The University Of Sheffield.

insight.

the research newsletter of the Department of Town and Regional Planning

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initial insights.

Taking stock, looking ahead and delivering on our research ambitions

As this newsletter is being put together we are finalising the content of TRP's submission to the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2013. For the first time this will be a joint submission with our colleagues in Architecture and Landscape. Putting the REF documents together has meant taking stock of progress and achievements since the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise and setting out a strategy for the future. What is remarkable is the growth in our externally funded income over that period and the increase in the numbers of high quality PhD graduates. This is in addition to maintaining the high quality of our publications, some of which are presented in this newsletter. The last year has been a particularly strong year for funded projects, including a number of prestigious Economic and Social Research Council grants. Securing these awards both reflects our intellectual strengths but also brings time and resources to help further extend the ambition and impact of our research.

These are interesting and to some extent uncertain times for university research, with increased demands being placed on all aspects of academic life. We will need to work hard to maintain our position as a leading international centre for planning research, maintaining the quality of our outputs and ensuring that our work makes a difference within and outside academia. We will need to continue securing the external funding that supports excellent research and impact. A range of initiatives are underway to help achieve these goals, including the development of an interdisciplinary urban research institute with Architecture, Landscape and colleagues in the Faculty of Engineering. We are also centrally involved in the influential Sheffield International Institute for Development (SIID). We are in the fortunate position of growth in terms of academic staff and this has allowed us to extend research activity in environmental policy, housing policy and urban design amongst other areas. We also now have a growing cohort of Research Associates working on funded research projects.

In this first of a regular series of TRP research newsletters we give a flavour of the research being undertaken in the Department and our plans for the future. Please get in contact if you would like further information about current research. We would particularly welcome suggestions for future research collaboration.

Dr Aidan While, Director of Research

in the news.

Travel to School Project launched

Ed Ferrari and Sue Easton's project on travel to school featured in the **Sheffield Star** on 19 September 2013.

The 18 month project, which is supported by the Economics and Social Research Council, aims to develop a model of the relationship between housing and education markets based on school commutes across Sheffield.

2011 Rural-Urban Classification now available

Peter Bibby and a team of researchers have recently completed work on an update to the rural-urban classification, which is now available from the Office for National Statistics Open Geography Portal. The 2011 rural-urban classification (RUC2011) for small area geographies provides a rural/urban view of datasets at output area, super output area and ward level. RUC2011 is a revised version of the classification produced after the 2001 Census, but with additional detail in the urban domain.

TRP takes part in key European Commission event

Gordon Dabinett recently attended the EU Open Days event in Brussels, which was held under the slogan of 'Europe's regions and cities taking off for 2020'.

At the event Gordon chaired a session on 'spatial justice and territorial cohesion'. He also contributed to a masterclass focussed on the long-term future of EU social cohesion policy and the challenges facing Europe's regions.

project focus.

A recent study lead by Hendrik Wagenaar found that the design and realisation of policy programmes is a crucial factor in the success or failure of prostitution policy.

From January 2010—July 2013, Hendrik Wagenaar lead an international comparative study of prostitution policy. The project was carried out in partnership with the cities of Rotterdam, The Hague, Utrecht (The Netherlands) and Vienna (Austria), and also involved Platform 31 (**www.platform31.nl**) in an observation role. Here, Hendrik provides some insight into the project itself and the reception of the project outputs.

What was the purpose of the project?

In contemporary societies prostitution as a social phenomenon cannot be seen apart from the efforts of authorities to prohibit, contain or regulate it. Yet, despite this fact, until recently policies regarding prostitution have received little attention in the scholarly literature. When prostitution is discussed in the literature it is usually in terms of law, discourse, social movements, sociology, or psychology. While these are important aspects of prostitution, the societal manifestations of prostitution and the position of sex workers are strongly determined by the formulation and implementation of public policy in this field.

Key questions considered by the project team were — What is the size and state of the prostitution market in The Netherlands and Austria? How is prostitution regulated in both countries at the implementation level? Which policy instruments are used? And, what are the effects of the various policy instruments?

