. 1, January 2010.

Dr Catharina Gabrielsson gave a lecture and workshop at Theory Forum 2009: Ecology, Sheffield School of Architecture, 13-14 November 2009. She presented a paper at Field/Work, AHRA Edinburgh, 19-21 November, and wrote a report on "Art in the Public Realm: the forms and conditions of public art in London 2009", commissioned by Liljevalchs Art Gallery / Stockholm Art, 2009 (50 pages).

Catharina has been awarded The Major Scholarship, The Swedish Institute of Research in Istanbul, 2010.

Catharina will be an external PhD examiner at the Institute of Art and Design (HDK) University of Gothenburg (Feb 2010).

PhD Student News

Michelle Cullen joined the Cities PhD Programme in October to start work on a thesis on 'Governance for Smart City Transformation' (working title).

Suzanne Hall has successfully passed her PhD for her thesis *A Mile of Mixed Blessings: An Ethnography of Boundaries and Belonging on a South London Street*.



Juliet Davis, 'The Divide'
2nd Prize winner COMPAS Photo
Competition 2009



© BASEbeijing

Image from 'Beijing Inside Out: Caochangdi', lecture by James Stirling Memorial Prize winners Robert Mangurian and Mary-Ann Ray at LSE on 19th October 2009.



Future projection of the Olympic site 2040 © AECOM Design + Planning / OAKER

Image from 'The First Legacy Games: the physical and socio-economic transformation of East London', Cities Programme/Olympic Park Legacy Company debate at LSE on 10th November 2009.



ESF-LiU Conference
6-10 August 2010, Linköping, Sweden
Application deadline: 16 April 2010

Chair: Dr Ayona Datta
For more information go to
www.esf.org/conferences/10317

Editors:
Ayona Datta
Anna Livia Johnston

Suzanne has been appointed by the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment to support CABE in developing a report that will form case study content around the subject of placemaking and inclusion. Suzi's focus will be on the Bankside Urban Forest Project, and primary data will be drawn from interviews with the architects, the diverse client group, and local user groups.

Torsten Schroeder was invited to talk at the 'Young Planners Debate' of the 53rd International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) World Congress held 6–9 September 2009 in Berlin on the theme 'Urban Technologies for Urban Sustainability: Climate Change and Energy Efficiency'.

Torsten has been appointed Associate Lecturer by the University of the Arts London – Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design. He teaches courses on the BA (Honours) Architecture: Spaces and Objects and BA (Honours) Art, Design and Environment programmes.

MSc News

The Ove Arup Foundation has pledged a very generous gift of £105,000 to the Cities Programme over the next three years, which will fund specialist teaching on infrastructure, environment and resources on the MSc in City Design and Social Science, including the work of **Philipp Rode** as the Ove Arup Foundation Fellow. The funding will also support the annual MSc field trip to some of the world's fastest-growing conurbations; this year's students will be travelling to Istanbul in March.

Our Class of 2009 achieved excellent results and two students in particular were recognised for their achievements: **David Church** was awarded the Cities Prize for Academic Achievement 2009. The prize was inaugurated this year by the MSc Sub-Board of Examiners for City Design and Social Science, to be awarded annually in recognition of outstanding academic performance on the Master's programme. **Jeffrey Risom** was awarded the Inaugural Cities Prize for Outstanding Contribution 2009, inaugurated by the MSc Sub-Board of Examiners to be awarded annually in recognition of the student who has made an outstanding contribution to the Master's programme in terms of both academic performance and collegiality.

Giacomo Biraghi, who is studying for the MSc part-time, started a new project as Consulting Manager for the Planning & Development Department of Milan City Council, the Italian official host city for the 2015 Universal Exposition. He will help this department and the office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning in adapting the internal organization's processes to the new spatial development strategy, which is in its final approval phase.

Alumni News

Allison Stewart Bishins, Associate, World Resources Institute, Washington DC, co-authored a US report published in June 2009 on *Cost Effective GHG Reductions through Smart Growth and Improved Transportation Choices*.

In May 2009, **Alex Feldman** (MSc '06) became an associate at U3 Ventures, a real estate development and advisory firm in Philadelphia. U3 Ventures works with urban universities and anchor institutions to develop the edges of their campuses and leverage their real estate assets.

Mary Jane Rooney has been appointed Director of Architecture in the newly formed Department of Built Environment at London South Bank University in December 2009. Mary Jane brings extensive academic experience as an architect and urban designer experience to the newly formed Department. She graduated in 2000 from the Cities Programme and initiated the successful OS1 annual lecture series which brings together architects, artists and urban designers. Her new role will involve providing academic leadership to Architecture with 500 full and part time students studying on undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Maria Sisternas (Class of 2009), Marina Berbel, Erik Cremers and Silvia Sasot have been awarded an honourable mention for their proposal 'dissolving boundaries' at the European Competition (edition 10) for the site of Lisbon, Portugal.

And finally...

The Cities Programme and Urban Age are now a part of **LSE Cities**, a major new centre endowed by Deutsche Bank's Alfred Herrhausen Society and directed by **Professor Ricky Burdett** – look out for updates on this and our move to a new location on campus.