

SEED Bulletin September 2016

Welcome to the September 2016 edition of the SEED Bulletin

Head of School Message

Dear Colleagues

I really hope you all had a productive summer, with a decent break at some point to recharge the batteries. Over the last few days I've increasingly seen pockets of academics, heads together in feverish discussion over teaching arrangements. A clear sign the new academic year is imminent!



Student satisfaction

I'm delighted to say we are entering the new Semester on a real positive note, following the generally excellent results of the student satisfaction surveys. SEED's overall satisfaction level in this year's NSS was 89%; 2% up on last year, well above the University average and the highest NSS scores of any School in the Faculty. You'll forgive me if I give special mention to Geography, which achieved a score of 95% and topped (by some metrics at least!) the UoM 'league table' of disciplines. This week we also had the PTES results (for our taught Masters provision) which were also very positive with overall satisfaction at 85% (up 4% from last year). Again, this is well above the University and Faculty averages. The MSc Development Finance topped our internal PTES league table, achieving an unimprovable 100% satisfaction. Within the results there are still some areas where student satisfaction is unacceptably low, and we quickly need very clear action plans for these programmes. However, the surveys confirm the excellent, progressive student experience enjoyed across SEED and are very clear evidence of the dedication and hard work colleagues have put in to their teaching programmes. No complacency, but we can be very proud of these achievements and I really want to congratulate all staff.

Athena SWAN

The School 'meeting season' is already underway with the School Policy and Resources Committee meeting yesterday. One important item discussed was the timetable for a School application for the Athena SWAN bronze award. You should all be aware that this award recognises work undertaken to address gender equality, and represents a key goal for us this year. Some of you have already stepped forward to take part in the self – assessment teams needed for the submission, co-ordinated by Susie Miles as Chair of SEED's Equality and Diversity Committee, but we do still need representatives from some discipline areas. These are important, but should only require 2-3 meetings over the coming months, so I do encourage you to get involved.

Chair of School Board

You will also have seen the call for a new Chair of the School Board to succeed to Tim Jacoby whose term has now ended, with nominations needed by 30th September. This is an important position for the School. If you want to discuss the post please contact either Tim or myself. We'd both be very happy to chat!

Student recruitment

A large amount of staff time and energy over the summer was spent on the challenges of student recruitment, and many thanks to all the staff who worked so hard during 'A level week'. Improving the balance of our student recruitment will be a key focus this year. Undergraduate recruitment has been tough as we adjust to the policy of minimum ABB offers with a limit of one grade drop from offer during clearing. The upside is that we have never had a more qualified incoming cohort of undergraduates, but we have fallen some way short of our UGT targets. We are confident that this will be more than compensated by over-recruitment of masters students, indeed far too much over-recruitment in some areas as many of you are all too aware. However, it is not good for the School to lose UGT numbers. At a School level we need to maintain an appropriate balance between our PGT and UGT activities, given the volatility of the former and the stability we get from the latter, and we need to more effectively control overseas PGT recruitment. We are implementing important changes to our PGT admissions processes this year and will continue to work hard on this, but we will also now have to look very carefully at UGT recruitment in some areas and in particular at what opportunities are available to us.

Finally, my very best wishes for the new Semester – I hope it starts well for us all. I am off for a couple of days next week to the Lake District with the first year Geography fieldtrip. I'll be running sessions on flooding in Cumbria. And if I can't engage the new students with that particular topic, this year of all years, I'll deserve to hide my head in shame...

Very best wishes

Tim

Staff Visits, Activities and News

Staff	Date	Activity
Martin Dodge	September 2016	Martin Dodge was invited to participate in the Creating Smart Cities Collaboration, Citizenship and Governance Conference, Maynooth University, Ireland, 5-6 September 2016. He gave a paper on 'Hacking the smart city and the challenges of security'. He is also giving a talk entitled 'From Manufacturing Industries to a Services Economy: The Emergence of a "New Manchester" in the 1960s' on Friday 16th September for the Modernist Society at BDP, 11 Ducie Street, Manchester.
Kunal Sen	October and November 2016	Kunal Sen will speak to a committee comprising India's Finance Minister, the Governor of the Indian Central Bank and the Chief Economic Advisor on India's Jobs and Growth Challenges in October. Kunal Sen has been invited to be a member of the advisory council for

the German government's first overseas research network comprising German and Indian research institutions. The first meeting of the network is in Delhi on October 4-5.

