

Centre for Urban **Policy Studies**

spatial analysis + policy evaluation ANNUAL REPORT 2014

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MANCHESTER

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FOREWORD

CUPS colleagues have been very busy over the last 12 months as we are repositioning ourselves as a hub for inter-disciplinary research work on urban and planning policies with colleagues across different disciplines, with public and private sector organisations, and our international networks.

Since being established in 1983 CUPS has gained a reputation for policy-relevant research on the evaluation of area-based urban policy initiatives, regional development, spatial planning and housing, and the measurement of neighbourhood dynamics. We are strongly committed to this tradition and will extend our strengths to develop innovative research with colleagues in engineering, informatics, business and other fields. As part of the Cities@Manchester Network, CUPS ultimately aims to produce urban policy research at the University of Manchester at a level recognised by peers and practitioners as significant - both

To these ends, academic staff, researchers and research students affiliated to CUPS pursue the following objectives:

nationally and internationally.

To provide the locus for a range of urban policy research interests within the University of Manchester around which new research ideas can cohere and be supported; To encourage the cross-fertilisation of ideas and the pooling of

skills amongst academic staff and research students within a collegiate working environment; To provide a supportive home for

researchers at all career progression points and to offer



Cecilia Wong, Professor of Spatial Planning & Executive Director, <u>Centre for Urban Policy</u> Studies

peer support and assistance for all stages of the research process; and, To actively develop links outside the University in order to encourage the reciprocal transfer of ideas with leading urban policy-makers and fellow academics.

The research centre principally draws upon expertise from within the disciplines of spatial planning and geography. However, many current and past projects have involved significant collaboration with other disciplines (such as architecture, civil engineering, criminology, economics, politics, sociology, and transport studies). CUPS has also developed a strong track-record of collaboration with leading researchers based in other institutions, both within the UK and internationally.

This annual report highlights the main achievements of the Centre for Urban Policy Studies between August 2013 and July 2014 by summarising the collective activity of staff members.

MEMBERSHIP

The Centre is managed by Cecilia Wong (Director), Richard Kingston (Deputy Director) and Brian Robson (Founding Director)

Core academic staff members also include Mark Baker, Adam Barker, Iain Deas, Stephen Hincks, Carys Jones and Nuno Pinto. Additionally, there are two full-time research associates (Jenni Viitanen and Brian Webb), four part-time members (Samuel Hayes, Vivien Holt, Moozhan Shakeri and Vasilis Vlastaras), and several associated members, including Bob Barr, Michael Bradford, Rocco Bubbico, Armando Carbonell, Vincent Goodstadt, Michael Hebbert, Jorge Inzulza Contardo, Neil McInroy, and Hui Qian. In September CUPS will be saying goodbye to one of its members, Brian Webb, who is taking up a Lectureship in Spatial Planning in the School of Planning and Geography at Cardiff University.

The Centre additionally has a number of affiliated doctoral students: Talal Alshammari, Abbas Ziafati Bafarasat, Lee Dixon, Len Gibbs, Nicole Greenidge, Sara Hassan, Charles Jarvis, Victoria Lawson, Michael Martin, Seyedehsomayeh Taheri Moosavi, Rachel Morrison, Nick Moule, Hisham Nadim, Angela Neilson, Miao Qiao, Moozhan Shakeri, Ishtiaque Shams, Andrew Snow, Taki Sonbli, Somayeh Taheri and Stephen Thomas.

This year a previously full-time CUPS researcher, Vasilis Vlastaras, was awarded the Brian Robson Scholarship in Urban Policy and began a PhD in Planning and Environmental Management. In the past year, the Centre has also celebrated four successful doctoral completions: Samuel Hayes, Vivien Holt, Isaiah Owiunji, and Oyan Solana.

NEW HONORARY STAFF MEMBERS

This year the Centre welcomed three new honorary staff members:

David Rudlin as an honorary Professor, is director of URBED (Urbanism Environmental Design) - an award winning urban design and planning firm and author of a number of research reports and books, including 'Sustainable Urban Neighbourhood' published in 2009 and described by Richard Rogers as 'the best analysis (he) had read of the crisis facing the contemporary city'. David will be working with CUPS colleagues to help advance new strategic research agendas for planning and contribute to a range of teaching and joint project work.

Dave Carter as an honorary research fellow, who recently retired after 27 years working for Manchester City Council and most recently Head of the Manchester Digital Development Agency, will be joining the Centre and working closely with **Richard Kingston** and **Jenni Viitanen** to help develop bids for Horizon 2020 and contribute to the development of a new MSc in Smart Cities.