What were the key findings?

In one sense, the findings that related to the sex workers were predictable. Prostitution in Austria and The Netherlands is an occupation that attracts labour migrants. Earnings in prostitution are generally low. Work conditions and labour relations in the licensed sector are still sub-optimal.

There were though other results that challenged popular thinking. Due to the high mobility among sex workers, it is extremely hard to estimate the number of sex workers who work on any given day in a city. However, the study found that the numbers in Austria and The Netherlands are rather modest and, contrary to media portrayals and political rhetoric, in terms of numbers prostitution is a relatively small social phenomenon. In the four largest Dutch cities our daily estimate for 2011 was 2200 sex workers (including those who recruit through the internet), whereas in Vienna we counted 120 outdoor sex workers per night. Certain neighbourhoods can of course suffer from public order and nuisance issues because of concentration effects; but this nevertheless suggests that the numbers reported in the media and other publications are often inflated.

> "**Prostitution is a classic example of morality politics. It is an emotionally charged subject; it is resistant to facts; policy is largely symbolic; and finally, policies are vulnerable to abrupt and drastic change.**"

Perhaps more importantly, it is clear that the implementation of policy, the design and realisation of policy programmes and the selection of policy instruments, is a crucial factor in the success or failure of prostitution policy. Often undesired effects derive from belated considerations about implementation procedures. This might seem obvious, but in the morally tinged debates over the 'best' policy approach to prostitution, this observation is usually overlooked.

For example, the introduction in The Netherlands of the Legalisation Act of 2000 was accompanied by what in hindsight turned out to be an error of policy design. By freezing the number of sex facilities at the level of 2000 (out of a misplaced fear that the new law would lead to a wave of new sex businesses), Dutch municipalities *de facto* created an oligopoly of proprietors. These were the same proprietors who had started their business in the times that owning and managing a brothel was still illegal and who operated on what observers have called, a "shady business model". It made the entry of new entrepreneurs in the market for licensed sex facilities impossible. Innovation had to take place outside the market of clubs and windows.

project focus ...

The introduction of the 2000 Act also suffered from a serious implementation error. The government indicated from the start that it did not want to get involved in labour relations between proprietors and sex workers. This was considered an issue of civil law that needed to be negotiated between the two civil parties involved. Yet, it overlooked the structural power imbalance between these two parties. The government's position allowed proprietors to successfully frustrate any improvement in work labour relations, and to keep intact a *modus operandi* in which sex workers, although in name and for fiscal purposes self-employed, are *de facto* treated as employees, and a business model in which the risks fall onto the sex worker and the profits onto the proprietor.

What impact has the project had?

Perhaps not surprisingly given the sensitivities around the topic, the results of the project have caused something of a stir and there was considerable interest in the project from both local and national government and the media.

The Dutch Senate were debating a new and repressive national prostitution law at the time the report was released. The key element of the law was a nationwide registration of sex workers; which had been vigorously opposed by sex workers and their advocates who feared losing their anonymity. The Senate got hold of our report and used it extensively in the debate, and ultimately the proposed law was rejected.
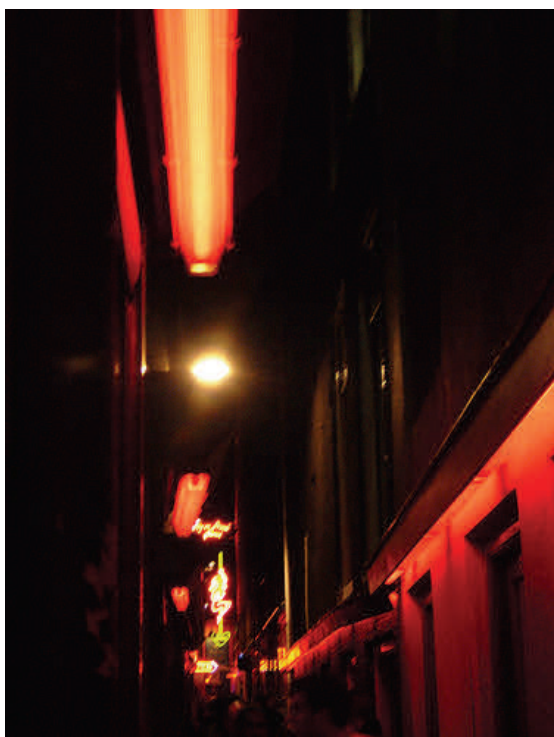

