Quality analyses of the built environment in the curricula and research projects
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Evaluation of Maternity Unit Design
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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS by Gabriel Moser

Alexandria was a wonderful conference. We had the opportunity to meet in a magnificent location. The conference was well attended by many students, professionals and researchers from Egypt as well as other Arab countries. The exchanges with urban designers, architects, interior designers, and psychologists from the Arab world were very fruitful, and the programme challenging. Among the different activities within the framework of the conference, the photographic exhibition organized by Gary Gumpert and David Uzzell was particularly appreciated, and it has been decided to repeat this exciting experience for the next conference. Many participants submitted a paper for the after-conference book. At the time of writing the Scientific Committee of the conference is revising the papers in order to publish the best of them in a volume on “Health and Sustainability”, the Alexandria conference theme. By the end of January the revision process should be completed, and authors will receive feedback concerning the selected papers. The book will be published by summer 2007 by Hogrefe & Huber as a volume of the “Series in People-Environment Relations” and sent to all members who attended the conference.

In the meantime, the Board of Trustees and the Strategy Committee met in December in Guildford. It was an opportunity to thank those who retired from the past Board and Strategy Committee for the fantastic job they have done for IAPS: Jeanne Moore as Secretary, Tony Craig as Treasurer, Marino Bonaiuto as responsible for Membership Affairs. The new and enthusiastic team which is significantly younger than the previous will continue to work for the development of IAPS. A bank account in France has been established and so everything is ready for the transfer of IAPS into a French Association, which will greatly facilitate our future functioning. Furthermore, we discussed the means to reinforce the role and activities of the networks: those in charge of a network are encouraged to participate more actively in future IAPS conferences by organizing a symposium, contributing to the reviewing of submitted papers in their area of competence and help plan the conference programme. Concerning the Bulletin, it has been decided to appoint a scientific committee, thus enhancing the quality of the contributions. We congratulate those who have accepted to undertake this additional work. As announced during the conference, the next IAPS Conference will take place in Rome. We are looking forward to meet all the members in that wonderful city and are sure that the organisers, Marilia Bonnes and Marino Bonaiuto will prepare another exciting and challenging IAPS conference. See you all in Rome in summer 2008.

EDITORIAL ADDRESS by Ricardo García Mira

This issue of the Bulletin brings some interesting contributions and new contributors. Elzbieta Niezabitowska and Andrzej Niezabitowski present their work in the Faculty of Architecture of the Silesian University of Technology in Gliwice (Poland). Over the last fifteen years they have focussed on research on human behaviour and the quality of the built environment, as well as on the teaching of architecture. Research on users as well as architectural research on the quality of the built environment quality is undertaken at the University in co-operation with other European researchers. Bill Thompson introduces his reflections on the role of contextual frames in the study and space analysis of social action. Congratulations go to Maggie Butchart, who was the winner of the IAPS Young Researcher Award in 2006 for her research on the evaluation of a maternity unit design, which highlighted the importance of a view of the natural environment from hospital windows, leading to therapeutic benefits and a restorative function. IAPS is pleased to continue its commitment to supporting the work of new researchers by publishing a paper based on the prize-winning submission. Finally, Liisa Horelli discusses her current work to establish a network of virtual teaching of Environmental Psychology as well as the conclusions of the workshop on this subject held in Alexandria in September.

This issue also includes our traditional sections of news, with a detailed report on the IAPS19 Conference in Alexandria, which was chaired by Aleya Abdel-Hadi. The conference attracted more than 300 delegates from 42 countries; Florian Kaiser has compiled a Bibliography of recently published papers and books. And, of course, there is the now regular section of Book reviews, Call for Papers, and Doctoral Thesis and Dissertations. The featured thesis in this issue on “Prediction of Recycling Behaviour” by Maria del Carmen Aguilar.

One final item. The next issue of the Bulletin (No 30), will be a special issue dedicated to the 25 Years of IAPS 1981-2006, with contributions from past Presidents and Secretaries! It will be co-ordinated by our Guest Editor and former Treasurer of IAPS, Roderick Lawrence.
Una provincia que crece

Una superficie de 7.876 kilómetros cuadrados, casi 700 kilómetros de litoral, más de 1.100.000 habitantes, 94 ayuntamientos, configuran un espacio único. Desde la Diputación de A Coruña compartimos contigo la ilusión por seguir creciendo.
QUALITY ANALYSES OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT IN THE TEACHING CURRICULA AND RESEARCH PROJECTS CONDUCTED AT THE FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, SILESIAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

The environmental issues have been the subject of research works and teaching practices of the staff of the Faculty of Architecture, Silesian University of Technology for over 30 years. This process was initiated by Andrzej Niezabitowski’s DSc. dissertation in the field of the morphology of architecture entitled: “The spatial structure of works of architecture. Methodological rudiments of describing, analyzing and systematizing spatial systems”. The fundamental assumption of the dissertation was the creation of a meta-language facilitating an explicit description of works of architecture irrespective of the historical period of their origin, or their cultural background. The long-term objective of the dissertation was to introduce a new discipline of architecture, something that could be called ‘architecturology’ (architecture studies) i.e. the knowledge or insight into the structure of the architectural environment. If such new discipline was to exist, it would require a new language used for the description of works of architecture, a language clear and comprehensible to specialists, just as it is the case in other disciplines of art and science. The author defined the spatial features of buildings and described typical building expressions, proposing the terminology that makes it possible to describe any architectural object.

Thanks to the contact with Professor Niels Prak from the Faculty of Architecture at Delft University (1987), A. Niezabitowski entered into cooperation with Professor Andreas van Wagenberg from the University of Eindhoven. The cooperation turned to be very important for further development of the built environment discipline at the Faculty of Architecture in Gliwice.

In 1991-1993, on the grounds of the meta-language used for the description of works of architecture proposed by Andrzej Niezabitowski, both Professors commenced a research project focused on the psychological reception of certain spatial forms by their users within the framework of the European Commission grant: “The Evaluation of the Aesthetic Quality of Buildings”. In view of serious financial and methodological obstacles, the research works initiated at that time were discontinued, but further contacts and cooperation with Professor Andreas van Wagenberg greatly contributed to the development of research and teaching staff of the Faculty. In 1993 Andreas van Wagenberg received a scholarship, in the course of which he paid two working visits to the Faculty in Gliwice, and the Faculty staff and students had the opportunity to learn about the most recent development in the field of environmental studies, and, in particular with the Post-Occupancy Evaluation.

During his visits in Gliwice Professor Wagenberg, in cooperation with the team including Faculty staff members and students held workshops, in the course of which he practically demonstrated the way of assessing the quality of buildings by means of POE. The follow up involved another quality assessment of the building of the Faculty of Architecture in Gliwice, conducted by a group of students coordinated by of Prof. A. Niezabitowski. The result of the ensuing research was the A. Baron’s and E. Kozlowska’s M.Sc. thesis: “Concept of reconstructing the building of the Faculty of Architecture in Gliwice on the grounds of the conclusions from POE conducted in 1994”. The thesis deeply moved the Faculty staff. In particular, those who had designed the building at first felt threatened and protested against passing any judgements on their work, because that was how they understood the essence of quality assessment studies. Ten years have passed since that time and many former opponents have changed their attitude, mainly in confrontation with the latest news flowing from worldwide research centres, where quality assessment studies are routine work and, these days, perceiving them as instructive and progressive.

In the 1990s Professor Andreas van Wagenberg was fascinated with the application of the conclusions from facility management (FM) practice to architecture, which led to the formation of a new both theoretical and practical branch of knowledge of a significant market importance, focused, first and foremost, on the issues of adjusting space and its facilities to the needs of the users. High quality requirements that modern buildings must fulfil should be considered even at the initial phase of their design. Accordingly, facility management developed and propagated the methods of assessing the quality of buildings in the course of their use. In recognition of the importance of such knowledge to architectural practice, Professor Andrzej Niezabitowski and Professor Andreas van Wagenberg, in cooperation with Elzbieta Niezabitowska, and Wagenberg Assoca-

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The program was entered in the tender for financial aid from Tempus-Phare in 1996. It should be emphasised Professor Andreas van Wagenberg played a crucial role in the application. He was the one who mobilised other foreign partners for cooperation.

The above mentioned project aimed at the introduction of a new subject to the university curriculum was entitled: “Quality Assessment and Facility Management in Architecture” (Tempus S-JEP 11408-96). It was qualified for implementation for the years 1996-1999. It was at that time that staff members from Poland were trained in quality assessment and management of the built environment during study tours to foreign partners, as well as during annually held international workshops for students and teaching staff of the Faculty of Architecture in Gliwice. In the course of the workshops the analyses of the functional quality of certain buildings located in Silesia were conducted (Town Hall, Social Security Office building and others office buildings).

Another outcome of the project was the creation of the Computer Laboratory at the Faculty of Architecture and supplying the Faculty library with over 200 volumes devoted to the issues of quality assessment, facility management and other recent architectural issues. The didactic and research experience obtained in the course of the project was summed up in a three-volume publication edited by A. Niezabitowski.