Dr. Yian Yian Tian as an honorary research fellow, Director of JTP Cities China and Associate of the urban design and architecture firm John Thompson & Partners, will work closely with Cecilia Wong on research projects in China and to help with the design of modules and research around the new Urban Design and International Planning course.



CENTRE ACHIEVEMENTS

Staff and associates at the Centre for Urban Policy Studies engage in a range of activities that demonstrate research activity and policy engagement. This section of the report provides a brief overview of these efforts across the past year, and details plans to maintain this level of activity.

Full details of achievements and activities are available in the Appendix of the Report.









POLICY@MANCHESTER



INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE AND COLLABORATION

Centre staff continue to engage with colleagues around the world as they work to advise and disseminate knowledge within academia and practice. **Richard Kingston** was invited by Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, Suzhou, China to undertake the 5 year review of the Department of Urban Planning and Design. In addition, **Mark Baker** and **Cecilia Wong** were invited to participate in an international collaboration with Nanjing University to develop the Shantou Master Plan for China and along with Roger Bristow were invited to collaborate with the National Taipei University on "Smart Art with a Green Heart" for the Preservation and Revitalization of Taipei Railway Workshop for the Taipei City Government in August 2013. **Cecilia Wong** also continues collaborative work between the EU and China as a member of the EU-China Smart City Project's Technical Expert Group.

Closer to home, Vincent Goodstadt chaired the Working Party which rewrote the New Charter of Athens as the Charter of European Planning which has now been approved as the core document of the European Council of Spatial Planners in 2013. Nuno Pinto meanwhile is collaborating with the European Council of Town Planners – Conseill Europeen des Urbanists (ECTP CEU) in the coordination of the thematic group "New ICT for the planning practice". While knowledge exchange with Taiwan also continues in Manchester as Brian Webb, Cecilia Wong and Bob Phillips host Chung Yuan Christian University students, providing workshop discussions and tours of urban design projects in Manchester.

UNIVERSITY COLLABORATION

Members of CUPS have worked closely with colleagues across the School of Environment, Education and Development, the Faculty of Humanities and the wider university. CUPS has co-organised events with cities@manchester and policy@manchester, including contributing to a special session on Understanding Spatial Issues in Public Policy for policy@manchester's Policy Week. In November CUPS will work with cities@manchester to run a day on Urban Inequalities during Policy Week featuring plenary speaker Danny Dorling.

CUPS members are also currently working on two projects with colleagues in the Manchester Institute of Education, several with colleagues in Geography and Architecture, as well as across the wider Faculty and university, including colleagues in Politics, Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering, Computer Science, Informatics, Engineering and Physical Sciences and the Manchester Business School with **Cecilia Wong** as an Associated Director and **Richard Kingston, Stephen Hincks**, and **Brian Webb** appointed as affiliated members of the Manchester Business School's Centre for Infrastructure Development.

CENTRE ACHIEVEMENTS

STAFF DEVELOPMENT, ESTEEM & KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

CUPS staff continue to undertake a range of external duties. **Cecilia Wong** is a Member of the UK 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) Sub-Panel C16: Architecture, Built Environment and Planning, 2011-2014. **Vincent Goodstadt** is currently on the Executive Board and is Vice Chair of the Planning Policy & Practice and Research Committee of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and chaired the inception of the English Planning Policy Panel. **Stephen Hincks** was the Local Organising Committee Lead for the Early Career Researchers Conference of the Regional Studies Association held at the University of Manchester in November 2013. **Richard Kingston** and **Jenni Viitanen** served as expert advisers during 2013-2014 to the FP7 funded IREEN project (ICT Roadmap for Energy Efficient Neighbourhood) and co-authored several IREEN deliverables.

Stephen Hincks and **Brian Webb** became Associate Editors of the journal Regional Studies, Regional Science while **Cecilia Wong** was appointed as an International Editorial Advisory Board Member of the journal. **Cecilia Wong** also continues her role as co-editor of the journal Town Planning Review while **Brian Webb** was appointed as the Conference Reports Editor for the journal.

Cecilia Wong also served on the Editorial Board of the Encyclopaedia of Quality of Life and Well-Being Research, Alex Michalos (ed.), Springer Science and Business Media. **Cecilia Wong, Mark Baker, Carys Jones, Stephen Hincks, Brian Robson** and **Brian Webb** all contributed to the entries of the Encyclopaedia on Quality of Life. It is 'The first comprehensive reference work on scientific and other scholarly research on the quality of life and well-being; Covers the subject of quality of life from a multidisciplinary perspective; and Includes the behavioural and social sciences as well as health and healthcare'.