Kunal Sen has been invited by the World Bank to present a paper on "Informality in South Asia: Patterns, Determinants and Consequences" in the Bank's Jobs for Development Conference on 2-3 November.

Helen Gunter and Dave Hall	August 2016	Gunter, H.M., Grimaldi, E., Hall, D. and Serpieri, R. (eds) (2016) <i>New Public Management and the Reform of Education. European Lessons for Policy and Practice</i> . London: Routledge.
Steven Courtney	August 2016	Dr Steve Courtney has won a third major award for his doctoral thesis, this time from the British Educational Research Association. He will be presented with the BERA Doctoral Thesis Award at the association's annual conference in September. He is the first to have received awards from AERA, BELMAS and BERA for a doctoral thesis. Dr Courtney's project was supervised by Prof Helen Gunter, who is the first person to have supervised two recipients of the BERA Doctoral Thesis Award, with Dr Stephen Rogers' winning in 2013.
Helen Gunter	July 2016	British Educational Leadership Management and Administration Society (BELMAS) has conferred the Distinguished Service Award (DSA) on me at the annual conference in July.
Alan Lewis	September 2016	Presentation on "The Mathematization of Daylighting," at the 4S/EASST Conference 2016, "Science and technology by other means," Barcelona, Spain, 31 August-3 September 2016.

'Mapping policies and programmes: The use of GIS to communicate spatial relationships in England' nominated for top national planning research award

Cecilia Wong, Mark Baker, Stephen Hincks, Andreas Schulze-Baing of The University of Manchester, and Brian Webb of Cardiff University are finalist in the Academic Award category at the 2016 [Royal Town Planning Institute's \(RTPI\) Awards for Research Excellence](#).

The paper draws on the RTPI commissioned study 'A Map for England' to examine the interplay between policy needs and spatial contexts through the mapping of government policies and programmes. These exhibit strong spatial expressions and significant spatial consequences which tend to be hidden and ignored. Through the analysis of growth-related planning issues in the report, a spatial reference framework emerges and reveals some of the implicit assumptions and unintentional consequences of government policy-making. It thus demonstrates the potential of employing simple mapping overlays to communicate complex planning issues in a 'language' that is easily understandable.

The [Awards for Research Excellence](#) are run by the RTPI to recognise and promote high quality, impactful spatial planning research from RTPI accredited planning schools, and planning consultancies around the world. There was tough competition to be named a finalist, with 87 entries to this year's awards, a more than 40% increase on last year.

Prof. Cecilia Wong, from The University of Manchester noted: "We are very grateful to be shortlisted for this award. This research argues for an improved understanding of the ways in which Government policies and programmes interact to influence the places we live. It identifies how approaching policy development from a more spatial perspective can improve policy coordination and outcomes by mapping existing Government interventions and evidence."

Dr Michael Harris, RTPI's Head of Research, said:

“The RTPI Research Awards have gone from strength to strength. The growing body of high quality research work in planning is impressive but more importantly, it is a positive sign that more academic researchers want to reach out to practitioners and policymakers with insights and findings that can inform and influence their work. This is what the Awards celebrate and I am pleased that RTPI planning schools and planning consultancies have responded.”

Andrew Riley, Chief Operating Officer at Idox plc commented: "High-quality research is key to increasing our understanding of how planning can help create sustainable places for people to live and work. As the UK's leading provider of planning and building control solutions to local authorities, Idox is very proud to be continuing our relationship with the RTPI and supporting the RTPI Awards for Research Excellence in 2016."

Jonathan Manley at Routledge/T&F said “As RTPI’s publisher, Routledge/T&F are delighted to continue our sponsorship of the RTPI Research Awards. RTPI’s mission to reward the best in planning research complements our own ambition to publish the work of not only those with an established reputation in the field but also scholars at the dawn of their career”.

The winners will be announced on 7 September during the 2016 UK-Ireland Planning Research Conference at Cardiff University.

The [full list of finalists](#) are available. See who [won last year's awards](#).