Thanks to the Tempus project, the following subjects have been introduced into the teaching curriculum at the Faculty of Architecture, Silesian University of Technology: quality assessment in architecture, facility management in architecture since 2000 renamed as “design strategies”, psychology of architecture and intelligent building and methodology of architectural research.

Since the completion of the Tempus program the educated research and teaching staff of the FACULTY has continued to develop the field of the quality of the built environment by the following projects:

- Statutory university research works (individual research, Ph. D works, DSc. works) research and service works.
- Handbooks (Facility management in architecture4, Design of office buildings5, Intelligent Building6).
- Papers and publications at conferences.
- Didactic work ( student semester projects and MSc. diplomas).
- Organizational activity (in IFMA Poland, training courses).

While educating students at the Chair of the Architecture of Office Facilities and Design Strategies special focus is given to classes concerning the architectural environment, quality assessment and practical application of findings from facility management to architecture. During the course students are instructed how to operate on methods of quality assessment of the existing buildings and designed structures, how to prepare a functional and spatial program for a newly designed building, how to select quality criteria of a designed building from the point of view of the users’ needs and future adjustments. The subject of the environmental psychology, which constitutes a foundation and complement of the design tasks presented within the subject of design strategies is run in the form of lectures given to students by Professor A. Niezabitowski.

Another important aspect in the advancement and dissemination of the issues involved in the built environment are Ph.D dissertations in the course of which young university staff acquire the knowledge and methodology typical of this new field of architecture. The 10 Ph.D. dissertations focused on the assessment and formation of the built environment, in consideration of the users’ needs have been completed under the supervision of Professor Elzbieta Niezabitowska, DSc. Arch.

The Ph.D. dissertations under Professor Andrzej Niezabitowski’s supervision are concerning broad research into aesthetic quality and the perception of the built environment.

Research and development projects conducted at the Chair of the Architecture of Office Facilities and Design Strategies are primarily focused on the following issues:

- Mastering the methodology of architectural works involving social factors (quality assessments, participation of the users, case studies, etc);
- Creating new models of the quality assessment of some selected buildings (offices, hospitals, old pensioners’ homes, penitentiary centres);
- Developing the functional and spatial programming that considers the users’ needs;
- Interdisciplinary cooperation in the matters concerning the built environment, the users’ involvement and participation in the process of design, facility management, intelligence of buildings.

External projects completed by the staff include:

1. “Functional and spatial program for the New Centre of Wirek (Ruda Slaska)”5. The project as prepared in cooperation with sociologist, on the basis of two reports from his participation studies concerning the requirements and expectations of the inhabitants of Ruda Slaska.

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2. DEKS – “The spatial, physical and social environments of universities as basis for the Development of European Knowledge Society” - research project PR5 and FMU - “Facilities Management Perspective on Universities Interacting with Local Communities for Developing a European Learning Economy” - PR-2000 research project, both conducting by Prof. Jan Ahlin from the Chalmers University.


5. Investigation into increased environmental stress after 30 years of the occupation of “Super-Unit” building (block of 700 flats) and estate in Katowice.

6. Quality assessment and programming for Faculty of Architecture building retrofitting.

7. Interdisciplinary studies of Silesian University of Technology educational buildings (work in organization).

The promotion of our Chair’s achievements should also mention: the design of the poser recapitulating the research work of our staff prepared for the 18th IAPS conference in Vienna in 2004: “Building Quality Evaluation in Contemporary Poland – Barriers and Directions of Development” – by E. Niezabitowska and D. Masly; and paper: “Visual Character of the Built Environment as a Tool for the Description, Analysis and Comparison of Architectural Objects” - by A. Niezabitowski.

Several KBN (Polish Research Committee) grants obtained since 1998 facilitated further advancement of the built environment discipline:


In conclusion, it should be stated that at the Faculty of Architecture, Silesian University of Technology since the 1990s there has emerged a school of architectural thinking focused on quality assessment methods of the built environment in consideration of the behavioural aspects involved in the field. The staff of the Chair of Office Facilities and Design Strategies have been developing the issues of quality assessment in their specific task projects, designs and, first and foremost, DSc. dissertations. Their scope have so far included: designing/programming old age pensioners’ home under the new market economy conditions, relationships between quality of the building and quality of programming, functional and behavioural aspects of facades, behavioural conditions in modern open-space office buildings, requirements imposed by the real estate market and their impact on the directions of their modernization, changes in the notion of urban functions and their importance to the orientation in the city space, databases and benchmarking of the quality of buildings (especially universities buildings).

* Both projects did not receive financial fund from EU.
INTERPRETING PEOPLE ENVIRONMENT COMPLEXITY USING CONTEXT

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Abstract
Partly a radical reframing of an article in the Bulletin [No.27 Autumn 2005] by Carole Després. Linked to a paper by Després and Lawrence, both IAPS members, on Futures of Transdisciplinarity this article proposes a social space in which advances may be made in this “complex and vast field of research” [Futures 36 (2004) 400].

As a member since being introduced to IAPS by the late J. Sime in 1997, I receive the Bulletin of people environment (PE) studies. In No.27 (Autumn 2005) there is an article by Carole Després that I feel suggests the possibility of research collaboration in a way that I believe Jonathan would agree with. Like many psychologists interested in architecture he too was frustrated with the lack of any systematic analysis of the physical environment, a frustration he chose to highlight in his paper entitled “where is the environment? The problem concerning psychological linkages between people and the environment.

We must wonder if the axiom of play and rest, in particular, can be fully appreciated in PE study in order to make progress in what must be thought of as a radical approach to research in the built environment? The problem of the logos, researched by Schrag as a philosopher, manifests itself in environmental design as that search for the scientific, universally applicable link between person and environment in the dogmatic reductive sense that denies the possibility of play and rest taking part in research. We can clearly see in some applications of Gibson’s [1986] affordances and Lynch’s [1960] mapping after Boulding’s [1956] work on our mental image of large scale environmental experiences (cities) that what Després refers to as intrinsic connections between space, time, society and individual behaviours can very easily seduce the design of procedures in data collection in PE studies to a visual or design culture without exegesis of the sentient behaviours necessary in order to create such cultures in the first place.

I need to articulate this specific problem a little more. I can enlist the help of Steve Fuller [2000] whose work on Kuhn makes an attack upon the social tendency to demur to any “expert” making the expert more abstract and like any model of universal logic by the use of models that are the subject of Després core issue three, reductive, disclosing it as that necessary behaviour of experts as advisors to

“Logos” and Roman “Ratio” [Schrag op cit p.1] that would take us to a mathematical logic of the universe (sic) right through to Deleuze and Guattari’s postmodern conviction that the “tree of knowledge is a subordination of multiplicity and difference to a model for unity and totality that is no longer useful in multicultural communities” [Schrag op cit p.31], the third of Després three core issues concerning complexity in PE studies. We can discern three concerns that are Centripetal to problems with PE studies:-

1. Key – the lack of any systemic analysis of social space
2. Core – the concern about theory separated from action
3. Core – the reduction of knowledge to a simple generic model for universal consumption

Schrag [1992] helps by pointing directly at the logos as the key problem when dealing with knowledge, truth and reason as philosophy claims to do. The phenomenological interpretation, carried out by each individual, challenges a logos – a logical structure to the universe - by way of opinions held by individual thinkers and Schrag, being a philosopher, is able to help us avoid the chaos of extreme relativity this might create, calling in Rorty’s [1980] “mirror of nature” for assistance as well as his own communicative praxis [1986] to eschew universal foundationalism and encourage transversality as constant communication epicentric to the processes of sustainable living. The key to this liberating assistance to PE study is the abandonment of knowledge as logos, the end of knowledge as finite and the recommendation for play, rest and even chaos as axioms of an ordered existence in place of the ‘old’ rationality that has only the axiom of order and chaos as its guide. Communicative interaction responds to the difference between individuals, recognizes the need for cooperation between individuals in order to synchronize social actions and the fact of sentience letting us construct transcendental realities capable of avoiding error in the small scale of social and historical action in which individuals become intrinsically connected in space and time thus addressing Jonathan’s question concerning psychological linkages between people and the environment.

