

Cities News

Cities Programme newsletter issue 22
Summer Term 2018

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Representing both a bygone vision of the urban future as well as a site on the cusp of large-scale change, Thamesmead provides an opportunity to think about housing history as well as the challenges and pleasures of living in London today.

The full publication is available to view [here](#).



The final public seminar of the China Urban Forum event series was held on 2 June on the topic of "Urban Population Engineering".

Two speakers were invited: Dr Yimin Zhao offered the historical perspective of urban population control policies in China, and Carwyn James Morris shared his research findings of recent evictions of migrants in Beijing.

The guest speakers' presentations were followed by an insightful conversation with audiences regarding the impact of the resurgence of population control measures, the motivations behind government's policies, and other relevant issues.

The China Urban Forum was initiated by two students from the Cities Programme, **Jiani Wang** and **Zhongyi Shi**, with the intention of creating a platform for exchange and open discussion about challenges in Chinese cities. Three seminar sessions were organised before this public event, attended by students from LSE and UCL, and discussion topics included

heritage conservation and housing development.

They would like to sincerely thank Dr Suzanne Hall, Prof Richard Burdett, as well as Emma Glassey and Kalyinka Bellman from the department office for their help and support in making this seminar possible.



Discussion session after the presentations - Yihan Zhu

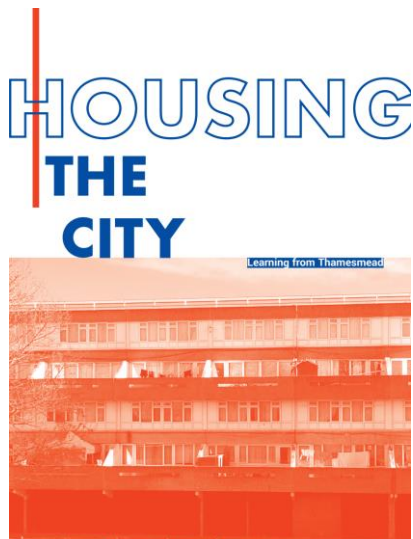
In conjunction with the London Festival of Architecture, INTBAU invited 50 people from different backgrounds to contribute to a mixed-media art exhibition with the theme: [\(Repeat\), Remember, Rebel - Cycles of continuity and change in London's urban identity](#).

Each person was to contribute two pieces of interrelated artwork – a micro and macro view of how they individually perceive London.

Evelyn Teh, a current student on the MSc City Design and Social Science programme, was invited to contribute from her perspective as a student situated in central London.

Her micro view focused on the people that makes London the diverse city that it is. Her macro perspective of London was characterised by its iconic buildings and statements of modernity; sketched in defined lines to emphasize its order and stability.

MSc Student News



On 5 June a Reception and Launch Party for the LSE Cities Programme 2018 MSc Studio Publication was held.

This year the Studio continued and extended the programme's exploration of Thamesmead. Students specifically asked what this site can teach us about housing in contemporary cities.



Evelyn Teh pictured with Jeremy Cross, the International Network Manager of The Prince's Foundation - Evelyn Teh

On 31 May, **Dieter Leysen**, a current student on the MSc City Design and Social Science programme, won the Young Planner Prize of the Flemish and Dutch Planning Association.

This longstanding prize encourages young researchers and professionals in urban planning to reflect on their practice through critical writing.

The prize was awarded specifically for the paper '[Meanwhile Use as an Act of Resistance](#)'.

The analysis draws on his practical experiences in Lab North, an ongoing project of meanwhile use in the modernist Brussels North business district. In this project, several small to big organizations share temporarily the vacant Brussels World Trade Centre. Alongside interviews with different actors involved, the role of meanwhile use operating critically from within redevelopment projects is scrutinized. The awarded paper was written in the framework of the course 'Cities By Design' by Dr Suzi Hall and Dr Julia King.



Meanwhile use in WTC I tower, Brussels - Filip Dujardin

Alumni news



OPEN DATA
INFRASTRUCTURE
FOR CITY
RESILIENCE
A ROADMAP
SHOWCASE
AND GUIDE



UNISDR

Sarah Barnes (2017) is the co-author for the UNISDR's most recent publication for their Making Cities Resilient Campaign. [The Open Data Infrastructure for City Resilience](#) is a roadmap, showcase and guide that features over 25 examples of cities from around the world that are innovating with open data to manage their disaster risk and build their resilience.

