

C12-39 commission of Urban Geography Urban Challenges in a Global World

A. Membership

Chair

Name	Institution	Email
Professor Céline Rozenblat	University of Lausanne, Switzerland	celine.rozenblat@unil.ch

Associated Chairs

Name	Institution	Email
Professor Adrian Aguilar	UNAM, Mexico	adrian@servidor.unam.mx
Dr. Daniel O'Donoghue	Canterbury Christ Church University, United Kingdom	daniel.donoghue@canterbury.ac.uk

Steering Committee

Name	Institution	Email
Prof. Ludger Basten	Ruhr-University, Germany	ludger.basten@tu-dortmund.de
Professor Liliane Buccianti-Barakat	Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth, Lebanon	lbarakat@usj.edu.lb
Dr. Nico Kotze	University of Johannesburg, South Africa	nicok@uj.ac.za
Dr. Keisuke Matsui	University of Tsukuba	jiji@geoenv.tsukuba.ac.jp
Dr. Lidia Mierzejewska	Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland	mierzeja@amu.edu.pl
Professor Petros Petsimeris	University Paris 1, France	petros.petsimeris@wanadoo.fr
Dr. Maria Jose Pineira-Mantinan	University of Santiago de Compostella, Spain	mariajose.pineira@usc.es
Professor Ivan Townshend	University of Lethbridge, Canada	towni0@uleth.ca

Correspondents and advisers from India and China: To be invited to join the activities of the steering committee.

Observer for the preparation of Beijing 2016:

-Prof. Werner Breitung, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, breitung@gmail.com

- Prof. Shenjing He, secretary of the Chinese Urban commission, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, shenjing.he@gmail.com

- Prof. Yanwei Chai, member of the Chinese Urban commission, Vice-Chair of Department of Urban and Economic Geography, Beijing University, chyw@pku.edu.cn

Young Scholars Committee Members

Committee Member	Address	E-Mail
Dr Niamh Moore	University College Dublin, Ireland (Chair)	Niamh.Moore@ucd.ie
Dr Tetsuya Ito	University of Rissho, Japan	tetsudeu@ris.ac.jp
Dr Maria Jose Pineira Mantinan	University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain	mariajose.pineira@gmail.com
Dr. Tomoko Kubo	Gifu University - Japan	tmk200430258@yahoo.co.jp

The counts of members by country:

The status of « member » requires to the person to **have attended at least twice last 6 commission's meetings**. It is updated every 4 years in order to elect the next commission's project.

Last update was made in **September 2011: 54 members from 21 Countries**

Country	Number of attendances					TOTAL
	2	3	4	5	6	
Belgium	1					1
Canada	2	2				4
China	2	1				3
Czech Republic	1					1
Denmark				1		1
France	2			1		3
Germany	1	1			1	3
India	1	1	1			3
Ireland		1				1
Israel	4					4
Japan	6	3	1			10
Lebanon			1			1
Luxembourg		1				1
Mexico	1			1		2
Netherlands			1			1
Poland	3		1			4
South Africa	1		1			2
Spain	2		1	1		4
Switzerland	1				1	2
UK		1	1			2
USA		1				1
Total	28	12	8	4	2	54

B. Meetings

2013 Meetings:

Colloquium/Annual Commission Meeting in Johannesburg/Stellenbosch, July 2013

The colloquium was a great success. In total there were **70 delegates representing 13 nationalities**. There were 10 papers sessions, 2 business meetings, and 3 very interesting field trips/scientific excursions in Soweto, in Cape Town and around the wine farms of Stellenbosch.

Many South African presentations dealt with contested spaces, spatial justice and social segregation, as well as insecurity. Other topics explored included the urban environment, pluri-residentiality, new technological developments, and urban governance.

The Commission's presence in South Africa provided the ideal opportunity for three varied presentations paying homage to the recently deceased Ron Davies:

- From the Urban Commission, passages from the very emotional letter written by Wayne Davies were read, and Celine Rozenblat highlighted some of his main contributions to urban geography generally and more specifically to the life of our Commission.
- From the South African Geographical Community two presentations by leading South African urbanists Prof Sue Parnell (in Johannesburg) and Prof Owen Crankshaw (in Stellenbosch) were made in Ron Davies' honor.

Thanks again to the organizers: **Prof. Nico Kotze** (Department of Geography, Environmental Management and Energy Studies (University of Johannesburg) and **Prof. Ronnie Donaldson** (Department of Geography and Environmental Studies (University of Stellenbosch) for their wonderful organization and their constant willingness to help everybody during this memorable meeting.

