

## Manchester Urban Institute

Celebrating authored and edited urban books as part of the MUI internal launch

Early evening on Monday 5 December saw the internal launch of the Manchester Urban Institute (MUI) ([www.mui.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.mui.manchester.ac.uk)). Established on 1 August, the Institute brings together graduate students, post-docs and staff from anthropology, architecture, business studies, development studies, education, engineering, geography, gerontology, health sciences, history, planning, political science and sociology. It builds upon the work done by cities@manchester over the last few years and unites SEED's five urban research groups, together with other researchers from across campus. With strategic investment from the University of Manchester, the Faculty of Humanities and the School of Environment, Education and Development, MUI will oversee an increase in the intellectual and policy impact of the research of those involved.

As part of the well-attended launch, authored and edited books generated by those within the MUI over the course of 2016 were celebrated. These ten books covered a range of issues, from architecture to co-production, creativity to encounters, experimentation to innovation, policy-making to regeneration, retro-fitting to urban theory. Kicking matters off, Stefan Bouzarovski spoke about his book *Retrofitting the City: Residential Flexibility, Resilience and the Built Environment* in which he takes on the work that understands retro-fitting as something done to buildings by governmental agencies and private developers. In contrast, his work revealed the often hidden ways in which retro-fitting is done by residents in their own homes. Next Gillian Evans outlined the thinking behind her



*Manchester Urban Institute Director, Kevin Ward*

book *London's Olympic Legacy: The Inside Track* in which she provides an account from within of the drama surrounding the redevelopment associated with the 2012 Olympics, and the wider lessons raised for the transforming of post-industrial landscapes. Finally, Helen Wilson set out the intellectual context for her book with Jonathan Darling, *Encountering the City: From Accra to New York*. This edited collection explores how scholars writing on and in the city explore and experiment with the notion of encounter, subjecting the concept to challenge and revision. To read more about all ten books visit the MUI website: [www.mui.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.mui.manchester.ac.uk)

The external and slightly more formal launch of the MUI will take place in early February, with the visit of Professor Michael Keith from the University of Oxford. This will see the launch of a new website, and the beginning of a programme of events that will run over the course of 2017. More details will be circulated soon.

In the meantime, if you have questions about the MUI please contact the Director, Kevin Ward, [kevin.ward@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:kevin.ward@manchester.ac.uk)



☎ 0161 306 6875

@ mui@manchester.ac.uk

🐦 @UoMUrban

✉ Manchester Urban Institute  
The University of Manchester  
Humanities Bridgeford Street  
Oxford Road  
Manchester M13 9PL