Image by tadolo on Flickr (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0)

At the city level, discussions among partner cities are still ongoing, and it is likely that a network of city-wide registration systems will be established. In the mean time, one city after another is closing down window brothels, whilst sex workers are haunted by officials looking for 'signals of trafficking'.

As for the media, the project was featured in the national broadsheet newspaper *Trouw*, the national weekly magazine *Vrij Nederland* and the influential *Tijdschrift voor Sociale Vraagstukken*. I also participated in a series of interviews on Dutch radio news stations.

What next?

I am now involved in the COST Action '*Comparing European Prostitution Policies: Understanding Scales and Cultures of Governance (ProspPol)*'. COST is an intergovernmental framework for European Cooperation in Science and Technology, which supports Europe-wide networks in different subject domains (**www.cost.eu**). The aim of ProsPol is to exchange and compare knowledge about prostitution policies across Europe. By offering insight into the empirical effects and contexts of various regulatory regimes and techniques, the Action will inform future prostitution research and policy. Currently 22 countries are involved in the Action, which will last for 4 years. The Action is organised around three workgroups that form its scientific foci—(1) prostitution policy and politics, (2) economic dimensions, and (3) sex, money and society. I am co-chair of Working Group 1 with my colleague Jane Scoular at the University of Strathclyde. It organises workgroup meetings, annual dissemination events, summer schools, sponsors short-term scientific missions, as well as producing academic publications. For more information see: **www.prospol.eu**.

Read More — For the full report of the comparative study go to: **http://tinyurl.com/l36kv2h**

research projects.

In this section we highlight a number of our current (and recently awarded) research projects.

Ageing and mobility in the built environment

Funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, this project aims to establish how better design can facilitate mobility, connectivity and wellbeing for older people. Informed by the experiences and preferences of older people, and the views of built environment professionals, the project will seek to develop prototype designs for older people's housing and it's immediate context.

The project, which starts in January 2014 and lasts for 3 years, is lead by Sarah Wigglesworth (School of Architecture). TRP staff involved include Malcolm Tait and Lee Crookes.

Strategic Housing Market Assessment in Sheffield

Since January 2013, TRP staff (lead by Ed Ferrari) have been working alongside colleagues at Sheffield City Council and Sheffield Hallam University on a new Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) for the city.

The SHMA research seeks to gather evidence about housing needs and future requirements, which will in turn inform the development of housing policies and strategies in the city.

As part of the project a city-wide housing survey was carried out. Over 3360 responses were submitted and analysed. This has been followed up with focus groups and stakeholder consultations.

The project report was submitted to the City Council in October 2013.

The Evidence Project

A project is currently underway which aims to improve the dissemination of housing research to practitioners, and in so doing to narrow the gap between the two groups.

The Evidence project is a joint project between TRP, the Housing Quality Network and the Housing Studies Association, which is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council. A key output of the project is a series of monthly newsletters, each focussing on a different area of

housing research (e.g. homelessness, welfare, the ageing society). To download the newsletters go to: www.hqnetwork.org.uk/evidence

For the duration of the project Janis Bright has been embedded within the Housing Quality Network, a membership network of about 700 housing organisations.

The Future of Rural Settlement

This project, funded by English Heritage, seeks to examine representations of modern and historic settlement patterns across England to explore the extent to which present rural settlement (its pattern and density) results from development in the recent and more distant past. Lead by Peter Bibby, work on the project draws on the recent revision of the Rural Urban Classification (highlighted in our 'In the News' section), and uses that resource to develop a better understanding of rural settlement.

