

Cities News

Issue 7
Lent Term 2011

Faculty

Ricky Burdett
Ayona Datta
Philipp Rode
Robert Tavernor
Fran Tonkiss
Savvas Verdis

Cities Programme Fellows

Juliet Davis
Suzanne Hall

Senior Visiting Fellow 2010-11

Joseph Heathcott

Michaelmas Term Masterclasses

Edward Soja

Guest Practices

Kathryn Firth (PLP
architecture)
Tom Holbrook (5th Studio)

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Anna Livia Johnston

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MSc News

Matthew Triebner was awarded the Cities Prize for Outstanding Contribution 2010, for academic performance and collegiality. This prize was established in 2009 in recognition of the fact that the City Design Research Studio requires a high degree of collaboration between students working together on projects, so an individual's contribution can benefit others in their group and the whole class.

MSc student **Carolyn Sponza**, along with a team of New York-based architects, launched a Call for Collaborative Design for the construction of new housing in Haiti. The process included a full day charette and fundraiser, held in January 2011. Information on the program is online: www.haitihousingcollaborative.org

Guest practices invited in to the Studio in Michaelmas Term were architect and urban designer **Kathryn Firth** and founder director of 5th Studio **Tom Holbrook**, and masterclasses were held by **Professor Edward Soja** (see Cities Events below).

PhD Student News

This year we welcomed **David Church** (MSc class of 2009), **Katherine Robinson** and **Ed Wall** onto the PhD programme, and **Ece Aksakoglu** joined us for six months from Istanbul's Bilgi University as part of the Erasmus exchange scheme.

Corinna Dean, **Gunter Gassner**, **Adam Kaasa**, **Jamie Keddie** and Cities Programme Fellow **Suzi Hall** took part in the 3rd Writing Cities Conference co-hosted by MIT and Harvard Law in Boston on 1-2 October 2010.

Writing Cities 1, the volume of working papers from the second Writing Cities conference held at LSE in 2009, is now available to read as a PDF on the Cities Programme website.

Adam Kaasa was awarded a grant from the European Cooperation in Science and Technology project 'European Architecture Beyond Europe: Sharing Research and Knowledge on Dissemination Processes, Historical Data and Material Legacy'. He will take part in working group meetings, and a three week exchange to TU Delft to work with Dr Tom Avermaete.

Torsten Schroeder gave the opening lecture on 'Hospital Architecture and Sustainability' at a one day conference at the Centre Médical de Forcilles in Paris, 2 December 2010, which envisaged opportunities beyond best practice guidelines of how to translate environmental challenges into design strategies.

Attila Szanto has successfully passed his PhD for his thesis on 'Narrating the Urban in Contemporary Budapest.'

Alumni News

Ömer Çavuşoğlu (class of 2008 and now an LSE Cities researcher) and **Jeff Risom** (class of 2009) attended a symposium on 'Initiating Projects' in Barcelona in October 2010. They presented (separately) on Day 2 Making City Session I: Urban Policies, organised by **Maria Sisternas** (class of 2009): <http://www.coac.net/initiatingprojects/eng/programa.html>

On 2 February the Architecture Foundation, headed by **Sarah Ichioka** (Class of 2003), launches 'Critical Infrastructures: New American Approaches to Civic Activism and Research', a public lecture series and complementary exhibition at the AF Project Space presenting three dynamic American not-for-profits – Archeworks (Chicago), the Center for Land Use Interpretation (Los Angeles), and the Centre for Urban Pedagogy (New York) – whose body of work critiques and engages with the economic, legal and political forces shaping contemporary cities: www.architecturefoundation.org.uk.

Mariana Leguia (class of 2007) is editing a forthcoming issue of the prestigious UK magazine AD (*Architectural Design*) to be launched in May/June 2011. 'Latin America at the Crossroads' explores the current urban issues faced by Latin American cities and the response of alternative local practitioners at different scales. Large-scale urban case studies, such as the revitalisation of Bogotá and Medellín are featured alongside architectural practices, research-based organisations and university studios working at the grass-roots, neighbourhood and community scales.

