



## Welcome to the Director's Update - Academic Year 2008-09

*Dr. Nancy Holman, Director of the MSc Regional and Urban Planning Studies*

It is time again to write my yearly update on the Regional & Urban Planning Studies MSc here at the LSE and again it seems to have been an eventful year! We have had our usual group of students from all over the globe with diverse backgrounds who as always have been exciting to work with and fun to teach - I honestly do not know how we manage to be this lucky but long may it continue! We have also become an accredited programme through the **Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors**, which will offer our students opportunities to become chartered members and will offer them good professional contacts for the future.



December 2008 saw us saying good-bye to our recent graduates at the commencement ceremony. It was lovely to see so many people were able to make it back to London for the graduation! Andy and I are always happy to lift a glass or two to celebrate the event. Congratulations go out to Teis Hansen and Scott McVittie for graduating with Distinctions!





Our 2008-2009 intake of students chose Berlin to visit for their annual trip. You can see our Planning Society's chairman, Scott Kriebel's excellent article on the trip.

We also had our usual spate of walks in London with Derek Diamond and Andy Thornley and our annual trip to see the 'New Town' of Milton Keynes.

As I write this the programme has very successfully recruited 32 new Regional & Urban Planners and 9 new SciencePo double degree majors so for those of you who remember S400 fondly...we are pretty cosy! I look forward to reporting on how our new batch get on in next year's report! Until then that is all from me!