The project, likely to be completed in January 2014, seeks to inform spatial planning policy, particularly within the context of promoting sustainable development within rural areas.

Searching for housing markets

Lead by Alasdair Rae, this British Academy funded project seeks to produce new knowledge on the construction and spatial extent of Housing Market Areas (HMAs).

The definition of HMAs forms a core component of local, regional and national planning systems across the UK, and also plays a significant role in strategic planning in Europe. However, until recently research in this area has been limited due to a lack of available data on housing search practices.
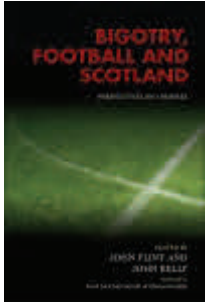
Today, online housing search websites and tools are a key part of the housing search process. This project draws on a dataset of one of the key online housing search companies in the UK, and in doing so aims to interrogate our understanding and identification of Housing Market Areas.

publications.

In this section, we highlight some of our recent publications (TRP staff are listed in bold).

Books

Flint, J. and Kelly, J. (Eds.) (2013) *Bigotry, Football and Scotland* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press).

Henshaw, V. (2013) *Urban Smellscapes: Understanding and Designing City Smell Environments* (New York, London: Routledge)

Book Chapters

Dabinett, G. (2013) Rethinking constructions of spatial justice in regional policy, in I.P. Kovacs, J.Scott & Z.Gal (eds.) *Territorial Cohesion in Europe* (Pecs: IRS/CERS, Hungarian Academy of Sciences), 178-187.

Flint, J. and Powell, R. (2013) Individualisation and social dis/integration in contemporary society: A comparative note on Zygmunt Bauman and Norbert Elias, in F. Depelteau, and T. Landini (eds.) *Norbert Elias and Social Theory* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan).

Flint, J. (2013) Reconfiguring urban Britain: Policing, spatial justice and postmodern (in)security, in R.K. Lippert and K. Walby (eds.) *Policing Cities: Urban securitization and regulation in a twenty-first century world* (London: Routledge), 147-160.

Goodfellow, T. (2013) Urban planning in Africa and the politics of implementation: Contrasting patterns of state intervention in Kampala and Kigali, in V. Arlt, E. Macamo, and B. Obrist, (eds.) *Living the City in Africa: Processes of Invention and Intervention* (Berlin: Lit Verlag).

Meth, P. (2013) Unsettling insurgency: reflections on women's insurgent practices in South Africa, in R. Freestone, T. Sager and M. Hibbard, (eds.) *Dialogues in Urban and Regional Planning*, Volume 5, (London: Routledge), 70-95.

Journal Articles

Cotton, M. and Devine-Wright, P. (2013) Putting pylons into place: a UK case study of public beliefs about the impacts of high voltage overhead transmission lines, *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management,* 56 (8), 1225-1245. DOI**:** 10.1080/09640568.2012.716756

Cotton, M. (2013) Deliberating intergenerational environmental equity: a pragmatic, future studies approach, *Environmental Values,* 22 (3), 317-337. DOI: 10.3197/096327113X13648087563665

Cotton, M. (2013) NIMBY or not? Integrating social factors into shale gas community engagements, *Natural Gas & Electricity,* 29 (9), 8-12. DOI: 10.1002/gas.21678

Ferrari, E., and Green MA. (2013) Travel to school and housing markets: a case study of Sheffield, England, *Environment and Planning A*, 45 (11), 2771-2778. DOI: 10.1068/a45423

Ferrari, E. and **Rae**, A. (2013) The spatiality of housing market volatility and selective migration, *Town Planning Review*, 84 (1), 107-125. DOI: 10.3828/tpr.2013.6

Batty, E. and **Flint**, J. (2013) Talking 'bout poor folks (thinking 'bout my folks): Perspectives on comparative poverty in working class households, *International Journal of Housing Policy*, 31 (1), 1-16. DOI: 10.1080/14616718.2012.724588