I have recently found the philosopher Calvin O. Schrag [1992] helpful on the issue of theory, raised as the gap between theory and practice and/or application by Després [p.11.col.1], a problem which Schrag refers to communicative praxis converting this to transversality, which is a good alternative term to use for what we might mean by transdisciplinarity, temporary contextual sharing in order to cross rationalize and agree amongst a diverse group of disciplines. Schrag leads us philosophically from the Greek
an elite administrative and bureaucratic organization who are given the remit of solving problems for the masses that their employers govern on the grounds of a division of labour designed to instrumentalize the aspirations of democracy for comfort and security. That critique further articulates the core issue two (above) by disclosing the removal of theory from praxis as that abstracted to a reduced model on the supposing that it represents in total the chaos of the everyday, the noise of living abstracted and reduced only in order to provide clarity in the marbled halls, ivory towers and corridors of power. Thus the spectacle, the reduced world of visual image that mediates our lives [Giddens A, 1991] projected by academics and statespersons, and the problems with texts that claim to be true yet require constant interpretation on our behalf (rather than being read by us directly). These interpretations are made more satisfying and acceptable when the intrinsic connections between signifier and signified are seen as inevitable, a point understood quite clearly by Bourdieu [1994] in his work Distinction that explains the hierarchical structures in matters of quality of life, clearly what PE is most interested in are quality of life issues and clearly the belief in a logos that effects us all equally and universally is genuinely inappropriate for a heterogeneous grouping of social groups who must negotiate the coexistence of several often contradictory instrumental mechanical systems whilst they themselves have different origins and different aspirations, in short different beliefs.

It is precisely the deceit visited upon the heterogeneous masses, or the ignorance they carry within inappropriate contexts, that creates the need for researchers to concern themselves about what is wrong research and what is right research for making decisions about our environment and we may note the shift in aspirations on the part of candidates for PhD as they move from year one to the denouement of their task, shifting to statistics and quantitative assessments for safe results but with little explanatory power behind them as they move from their heterogeneous social roots (especially with widening access) when they want to make a difference to the world, towards their homogenous academic income structure in which they must make their mark upon the discipline. Thus the students themselves are in danger or even have already joined the elitist brigade abstracting the real world to reductive models useful to their disciplines and those disciplines that interact with a bureaucracy seeking to distance itself from the noise of the public space in order to maintain order over those who indeed vote for exactly that, in order to have what they themselves believe is a sustainable lifestyle that is however based on romantic and idealistic projections of "logos", the mythical structure of life, truth, knowledge and reason as a generic theology for living on the planet with no place for play and rest as an equally helpful axis crossing that of order and chaos.

Schon D A [1987] reminds us of the advantages of a studio education which is to say the advantages of discourse a la Habermas, the exchanges of spatial units of speech, sounds, marks on paper, models and so on as projected relationships in space and around solid space that occurs within the design studio. This has been the situation in architectural schools that have sought inclusion within universities in order to become part of an academic culture. In many ways this is perfectly understandable but we may make the
radical suggestion that it is the universities who may learn from the design studio rather than the other way around, especially when culture is impossible to sustain in any reconcile way and must return to its own model of tradition within a culture in order to survive the huge changes in population that occur from time to time in human history. Thus the studio represents that coming together of difference in cycles of rest and play as well as of order and chaos, rationalized across a heterogeneous group not all of whom are directly rewarded for the outcome by each project but all of whom share in the warm glow of success when it happens.

So is there a way in which we may shift away from the existing situation in which theory is literally and physically removed from the problems of everyday living, in which theory is applied through a reductive model so as to be antithetical to individual differences and from a situation that uses visual and design cultures that effectively reduce the range and improvisational adaptations that offer themselves to designers and planners. This way is, I believe, to embrace the phenomenological appreciation of the social space, the field in which we discover phenomena not just as what we come to call “objects” within a reconcile culture of sustained inter-subjective and social history over several generations but as all phenomena of whatever kind as part of a transmitted social logic.

Thus our division of labour is not and cannot be logocentric in the form of an ideology, not homogeneous as a culture, but is heterogeneous to the degree that it is composed of individuals in the plural, as heterogeneous as many social groups and many individuals taking part in the actions of several social groups. In order to become homogeneous individuals must acquiesce towards allowing ambiguity and equivocation in the intrinsic linkages between phenomena, linkages that must be made in order to have any order, any pattern in the noise of living, sustainability in social actions especially those that are more poetic than essential and yet required. Thus transdisciplinarity is as if transversality as described by Guattari [1984], horses in a field a-rearing their blinkers as they gallop around interacting or moving slowly for fear of bumping into each other when blinkers are down [p.18] – blinkers a metaphor for communicative action and indeed counterintuitive to the usual model of expert opinion hastening speed of action, that the logocentric paradigmatic model that I, and others, have argued against, uncritically assumes is correct as if all interactions are part of the same universal logic.

Not wishing to take up more space than is reasonable in our bulletin I feel I have probably set out enough of an issue for colleagues who may want to comment, and also perhaps consider joining forces by way of a network in order to investigate the value the sort of enquiry I have flagged up (above) for transdisciplinary working – a radical hermeneutics being an interpretive phenomenology in which the field is for all phenomena and spatial analysis of social action, the combination of contextual frames, rather than simply metric space, as if objects contain immanent meaning, and/or some immanent universal logic.

**BIOGRAPHY**

Dr Bill Thompson lives in Islington London and teaches at Belfast in the School of Architecture for the University of Ulster and also at Edinburgh in the School of Architecture for the Edinburgh College of Art. He has worked as a builder, as a job architect and ran a small practice in London, all as ways of relating to architecture, before applying for an MSc at University College London in advanced architectural studies and a PhD at Herriot Watt in the field of environmental psychology awarded in 1999. He researches hermeneutics and delivers seminars articulating cultural context in architecture.

**KEY WORDS**

Architecture, Practice, Hermeneutics, Society, Behaviour.

**REFERENCES**

BACKGROUND
A review of the literature highlighted the significance of window view in hospital design. Centred on the principles of distraction theory the evidence suggests that the simple nostrum of a view from a window can lessen the need for pain relief and shorten hospital stays. Ulrich’s 1984 work argued the therapeutic importance of a view from the window for hospitalised patients. This study gave deserved emphasis to the built environment and the profound effect it has on the users of interior space. Subsequent studies have invariably acknowledged the importance of this work by expanding and developing the research linked to a natural setting window view as a restorative aid (Ulrich 1984; Verderber 1986; Beauchemin and Hays 1996; Leather, Pygras et al. 1997). Revisiting Ulrich’s seminal research, the present study looks at the importance of a view in maternity settings, and explores the needs of women who experience a hospitalised birth.

METHODS
This part of the project evaluates three UK maternity units.

• The first in a large teaching hospital in a major city in the south of England, which had recently undergone a refurbishment with views over the river to historic city scenes.
• The second was a small birth centre in a city borough where a comparative analysis of old and new facilities was possible as the facility was moved to a new purpose-built unit at the mid-point of questionnaire phase of data collection. Both units have urban views of buildings and car parks. Women attending this birth centre were all deemed low-risk giving sample homogeneity.
• The third was a new purpose-built PFI (Private Finance Initiative) unit in the north of England, with a mixture of garden and building views.

Women delivering at these units were given a questionnaire at six days postnatally. The questionnaire was divided into two sections and addressed the needs associated with labour and postnatal phases of user experience. In each section there were specific questions addressing importance of the view from a window in the wider context of questions about the interior environment.

RESULTS
Preliminary analysis revealed that there was no significant association between window view and reduced analgesia intake (a central feature of Ulrich’s 1984 work). Open questions revealed that, in a hospitalised maternity setting, a view from a window was a low priority during labour and delivery with respondents preferring an enclosed private space in which to give birth. Postnatally women were, however, more concerned with their surroundings. Nevertheless, window view remained a low priority for them, which contrasts with current building design guidance.

DISCUSSION
This research draws attention to the complexity of window view theories, suggesting differentiated perspectives. The evidence, from the client perspective, suggests that future builds should consider the privacy needs of labouring women over window view. The perspective changes postnatally with participants acknowledging window view. The difference in labour and postnatal experience maybe, in part, explained by the different nature of the environment but it remains a significant division in how the participants perceived the two environments.

Postnatal experience is a critical time for new mothers and their experience in this environment can negatively affect their overall experience of the maternity services. The planning, design and provision of health services in the UK is increasingly consumer driven (Van Teijlingen et al. 2003). Therefore, surveying patients’ satisfaction with services and the environment can lead to informed choice in new maternity service provision. This is of critical importance as the NHS embarks on a programme to rebuild its healthcare facilities (CABE 2002).
REFERENCES


2007 AGM OF IAPS

Next AGM of IAPS, will be held in Bayreuth (Germany) 10th September 2007
A workshop on virtual teaching of environmental psychology gathered at the IAPS 19th International Conference in Alexandria some twenty people from Australia, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden and Tanzania.

The aims of the workshop were to:

- Exchange experiences of virtual teaching of environmental psychology
- Discuss the need and interest of further development of shared EP courses either as an enrichment to ordinary teaching, as a special course or as an EP programme leading to a degree according to the new European educational structures
- Find out opportunities for funding virtual EP courses and teaching
- Take further steps in the implementation of a shared project

THE LACK OF VIRTUAL TEACHING OF ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Liisa Horelli and Marketta Kyttä gave a short presentation of their course on virtual teaching of environmental psychology, at the Helsinki University of Technology. It is a special course (6 ects) comprising 19 lectures with power points and small texts as well as news and discussion groups, practical rehearsals and an exam. The running of the course requires about 40 hours work from the teacher and 100 hours from the webmaster-tutor. Melanie Jaeger illustrated the structure and content of undergraduate teaching at the University of Magdeburg, Germany, in which out of 18 modules five can be chosen in environmental psychology (two lectures, two seminars and one applied project module). A masters course in environmental psychology will be implemented which will have five modules. It has been constructed in collaboration with the University of Surrey. Marino Bonaiuto told about the plans for a European level master in EP which would be synchronised with the new European educational structures. Aleya Abdel-Hadi claimed that the University of Alexandria does not have courses in EP, but there was an interest in the creation of a masters course.