Adriana Valdez Young (2012) has recently joined [Stae](#) as head of city relations.



Bric-a-brac from [Stae.tv](#) video series unpacking smart city tech - Adriana Valdez Young

Stae is a tool for cities to manage and standardize their real-time data, creating a central, conversant hub of insights from connected devices.

She works with cities to rapid prototype data-generating hardware (rather than get locked into long-term contracts and tech solutions) and overall, bring a people-first approach to the space. Please [ping her](#) if you'd like to partner on a city hardware prototype, contribute to the [City as a Service](#) dispatch, or tell a story about how the inside of a smart device works (like this video vignette on how APIs work on [Stae.tv](#)).

As an extension of her dissertation on the gender gap and other inequalities in cycling in London, **Tiffany Lam** (2016) created a zine, [Mind the Cycling Gender Gap](#), to create a platform to amplify the voices of women in city cycling. The first issue was released in May and the bicycle shop/cafe 'Look mum no hands' hosted a launch party (live recording of panel discussion [here](#)). Tiffany was also featured in the [Wheel Suckers podcast](#) discussing her research on gender/cycling and her zine.

The second issue is currently in production and contributions for future issues are welcome! Contact [Tiffany](#) for more information.

Alasdair Jones (Associate, LSE Cities; PhD 2008) recently published an [article](#) in the 'streetlife' special issue of *The Sociological Review*. In the article, 'Everyday without exception? Making space for the exceptional in contemporary sociological studies of streetlife,' Alasdair explores the deployment of 'everydayness' in ethnographic work on urban 'streetlife,' and through his own work on London's South Bank makes the case for more attention to the exceptional in sociological studies of streetlife.

Building on his interests in the socio-spatial life of cities Alasdair is currently working on a [study of network-based measures of urban community](#) for which he received funding from LSE Cities.

Recently, **Sarah Ichioka** (2003) has been involved in a number of international initiatives of note: she

was selected as a [World Cities Summit Young Leader](#); she joined the [Advisory Committee for the XXII Triennale di Milano](#), which will follow the theme "Broken Nature", under the curatorship of Paola Antonelli; and she joined the Advisory Board of the [Water as Leverage for Resilient Cities Asia Challenge](#).



Sarah Ichioka speaks about restorative design at the Milan Triennale's "Broken Nature" Symposium, June 2018 - Gianluca Di Iorio, Triennale di Milano

After winning the best paper award at the 10th International Forum of Urbanisms in Hong Kong with the paper based on the Studio Project developed on Thamesmead, the alumnis **Ignacio Uliarte, Bridget Ackeifi, Jose Cesar Faria, Ghadeer Mansour and Oliver Tovatt** (2017), were selected for a planned themed issue of the Journal Urban Design and Planning on Urban Design for an Inclusive Economy.

Ignacio Uliarte will be presenting his further research on urban economies and digital platforms at the 15th International Seminar of the Ibero-American Network of Researchers on Globalization and Territory (RII) entitled "*Crisis and inequality: urban and territorial in Ibero-America*" in Santiago, and in WORKTECH: The future of Work, to be held in Quito.

Giacomo Biraghi (2011) continues working as an "urban consultant", meaning that people go to him to "buy his time and ideas on cities" at [Urban Creative City-break](#).

In parallel, he has contributed to the [Milan Expo's Official Report](#), he has published one [article](#) on the Arch Week and [one](#) on Centodieci regarding Milan's Design Week, where he also participated with

a [talk](#), and he has appeared in an [episode](#) of *Reteconomy on the future of Milan*.

Faculty news

Suzanne Hall is currently working on two new research projects. 'Digital makings of the city of Refuge' focuses on urban communities' digital responses to sudden, unplanned and/or unwelcome change resulting from irregular migration to the city. Suzi is working in a team led by Professor Myria Georgiou in the Department of Media and Communication at the LSE.