Flint, J. (2013) Policing public housing: New York and UK cities, *Safer Communities*, 12 (1), 13-24. DOI: 10.1108/17578041311293107

Goodfellow, T. (2013) Planning and development regulation amid rapid urban growth: explaining divergent trajectories in Africa, *Geoforum,* 48, 83-93. DOI: 10.1016/j.geoforum.2013.04.007

Beall, J., **Goodfellow**, T. and Rodgers, D. (2013) Cities and conflict in fragile states in the developing world, *Urban Studies,* 50, 3065-3083. DOI: 10.1177/0042098013487775

Goodfellow, T. and Smith, A. (2013) From urban catastrophe to 'model' city? Politics, security and development in post-conflict Kigali, *Urban Studies,* 50, 3185-3202. DOI: 10.1177/0042098013487776

Goodfellow, T. and Lindemann, S. (2013) The Clash of institutions: Traditional authority, conflict and the failure of 'hybridity' in Buganda, *Commonwealth and Comparative Politics,* 51(1), 3-26. DOI**:** 10.1080/14662043.2013.752175

Mell, I., **Henneberry**, J., Hehl-Lange, S. and **Keskin**, B. (2013) Promoting urban greening: Valuing the development of green infrastructure investments in the urban core of Manchester, UK, *Urban Forestry and Urban Greening*, 12 (4), 296-306. DOI: 10.1016/j.ufug.2013.04.006

publications ...

Henneberry, J. and **Parris**, S. (2013) The embedded developer: Using project ecologies to analyse local property development networks, *Town Planning Review*, 84 (2), 227-249. DOI: 10.3828/tpr.2013.13

Henneberry, J. and Mouzakis, F. (2013) Familiarity and the determination of yields for regional office property investments in the UK, *Regional Studies*, Online First. DOI: 10.1080/00343404.2013.765556

Henshaw, V. & Mould, O. (2013) Sensing designed space: An exploratory methodology for investigating human response to sensory environments, *Journal of Design Research*, 11 (1), 57-71. DOI: 10.1504/JDR.2013.054066

Jackson, C. (2013) Diversification of portfolio risk: Reconciling theory and observed weightings, *Journal of Property Research*, 30 (4), 266–297. DOI: 10.1080/09599916.2013.813578

Byrne, P., **Jackson**, C. and Lee, S. (2013) Bias or rationality? The case of UK commercial real estate investment, *Journal of European Real Estate Research*, 6 (1), 6-33. DOI: 10.1108/17539261311312960

Meth, P. (2013) Committees, witch doctors and the 'mother-body': Everyday politics in the township of Cato Manor, South Africa, *Habitat International*, 39, 269- 277. DOI: 10.1016/j.habitatint.2012.10.013

Meth, P. (2013) 'I don't like my children to grow up in this bad area': Parental anxieties about living in informal settlements, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 37 (2), 537-55. DOI: 10.1111/j.1468-2427.2012.01199.x

Meth, P. (2013) Viewpoint: Millennium development goals and urban informal settlements: unintended consequences, *International Development Planning Review*, 35 (1), v- xiii. DOI: 10.3828/idpr.2013.1

Payne, S. (2013) Pioneers, pragmatists and sceptics: Speculative housebuilders and brownfield development in the early 21st Century, *Town Planning Review*, 84, 37- 62. DOI: 10.3828/tpr.2013.3

Rae, A. (2013) English urban policy and the return to the city: A decade of growth, 2001-2011, *Cities*, 32, 94-101. DOI: 10.1016/j.cities.2013.03.012

Valler, D., **Tait**, M., and Marshall T. (2013) Business and Planning: A strategic-relational approach, *International Planning Studies*, 18 (2), 143-167. DOI: 10.1080/13563475.2013.774145

Wagenaar, H., and Wilkinson, C. (2013) Enacting resilience: A performative account of governing for urban resilience, Urban Studies, Online First. DOI: 10.1177/0042098013505655