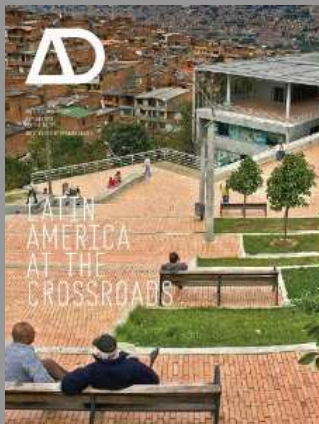
Paul Mc Gann (class of 2009) has joined the PhD programme at London Metropolitan University's Cities Institute and was awarded the 2010 Vice-



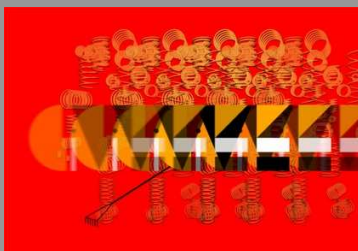
Emeritus Professor David Frisby
26 March 1944 - 20 November
2010



Torsten Schroeder: Hospital
architecture and sustainability.



'Latin America at the Crossroads'
(*Architectural Design*), ed. Mariana
Leguía.



Critical Infrastructures at the
Architecture Foundation from 2
February.

Editor: Anna Livia Johnston

Chancellor's scholarship. His research will focus on the 2012 Olympic legacy.

Alasdair Jones (PhD 2008) has joined the Faculty of Public Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine as a Research Fellow. As part of the Transport and Health Group at LSHTM, Alasdair is undertaking qualitative research for the 'On the buses' project which is evaluating the public health impact of free bus travel for young people in London.

Olivia Tusinski (class of 2009) has recently concluded a position in urban research with ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability, based in Bonn, Germany. She has since participated in a 10 day workshop, sponsored by UN-HABITAT, focusing on the city development strategy of Wroclaw, Poland, and has begun working in research and project coordination for London-based urban design and strategy firm 00:/.

Faculty News

It is with great sadness that we report that **Emeritus Professor David Frisby** died on 20th November 2010 after a long illness. David convened the Foundations of Urban Studies core course on the MSc in City Design and Social Science, which he taught with Dr Savvas Verdis until this year. He will be greatly missed by all in the Cities Programme and the LSE Sociology Department as a whole.

A special issue on London edited by **Professor Robert Tavernor**, 'The London Plan 2000-2010: A Decade of Transformation', *City, Culture and Society*, Vol. 1, Issue 2, 2010, was published in December 2010. It contains essays by Cities Programme PhD students written jointly with LSE academics.

Robert retired from his fulltime post at LSE on 31 December 2010 to focus on his consultancy work, which includes major urban design projects in London and abroad. He will continue to supervise his current PhD students and to maintain close teaching and research links with the Cities Programme as Emeritus Professor of Architecture and Urban Design.

In September 2010, **Dr Fran Tonkiss** was Visiting Professor on the Master's in Sustainable Development at Lund University, Sweden. In November 2010, she gave an invited lecture on 'Informality

and Inequality' in the Faculty of Architecture at ETH, Zurich.

Fran sat on the expert panel for the UN-Habitat Business Award for Better Cities (September, 2010), the jury for the Young Architect of the Year Award (November, 2010), and the jury for the international urbaninform competition: The Architecture of Social Engagement (November, 2010): www.urbaninform.net

Together with **Jamie Keddie**, PhD candidate in Cities, **Fran** published 'The market and the plan: Housing, urban renewal and socio-economic change in London', in the special issue of *City, Culture and Society* 1/2: 57-67.

Visiting Fellows

Professor Joseph Heathcott, Senior Visiting Fellow at the Cities Programme from September 2010 to March 2011, published a piece on 'Infrastructure 2.0' in the recent issue of *National Civic Review*, and has an article forthcoming in the *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* titled 'Urban Form and Social Meaning in the Design of Early Public Housing.' He gave a talk at Trinity College in Dublin on "The Transatlantic Moment in Mass Housing", and a lecture at the University of the Arts in London titled 'The Known City: Visual Rhetorics of Urbanism in the Twentieth Century.'

In January we welcomed architect and researcher **Karoliina Hartiala** from Aalto University in Finland as a Visiting Fellow at the Cities Programme until December 2011. She will be working on a research project on urban infill issues, funded by the Finnish National Technology Agency TEKES.

Cities Events

Edward Soja gave a lecture on 'Seeking Spatial Justice', the title of his latest book, at LSE on 25 November. Edward Soja is Professor Emeritus of Urban Planning at the UCLA School of Public Affairs, and was Centennial Visiting Professor in the Cities Programme, where he is still a regular visitor.

Sharon Zukin gave a public lecture at LSE on 'The Naked City', chaired by Fran Tonkiss, on 17 January, and held a masterclass for Cities Programme students beforehand. Sharon Zukin is Professor of Sociology at Brooklyn College and City University Graduate Center, New York.