Vincent Goodstadt is currently on the Executive Board and is Vice Chair of the Planning Policy & Practice and Research Committee of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and also chaired the inception of the English Planning Policy Panel and **Cecilia Wong** was one of the organisers of the Summer Institute in Urban Studies 2014 hosted through the Cities@Manchester network.



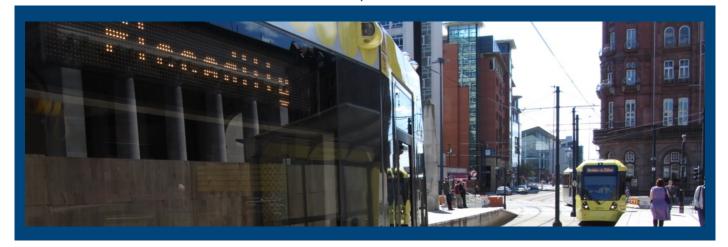
INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING

A number of CUPS staff are involved in research on infrastructure and spatial planning practice

Infrastructure planning is now firmly on the Government's agenda as they move forward with a range of major infrastructure projects. CUPS staff have been exploring these new infrastructure developments and their relationship to spatial planning practice.

Cecilia Wong, Mark Baker, Carys Jones, Adam Barker, Richard Kingston, Rachel Morrison, Vivien Holt and Brian Webb are working on a Faculty Strategic Investment Fund project on Major Infrastructure Planning: Innovative Policy Models. As part of this project a workshop was held in June drawing on a wide range of practitioners and academics from across the UK. Supported in part by cities@manchester, the workshop has helped to refine the research agenda for future projects and bids.

Linked to this developing research agenda, **Mark Baker, Brian Webb,** and **Cecilia Wong** are currently co-editors of a special journal issue on 'Planning for Infrastructure: Transitional Pathways for Lagging Regions' in the journal Town Planning Review. The special issue draws on work funded from the N8 University research partnership to explore issues around infrastructure planning from a Northern England perspective, including how infrastructure development is assessed, funded, planned and strategically viewed. **Cecilia Wong, Kevin Ward** and **Brian Webb** were successful in gaining funding for an ESRC Collaborative PhD Studentship with Manchester City entitled "Sustainable Transport and Socio-Spatial Change in Neighbourhoods: the Impact of Greater Manchester's Metrolink". Incoming PhD student Roderick Allen will work with Manchester City Council to explore the social impact of the Metrolink tram on Manchester's diverse neighbourhoods.



Cecilia Wong was invited by IPPR to join the Advisory Panel for a new research on Northern infrastructure. The aim is simple: to identify and champion a small number of large-scale infrastructure projects, that could be transformative in addressing the significant economic challenges and sizeable opportunities facing the north of England. The research will assess the value of new infrastructure investment to the North of England, and include a competition to identify some of the most transformative and innovative ideas for 2030 and beyond.

SMART CITIES + PLANNING SUPPORT SYSTEMS

CUPS has developed a strong leadership role around the ways in which technology influences the evolution of cities

For the past decade **Richard Kingston** has been involved in a range of smart cities and planning support research projects. Recently **Richard Kingston** completed the EU funded SMARTiP project (http://www.smart-ip.eu/) and is currently working with JRF and Climate UK on the Climate Just research project (http:// www.ppgis.manchester.ac.uk/climatejust/).

Additionally, **Richard Kingston** is working on a Technology Strategy Board / NERC project on innovative uses of environmental data to develop an on-line Adaptation Planning Service [http:// www.ppgis.manchester.ac.uk/aps/] as well as another NERC Wessex Biodiversity & Ecosystem Service Sustainability on-line participatory GIS project [http://www.ppgis.manchester.ac.uk/ bess/]. Richard's work has also seen him invited to address the Mayor of the City of London on Smart Cities and to give a talk to IBM at their #InterConnectIBM Conference about 'What is a Smart City?' A range of CUPS members are involved in the UMRI Pump Priming Programme, Building a University of Manchester Research Community in "Big Data" (including Open Data and Linked Data) project across the university. **Cecilia Wong** is part of the "stakeholders group" to shape the programme of activities and engage their own communities along with Mikel Lujan, Gavin Brown, Sean Bechhofer (CS, Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences); Rachel Gibson (SoSS/ Institute for Social Change); Magnus Rattray (Faculty of Life Sciences); Iain Buchan, John Ainsworth (Institute of Population Health, Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences).