Costello, G., Leishman, C., **Watkins**, C. and Rowley, S. (2013) Modelling housing submarkets using multi-level methods, *Urban Studies*, 50 (6), 1201-1220. DOI: 10.1177/0042098012466603

Image from JR James Archive (CC BY NC 2.0)

Hincks, S., Leishman, C., and **Watkins**, C. (2013) Planning and housing: concepts, policy instruments and market analysis, *Town Planning Review*, 84 (1), 1-8. DOI: 10.3828/tpr.2013.9

Williams, G. and Thampi, BV. (2013) Decentralisation and the changing geographies of political marginalisation in Kerala, *Environment and Planning A,* 45 (6), 1337-1357. DOI: 10.1068/a45218

Williams, G. (2013) Researching with impact in the Global South? Impact evaluation practices and the reproduction of 'development knowledge', *Contemporary Social Science*. Online first. DOI: 10.1080/21582041.2012.751495

While, A., Gibbs. D., and Jonas, A. (2013) The competition state, city-regions, and the territorial politics of growth facilitation, *Environment and Planning A*, 45 (10), 2379- 2398. DOI: 10.1068/a45210

conference and seminar reports

'Localism and the Big Society—what do they mean for housing studies?' (Sheffield, March 2013)

This one day seminar was the first in a series of three seminars offered as part of an Economic and Social Research Council funded seminar series on 'The Big Society, Localism and Housing Policy'. The seminar, which was hosted by John Flint and Ed Ferrari brought together housing academics, policy makers and practitioners to explore questions such as what's new about the Big Society and localism, and what problems and opportunities do these concepts offer for housing policy? The seminar examined the respective roles of public, private and third sector housing provision and the contributions of communities and housing scholars, in the wider context of austerity, housing market change, devolution and welfare reform.

A second seminar on 'Localism, welfare reform and tenure restructuring in the UK' took place in Belfast during October 2013. The final seminar on 'The Big Society, localism and the future of social housing' takes place in St Andrews in March 2014. For further information: **www.bigsocietylocalismhousing.co.uk**
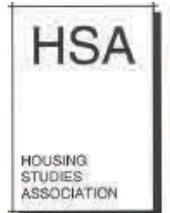
The event in Sheffield was supported by the Research Exchange for the Social Sciences (RESS), the knowledge exchange gateway for the University of Sheffield's Faculty of Social Sciences: **www.shef.ac.uk/ress**.

Image from JR James Archive (CC BY NC 2.0)

'Changing political, socio-economic and institutional landscapes: what are the consequences for housing?' (Housing Studies Association Spring Conference, York, April 2013)

This conference, offered a timely discussion of the future for housing given the recent changes to the welfare system. Plenary speakers attended from the Chartered Institute of Housing, National Housing Federation, Wakefield and District Housing as well as a number of high profile academics from institutions across the UK. Following on from the discussion of the housing crisis and financial crash that has dominated housing studies conferences for some time now, the key issues discussed this year looked forward to the changing role of housing as part of the welfare state in light of Universal Credit, the bedroom tax and the benefit cap.

Grania Long, the Chartered Institute of Housing's Chief Executive opened the conference, saying that the 01 April 2013 represented a 'milestone in housing's role as a form of welfare', stressing the importance of housing professionals' role in supporting communities. Kevin Dodd (Chief Executive of Wakefield and District Housing) offered a candid talk about how the welfare reform will impact the way landlords do business, with the potential cost to Wakefield and District Housing running into the millions. He also stressed the importance of academic research, explaining how there is room for more collaborative work between academics and housing policy and practice practitioners.

Overall, the conference was a great success, with a fantastic number of delegates attending, especially early career researchers. It was great to see so many attendees from the University of Sheffield and in particular from TRP, showing our prominence within the housing studies field.

Next years conference is on 'The Value of Housing': **www.york.ac.uk/chp/hsa**

Report provided by Gareth Young, PhD student.

conference and seminar reports ...