Only few of the participants had had experience of e-learning methods, although several had experience of distance-learning. University of Barcelona has some teaching material in the web, but there were no representatives from that University. Suggestions were also made for alternative methods, such as slides on the internet and video conferencing.

Several participants emphasized the importance of shared courses and a certain willingness emerged to create a pool of shared teaching material, for instance on history, theory and methodology. This would further highlight the transnational and transdisciplinary approach of environmental psychology. In addition, it was stressed that such courses should not only be aimed at EU-members but also at those from the non-EU countries.

The participants represented different fields, such as psychology, education, architecture and planning, technology etc. A quick survey disclosed that the themes which the participants could provide power point series or lectures in digital form are: general and architectural psychology, psychology of sustainability, Gibson’s ecological psychology, attitudes (towards sustainable development), social representations and cognition, perceptions (of nature) and culture, modern society, urban landscape, natural and social environments, environmental quality, privacy and crowding, environmental engineering, human technique interaction, behaviour and design, environmental analysis, influence upon the environment, participatory processes in planning, children (and the city, urban space, outdoor environment independent mobility, road safety, health and physical activity), methodology (behaviour mapping), internet techniques, contributions to developing countries, residential environments.

ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY. A FUZZY TERM!

Despite the interdisciplinary nature, environmental psychology is not fully recognized within different disciplines, nor is it regarded as an independent discipline. The participants felt that the term environmental psychology does not properly represent its true character. One suggestion was to label courses in environmental psychology as “environment behaviour (design) research” or as “Environment – Behaviour – Society”, like Gary Moore has done at the University of Sydney (www.arch.usyd.edu.au/web/reserach/ebri.html).

THE COST PROPOSAL

Last May a joint effort was made to create a COST-network proposal “Environmental Psychology as an Enrichment for Europe” (EPEE). The aim of EPEE was “to consolidate the European approach to environmental psychology in its diversity, to make it more visible and to disseminate it more widely so that it can make a significant contribution to the improvement of European wellness.” The proposal was sent to the COST - European Co-operation in Science and Technology (http://www.cost.esf.org/), but it was rejected because “Cost Actions emphasize coordination of research rather than training activities and curriculum development”. In other words the proposal was not scientific enough. However, it was stated that the proposal “will enhance the bridging of EP theory, research and teaching to environmental action and policy dealing with the problems of everyday life and their settings.”

The proposal was intensively discussed in the workshop and it was decided to go on with the working of an improved proposal. According to Pia Björklid it might be a good idea to emphasize that “The
European EP is presently quite active and has its own characteristics, such as the long historical past, strong interdependencies between the built and natural environments and the diversity of cultural perspectives. A better coordination and integration of the various European research lines and research groups would enhance the development of a more specific European perspective within the international EP. It is also worth recognising the “triangle of learning” according to which education, research and innovation are the three pillars for European socioeconomic processes and growth. Education is the source of the other two. (www.elearningeurope.info).

IN SEARCH OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDING SHARED EP RESEARCH

Different sources for funding were discussed. Aleya Abdul-Hadi promised to check the TEMPUS funds. The next call for Cost-proposals will open in January and close in March 2007. This means that a proposal of 2-3 pages focusing on a specific scientific issue should be prepared at the beginning of January. There are of course other funding opportunities, such as the EU 7th framework. Also a new programme, called Life Long Learning, that succeeds Socrates and Leonardo, has been launched for which universities can apply in February/March 2007. It will comprise policy projects, modernizing universities, virtual universities, student mobility etc. The problem with, for example, the programme for virtual campuses has been that the proposal requires a great deal of prior experience which the workshop people did not so far have. Unfortunately, the procedures with EU funding are usually quite slow and bureaucratic. In addition, lobbying in Brussels seems to be a must.

The workshop decided to put up a joint proposal for COST. On the basis of a quick analysis of the specialities represented by the participants, the shared theme could be research and promotion of “Healthy or active living environments”. Active living is quite close to healthy environments but concentrates more on the relationship between the physical and social environment and the active life-style of the individual or different groups (for instance in the prevention of obesity; see Sallis, James et al. 2006 An ecological approach to creating active living communities. Annual Review of Public Health, 27,1,297-322). The general theme could then be approached through different working groups focusing on E-B theory, concepts and methodology, urban quality for different groups (children, elderly etc.), planning, design and evaluation, as well as pedagogy, dissemination and the embedding of active living environments. The latter would then comprise varying e-learning and virtual teaching techniques (Figure 1).

Aslak Fyhri from Norway promised to develop the next draft of the proposal, but he expects to get some help from all interested parties in the form of a few lines. Aslak also pointed out that INTERDICIPLINARITY is crucial. Therefore, a framework that consists only of environmental psychology in the traditional sense, may not be enough. The subtasks or work packages should comprise representatives of both researchers, architects/planners, practitioners and policy makers. In addition, there still is need for someone who is dedicated and who has less time and budget restrictions than Aslak, to finalise the proposal and “push it through the pipeline”.
CONCLUSIONS

In terms of the aims of the workshop, the exchange of experiences of virtual EP teaching took place. Also the need for and interest in shared EP courses was discussed and unanimously approved of. The funding opportunities are still an open book and the various options should be further searched for, especially the Tempus, the new Life Long Learning and the COST-proposal. The next step will consist of all interested IAPS members commenting the above proposal and sending a few lines to Liisa Horelli (liisa.horelli@hut.fi) who will forward them to Aslak. A good idea might also be to continue the discussion on the IAPS web-page so that more people can get involved. In the future, the IAPS-education network might continue to develop e-learning as a medium to enhance the dissemination of environmental psychology.

![Figure 1. A preliminary model for a shared COST-proposal.](image-url)

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**IAPS Special Board Meeting 2006**  
*University of Surrey, Guildford, England 1st December*

Present: Aleya Abdel-Hadi, Eddie Edgerton, Birgitta Gattersleben, Peter Kellet, Ricardo Garcia Mira, Gabriel Moser, Eulogio Real Deus, Ombretta Romice, Elena Sautkina.  
Apologies: Angela Castrechini, Florian Kaiser, Karine Weiss.

- **President’s Report** - Gabriel informed that a meeting that a bank account had been opened in Paris for the propose transfer of IAPS to a French Association.

- **Secretary’s Report** - Eddie has now familiarised himself with the constitution, especially in relation to the proposed transfer and the related procedures.

- **Treasurer’s Report** - Birgitta needs signatures and address details from Eddie and Gabriel to access the bank account in Aberdeen.

- **Membership** - Since the membership list is normally connected to the treasurer, it was suggested that Peter’s role should be more about recruitment and retention of members.

- **Report about 19th IAPS Conference** - Aleya reported that of the 42 Egyptian delegates at IAPS19, 29 did not pay to join IAPS or pay for the conference book, 6 paid for both IAPS and the book, 6 paid to join IAPS only and 1 paid for the book only. There were therefore 12 new Egyptian members.

- **Roles** - The new roles had been agreed at the previous board meeting. However, Ricardo pointed out that Angela Castrechini had been involved with supporting the work of the bulletin and had been on the editorial committee. Ricardo, asked about expanding the editorial committee of the bulletin; this was agreed and Ricardo will contact a selection of IAPS members about being on the editorial committee. Eulogio is assistant editor of the bulletin too.

- **Bulletin** - Ricardo indicated that the next issue of the bulletin (no. 29) would include a brief abstract of the AGM minutes from Alexandria. On for the forthcoming 25th anniversary special edition of the bulletin, it was agreed that IAPS would pay 5000 Euros (+/-10%) for the production of this special edition. Ricardo also pointed out that bulletin no. 29 would cost IAPS approximately 1500 €.

- **IAPS 20 (Rome 2008)** - A provisional title had been agreed “Urban Diversity, Biosphere and Well-being”.

- **IAPS digital Library** - Bob Martens had made a request for the IAPS19 organisers to provide him information in a metafile format. Ombretta forwarded this information to Aleya.

- **Networks** - Based on IAPS19, Aleya reported that she had had no reply from Mark del Aguila regarding the Environment & Gerontology network and that Lisa Horelli had indicated that there were not enough people for a Gender and the Built Environment network symposium. Gabriel suggested that each network should propose a symposium for the conference.