Geographers at Bluedot Festival at Jodrell Bank

Over the weekend of 22-24 July, Emma Shuttleworth and Christine Lane led a team of physical geographers (Tom Bishop, Sarah Brown, Gareth Clay, Will Fletcher and Claire Goulsbra) from the QEG and EPRG research groups to flog their geographical wares at the inaugural [Bluedot Festival](#) at Jodrell Bank. The festival combined music, science, comedy, art and food, all in the shadow of the iconic Lovell radio telescope.



Our tent “[Evolution of Landscapes](#)” was based in the Star Field, along with other science exhibitors, delicious food stalls and dance acts. We took visitors on a journey through time; through two ice ages to the present. We explained the formation of local landscapes, how they have undergone natural changes and more recently, the impact of humans and what is being done to preserve them. Exhibits were all

interactive, including:

- a display of the local Quaternary geology,
- an introduction to pollen analysis and microscopy,
- measuring the legacy of industrial revolution pollution in peatlands,
- demonstrating the restoration initiatives to combat flooding in the Peak District,
- highlighting the role of peatlands in the carbon cycle.



The stall was busy all weekend and we lost track of the total number of people who came to talk to us, but we managed to collect feedback from over 75 visitors of all ages who came from all over the UK (and further afield!). We asked people what they learnt, our favourites include:



“Bumps slow down water”

“I've done learning! Pollen as a useful tool for historic climate measurements”

“We need to plant more vegetation on peat lands! Less CO2 = Groovier Earth :-)”

“85,000 year old yew wood preserved in peat #BlueDotGeog. Maybe 80 yew generations ago? Amazing!”

“Colleagues do fun things for their weekends!” (Ward, 2016)

We all had a great time interacting with the public, meeting other researchers from the UoM and elsewhere and generally soaking up the festival spirit. #BlueDotGeog hopes to do it all over again in 2017.

If you want to read a bit more about the festival, Tom Bishop has written a [blog](#).

School Information and Notices

Interim Director of Social Responsibility for SEED: A brief introduction to Terry Hanley

As from September the 1st I will be taking the reins from Jen O'Brien as the Director of Social Responsibility for SEED. Jen will be on maternity leave during this period and I'm sure that I speak for us all in wishing her well.

For those of you who do not know me, I am a Senior Lecturer within the Manchester Institute of Education (MIE). My major role in MIE is to direct the Doctorate in Counselling Psychology and my research interest is examining the interface between therapy and education – a recent project is examining the impact of the present austerity measures upon the emotional wellbeing services within schools in Manchester. I am a practising psychologist and volunteer with the local organisation 'Freedom from Torture', offering psychological support to a group of young men during a football project working alongside FC United.

During the period of cover (until the 31st of March, 2107) I will be involved in keeping the operational priorities for Social Responsibility within SEED on the agenda. These are:

Priority One (Research with Social Impact)

To raise our local and international reputation and profile for our Social Responsibility activities in our four inter-related research themes of Environmental Change, Governance, Policy and Practice, Poverty and Social Justice and Urbanism.

Priority Two (Socially-Responsible Graduates)

Produce SEED graduates who are socially and ethically aware and equipped to make positive socio-economic change at a host of scales.

Priority Three (Engaging Our Communities)

Value, support and develop our engagement with communities, policy-makers, businesses, HEI's, NGOs, Schools and practitioners within the North-West region and across the Global North and South to maximize our social impact

Priority Four (Responsible Processes)

Be a supportive working environment that celebrates difference and offers opportunities for academic and PSS staff development whilst rewarding for and recognising good performance.

Priority Five (Environmental Sustainability)

Increase the environmental sustainability of our governance, teaching and learning and research activities.

As is evident from these priorities, it is a big job, relevant to everyone, and enters into all aspects of the working life at the university. I am sure you will hear more from me about specifics, but for now I will stop. If there is something you wish to discuss with me around the Social Responsibility agenda during this period, do drop me a line.

My email is: terry.hanley@manchester.ac.uk. Do also tag relevant tweets #SEEDSR and I will happily forward things on from my account @drterryhanley

Video conferencing

Video conferencing has been used now for a number of years and is being used extensively by Universities, Schools, Government agencies etc. There are a number of reasons why you might choose a video conference rather than a face to face meeting, not least, environmental.

Dedicated video conference facilities

Facilities available at The University include dedicated H.323 codecs, these are managed by media services and can be booked using their [website](#) or by emailing [Media Services](#).