Meanwhile, **Nuno Pinto** continues work on "COST ACTION TU1002 – Accessibility Instruments for the Planning Practice" project. He is coordinating the Working Group 4 in this large network which has been assessing the use and attractiveness of planning support systems based in accessibility instruments and measures for planning practitioners across Europe and in Australia.

TellUs

toolkit

SPIN-OUT SUCCESS!

Richard Kingston has received the go-ahead from University of Manchester Intellectual Property (UMIP) for the TellUs Toolkit to be set-up as a 'spin-out' company. The TellUs Toolkit is a cloud-based decision support system to help engage stakeholders in a range of location based problems using GIS based tools (http://www.tellus-toolkit.com/). TellUs was the first UMIP project to be funded in the Faculty of Humanities. Lead by Richard Kingston along with Jenni Viitanen, Brian Webb, and Vasilis Vlastaras, the project initially worked with Scottish and Southern Energy to help them develop an online energy management system.

SMART CITY BIDS

Richard Kingston and **Jenni Viitanen** have put in a bid to the ESRC EU-China Green Economy Call on High Tech and Low Carbon - the role of smart cities in the green economy valued at £1.2m (UoM £461,000). **Richard Kingston** and **Jenni Viitanen** has submitted a bid to the EPSRC Impact Acceleration Account on the "Smart Neighbourhood – Bootle 2020" while **Nuno Pinto** is concluding a bid to the Leverhulme Trust in collaboration with colleagues from the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis at UCL, and from the Johns Hopkins University (USA) to develop a multi-scale modelling package to analyse and simulate the evolution of polycentric urban systems, using the urban system along the M62 motorway corridor as a case study. **Richard Kingston** also submitted a £300,000 bid to the Technology Strategy Board on Predictive Transport Solutions.

HOUSING, THE ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

CUPS staff also continue their work on planning practice and its impact on the world around us

HOUSING

Cecilia Wong is serving as an Expert Panel Member of the Labour Party's Independent Housing Review Expert Panel led by Sir Michael Lyon. The review is exploring innovative policy approaches designed to encourage sustainable housing development in the UK. Meanwhile **Stephen Hincks** continues his Housing Market Research with an appointment to Gladman Development's Strategic Housing Market Assessment Expert Advisory Panel while **Brian Webb** collaborates with colleagues in the Manchester Institute of Education investigating the social and educational implications of reforms to housing welfare in Greater Manchester led by Erica Burman and Ruth Lupton.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES



Brian Webb, Adam Barker and Samuel Hayes are working on "Applying urban climatology to local policy and practice in England" funded through the ESRC's Impact Acceleration Account (£8,223). The project works with Derby City Council to develop a practical guide to green development that can be integrated into the City's new urban design guidelines. **Carys Jones**, meanwhile, is conducting a 'Review of the Quality of Environmental Statements and Oil Pollution Emergency Plans' for DECC / Genesis.

ECONOMY

CUPS work also focuses on understanding the impact of deprivation in neighbourhoods, to this end **Stephen Hincks** is working on an Uneven Geographies of Austerity Urbanism? pilot study funded through the University of Manchester, Faculty of Humanities Social Responsibility Fund (£18,825) while **Cecilia Wong, Brian Webb, Richard Kingston** and **Moozhan Shakeri** are working with colleagues Ruth Lupton, from the Manchester Institute of Education, and Liz Richardson, from Politics, on Poverty Indicators for Greater Manchester funded through the University of Manchester Faculty Strategic Investment Fund (£13,624).

FUNDING SUCCESS! Richard Kingston, Stephen Hincks, Brian Webb, Cecilia Wong and Vasilis Vlastaras have just won a £193,472 bid to explore Transportation and the socio-spatial dimensions of travel to work flows from the Secondary Data Analysis call of the Economic and Social Research Council.

Additionally, working with colleagues in Germany, the Netherlands and China, **Cecilia Wong** has submitted a bid as principal investigator with **Mark Baker, Brian Webb** and **Vivien Holt** to the ESRC Europe - China call for collaborative research on the Green Economy and Understanding Population Change on 'Planning for urban green economy: towards an integrative & inclusive approach' valued at £444,945 for the UK component of the project.