- **Young Researchers workshop/summer school** - Elena reported that there will be no Summer School this year in Bayreuth. The time will be used to better prepare the Young Research Workshop in Rome. Elena proposed some strategies relating to young researchers in IAPS with the aim of involving them in the activities of the Association:

- **Date of next meeting** - The board approved the proposal to hold the next AGM at the 7th Biennial Conference on Environmental Psychology (German Association of Psychology) in Bayreuth, Germany. This will be on Monday 10th September. A board meeting would also take place during this conference.
**IAPS DOCTORAL WORKSHOP**

This year again, the Doctoral Pre-conference Workshop was a success. It is now viewed as an important part of each IAPS Conference. Two parallel sessions took place during the two days, and were attended by 20 students, who could present and discuss their work with six mentors.

The participants came from all over the world (Brazil, Canada, Egypt, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Turkey, Uganda, UK, USA), and the contributions were various: urban social studies, landscape planning, social representations, place identities, architecture and interior design, restorative environments, health, heritage, cultural diversity, gated communities, etc. The sessions were grouping these contributions within six main topics: cultural specificities, populations with specific needs and design; planning and environmental quality; urban environments; place and social identities; people-place relationships.

Each of the two sessions were monitoring by three mentors: Paula Castro, Madiha ElSafti and Dick Urban-Vestbro for the first one; Sandrine Depeau, Manal El Batran, and Necdet Teymur for the second one. The debate was constructive, even if some students found that the workshop could be improved with some organizational modifications that would allow all the participants to be more implicated in the discussions. So, we can be sure that the next 2008 workshop in Roma will be even better thanks to these appreciations!

**IAPS YOUNG RESEARCH AWARD**

18 of the participants presented a paper for the Doctoral award. Most of them were very high quality proposal. The mentors have first chose the three best papers in each session, and then, helped by Peter Kellett and Karine Weiss. After a harsh competition, Maggie Butchart, from Dundee University, was the 2006 winner with a paper called “Window view and the birth environment”.

It has to be specified that the committee had to make the selection of the best paper, based only on the quality of the paper, and not on the workshop discussions. Then, in the case of high quality research papers in competition, like this year, the difference was also linked to the stage of the presented research, depending on some elements of results and conclusions could allow having an opinion according to usual paper standards.
REFLECTIONS ON IAPS 19TH CONFERENCE, ALEXANDRIA
by Aleya Abdel-Hadi

The 19th IAPS Conference held at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Alexandria, Egypt on 11-16 September, 2006, presented the multifaceted reality of the problems we are tackling in our world today to reach sustainable development, ‘a concept around which our common future turns’ (Uzzell, 2002).

To meet the challenges of the New Millennium, it was found imminent to engage in more interdisciplinary collaboration between the disciplines of IAPS (design field/ anthropology-sociology- psychology- geography- ecology-environment) and the natural sciences to contribute to the main theme of Environment, Health and Sustainable Development.

The aim of this intertwining was twofold:
• Introduce the scientific activities of IAPS to the Egyptian community working on the environment, namely that the discipline of Environmental Psychology does not exist in the Egyptian Universities except for some scattered individual endeavours from the design field.
• Promote future collaboration between the disciplines and foster the possibilities ahead of achieving scientific solutions in parallel with required behavioural changes. Such new vistas for collaboration should help in the diagnosis and in the remedy to the diverse environmental problems, and therefore provide a real contribution to enhance our present life condition and the future for our children.

The conference themes and sub-themes have been covered by rich contributions dealing with a variety of issues such as: population resettlements; urban security; stressful situations; environmental risks; pollution management; solar energy; sustainable water use; biodiversity; climate change; agriculture, nutrition and health; gender issues; sustainable planning and design; city revitalization and rehabilitation; land degradation; desert communities; gated communities; child friendly environments; place identity; eco-tourism; eco-museum movement; design and metaphor; architectural psychology; architectural education; productivity and environmental quality and psychosomatic issues and perception.

The conference held two pre-conference activities:
1. The Young Researchers Workshop which was organized by Karine Weiss (France). It was attended by 20 Masters and Doctoral students from Africa, Canada, Europe, Latin America and the USA. Six mentors contributed in the workshop:
   - Paula Castro, Portugal
   - Sandrine Depeau, France
   - Manal El Batran, Egypt
   - Madiha El Safty, Egypt
   - Dick Urban Vestbro, Sweden
   - Necdet Teymur, UK.

   Maggie Butchart obtained the Award. Her paper was entitled: “Window View and the Birth Environment”

2. The joint symposium on The Appropriate Home, between the Housing and Building Research Center in Cairo and one of IAPS networks: the Culture and Space in the Built Environment network which was very successful due to the wonderful efforts of:
   - Dina Shehayeb, Egypt
   - Hulya Turguth, Turkey
   - Peter Kellett, UK

The conference included a variety of activities such as: plenaries; oral presentations; poster presentations; workshops; panel discussions; and field visits.
Fourteen papers have been presented by 29 researchers from Australia, Austria, Egypt, Italy, Poland, Turkey, UK and USA.

Seven keynote speakers presented in different topics that covered the conference sub-themes:
- Klaus Ammann, Former Director of Botanic Garden: Towards Organo-Transgenic Crops?
- Michael M. Cernea, Senior Adviser, GEF/O/World Bank: Yemeni Fishermen and the Red Sea GEF Project Benefits and missed Opportunities.
- Ismail Serageldin, Director of Bibliotheca Alexandrina: Environment and Sustainability: The overarching issues.
- Mostafa K. Tolba, Former Executive Director, UNEP: Challenges in Achieving Sustainable Development – the premises for building a sustainable society.

IAPS aim is to foster intercultural dialogue. About 300 delegates from 42 countries of all continents attended this conference and contributed in paper, poster sessions, symposia and workshops.

Africa ............................................................... 16%
Asia ................................................................. 13%
Australasia ...................................................... 2%
Europe ............................................................. 52%
Americas ....................................................... 17%
Design field .................................................... 60%
Anthropo/socio/psycho/ ecology ..................... 33%
Natural sciences ............................................... 7%

The seventy sessions went on as scheduled and the themes were covered as follow:
1- Environment and Sustainable Development (44%)
2- Health and Sustainable Development (20%)
3- Socio-Cultural Issues and Sustainable Development (25%)
4- Global Environmental Issues (11%)

1.A- Sustainable Planning and Design: Initiatives and Actual Practices (23%)
1.B- Productivity and the Indoor Environmental Quality (4%)
1.C- Pollution Management (8%)
1.D- Urban Sprawl, Smart Growth and Digital Cities (3%)
1.E- Sustainable urban Conservation and Small City Revitalization (6%)

2.A- Land Use and Urban Planning for health Promotion (3%)
2.B- Health and Well-being in Residential Environments (formal/informal) (9%)
2.C- Agriculture, Nutrition and Health (1.5%)
2.D- World Health Organization Healthy Cities Project (1.5%)
2.E- Impact of Human Behaviour on the Environment and Health (5%)

3.A- Architectural Education for Sustainable Development (7%)
3.B- Social and Cultural Dimensions of Health and Well-being (9%)
3.C- Women’s Health and Gender Issues (1%)
3.D- Requirements of Groups with Specific Needs (3%)
3.E- Desert Communities, Tradition and Eco-Tourism (2%)
3.F- Gated Communities: Impact and Challenges (3%)

4.A- Involuntary Resettlement, Social Sustainability and Environmental Risks (5%)
4.B- Global Warming and Climate Change (2%)
4.C- International Waters (1%)
4.D- Biodiversity (2%)
4.E- Land Degradation (1%)

From the above we deduct that the design field representing the majority in the participants’ disciplines is also reflected in the choice of the design related themes: they both represent 60%. In comparing some figures given in the report of (IAPS 17, 2000) by Gabriel Moser, we notice that the proportion of the Design disciplines to the socio/psycho/ecological disciplines is constant and remains the same.

IAPS 19 at Bibalex was an opportunity for interdisciplinary confrontation.
Opening session of the 19th IAPS Conference in Alexandria, Egypt.
The Governor of Alexandria, Mostfa K. Tolba (Co-chair/ Organizing Committee) chairing the session, The Minister of Waters and Irrigation, The Minister of the Environment, Gabriel Moser (IAPS President) addressing the audience.

Karine Weiss, Gabriel Moser and Salah Soliman having lunch at the Fish Market Restaurant

Dick Urban Vestbro and colleagues during the conference dinner.

David Uzzell and Gabriel Moser with the participants during Lunch at BA.

Aleya Abdel-Hadi at the Montaza Palace after the conference dinner.
THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE EXTENDS AN INVITATION TO YOU TO ATTEND THE ASIA PACIFIC ECOHEALTH CONFERENCE IN MELBOURNE, VICTORIA HELD IN NOVEMBER 2007.


The organising committee extends an invitation to you to attend the Asia Pacific EcoHealth Conference in Melbourne, Victoria held in November 2007.

Following on from the success of the EcoHealth One Conference held in Wisconsin, USA in 2006, this Conference plans to build on and explore further some of the key issues surrounding the interdependent relationships of human and their environments.