'Citizen participation: The emergence of civic enterprises' (Sheffield, May 2013)

This workshop brought together practitioners, politicians, administrators, academics and students from The Netherlands and the UK to discuss the emergence of civic enterprises in both countries. Civic enterprises are non-profit enterprises that produce social goods. Well known examples can be found in the fields of energy and food production, and also increasingly in areas related to transport, health and social care and education amongst others. They emerge in a range of socio-economic settings, often develop out of a shared desire to contribute to public value and, most importantly, operate in spaces that are traditionally within the remit of government, private enterprise or NGOs.

Citizen initiatives raise many questions about the relationship between civil society and the liberal democratic state, the nature of citizen participation, and the organisation of public administration. The purpose of the seminar was twofold. First, to discuss practical questions around the organisation and financing of new forms of civic enterprise. Second, to discuss the wider implications of new forms of citizen-driven enterprise for the prospects of democratic governance and administrative reform.

Workshop participants provided fantastic case studies from both countries—such as Glendale Gateway Trust and Glas Cymru in the UK and The Reading Room project in The Netherlands—and reflected upon some of the concepts surrounding our understanding of civic enterprises. Questions explored at the seminar included— What happens when civic and social enterprises enter domains that were until now the prerogative of government? How do citizens, companies, NGOs and government agree on the distribution of labour in producing social goods? How and in what ways should civic enterprises address issues of accountability and quality control? How do civic enterprises respond to issues of finance and taxation? What impact can social enterprises have on administrative reform?

Image by Tineke de Lange. Leeszaal Rotterdam West.
http://www.leeszaalrotterdamwest.nl/
(accessed 12.December 2013)

'Urban housing in Mexico and South Africa: Learning from Comparison', (Sheffield, June 2013)

This Sheffield Institute of International Development (SIID) sponsored workshop brought together researchers from the UK, South Africa, Mexico and The Netherlands to explore comparative themes relating to housing in Mexico and South Africa. Both nations are among a small number of developed countries that have implemented a substantial state-sponsored programme of housing provision. Much scholarly work on these programmes has focussed on their funding, cost, delivery and location, but little work exists which explores the post-construction, post-receipt experience from the perspective of residents, as well as the wider impact on the city.

Gareth Jones (London School of Economics) delivered a provocative keynote presentation on comparative urbanism. Further papers were presented on responses to South Africa's state housing programme; social housing developments in Mexico; homeownership as a solution to poverty; gated communities in Mexico; and the governance and impact of upgraded settlements.

The workshop provided an excellent opportunity for networking and stimulating discussion around the core topic. Discussions are ongoing amongst attendees regarding follow on activities.

For further information about the Sheffield Institute for International Development: **www.siid.group.shef.ac.uk**

For the latest information on forthcoming TRP events:

www.shef.ac.uk/trp/about/events

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new staff.

Matthew Cotton

Matthew joined the department as a Lecturer in April 2013. His research interests lie in the social and ethical dimensions of environmental policy and planning, and specifically the role of public and stakeholder participation in environmental planning decisions, energy policy analysis and the governance of technological risk. Matthew also has an interest in the development of novel deliberative tools and techniques to facilitate public and stakeholder participation in planning decisions.

Liz Sharp

Liz joined the department as a Senior Lecturer in November 2013. Liz's research focusses on the governance of socio-technical systems in the urban environment with a specific focus on the interactions between governance organisations (e.g. service provides and regulators) and the public. In recent years, Liz has worked on a number of research projects looking at key water, waste and energy services within the urban system. She is a member of the Management Team of the Pennine Water Group (**www.sheffield.ac.uk/ penninewatergroup**), which is an Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council funded research centre dedicated to research into water and wastewater.

Victoria Henshaw

Victoria joined the department as a Lecturer in September 2013. Her research interests centre on the role of the sense of smell in the design of sustainable urban environments. Her book on *Urban Smellscapes: Understanding and Designing Smell Environ- ments in the City* has recently been published by Routledge, and she also blogs regularly at 'Smell and the City' (**www.smellandthecity.wordpress.com**). Victoria also has a growing interest in issues of disgust and urbanism, and the relationship between cities, the built environment and health.