RESEARCH IMPACT

Two research themes developed by CUPS members were submitted as REF impact statements

EVIDENCE IMPROVES METHODS TO MONITOR PLANNING POLICIES

Cecilia Wong, Mark Baker, Stephen Hincks, Richard Kingston, and **Brian Webb** contributed to the development of new methodologies that changed the way governments and international organisations monitor their spatial planning policies. A series of research projects has developed new methodologies that improve the technical and statistical analysis of indicators on the impact of spatial planning and development policies. The findings of this work have led to a step change in policy monitoring practices in Britain, including:

- The publication of a good practice guide on monitoring, to which all 394 English local planning authorities were required to comply, based on six design principles identified by the research
- A shift in ethos by English local planning authorities in the way they use their annual monitoring reports in overall strategic planning and policy-making
- A contribution to the wholesale reform of spatial planning, embodied in the 2004 Spatial Planning Act
- The development of a Strategic Planning Outcome monitoring framework with emphasis on outcomes (rather than outputs) for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and the Royal Town Planning Institute
- A shift in the mind-set and practice of spatial policy monitoring towards collaborative, reflexive and double loop learning (i.e. question the goals while solving the problem)
- The publication of A Map for England as a contribution to the UK Government's preparation of the National Planning Policy Framework, offering an effective visual tool to help identify the spatial synergies and conflicts of government policies, programmes and initiatives
- The presentation of evidence to the Growth and Infrastructure Public Bill Committee, highlighting particularly UK National Parks, alongside the East of England, as areas suffering from poor superfast broadband access



The research has also contributed to professional debate, thinking and practice at an international scale. CUPS researchers have offered advice to bodies including the World Bank, the European Commission and the United Nations.

RESEARCH IMPACT

Two research themes developed by CUPS members were submitted as REF impact statements

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR URBAN CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Richard Kingston, Jeremy Carter and John Handley's research into the effects of urbanisation on local climate has enhanced knowledge and awareness of urban climate change adaptation. It has resulted in free-to-use and scalable decision support tools. Research outputs are being used by municipal authorities in the UK and overseas to establish new climate change adaptation strategies and policies. City planners from across Europe have been supported during the development of strategies to help urban areas adapt to climate change. Climate change is often discussed in general terms but decision makers require more locally relevant detail to plan and adapt accordingly. A series of collaborative projects led by the researchers have helped urban planners to understand, assess and respond to the potential effects of climate change.

Three tools are now available:

- The GRaBS project risk and vulnerability assessment tool helps municipal planning authorities to develop strategic climate change adaptation responses.
- The EcoCities Spatial Portal is an interactive platform that provides information to improve understanding of climate change vulnerability in Greater Manchester, helping to build the evidence to support adaptation plans and strategies.
- The Surface Temperature and Runoff (STAR) tool assists users to analyse the potential of green infrastructure to reduce flood risk and heat stress.

Key benefits of these research outputs and tools:

- They provide key evidence to municipal authorities in the UK and overseas, in their ongoing assessment of how climate change may affect their cities and urban areas.
- In North West England, the tools have been used by the Mersey Forest organisation to build the case for green infrastructure investment.
- The research contributed to Manchester City Council's core strategy and its green infrastructure framework, and supported the climate change strategy and associated implementation plan of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities.
- In Europe, the GRaBS project tools have been used by the project's 11 partner municipalities and regions, to progress climate change adaptation responses and raise awareness of related issues.
- The GRaBS project tool was adopted by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), giving it the potential to support urban adaptation planning in cities across the world.



RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

CUPS researchers continue to publish and lecture on a range of research



Academics and researchers associated with CUPS have attended and contributed to a wide range of national and international conferences, seminars and workshops over the past year. This has included multiple contributions to the Association of American Geographers conference, as well as papers presented to the Regional Studies Association, Smart City Expo, and GeoDesign Summit.

Cecilia Wong was invited to give the plenary presentation at the AESOP 2014 PhD School in Delft and contribute as a Mentor. **Richard Kingston** presented at two GeoDesign conferences, one in the Netherlands and the other in the U.S.A. **Cecilia Wong, Mark Baker, Jenni Viitanen** and **Brian Webb** all presented papers at the Association of American Geographers conference in Florida.

The Centre supports conference attendance and participation in proceedings at all stages of individual's careers, particularly early career researchers and doctoral students. In particular, current and recently graduated Ph.D. students have attended several of the above meetings.



FINANCIAL DETAILS

As agreed with the School the Centre has budgeted $\pounds4,000$ for travel and consumables and $\pounds39,000$ to renew existing staff contracts.