Unsustainable living, climate change and disassociation from nature are beginning to take their toll and will create disastrous repercussions for human health and survival if they are not addressed in the near future.

We are excited to be able to announce that Professor Jules Pretty and Dr Colin Butler will be among our principal plenary speakers. For more information on them please refer to our speakers page. Other invitees include a prominent Indigenous speaker, Parliamentarians, and representatives of the International EcoHealth Association.

Our plenary speakers will be supported by an expert multidisciplinary team of speakers and facilitators from throughout Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. The theme for the workshop will be ‘Ecology and Health: People and Places in a Changing World’.

The Asia Pacific EcoHealth Conference will showcase the latest research and contribute to the development of partnerships that will create opportunities for new strategies to address this looming crisis. Professionals from the social and biological sciences including health promotion, environmental health, sociology, urban planning, economics, conservation, environmental management and environmental policy will be able to share knowledge and ideas.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Please, for more information, contact with:

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7TH CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY
Bayreuth, Germany, September 9-12, 2007

The Environmental Psychology Division of the German Association of Psychology (DGPs) announces its 7th Biennial Conference on Environmental Psychology. It will be held in Bayreuth, Germany, September 9-12, 2007. Conference host is Franz Bogner from the Institute of Biology Didactics at the University of Bayreuth.

Bayreuth is a historical landmark and a memorable place by many known in connection with Richard Wagner or the Markgrafen (especially the Markgräfin Wilhelmine). Due to the successes of the previous two Biennial Conferences on Environmental Psychology in 2003 in Eindhoven, the Netherlands (the program of the Eindhoven conference can be found at http://fp.tm.tue.nl/fschouten/dgp/content/program/scientific.htm), and in 2005 in Bochum, Germany (the program of the Bochum conference can be found at http://eco.psych.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/conference/php/scientific_program.php), the 2007 conference will again be held in English.

Papers from all areas of Environmental and Conservation Psychology are welcome for presentation including papers from related fields, such as Investigative and Media Psychology, Persuasive Technology, and Human Factors. We are primarily expecting psychologists from European countries but, of course, colleagues from related disciplines, such as environmental sociology and environmental education, and from overseas are most welcome as well.

Four renowned scientists, Wesley Schultz (Professor of Social and Conservation Psychology, California State University, San Marcos), Gary Evans (Elizabeth Lee Vincent Professor of Human Ecology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York), José Corraliza (Professor of Social and Conservation Psychology, Universidad Autónoma of Madrid, Spain) and Peter Vorderer (Professor of Media Psychology at the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Southern California, Los Angeles) are invited as keynote speakers.

Information regarding deadlines, fees, presentation formats etc. can be found at http://www.bayceer.uni-bayreuth.de/EP2007. Alternatively, you may also contact the organizer Franz Bogner at EP2007@bayceer.uni-bayreuth.de
• **2006 SPANISH CONFERENCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY**

The IX Spanish Conference on Environmental Psychology was held in Madrid, at the Universidad Autónoma, last November. The conference was organised by Professor José A. Corraliza, Dr Jaime Berenguer and Dr Rocio Martin, and more than 150 delegates attended the more than 20 work sessions and symposia, coming from 12 countries. David Canter, Gary Evans, Victor Corral and César San-Juan were the invited speakers. Some of the IAPS Board members attended also the Conference.

![Professor Corraliza together with one of the invited speakers Professor César San-Juan](image)

![Professor Gabriel Moser participating in one of the special sessions together with Ricardo Garcia-Mira (Bulletin Editor), Bernardo Hernández (MACH Editor) and Baltasar Fernández](image)

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**INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL UNION (IGU) COMMISSION ON GENDER AND GEOGRAPHY SYMPOSIUM (June 1 - 3, 2007)**

• **SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PLACES FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES ON APPROPRIATION, REPRESENTATIONS AND PLANNING OF PUBLIC SPACES**

Department of Geography
University of Zurich, Switzerland

The objectives of this international meeting are threefold:

1. To share scientific knowledge on appropriation processes of public spaces and places from a gender perspective – focusing on urban or rural environments in western or non-western societies, applying quantitative or qualitative research methods. We welcome papers that are presenting various case studies on women’s and men’s, girls’ and boys’ uses and constructions of public places – discussing ‘real’, material as well as imagined and symbolic dimensions of production of space, papers on gender relations in public spaces with a focus on gender equity issues, papers on strategies and actions of male and female persons to transgress gender stereotypes in public places; etc.

2. To critically discuss representations and concepts of public space and social justice in public space in hegemonic academic and popular discourses and in counter-discourses. Papers are welcome that uncover gender-blind argumentations and their implications for public policies; deconstruct inherent contradictions in the discursive field of safety in public places for male and female persons; destabilize the public/private, male/female dichotomies in western thinking and their consequences for people’s everyday lives; etc.

3. To evaluate theoretical and practical approaches of planning, design and regulation of public spaces in different local contexts of western and non-western societies. We are looking for contributions on the interrelations between strategies and policies of planning, design and regulation of public spaces and gendered appropriation processes; on the effects of recent policy trends – e.g. privatisation, monitor surveillance – on women’s and men’s feelings of (dis-) comfort and (in-)security in public places and on gendered processes of exclusion/inclusion; on strategies and interests that are the driving forces behind hegemonic discourses on planning, design and regulation of public spaces; on planning and regulation discourses that transgress the fixed public/private boundaries in theory and practice; etc.

We especially welcome contributions addressing the complex, interwoven and sometimes contradictory relationship between gender and other dimensions of social identity like class, age, sexual orientation, ethnicity, nationality or formal citizenship.

A more detailed description of the scientific background of this symposium can be downloaded from our conference website: www.geo.unizh.ch/nfp54/igu07/

**Submission of Abstracts**
Deadline for receipt of abstracts is 31 January 2007. Send your 200-300 words abstract for submission to Elisabeth Buehler buehler@geo.unizh.ch.
Bibliography by
Florian Kaiser
Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands.
Email: f.g.kaiser@tm.tue.nl


**JOURNAL ARTICLES**

*New or forthcoming*


PROJECT TREND
(Territories and associated regions for development. Strategies and techniques for the assessment of partnerships included in the regional programme)

Financing body: European Commission Project type: Regional Framework Operation  Web Site: www.portaltrend.com

What is TREND?
The Regional Framework Operation (RFO) TREND financed within the European Initiative Programme INTERREG IIIC (South Zone) is a project of interregional cooperation among territories of the Objectives 1 and 2 of the European Union. Its general objective is the jointly development of new instruments of programming and models of governance that exploit the development and the participation of the territorial partnership within the Structural Funds programming.

Partnership
TREND partnership is constituted by the following regions of the European Union Member States:

- Sicily : Regione Siciliana Dipartimento programmazione
- Tuscany: Regione Toscana Servizio Programmazione e Controllo
- Galicia: Fundacion Universidade da Coruña
- Balearic Islands: Govern de les Illes Balears-Centre Balears Europa
- Crete : Development Agency of Heraklion, S.A.

Objectives
Inspired by the analysis and the development of the experiences made in the partner regions, TREND proposes to jointly develop new instruments of programming and models of governance facing the territories, in order to improve the various forms of partnership and the concerning procedures of concertation.

Through this innovation TREND intend to increase either the effectiveness of integration among the various levels of programming (local - regional - European), by considering the basic themes of the European policies set out by the European Council of Lisbon, or the management effectiveness through the experimentation of simplified solutions in the utilization of the community resources.

In order to achieve the general objective of the project, the interregional partnership has determined to undertake the following actions:

1. promotion and diffusion of the programming and concertation culture;
2. promotion of exchange and training actions among the regional managers;
3. involvement of broad local partnership (public and private subjects, economic and social operators, etc.) in order to develop correct governance.

Composition by Composantes
TREND is composed by five composantes that describe the strategy methods appropriate to achieve the general objective:

- **Composante 1** Management and coordination, in order to guarantee project proper development
- **Composante 2** Net activities, in order to invest in innovation and diffusion of the culture of programming and concertation actions
- **Composante 3** Exchange activities, in order to foster and promote exchange and training actions among the regional managers
- **Composante 4** Experimentation activities (demonstrative projects), in order to experiment new approaches and/or instruments, by involving the participation of broad territorial partnership
- **Composante 5** Communication activities, in order to diffuse and propagate the project outcomes and to stimulate a dialogue on the future of the bottom-up programming and the relative contribute of the Structural Funds.

Experimentation Activities
The concrete result that TREND should provide and its contribution in terms of added value on the definition of the new programming regions-territories lie in the Composante 4: the experimentation in the regional territories of the partners involved of new solutions in terms either of instruments or of innovative projects.

The activities foreseen by the Composantes 2 and 3 should conduce to get ready one or more project ideas and to their consecutive implementation. This composante foresees the launch of a call in order to collect the project ideas from interested public subjects. The essential requirements should be the experiences developed by the proponent partnership and the degree of innovation that the project intends to bring for the development of new instruments and methodologies of programming.