GoTo Meeting (managed by the faculty eLearning team)

I have used this and as well as allowing you to collaborate with a large number of participants, you can also share your desktop and documents, and meetings can also be recorded, please [email e learning](#) or visit www.gotomeeting.co.uk to find out more.

Skype

Easy to use, reliable, can be installed on desktops, laptops, tablets and phones. Video conferences can include up to 10 participants. All users should create their own Skype account. Devices are available for use with Skype installed.

Dr Alan Cross comments (Skype)

One strong feature of the PGCE Primary Science course are the high quality science lesson

observations we guarantee for each of our PGCE student teachers. These are critically important for none specialists who have to develop subject teaching to a high standard very quickly. We have used Skype video conferencing for a number of years in order to further increase student experience of good and very good science teaching. Students watch a science lesson live from the University. Evaluation shows that they value this highly, for many it is the first science lesson they have observed. They appreciate it is different from a video and rate it very highly. Of course a fantastic feature is the opportunity, following the lesson, to talk to the children about science, the lesson observed and to the teacher about the practicalities of science teaching. One great advantage is that the university students all get to see a lesson very early in the school/PGCE year when most head teachers would normally avoid groups of visitors to school. Finally, video conferencing is highly valued by our partnership schools who see a number of advantages, not least, the contact between their pupils, who are often disadvantaged, and the University.

Peter Leigh peter.leigh@manchester.ac.uk 0161 275 8674 or 07810 850439

Multimedia Technician SEED, CG48 Ellen Wilkinson Building

Vacancies

[Lecturer in Information and Communication Technology \(ICT4D\) \(permanent\)](#) Closing date: 29th September

New Starters

Welcome to the following new members of staff joining the School in September 2016:

Timothy Meadows **Lecturer in (Physical Geography)**

Mark Usher **Lecturer in Human Geography**

Ross Jones **Lecturer in Geography (Teaching & Scholarship)**

Andreas Schulze Baing **Lecturer in Urban Planning**

Robert Buck **Lecturer in Education (Science)**

Dr Sylvie Lomer **Lecturer in Education (Policy and Practice)**

Miguel Antonio Lim **Lecturer in Education (International Development)**

Alexandra Dales, Laura Pottinger and Clancy Wilmott **Senior Geography Tutors**

Matthew Dennis **Research Associate (Green Infrastructure Project)**

Andrea Marie Daniels **Research Associate (Social Assistance)**

Dr Sophina Choudry **Research Associate (Achievement for All)**

Suzanne Wright **Recruitment and Admissions Assistant**

Rebecca Bromley **Inclusive Growth Analysis Unit Co-ordinator**

Emma Davies **Student Experience and Support Assistant**

New Fire Evacuation Point for Arthur Lewis and Humanities Bridgeford Street Buildings

In the event of an evacuation from ALB or HBS, please be aware of the new location of assembly point is now at the back of the Faculty Office (176 Waterloo Place- see pic attached) as an alternative to the Martin Harris Centre assembly point.



The assembly point is an additional assembly point for colleagues exiting the rear of the Arthur Lewis Building. Humanities Bridgeford Street colleagues will still assembly at the meeting points located by the loading bay of HBS Building and on the side of the Martin Harris Building.

Sustainability in SEED

SEED Green Impact

The SEED Green Impact Team has been busy preparing for this year's submission – the target being Silver award for all 3 SEED buildings. Take a look at some of the green initiatives and information below.

- The University manages over 60 waste streams, most of which are reused or recycled. The [A-Z](#) gives a handy guide of how to dispose of your waste in the most environmentally sustainable manner.
- Do you travel the most environmentally sustainable way to work? Check out the estates [Sustainable Travel Plan](#) to see.
- Have you seen the University's [Sustainability Engagement Portal](#)? The website has a range of initiatives, actions and activities to help you think about sustainability and take action; this is where you will find out how you can make a practical and positive contribution. The website also has an environmental sustainability events feed so you can keep up-to-date with what is happening on campus.
- The University now sells Hug Mugs to reduce the use of paper cups which cannot be recycled. Every time a hug mug is used in a FoodOnCampus outlet there is a discount of 20p on hot drinks!
- The University has a network of Sustainability Enthusiasts across the campus and the Charter sets out what Enthusiasts can expect from the University and what their role entails. To sign up to the charter visit the [Sustainability](#) site.
- Sign up for the monthly social responsibility [newsletter](#).
- Reduce your carbon footprint by making more footprints climbing the stairs! Lifts are massive energy users. Help SEED to reduce its energy usage.