Centre members have authored or co-authored 29 publications, from policy reports, books, and book chapters to peer reviewed articles in internationally respected journals in the past year. Several of these were published after collaboration with colleagues from other institutions, whilst others have been derived from cross-centre co-operation. These publications have policy relevance and implications for practice and professionals, as particularly represented by articles written for professional or trade journals.

Peer reviewed journal articles were published in journals of international standing within the discipline of town and country planning and beyond, including:

- Environment and Planning A
- Journal of Urban and Regional Renewal
- Journal of Urban Technology
- European Planning Studies
- Environmental Impact Assessment Review
- International Planning Studies
- Regional Studies
- Local Economy
- Habitat International
- Town Planning Review

Several books and book chapters were also published, including:

- Technologies for Urban and Spatial Planning: Virtual Cities and Territories.
- Public Participation in Geocomputation. In Geocomputation: A Practical Primer
- Do Smart Cities need Smart Citizens? In Social, Economic, and Environmental Sustainability in the Development of Smart Cities.
- Web-GIS tools for climate change adaptation planning in cities. In Volume 4 Climate Change Adaptation Technologies.
- The delusion of strategic spatial planning: what's left after the Labour government's English regional experiment? In Spatial Planning and the New Localism.
- Entries in the Encyclopedia of Quality of Life Research.

Esteem Indicators and Appointments

Mark Baker and **Cecilia Wong** were invited for international collaboration with Nanjing University to develop the Shantou Master Plan, China, March in August 2013

Mark Baker, Cecilia Wong and Roger Bristow were invited for international collaboration with the National Taipei University on "Smart Art with a Green Heart": Preservation and Revitalization of Taipei Railway Workshop for the Taipei City Government, August 2013

Mark Baker, Brian Webb, and **Cecilia Wong** are currently co-editors of a special journal issue on 'Planning for Infrastructure: Transitional Pathways for Lagging Regions' in the journal Town Planning Review

Vincent Goodstadt is currently on the Executive Board and is Vice Chair of the Planning Policy & Practice and Research Committee of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)

Vincent Goodstadt chaired the inception of the English Planning Policy Panel

Vincent Goodstadt chaired the Working Party which rewrote the New Charter of Athens as the Charter of European Planning which has now been approved as the core document of the European Council of Spatial Planners in 2013

Vincent Goodstadt co-authored the New Vision for planning which has guided the renewal of the planning profession in the UK

Stephen Hincks was appointed to Gladman Development's Strategic Housing Market Assessment Expert Advisory Panel in November 2013

Stephen Hincks was appointed Associate Editor for the journal Regional Studies, Regional Science

Stephen Hincks was part of the Local Organising Committee Lead for the Early Career Researchers Conference of the Regional Studies Association hosted at the University of Manchester on the 1st November 2013

Richard Kingston has submitted the GRaBS project as a REF impact case (http://www.ppgis.manchester.ac.uk/grabs/

Richard Kingston got the go-ahead from UMIP for the TellUs Toolkit to be set-up as a 'spin-out' company. The TellUs Toolkit is a cloud-based decision support system to help you engage stakeholders in a range of location based problems using GIS based tools (http://www.tellus-toolkit.com/)

Richard Kingston was invited by Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, Suzhou, China to undertake their 5 year review of the Department of Urban Planning and Design.

Richard Kingston was invited to address the Mayor of the City of London on Smart Cities.

Richard Kingston was invited to give a talk to IBM at their #InterConnectIBM Conference about 'What is a Smart City?'

Nuno Pinto is collaborating with the European Council of Town Planners – Conseill Europeen des Urbanists (ECTP CEU) in the coordination of the thematic group "New ICT for the planning practice"

Jenni Viitanen undertook interdisciplinary work with the Centre for Urban Resilience and Energy (CURE)

Jenni Viitanen served as an expert adviser during 2013-2014 to the FP7 funded IREEN project (ICT Roadmap for Energy Efficient Neighbourhood) and co-authored several IREEN deliverables.