The admissible subjects to present project proposals are all those local partnerships of development whom represent at least three regional territories that belong to the RFO TREND.

Pilot Projects
The pilot projects evaluated by TREND and finally approved are the following:

- **SOSMER** (Formulation des models de protocoles de actuation dans le cas de émergences a cause de rejets maritimes)
- **INTER.ECO.TUR.** (Interreg Eco Turismo)
- **INASRUD** (Integrated Approach for Sustainable Rural Development)
- **HIGH.TECH.VISION**
- **CIPHER** (Comparing Innovation Frameworks in European Regions)
- **NOCITO** (Network of competences, innovation Tecn.)
- **METE** (Metodologia Innovativa per l’ Animazione Territoriale degli Strumenti di Programmazione)

For further information about the pilot projects: www.portaltrend.com
A new book on urban analysis for sustainable urban design is under construction.

Sergio Porta, Ombretta Romicc and Kevin Thwaites will be the editors of a book whose draft title is: Urban Sustainability through Environmental Design: analytical approaches and tools for making our cities more safe, diverse and socially cohesive by means of responsive spatial design. The manuscript is expected to be delivered to the publisher (Spon Press) by the end of 2006.

The book will be about TOOLS of urban ANALYSIS for sustainable urban design. So, sustainable urban design offers the context for the presentation of cutting edge research and practice in related urban analysis from all over the world. We are looking for methodologies (especially GIS based methodologies) specifically thought for operating in the context of urban design processes or policies or projects. Thus, issues like pedestrian and vehicle flows management and modelling, centrality assessment and structural analysis, visual and experiential analysis, economic assessment of transit oriented developments, social behaviors in public space evaluation, community participation techniques (and the like ...) are of interest for the book.

We deliberately leave the theoretical definition of sustainable urban design a bit on the background at this stage, as we would like the book to be somehow the witness of it as it emerges from the survey of the state of the art of related urban analysis, which is the real focus of the book.

The contributions of scientists in the many field related to the issue who have authored cutting edge research and practice are going to be the substantive section of the book. So this is an invitation for all the IAPS members to consider this as an opportunity to contribute a paper on their own research or experience as well as to diffuse this invitation to potential contributors.

Please interested people contact: Sergio Porta (sergio.porta@polimi.it)
The process of educating future architects and designers around the world varies dramatically. However, there is one striking similarity – the dominance of the design studio as the main forum for knowledge acquisition and assimilation, and for creative exploration and interaction. Such a setting encompasses intensive cognitive and physical activities, which ultimately result in conceptualizing meaningful environments proposed to accommodate related human activities. The design studio is the primary space where students explore their creative skills that are so prized by the profession; it is the kiln where future architects are molded. It has occupied a central position since architectural education was formalized two centuries ago in France and later in Germany, the rest of Europe, North America, and the rest of the world.

My personal experience of the design studio comes principally from being academic, studio educator, and researcher on architectural education and studio teaching practices for over fifteen years. Continuous endeavors have resulted in a number of publications that analyzed traditional studio while probing into the motivations of my colleague educators and allowing for critical examination of studio pedagogy (Salama, 1995; 1996; 1998; 1999; 2002; 2005; 2006). My passion for a continued exploration and investigation of the studio underlying rituals, teaching styles and learning outcomes, design processes and studio projects motivated me to entertain the idea of guest editing this issue and to venture a call for contributions for soliciting visions and experiences on the theme. This initiation was further encouraged and supported by the Editor in Chief – Nicholas Wilkinson.

This issue of Open House International-OHI is concerned with the studio pedagogy’s increasing importance within the context of contemporary architectural and design education, a crucial subject that poses itself confidently on the map of current academic research. Twelve papers are included; of them, nine were selected from over 30 submission responses to the call for contributions. These are of ASHRAF SALAMA; NISHA FERNANDO; KEVIN MITCHELL, MALIKA BOSE, ELIZA PENNYPACKER, and TOM YAHNER; TASOULLA HADJIYANNI; CARLOS BALSAS; RABEE REFFAT; JEFFREY HOU and MIN-JAY KANG; JAMAL AL QAWASMI; and JEFFREY HAASE. Three papers were selected as they won the first three awards of the International Architectural Education Competition entitled “Alternative Educational Ways for Teaching and Learning Architectural Design,” which was organized in 2005 by Open House International and the Faculty of Architecture, Eastern Mediterranean University, Northern Cyprus. Results were announced in April 2006 and the three winners were JOONGSUB KIM (1st Prize); NOAM AUSTERLITZ & AVIGAIL SACHS (2nd Prize); and GUITA FARIVARSADRI & USTUN ALSAC (3rd Prize).

Efforts of these concerned and committed educators are integrated to openly debate the delivery system of education in the studio. Actually, they are advancing the discussions on how this subject has become a recognized area of research in recent years, how studio teaching invigorates the attitudes of future architects and designers, and how it may contribute to the creation of better environments. The papers in this edition of OHI capture the body of knowledge about design studio teaching. However, they can be regarded as different studio typologies that delineate a paradigm shift. Such a shift is from the traditional approach that follows principles and practices developed in the past, and not equipped to deal with the practical realities of contemporary societies, to a more responsive approach that effectively challenges recent advances in social and behavioral sciences, and telecommunication technologies. Such an approach is characterized by committing itself to a student-centered learning process by shaping and identifying studio objectives and thereby recognizing the impacts they may have on the life-long learning skills of future architects.
CALL FOR PAPERS

More and more tourists are increasingly abandoning traditional vacation for a new type of tourism that gives them the sense of nature. Trekking in mountains, bird watching, archaeological digs, desert and photo safaris, scuba diving are some new types of vacation that attract tourists to travel to relatively remote and unspoiled areas. This type of travel is referred to as nature-based travel, ecotourism, or environmentally sustainable tourism. Such a type of tourism promotes environmental responsibility and ensures that visitors take nothing but photographs, and leave nothing but footprints. It is a responsible way of travel; an alternative to traditional travel, but it is not for everyone. It allows them to enjoy an attraction or a locality and ensures that local culture and environment are unimpaired. However, the question that remains really challenging is: How much change in or alternations of natural and cultural environments will be acceptable for the purpose of tourism?

As environmentally sustainable tourism industry expands worldwide, well planned, ecologically sensitive facilities are in high demand that can be met with ecolodges: small scale facilities that provide tourists with the opportunity of being in close contact with nature and local culture. The ecodge concept affirms that building footprints and other necessary impositions on terra firma should be designed in harmony with natural landscape and cultural setting. With a design that respects the environment and is in harmony with the landscape and cultural setting of an area, an ecodge is constructed using recycled and locally produced building materials. It relies on solar or alternative energies, recycles the waste and the wastewater it generates, serves locally grown and produced food. An ecodge would be a facility that blends in with its surroundings, offering visitors an environmental experience of the natural and cultural world around them.

Research papers in this issue of Open House International intend to explore qualities and characteristics of sustainable planning and design of eco-lodges, with a focus on developments taking place in biologically sensitive areas, whether desert, forest, coastal/marine, riverine, or wetland environments. Papers may reflect on sustainable tourism planning processes and indicators, capacity building, training programs. While some papers will place emphasis on ecological design principles involved in ecodge development, highlighting successful cases designed and built in sensitive destinations, others may explore how environmentally friendly facilities are conceived as integrated development tourism centers within local, regional, or national plans.
The Silesian University of Technology, Faculty of Architecture, at Gliwice, Poland and the Housing Network of IAPS - the International Association for People - Environmental Studies invite your participation in an

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM ON HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS IN POST-COMMUNIST COUNTRIES.

Housing and environmental conditions in post-communist countries have changed since 1989. It is interesting to observe these transformations, compare and synthesize them, and look for positive solutions that will improve and guarantee future living conditions. During this symposium many subjects will be discussed, but the main aim will be to consider the following topics:

- Innovative residential architecture in post-communist countries
- Post-communist large-scale housing areas – architectural, cultural, economic, social and urban problems
- Analysis of post-communist cities (such as Tychy and Nowa Huta, in Poland)
- Valuing and regeneration of existing post-communist residential areas
- Dealing with standardization by introducing functional, cultural, economic and spatial diversity
- Positive and negative impacts of property tenure changes
- Creating new identities and social representations for residents
- Introducing ecological and energy-saving technologies
- Accommodating new consumer lifestyles
- Ageing people and buildings
- Safety and security in residential areas
- Financial, construction, social and architectural problems of management and maintenance
- Conservation of communist and post-communist large-scale housing estates.

This International Symposium will be held from 11th to 13th October 2007 at the Congress Center, The Silesian University of Technology, Gliwice, Poland. The programme will include a guided tour of the cities Tychy and Nowa Huta (Cracow).

For more information please contact:
- Dr Beata Komar, The Silesian Technical University, Poland:
  Beata Komar &lt;Beata.Komar@polsl.pl&gt;
CALL FOR PAPERS

Medio Ambiente y Comportamiento Humano (ISSN 1576-6462), a journal specialised in Environmental Psychology, announces a special Monographic on Environment and Developmental Psychology. For this reason, we invite submission of articles for publication related to this thematic issue.