Sustainability Challenge

The University is excited to launch the first Ethical Grand Challenges event for all 8,000+ first year undergraduates – the Sustainability Challenge

As part of the 2016 Manchester Welcome all 8000+ first year undergraduate students will take part in the [Sustainability Challenge](#), a 2.5 hour simulation activity, based around the fictitious University of Millchester. Students, in mixed disciplinary groups, work against the clock to develop plans for a new campus, while global responses to climate change trigger a series of ‘game changing’ interventions.

The Sustainability Challenge is part of the University’s Flagship Social Responsibility initiative - the [Ethical Grand Challenges Programme](#) - which aims to enable every Manchester undergraduate to engage with three key ethical grand challenges in the course of their degree: Sustainability in Year 1; Social Justice in Year 2 and Workplace Ethics in Year 3.

As well as introducing students to the challenge of sustainability, the Welcome event introduces students to the kind of University Manchester is: committed to making a difference, and working across disciplines to solve problems.

Sustainability Challenge Day is **Tuesday 20th September**. More than 200 staff and postgraduate research students from across the University have volunteered to help deliver the challenge. Getting students to the correct rooms at the right time is a huge logistical challenge. Students will receive personalised communications, telling them where to go and when, in the week before Welcome, and the information will also be published on personalised timetables. Schools will receive an information pack, including full detail of arrangements for September, and a range of promotional materials, in August. In the meantime, if you’d like to find out more, please email sian.yeowell@manchester.ac.uk or colette.cooke@manchester.ac.uk if you have any questions.

The University of Manchester Run Group

The University of Manchester’s UMRun Group will be holding their next Run to Work event on Thursday 29th September. Everyone taking part will receive a free breakfast at the Greenhouse Café. You can run from home or your nearest train station and make your way to where you will get your free breakfast and meet up with fellow run commuters.

Further details on the event will be emailed closer to the date.

For more information on the Run Commute initiative, see the [website](#), [twitter](#) or [Facebook](#).

Teaching, Learning and Students

E-Learning Update

Blackboard visibility

All Bb courses will be visible to students on **Monday, 12 September 2016**. Information about the annual process of accessing and preparing your Blackboard course space (Bb course) ready for Start of Year (SOY) can be found on the TLSO website: [TLSO: Blackboard and Start of Year 2016](#)

Start of Year drop-ins

Drop-in sessions start Monday 12th September. Come along if you need support with activating your Blackboard units, adding or updating content or anything else to get your online provision ready for teaching. More details available on the [staff intranet](#).

Which online tools do we use to support learning in SEED? Take our survey now.

There are a number of courses in the School where there is either limited or no Blackboard activity and we are trying to find out why this might be.

We are interested in finding out if people are either not keen to develop their online materials further, or would like some support from the eLearning team to help develop their materials further. We would also like to find out more about the use of non-supported tools in eLearning and what recommendations users of them might make to other academics. The 2 page [survey](#) is anonymous and should take less than 5 minutes to complete. Results will be made available via the SEED intranet pages.

Library Update

Are you set for the new Semester?

A brief reminder if you are teaching in the new semester to ensure your book orders, digitisation and training requests are in place. If you have not already done so please do make sure your requests are placed as soon as possible! Here is a quick check list:

Library Request Form

Place your book orders, digitisation requests and high demand recommendations through our [online Library Request portal](#). Available via [My Manchester](#) (see A-Z, Library Requests) the portal ensures your requests go directly to the relevant Library team ensuring a smoother and more efficient service, (the Library will even deliver books to your office for a priority preview!).



Library requests

Purchase Request

Request the purchase of books, e-books and any other non-subscribed material for

Digitisation

Creation of digital copies of print materials for embedding within Blackboard.

Document Supply

Request of items that are NOT held by the library.

High Demand

Transferation of items to the High Demand Collection.

Enquiries

General enquiries and/or feedback regarding the University of Manchester Library.