Brian Webb to take up a Lectureship in Spatial Planning in the School of Planning and Geography at Cardiff University in September

Brian Webb became an Associate Editor for the journal Regional Studies, Regional Science

Brian Webb became the Conference Reports Editor for the journal Town Planning Review

Cecilia Wong is a Member of the UK 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) Sub-Panel C16: Architecture, Built Environment and Planning, 2011-2014

Cecilia Wong is Expert Panel Member of Labour Party's Independent Housing Review Expert Panel led by Sir Michael Lyon, December 2013–September 2014

Cecilia Wong was invited by IPPR to join the Advisory Panel for a new research on Northern infrastructure. Our aim is simple: to identify and champion a small number of large-scale infrastructure projects, that could be transformative in addressing the significant economic challenges and sizeable opportunities facing the north of England. The research will assess the value of new infrastructure investment to the North of England, and include a competition to identify some of the most transformative and innovative ideas for 2030 and beyond

Cecilia Wong is a member of the EU-China Smart City Project's Technical Expert Group

Cecilia Wong is a co-editor of Town Planning Review

Cecilia Wong is International Editorial Advisory Board of Regional Studies, Regional Science

Cecilia Wong is in the Editorial Board for the Encyclopaedia of Quality of Life and Well-Being Research, Alex Michalos (ed.), Springer Science and Business Media

Cecilia Wong was one of the organisers of the Summer Institute in Urban Studies 2014 under the Cities@Manchester network

Cecilia Wong, Mark Baker, Carys Jones, Stephen Hincks, Brian Robson and Brian Webb all contributed to the entries of the Encyclopaedia on Quality of Life. It is 'the first comprehensive reference work on scientific and other scholarly research on the quality of life and well-being; Covers the subject of quality of life from a multidisciplinary perspective; and Includes the behavioural and social sciences as well as health and healthcare'

On-going and recently completed projects

Stephen Hincks is working on Uneven Geographies of Austerity Urbanism? A Pilot Study, University of Manchester (Faculty of Humanities - Social Responsibility Fund), (£18,825)

Nuno Pinto continues work on "COST ACTION TU1002 – Accessibility Instruments for the Planning Practice" project. He is coordinating the Working Group 4 in this large network which has been assessing the use and attractiveness of planning support systems based in accessibility instruments and measures for planning practitioners across Europe and in Australia

Carys Jones is working on a 'Review of the Quality of Environmental Statements and Oil Pollution Emergency Plans' for DECC / Genesis.

Richard Kingston, Stephen Hincks, Brian Webb, Cecilia Wong, and **Vasilis Vlastaras**, have just won a bid on Transportation and the socio-spatial dimensions of travel to work flows, Secondary Data Analysis, Economic and Social Research Council, (£193,472)

Richard Kingston has completed the EU funded SMARTiP project. Full details are accessible here: http://www.smart-ip.eu/

Richard Kingston is working on JRF and Climate UK Climate Just project. Full details are accessible here: http://www.ppgis.manchester.ac.uk/climatejust/

Richard Kingston is working on Technology Strategy Board's NERC innovative uses of environmental data project developing an on-line Adaptation Planning Service http://www.ppgis.manchester.ac.uk/aps/

Richard Kingston is working on NERC Wessex Biodiversity & Ecosystem Service Sustainability on-line Participatory GIS project. http://www.ppgis.manchester.ac.uk/bess/

Brian Webb, Adam Barker and **Samuel Hayes** are working on "Applying urban climatology to local policy and practice in England, Impact Acceleration Account Pilot" (2014), Economic and Social Research Council (£8,223)

Brian Webb is 'Investigating the social and educational implications of reforms to housing welfare in Greater Mancheste, Faculty Strategic Investment Fund, University of Manchester (with Burman, E., Lupton, R., Cutts, L., Hanley, T., Greenstein, A., McCoy, L., Bragg, J., & £18,096)

Cecilia Wong, Kevin Ward and **Brian Webb** are working on "Sustainable Transport and Socio-Spatial Change in Neighbourhoods: the Impact of Greater Manchester's Metrolink" (2014-2017), ESRC Collaborative PhD Studentship with Manchester City Council (£5,400 and full studentship)

Cecilia Wong, Mark Baker, Carys Jones, Adam Barker, Richard Kingston, Rachel Morrison, Vivien Holt and Brian Webb are working on "Major infrastructure planning: Innovative policy models" (2013-14), Faculty Strategic Investment Fund, University of Manchester (£13,441)

Cecilia Wong, Brian Webb, Richard Kingston, and **Moozhan Shakeri** are working on Poverty Indicators for Greater Manchester (2013-14), Faculty Strategic Investment Fund, University of Manchester, 2013-2014 (with Ruth Lupton and Liz Richardson, £13,624)

Cecilia Wong and colleagues in CUPS are involved in developing the UMRI Pump Priming Programme, Building a University of Manchester Research Community in "Big Data" (including Open Data and Linked Data)