Nico Kotze from the University of Johannesburg will make a publication including many of the contributions of the 2 parts of the meeting.

The Urban Commission at the IGC Kyoto - August 2013

In total, the Urban Commission organized 20 sessions with 80 papers presented. The number of papers, presentations and the wide range of material covered across all the sessions all indicate a very successful IGC for the Urban Commission. There were some very well attended sessions with large audiences and packed lecture halls. The Urban Commission organized more sessions than any other Commission present and augurs well for the future of our Commission. Special thanks to our Japanese hosts and Commission members who laid on some very interesting field trips, especially the day trip to Osaka and Kobe.

It was decided that a number of the papers presented on the **special topic of "Shrinking cities"**, which is of particular concern for Japanese urban geographers, but also other parts of the developed world, will be edited in a book by Maseteru Hino and Yun Tsutsumi. The suggested title at this stage is "Urban Geography of Post-growth Society". The proposal for

the book is supported by the **Association of Japanese Geographers**.

Papers presented in the Kyoto Meeting:

80 papers from 25 Countries

COUNTRY	Papers
China	1
Argentina	1
Australia	1
Brazil	2
China	11
Czech Republic	1
France	6
Germany	2
Hong Kong	2
Hungary	1
India	7
Iraq	1
Italy	1
Japan	23
Mexico	1
Poland	2
Russian Federation	2
Slovakia	1
Spain	2
Switzerland	2
Taiwan	2
Thailand	1
United Kingdom	2
United States	4
Viet Nam	1
Total	80

Young Scholar's Prize 2013

Organized by Niamh Moore (Dublin) and Maria-Jose Pineira-Mantinan (Santiago de Compostela).

This year, we received only 4 applications for the prize and after scrutinizing the applications the jury decided not offer the prize. The money will be carried forward and used for next year's meeting (to invite the Keynote speaker).

Future Meetings 2014:

Annual Commission's Meeting in Poznan: August 11th to 14th 2014

<http://www.unil.ch/igu-urban/page99414.html>

Organized by Institute of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management
Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań (Poland)

Secretary: igu2014@amu.edu.pl

Guest Speaker : Peter Nijkamp (confirmed)

Special topic: Restructuring Post-Communist Cities: Processes and Problems

The organizers invite also contributions on any of the following topics:

- Technological Innovation and Creative Activities in Cities
- Contested Social Spaces
- Creating Sustainability
- Dilemmas of Ageing Cities
- Increasing Insecurity
- Urban Heritage and Conservation
- Urban Governance
- Complex Urban Systems

An excursion will permit people to join Poznan to Krakow from August 15th to 17th

The regional IGU Conference in Krakow: August 18^h to 22th 2014

Urban Commission participation:

Beside our proper sessions, we will organize

- joint-sessions with other commissions;
- invited sessions organized in collaboration to new members.

All the information is available on our website on a page dedicated to the Krakow meeting 2014: <http://www.unil.ch/igu-urban/page99413.html>

Urban commission sessions

C12-39: 1- Complex Urban Systems

C12-39: 2- Technological innovations and creative activities in cities

C12-39: 3- Contested Social Spaces

C12-39: 4- Creating Sustainability

C12.39: 5- Dilemmas of Aging Cities

C12-39: 6- Increasing Insecurity

C12-39: 7- Urban Heritage and Conservation

C12-39: 8- Urban Governance

Urban commission joint sessions

JS 12-39: 1 Urban Challenges for Mediterranean and Gulf Cities

- C12-30 Mediterranean Basin commission

- C12-39 Urban Commission: Urban Challenges in a Complex World

Chairs: Maria Paradiso, paradiso@unisannio.it; Maria-Jose Piñeira, mariajose.pineira@gmail.com

JS 12-39: 2 Beyond global cities' system: cities as geopolitical actors in the complex world

Join Session:

- C12.33 Commission on Political Geography together

- C12.39 Urban Commission: Urban Challenges in a Complex World

Chairs: Anna Casaglia, anna.casaglia@unimib.it, Céline Rozenblat: celine.rozenblat@unil.ch

JS 12-39 3 The Planning, Symbolism, and Legacy of Mega-events

Join Sessions:

- C12-14 Commission on Global Information Society

- C12-07 Commission on Cultural Approach in Geography

- C12-15 Commission on Tourism, Leisure, and Global Change

- C12-39 Urban Commission: Urban Challenges in a Complex World

- C12-30 Commission on the Mediterranean Basin

Organizers:

Mark Wilson, Michigan State University, wilsonmm@msu.edu

Eva Kassens-Noor, Michigan State University, ekn@msu.edu

Karsten Gäbler, Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, karsten.gaebler@uni-jena.de

Dieter Müller, University of Umeå, dieter.muller@geography.umu.se

Maria Paradiso, University of Sannio, paradiso@unisannio.it

Petros Petsimeris, University of Paris 1, petros.petsimeris@wanadoo.fr

Benno Werlen, Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, benno.werlen@uni-jena.de

3.1- Mega-event Planning and Organization: Urban Challenges and Responsibilities

3.2- Mega-event Planning: Culture Capitals, Place and Identity

3.3- Mega-event Promotion, Tourism and Marketing

Urban Commission invited sessions:

CIS 12-39 9- The place and role of small towns in complex urban systems

Chair:

Agnieszka Kwiatek-Softys, akwiatek@up.krakow.pl

CIS 12-39 10- The Labyrinth of Social Changes: New Theoretical and Methodological Approaches

Chairs:

Górczyńska Magdalena, mgor@twarda.pan.pl

Bouloc Caroline, caroline.bouloc@gmail.com

CIS 12-39 11- Urbanization and functions of cities in post-socialist countries

Chairs:

Daniela Szymańska, dani@umk.pl

Dr. Beata Hołowiecka, b_holow@umk.pl

Prof. C. Rozenblat, celine.rozenblat@unil.ch

Future meetings 2015-2016

Regional IGU Conference will be held each year until 2016 (and revert to alternate years thereafter):

- [2015: Moscow Regional IGU](#)
- 2015: Proposals have been put forward for two venues for 2015: Beirut and Dublin. The two proposals were presented at the Stellenbosch meeting. Both proposals were discussed and it was decided that it was important for the Commission to go to “hot-spots” and challenging places such as Beirut and to expand our influence in the Arab World. However, given the current political climate and concerns from some members, we decided to postpone taking a definitive decision until next year in Poznan. The venue not selected for 2015 will become the venue of choice for 2017.
- [2016: Beijing IGU Congress](#)
During the Kyoto meeting, Prof. Gu Chaolin introduced us to two active Chinese members of the new Chinese Urban commission who will assist the Commission arrange the meeting in Beijing in 2016 (our correspondent will be Shenjing He, secretary of the Chinese Urban commission).

C. Networking

a. Means by which your commission has collaborated with other IGU Commissions and Task Forces during 2012-2013:

- 1 Joint session in 2012 with Transport Geography
- 3 Joint sessions in 2014

b. Collaboration with other international, intergovernmental, and inter- and multi-disciplinary groups in 2012-2013

- UN Habitat: project of book (see below)

D. Publications

September 2012: Newsletter

September 2013: Newsletter

Young Scholar's publication 2013

University of Santiago de Compostela, with Maria Jose Pineira-Mantinan in collaboration with Niamh Moore published the 3rd edition of the “Young Scholar Series” of the Urban commission. Please contact her to order a copy: mariajose.pineira@gmail.com

To download the volume in PDF format: <http://www.unil.ch/igu-urban/page62286.html>

In Progress:

- An edited and refereed volume of papers from the Canterbury meeting 2011 (Dan O'Donoghue): *Urban transformations: cities, peripheries and systems*. The book will

be published by Ashgate Publishers UK. Probable publication date of late 2013/early 2014.

- Special issue from the Dortmund meeting 2012 (Ludger Basten)
- Special issue from the Johannesburg/Stellenbosch meeting 2013 (Nico Kotze)
- *International Perspectives of Urbanization and settlement systems: 30 years after* (C. Rozenblat). We have obtained the agreement of MIT Press to act as publisher and we also have received support from UN-Habitat.

For future projects, we propose an increased focus on special issues so books may be based on the annual meetings according to the specificity of the hosted city. Publications should be in accordance with special topics announced in the call for papers of future meetings:

- for Poznan 2014: *Restructuring Post-Communist Cities: Processes and Problems*
- Joint session in Krakow meeting with C12-30 Mediterranean Basin: *Mediterranean Cities Today* : Maria Jose Pineira-Mantinan
- For Beirut 2015: *Challenges Beyond conflict urban places*, Liliane Barakat

E. Archival Contributions

See the commission's WEBSITE archiving publications from 1984:

<http://www.igu-urban.com/>

and "IGU Urban Commission" FACEBOOK Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/274054405156/>

Some photos from the Kyoto meeting 2013 (from FACEBOOK):