We have even put a handy link at the bottom of the Library homepage www.manchester.ac.uk/library

Bulk Book orders: Recommended Reading Email

Got multiple orders? Forward details including module/programme code/name and estimated number of students to:

- uml.recommended-reading@manchester.ac.uk

Training Requests: My Learning Essentials

We have a new My Learning Essentials area for academic staff, including a new online training request form, providing an overview of how you and your students can benefit from the Library's award winning training programme:

www.manchester.ac.uk/library/mle-staff



MLE embedded programme



MLE open programme

Contact [Janette](#) or [Francoise](#) to discuss how to embed the Library's My Learning Essentials training into your programme or module.

If you have any questions or would like to meet to discuss library support for your teaching/research needs please contact your Academic Engagement Librarian.

Janette Watson: Academic Engagement Librarian

Manchester Institute of Education

janette.watson@manchester.ac.uk

Tel: x56503

Francoise Sullivan: Academic Engagement Librarian

Architecture, Geography, IDPM, Planning & Environment

francoise.sullivan@manchester.ac.uk

Tel: x52802

Social Responsibility and Engagement



The following is an email from Ashleigh Johnson-Palmer, from Women's Running magazine promoting a women's only race that is being held in Manchester. Volunteers to pace the run and marshal are also being sought; your support to the event would be welcomed. Please contact Ashleigh Johnson-Palmer (ashleigh.jp@wildbunchmedia.co.uk) to register your interest.

Hello,

I'm writing to you from Women's Running magazine. We are holding a women's only 10K and 5K race in Wythenshawe Park on 11th September as part of our Women's Running 10K Race Series, and wondered if any of your club would be interested in running?

Our Women's Running 10K Race Series provides events for runners of all abilities to run together in a friendly and fun environment to achieve their personal targets. We and our Race event series will be

arriving to Manchester for the first time and we are really excited to see what some great running- we know Manchester has some great runners!

We were hoping you might be able to spread the word about our event in any way you can. Perhaps you could promote our Manchester race through your website, social pages or your club newsletter?

As well as this we would also like to know if you have any female runners affiliated to your club who would be interested in pacing for our 10k run we are looking for a lady to join our team on race day as our Sub 50 minute pacer. All our pacers would be able to take part in the event for free and would receive a technical t-shirt, goody bag, BUFF and pair of HOKA ONE trainers worth £100 for their help on the day.

Or if you have any runners who would like to help us on race day we are also looking for marshals-both male and female- all marshals will receive WR10K goodies worth up to £60!

If any of this interests you please get in touch, hearing from you would be great.

The Greater Manchester Walking Weekends

The [Greater Manchester Walking Weekends](#) are happening on the 16-18 September and the 21-23 October 2016. The walks cater for all abilities.

The University is recruiting more voluntary Harassment Support Advisors

Additional support for those who may need further information and advice on bullying and harassment

All staff and students have the right to work and study in a safe and supportive environment. The University does not tolerate any form of bullying, harassment, discrimination or victimisation. With a campus population of close to 50,000 we need to ensure we have a robust support system for those who may need additional information and advice when it comes to bullying and harassment.

Harassment Support Advisors provide a confidential information service to staff and students on issues relating to harassment, discrimination and bullying. The expansion of the current Harassment Support Advisor network offers the opportunity to build a broader knowledge base across more sections and areas of the University. Harassment Support Advisors are a crucial part of our 'We Get It' campaign and zero tolerance of any form of bullying, harassment or discrimination.

More information about what is expected from volunteer Harassment Support Advisors, can be found online:

- [Harassment Advisors](#)

Full information sessions will take place on Monday, 26 September at 12pm and Wednesday, 28 September at 12.45pm.

Registration and further information

Please contact:

- equalityanddiversity@manchester.ac.uk

Research Centres and Institutes

GURC

Diana Mitlin

ESID-related research on urban poverty reduction programming in three Ugandan towns (Kampala, Mbale and Kibale) has just finished the data collection phase and has had a preliminary report-back to stakeholders including the Ministry for Land, Housing and Local Government. Diana is participating in a data analysis workshop in Kampala. Community researchers from the Uganda Slum Dwellers Federation have been working with Sophie King (ex-GDI and now at Salford) and Peter Kasaiji (Makerere).

