

# NEWSLETTER NUMBER 17 March 2015

Coordination Paulo Pinho, Edition Vítor Oliveira



RESEARCH CENTRE FOR TERRITORY TRANSPORTS AND ENVIRONMENT

<http://citta.fe.up.pt/>

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Oliveira V, Monteiro C (2014) The morphological basis of practice: learning from doing, *Urban Morphology* 18, 72-74.

Silva C, Reis J, Pinho P (2014) How urban structure constraints sustainable mobility choices: comparison of Copenhagen and Oporto, *Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design* 41, 211-228.

Fischer T, Sykes O, Gore T, Marot N, Golobič M, Pinho P, Waterhout B, Perdicoulis A (2015) Territorial Impact Assessment of European Draft Directives, *European Planning Studies* 23, 433-451.

Oliveira V, Monteiro C, Partanen J (2015) A comparative study of urban form, *Urban Morphology* 19, 73-92.

Oliveira V, Medeiros V (2015) Morpho: combining morphological measures, *Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design* (forthcoming).

Soria-Lara J, Valenzuela-Montes L, Pinho P (2015) Using 'Mobility Environments' in practice: lessons from a Metropolitan Transit Corridor in Spain (doi: 10.1080/1523908X.2014.991779).

Sousa S, Conceição P, Pinho P (2015) Urban shrinkage and housing vacancy in Oporto: paths and policies within the Portuguese context, *Housing Studies* (forthcoming).

## SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS ORGANIZATION



8<sup>th</sup> Citta Annual Conference - *Becoming Local: Generative Places, Smart Approaches, Happy People*, 24-25 September 2015, Porto.

## EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

In the last week of this month of March I had the honour and the privilege to attend the presentation of the *Festschrift* for Patsy Healey. The book launching ceremony took place in Palermo, in the old historic and symbolic University Rectory Building, and was intended to constitute the culminating event of this year's AESOP's Young Academics Conference.

Patsy Healey, Emeritus Professor of Newcastle University and a Member of the British Academy, is surely one of the most prominent and emblematic figures of contemporary planning. According to the editors, Jean Hillier and Jonathan Metzger, the title of the book '*Connections: exploring contemporary planning theory and practice with Patsy Healey*' was chosen to evoke the relationality concept that seem to link Patsy's most outstanding ideas and contributions to the advancement of the scientific field of spatial planning.

The book, published by Ashgate, London, gathers a number of Patsy's less readily available texts, not yet published in international journals or book series, including, just by curiosity, one presented as a keynote speaker at our CITTA's second annual conference, back in 2009, entitled *Rethinking the relations between planning, state and market in unstable times*. In addition, the book includes the contributions of a large number of colleagues from the academia and the professional world exploring the seminal role of Patsy's thinking and scholarship on diverse topics such as planning ethics, the role of planning theory, collaborative planning and democracy, networking and governance, property rights and institutionalism, structure and agency in property development, place making and processes of change and transformation, the spaces vs places debate, and many other topics from Patsy's rich and rather prolific research work.

Patsy was one of the founding members of CITTA's Scientific Advisory Board. I should take this opportunity to express our admiration and warmest thanks to Patsy for all her support and constructive criticism, and for being a constant source of inspiration for our young researchers, particularly for those pursuing research in spatial planning.

In this respect, I am also very pleased to report that our PhD Programme in Spatial Planning got the prestigious FCT Doctoral Programme status. This means that, in the following four years, we will have funds to directly award four PhD grants per year. This important financial support will be vital to consolidate and expand, both nationally and internationally, this major initiative that perfectly blends with CITTA's activities and ties up our two host institutions, FEUP and FCTUC.

Finally, a brief reference to CITTA's 8th annual conference on planning research that will take place at the Oporto Faculty of Engineering on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of September. This year's conference, entitled '*Becoming Local- Generative places, smart approaches, happy people*', results from a partnership with the AESOP's Thematic Group on Public Spaces and Urban Cultures and is being organized by our colleagues Sara Santos Cruz and Fernando Brandão Alves.

As the title and the introductory text clearly suggests, the conference aims to explore this idea of 'becoming local', zooming into local spaces and places, policies and practices, in an attempt to foster 'generative places', defining what is truly meaningful within the real and the virtual dimensions that make the cities of today. Researchers in related planning and transport fields are most welcome to submit abstracts before the deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> April.