Suzi is also part of a team conducting research with Latin Elephant in anticipation of Southwark Council's next planning committee meeting regarding Delancey's plan for the redevelopment of Elephant and Castle. The research seeks strategic evidence that could provide additional information to build the case for more inclusive planning. The research is led by Julia King, with researchers Alex Fernandez and Josh Mallins.

Suzi will give a keynote address at the European Sociological Association conference in June on '*Migrant Margins: Brutal borders and street exchange*'.

This spring, **David Madden** passed the School's major review process and has been promoted to Associate Professor. Along with Suzi Hall, David is Co-Director of the Cities Programme.

His book "*In Defense of Housing: The politics of crisis*", which he wrote with Peter Marcuse, is being translated into Spanish, Korean, and Chinese.

David's article "*Pushed Off the Map: Toponymy and the politics of place in New York City*" was published in the journal Urban Studies.

In May, he delivered a lecture on housing to academics, activists, and municipal officials in Barcelona.

In June, he presented a public lecture on "*Postmodernism's Housing Problem*" at the Design Museum in London. He also gave talks recently in Brighton and various locations in London.

His biggest news this year is that in January, he, his partner Rachel and their daughter Emmanuelle welcomed the birth of their newest family member, Solomon.

LSE Cities news

Register your interest: Urban Age Developing Urban Futures Conference



Addis Ababa aerial – C40

The 17th Urban Age conference will take place in Addis Ababa on 29–30 November 2018. It will focus on the development of cities in rapidly urbanising countries. By convening urban experts, policymakers and practitioners from sub-Saharan Africa and other world cities, the conference will raise questions about the economic foundations of urban change and investigate how current models of planning and governance succeed or fail to achieve greater integration between efficiency, accessibility and social justice.

Urban Age conferences are free to attend, but an application is required. Please [apply](#) early to avoid disappointment.

Urban Age book launch in Venice and London

[Shaping Cities in an Urban Age](#) will be launched at the 16th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice on 15 September. Edited by **Ricky Burdett** and **Philipp Rode**, this is the third book produced by the Urban Age project, a global investigation into the future of

cities. A launch event in London will follow on 26 September.

Shaping Cities in an Urban Age is now available for pre-order from www.phaidon.com.



Shaping Cities in an Urban Age book launch - Marina Burity / Urban Age

Conflicts of an Urban Age exhibition moves to London

[Conflicts of an Urban Age](#) will be exhibited in Arup's phase 2 gallery space in London from 25 June to 19 October 2018. The exhibition highlights the spatial and social consequences of dramatic urban growth in cities across the world between 1990 and 2015.

This exhibition describes how six cities – Addis Ababa, Istanbul, London, Mexico City, Mumbai and Shanghai – have changed. A closing event will take place on 16 October.



Conflicts of an Urban Age – Urban Age

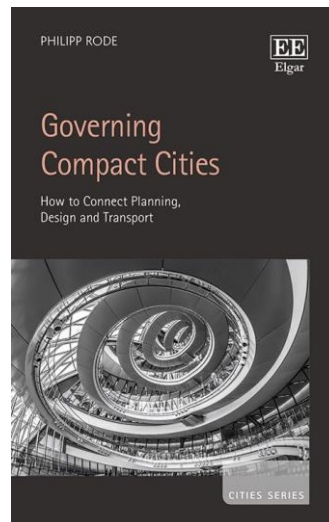
New book on Governing Compact Cities by Philipp Rode

Philipp Rode, Executive Director of LSE Cities and Urban Age – and an alum of the Cities Programme – launched his new book in London on 18 June.

[Governing Compact Cities: How to Connect Planning, Design and Transport](#) investigates how governments and other critical actors organise to enable compact urban growth, combining higher urban densities, mixed use and

urban design quality with more walkable and public transport-oriented urban development.

Philipp draws on empirical evidence from London and Berlin to examine how urban policymakers, professionals and stakeholders have worked across disciplinary silos, geographic scales and different time horizons since the early 1990s.



Colin / Wikimedia Commons

Thank you!

The teaching and support staff on the Cities Programme would like to thank our class of 2017/2018 for being such enthusiastic and engaged students, and wish you all well over the summer with your independent projects.