Grant applications in the pipeline

Nuno Pinto is concluding a bid to the Leverhulme Trust in collaboration with colleagues from the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis at UCL, and from the Johns Hopkins University (USA) to develop a multi-scale modelling package to analyse and simulate the evolution of polycentric urban systems, using the urban system along the M62 motorway corridor as a case study

Richard Kingston and **Jenni Viitanen** have submitted a bid to the ESRC EU-China Green Economy - High Tech and Low Carbon - the role of smart cities in the green economy, (UoM £461,000)

Richard Kingston has submitted a bid to the Technology Strategy Board on Predictive Transport Solutions (£300,000)

Richard Kingston, Dave Carter, and **Jenni Viitanen** EU Horizon 2020 are in ongoing discussions with various partners across Europe related to Smart City research proposals

Jenni Viitanen and **Richard Kingston** have submitted a EPSRC Impact Acceleration Account bid on "Smart Neighbourhood – Bootle 2020" to the EPSRC with Bootle (Cumbria) Parish Council and TCPA worth £30,000

Cecilia Wong, Mark Baker, Brian Webb, and **Vivien Holt** have submitted a bid to the Europe - China call for collaborative research on the Green Economy and Understanding Population Change, Planning for urban green economy: towards an integrative & inclusive approach, Economic and Social Research Council, £444,945

Publications

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Conferences and public engagements

Pinto, N. (2013) A field trip to the 'Garden City' and to the 'Ville Radieuse': Google Earth as a pedagogical tool to teach urban planning. In VI Iberian Conference of Geography Teachers22 March 2013 - 23 March 2013. Porto, Portugal. eScholarID:212901

Kingston, R. (2014) Participatory GeoDesign. GeoDesign Summit, January 29-30, 2014, ESRI HQ, Redlands, California.

Kingston, R. (2014) Participatory online GIS for adapting our towns and cities to climate change. AGI Scotland Seminar, University of Edinburgh, 4th April.

Kingston, R. (2014) Participatory online GIS for adapting our towns and cities to climate change, Association of Geographic information Scotland, Department of Geography, University of Edinburgh Seminar Series, 28th March.

Kingston, R. (2013) Geodesign for the Smart City. GeoDesign Summit Europe, September 19–20, 2013, Herwijnen, Netherlands.

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Viitanen, J. (2014) Energy governance in a data-driven city: a political economy approach, at Post Crash City: Environments and Ecologies, The University of York, 13 December 2013.

Viitanen, J. (2013) IREEN findings were presented at the Barcelona Smart City Expo, in November 2013.

Webb, B. (2014) 'Connecting climate and landscape to the built environment', EcoBuild Symposium, ExCel, London, 5 March 2014.

Webb, B. and Viitanen, J. (2014) 'Infrastructure and the City: Mediating the Space of Flows and the Space of Places' AAG, Tampa, Florida, USA, 11 April.

Webb, B. (2012-2014) 'Regulatory Planning in a Comparative Perspective' Civic Design, University of Liverpool, 18 March 2014.

Webb, B. (2013) 'The Politics and Planning of Urban Infrastructure', Manchester School of Architecture, University Manchester, 13 March 2014.

Webb, B. (2013) 'How Planning Ideas Travel' The Bartlett School of Planning, University College London, 26 November 2013.

Webb, B. (2013) 'Regulatory Planning: A North American Perspective' The Bartlett School of Planning, University College London, 3 December 2013.

Wong, C., Webb, B., Baker, M., and Hincks, S. (2013) 'Understanding spatial issues in public policy' Policy@Manchester Policy Week, Manchester, 30 October 2013.

Wong, C. was Invited to plenary presentation 'Working with supervisors' (2014) and to be the mentor of small group workshops in the AESOP 2014 PhD School, 5-8 July, Uylenburg, Delft.

Wong, C. was Invited to present 'The surgical gloves & the dirty hands: the role of research and researchers in society', 'Academia 2.0: challenges of impact, communication & relevance' early career researchers event (2014), funded by the British Academy and the Hallsworth Endowment, the University of Manchester, Manchester, 29th April.

Wong, C.. and Qian H. (2014) 'Planning for rural transformation in rapidly urbanised Chinese regions: the case of Jiangsu Province', Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, 8-12 April, Tampa, Florida

Wong, C. and Webb, B. (2014) Planning for Infrastructure: Challenges for Northern England, AAG, Tampa, Florida, USA, 11 April.

Wong, C. (2014) Invited plenary presentation 'Working with supervisors' and to be the mentor of small group workshops in the AESOP 2014 PhD School, 5-8 July, Uylenburg, Delft.



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