Paulo Pinho

## PROPOSALS/RECENT CONTRACTS

Evaluation of Research Centres. CITTA Strategic Development Plan.  
Funding: *Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia*.

PhD Programme in Spatial Planning (FEUP/FCTUC). PhD Grants + Baseline Funding. Funding: *Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia*.

## COMMUNICATIONS IN CONGRESSES

Amante A, Silva C, Pinho P (2014) Performance indicators and accessibility measures in accessibility planning practice, *Bridging the Implementation Gap of Accessibility Instruments and Planning Support Systems*, 23-24 October, Porto.

Malafaya-Baptista F, Silva S (2014) Capibaribe and Beberibe rivers navegability project, *Bridging the Implementation Gap of Accessibility Instruments and Planning Support Systems*, 23-24 October, Porto.

Oliveira V (2014) Education and research in Urban Morphology: a Portuguese experience, *Urban Morphology and Design*, 6 November, Rome.

Oliveira V, Monteiro C (2014) Morphological regions: scientific research and planning practice, *Bridging the Implementation Gap of Accessibility Instruments and Planning Support Systems*, 23-24 October, Porto.

Pinho P (2014) EVIDENCE - Re-inventing analysis, design and decision support systems for planning, *Bridging the Implementation Gap of Accessibility Instruments and Planning Support Systems*, 23-24 October, Porto.

Fontes M, Ribeiro A, Silva J (2014) How is accessibility important for cross-border development? The case of Portugal and Spain, *Bridging the Implementation Gap of Accessibility Instruments and Planning Support Systems*, 23-24 October, Porto.

Silva C (2014) Structural accessibility layer. Lessons learned for rural land use and transport planning, *MOBITER Workshop on Mobility and urban areas*, 6-7 November, Paris.

Silva C (2014) Accessibility instruments for planning practice, *Bridging the Implementation Gap of Accessibility Instruments and Planning Support Systems*, 23-24 October, Porto.

Silva C (2014) Bridging the implementation gap of accessibility instruments, *Bridging the Implementation Gap of Accessibility Instruments and Planning Support Systems*, 23-24 October, Porto.

Silva C, Patatas T, Amante A (2014) Accessibility instruments in planning practice: the practitioners view on the Structural Accessibility Layer (SAL), *Bridging the Implementation Gap of Accessibility Instruments and Planning Support Systems*, 23-24 October, Porto.

## RESEARCH GROUP 1

As reported before (see the last editorials of this Newsletter), the long and complex FCT evaluation process of all the Portuguese R&D Units comprised a site visit of the evaluation panel that, in the case of CITTA, took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2014. Our initial presentation of the Centre to the panel included a general overview and a brief presentation of our development strategy for the period 2015-2020.

In the following I am going to zoom this presentation focusing, in particular, on the topics of our common research road map to be developed within the remit of RG1. The diagram below illustrates, in the foreground, the positioning of the RG1 selected research topics within the overall CITTA's research framework. This framework is represented in the diagram's background. The Post-Carbon City is located right in the centre of the diagram on the intersection between (on the top) the societal system and (on the bottom) the environmental system and, more specifically, in between two main contemporary challenges, the labour markets and the climate change issues.



Evaluation of the Research Centres - Rational of the Research Proposal 2015-2020, focusing on the Research Group 1

Similarly, on the horizontal, adopting a matrix type reading, the Post Carbon City is placed in between (the stocks of) the built environment and (the flows of) the transport systems. Moving now to the foreground, the RG1 research develops along the intersection of the axis of the environmental system with the built environment. Urban Metabolism has been and still is a central research theme, as well as, to a significant extent, Urban Morphology and Accessibility Planning. Nevertheless, new important topics are emerging (or reemerging) such as Health and Urban Quality of Life, Bioclimatic Urban Design, City Weather Systems, Shrinking Cities and Environmental Assessment.

The group is still increasing, gathering, at the time of writing, 17 senior researchers and 13 PhD researchers. A list of the most recent publications is included in a separate column of this newsletter. The publication of the book entitled 'Mobility Patterns and Urban Structure' (edited by P Pinho and C Silva and published by Ashgate, London), a direct output of the FCT research project MOPUS, stands out in this period.

Paulo Pinho