The journal welcomes research papers that lead in the direction of understand the interactions on human behavior with the environment (both natural and modified by human activities), and topics include: quality of life and environment, participation and environmental education, environmental representation and behavior, attachment and place identity, physical environment characteristics and behavior, perception of risk associated with physical or social environments, research methods, globalization and human behavior, etc.

We encourage contributions to this very exciting upcoming issue. The journal seeks manuscripts that explore someone of these contents in relation with the developmental change or studies centered on the populations of interest of the Development Psychology: children, teenagers, families, elderly population.

The articles will be written in English or Spanish, following the regulation that the journal has elaborated for the publication. For more information about the journal, please visit our web page http://webpages.ull.es/users/mach/.

Submissions should be sent to: mcorrea@ull.es, before March 31, 2007.

Finally, if you know some colleagues that could be interested in it, don’t hesitate to provide this information.

Sincerely

La Laguna, June 30, 2006

Dra. Nieves Correa y Dra. Cristina Ruiz
Coordinator Monographic Environment and Developmental Psychology
September 17, 2005

Dear Editor,

First of all I would like to offer congratulations on the attractive new format of the IAPS Bulletin 26. It is wonderful that you have managed to find funding to support the quality of graphics that the Bulletin deserves.

I also write to respond to the article by Heba Samra in Bulletin 26, “The interior architecture of housing for the mentally retarded.” It is always difficult to comment on the situation in a country different from your own because the parameters for doing things are not at all the same. Researchers must work within the constraints of ideas and practices of their own society, so my comments are not about the work that Ms Samra is doing, which is oriented to improving the given situation, but rather about the assumptions that are implicit in the settings that she has been given to work with. She has correctly identified the criteria that should be addressed.

From the descriptions of the settings that are given, it seems that the settings’ inherent problems derive from the architecture of the buildings, and may be ameliorated by interior design, but are not likely to be resolved. If a building is monumental with long corridors and acoustically hard materials such as suggested by an illustration provided by the editor (not the author), although individual spaces may be appropriately designed (hard materials replaced with soft, high ceilings replaced with low, fluorescent lighting replaced with incandescent or halogen), their positive effect is likely to be counterbalanced by the negative attributes of the building itself. For instance, eating in a cafeteria with many other people or having to traverse long distances on busy corridors between activities may be disruptive.

Programmatic questions also arise from the places described. From the US context, putting children with developmental disabilities as young as age 3 in a residential institution would seem very inappropriate. In this country, if such children could not be supported at home with their parents, they would be placed in foster care settings in a private residence. In the Egyptian context, this may not be possible. The perspective of the normalization principle (e.g. Wolfensburger or Nirje) suggests that ordinary residential settings support the activities and behaviors of normal daily life, whereas institutional settings support the behaviors and activities peculiar to institutional life. This principle is supported by a variety of research including some I have been involved with. (Thompson et al, 1997) that found that the degree of institutionality in group homes correlated negatively with independent activities such as preparing meals, and positively with inappropriate behaviors such as self-injury. Other work has found that people moved to more normalized settings gain in IQ (Carey & Thompson 1980). The large body of research of which this is a part has concluded that it is counterproductive to house people with developmental disabilities, especially children, in institutional settings.

That being said, if institutional settings are being used for people with developmental disabilities, it is important to create designs that will support a positive environment and appropriate behavior as much as possible. If Ms Samra’s work contributes to an improved situation that is all to the good.

Sincerely,

Julia Williams Robinson, PhD
Professor, Department of Architecture
University of Minnesota

REFERENCES
This study compares the predictive capacity and the degree of adjustment shown in two models applied to the prediction of pro-environmental behaviour: the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB; Ajzen, 1985; Ajzen & Madden, 1986), and the model of Values, Beliefs and Norms regarding the environment (VBN; Stern, Dietz, Abel, Guagnano & Kalof, 1999; Stern, 2000). An alternative model is also put forward from the two that were analysed, which increases the explanation of the behaviour’s variance and improves the adjustment to empirical data. The environmental behaviour used as a basis was: separating glass from the rest of the rubbish. To do so, we used a sample made up of 525 university students and 154 housewives who answered a first questionnaire (Time 1), which included a direct measurement of past behaviour, the variables predicting behaviour according to the TPB (attitude towards behaviour, subjective norm, perceived behavioural control and behavioural intention) and the variables predicting behaviour according to the VBN (social-altruistic, biospheric and egoist value orientation, NEP beliefs, GAC awareness of consequences, AR ascription of responsibility and personal norm). Twenty days after this first measurement was taken, a second questionnaire (Time 2) was handed out, in which the participants disclosed the frequency with which they had separated glass from the rest of their rubbish during that time interval.

In order to analyse both models, and following the relations between the variables that each model proposes, different structural equations have been carried out. The results indicate that the TPB has a better adjustment to empirical data and a greater predictive power over behaviour than the VBN model. The proportion of variance explained in the behaviour with the TPB model was 44%, and 15% with the VBN model. Furthermore, when housewives were compared with students, significant differences were found between both groups, with the housewives showing a more favourable attitude towards such behaviour, greater intention to fulfil that behaviour in the future, and a higher degree of perceived behavioural control. In fact, the housewives fulfil this
behaviour more often than the group of students. However, considering the predictive power and the adjustment of both models to empirical data, the TPB is more suitable than the VBN model, when both groups are compared, providing the particular characteristics of the samples are taken into account.

Furthermore, to verify whether the TPB has room for improvement, both in the degree of adjustment and in the predictive capacity over behaviour, another two direct predictors of behavioural intention and behaviour have been included: past behaviour and moral norm. The results show that both the adjustment to empirical data and the percentage of variance explained improved considerably, with regard to the model’s original formula. In this way, the percentage explained of the behavioural intention is 63%, compared with the 49% explained by the model’s original components. Moreover, when the TPB predictor variables were considered together with past behaviour and personal norm, as direct predictors of behaviour, the percentage of variance explained also improved with regard to the model’s original formula, reaching the figure of 51%.

Consequently, and according to our results, we can conclude that the TPB is more suitable than the VBN model for explaining the behaviour of separating glass from the rest of the rubbish for recycling purposes, although this study has also confirmed that the TPB has room for improvement. So, an alternative model is proposed, taking the TPB as a base and including past behaviour as well as measurements related to moral components (personal norm), as it enables the adjustment to empirical data to be improved, as well as the percentage of variance explained for the ecological behaviour in question.

Key words: Theory of Planned Behaviour; model of values, beliefs and norms regarding the environment; environmental behaviour; past behaviour; moral norm.
The IAPS 'Members Area' of the website is a new service for IAPS members. This area provides members with access to the most recently published issue of the bulletin in PDF format, and there is also now a facility allowing people to check their membership status.

Log in to both options using the following login details:

username = iaps
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The membership area can be found at the following URL: http://www.iaps-association.org/members/members.html

IAPS Networks

The Networks are interest and research groups formed by IAPS members. They carry out debates, discussion groups, publications, often possess their own website and organise symposia and conferences. Find below a complete list of those currently operating within IAPS, and get in touch with them for more information!

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Log in to both options using the following login details:

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IAPS AIMS and OBJECTIVES

One of the priorities of the IAPS Board is to encourage more young researchers to join and be active within IAPS. Apart from special student rates for joining the Association (half the normal cost) and reduced rates for attending conferences, we have instituted a Young Researcher Award which recognises the best paper from a young researcher at the IAPS Conference. We also have a Doctoral Student Workshop linked to the Conference at which doctoral students can discuss their work with leading EB researchers and fellow students in a supportive environment.

We are also looking to further and facilitate international collaboration. This is best achieved by working with other EB organisations, but we are also currently looking to see how we can facilitate the setting up of a network of EB Research Units and Laboratories. This could potentially be highly beneficial for both international collaborative research funding and the teaching and training of young researchers.

In particular the Objectives of IAPS are:

- To facilitate communication among those concerned with the relationships between people and their physical environment.
- To stimulate research and innovation for improving human well-being and the physical environment.
- To promote the integration of research, education, policy and practice.

To Achieve its Objectives the Association

- Facilitates contact and exchange of ideas between members all over the world.
- Holds regular conferences and specialised symposia and seminars in English and French.
- Publishes a newsletter, conference and seminar proceedings and a membership directory.
- Develops relationships with similar organisations (EDRA (N.America); MERA (Japan); PAPER (Australasia).
- Maintains study networks which regularly organise Network Symposia and publish Newsletters.

Benefits of Membership include:

- The right to vote and stand for membership of the Board and Strategy Committee.
- Reduced fees for attending conferences and seminars.
- Free copies of the IAPS newsletter. This contains research summaries, articles, reviews, letters, lists of references, and general news of the research field.
- Reduced subscription rates for specified journals.
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