Tom Goodfellow

Tom joined the department as a Lecturer in April 2013. His research interests centre on questions of urban development and politics in the global South, especially sub-Saharan Africa. He is particularly interested in how people pursuing livelihoods in the urban informal economy interact with state authorities, and how these interactions affect broader processes of socio-economic development and political change. Related interests include the politics of urban planning in low-income countries experiencing rapid urban growth; the relationships between urbanisation, conflict and state-building; urban violence and riots; and the politics of property taxation.

In addition to the above new academic staff, we have invested in a number of new Research Associate positions over the past 12 months. Brief details are as follows:

Nick Taylor-Buck joined TRP in February 2013. Nick is principally working on the development of the Sheffield Urban Institute, a research centre focussed on cross-disciplinary sustainable cities research.

Richard Dunning joined TRP in January 2013. Richard is working on a range of urban studies and housing-related research projects.

Janis Bright joined TRP in March 2013. Janis is working with Ed Ferrari on the Evidence Project, a knowledge exchange partnership with the Housing Quality Network and Housing Studies Association.

Sue Easton joined TRP in April 2013. Sue is working with Ed Ferrari on an ESRC-funded 'Travel to School' project, which is exploring how local education, housing markets and urban structure combine to affect children's journeys to school in Sheffield.

Simon Parris joined TRP in March 2013. Simon is working with John Henneberry on two projects within the ERDF INTERREG IVB programme; one on the reuse and regeneration of vacant sites by developing innovative spatial planning policy instruments and the other on the use of green infrastructure projects as a vehicle to integrate bottom-up local policy involvement with top-down strategy.

TRP staff contact details: **www.sheffield.ac.uk/trp/staff**

research school.

TRP is recognised as a leading centre for doctoral training in our discipline and our PhD numbers have increased significantly in recent years. This year a further sixteen researchers have started PhDs with us, coming from China, Iraq, Malaysia and Vietnam as well as the UK. New students will commence projects on topics including affordable housing in the Peak District National Park, sustainable development in Kurdistan, housing price pressure in China and the relationship between narrative and planning.

Continued growth of the PhD Research School is underpinned by our success in securing funded studentships from research councils and the University of Sheffield. Interdisciplinary supervision has become increasingly important reflecting our ability to make connections within the University. As an example, this year's intake includes two students working as part of a network of interlinked projects on Building Economies and Resilient Societies ('BEARS'), in collaboration with Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council and colleagues in the Information School, Management School, Department of Geography and School of English. We will also be supervising PhDs with the Departments of Sociological Studies and Geography as part of an ESRC-funded network on 'nuclear societies'. The quality of doctoral training in TRP continues to benefit from the range of support available within the ESRC White Rose Doctoral Training Centre which operates across the Universities of York, Leeds and Sheffield. We extend a warm welcome to our new PhD students.

Further information: **www.shef.ac.uk/trp/ researchschool**

and finally ....

Images featured in this newsletter come from the recently launched JR James Archive (**www.flickr.com/people/ jrjamesarchive**). This is a new archive of photos, maps, plans and images that were left to the department by JR 'Jimmy' James, who was Professor of Town and Regional Planning at Sheffield between 1967-1977 and a former Chief Planner in the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

During Summer 2013, nearly 4000 images were digitised by TRP graduates Philip Brown and Joseph Carr as part of a project funded by the University's Alumni Fund. The archive was launched at a celebration event held on 28 October 2013 with attendees including members of Jimmy's family as well as former colleagues.

We encourage you to explore the collection which includes planning-related images from across the UK and further afield (e.g. France, USA, India and Hong Kong). We hope that it will provide a valuable resource for present and future planners as well as members of the public with an interest in cities, new towns, or urban development over the past 50 years. Comments and feedback on specific images or the archive as a whole are always welcome.

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Image from JR James Archive (CC by NC 2.0)

Our next issue will be available in **Spring/Summer 2014** and feature research projects; conference and seminar reports; research news and more!!!