Diana will be presenting results from the ESID-funded research on the Basic Services for the Urban Poor sub-Mission in India at the DSA conference in 12-13th September. The presentation has a focus on the impact of organized informal settlements on the outcomes of state programming.

Diana will provide a keynote to a conference on Habitat III and the coproduction of cities organized by the Heinrich Böll Foundation in cooperation with the Technical University of Berlin in Berlin 15-16th September.

Diana will be participating in Habitat III, the third UN Conference on Human Settlements in Quito 17-20th October.

Diana will be giving a keynote presentation at the 17th N-Aerus conference, University of Gothenburg, Sweden (17th-19th November). This conference theme is "Governing, planning and managing the city in an uncertain world. Comparative perspectives on everyday practices".

Just published:

McGranahan, Gordon and Mitlin, Diana (2016) Learning from Sustained Success: How Community-Driven Initiatives to Improve Urban Sanitation Can Meet the Challenges, *World Development* 87 (November): 307-317

Alfredo Stein

During the month of August, Alfredo was in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, finalising the project 'Asset planning for climate change adaptation in poor urban neighbourhoods of Tegucigalpa' funded by the Nordic Development Fund through the Inter-American Development Bank, and implemented with local counterparts including the Municipality of Tegucigalpa. He participated in a series of disseminating events, including a presentation of the project's findings at the National Autonomous University of Honduras (UNAH). The presentation was attended by more than 380 students, lecturers, university authorities and members of the public and private sectors. He was interviewed by local newspapers, radios and national news programmes. The findings were also presented to the group of donors working on environment and disaster risk management, as well to representatives of the two communities where the study took place. As a result of the project a number of initiatives will be implemented in the two neighbourhoods in the coming months, including the construction of contention and retention walls from recycled tyres to prevent landslides, the construction of new steps in steep areas of the communities which take into consideration the needs of elderly people and prevent land erosion, as well as green infrastructure and improvement of latrines, and micro-credits for housing improvements and connections to sewerage systems.

Events

B.15: ARCHITYPES

The exhibition outlines the various stages of student design that use models through a series of categories featuring over 50 new student projects and a brand new supporting guidebook. We have a private view opening event on Friday 16th September from 17.30 with an opening address from Dr Raymond Lucas - all are welcome!



MANCHESTER
1824
The University of Manchester

ARCHITYPES

OPEN
MONDAY TO FRIDAY
9AM - 5PM

B.15
MODELMAKING
WORKSHOP

A FREE EXHIBITION CHARTING THE STUDENT DESIGN JOURNEY THROUGH THE USE OF PHYSICAL MODELS AT MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE. FEATURING A DISPLAY OF DIFFERENT MEDIA AND APPLICATIONS WITH OVER 80 MODELS CRAFTED THROUGHOUT FIVE YEARS OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

1st Floor of Humanities Bridgeford Street Building, The University of Manchester, Bridgeford Street, Oxford Road, M13 9PL

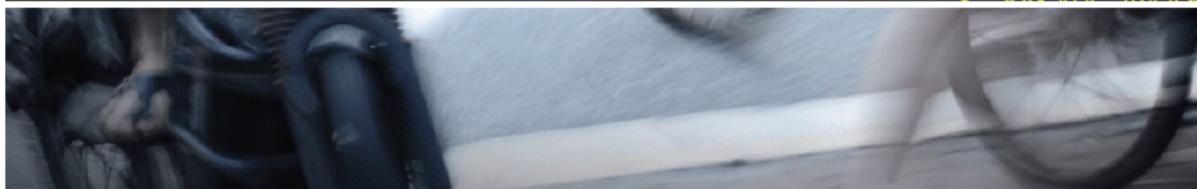
www.manchester.ac.uk/b15workshop

MANCHESTER
1824
The University of Manchester

msa Manchester School of Architecture

Manchester Metropolitan University

Sustainable Consumption Institute Seminar Series



The interaction of policy & experience: an "alternative hedonist" optic

Professor Kate Soper

Emerita Professor of Philosophy, London Metropolitan University

Wednesday 28 September 2016

Room B5, Alliance Manchester Business School East
4.00 – 5.30 pm (tea & coffee from 3.45 pm)

Abstract

My argument on 'alternative hedonism' has been charged with making too much of individual consumer agency at the cost of taking proper account of social movement activities, or of the essential role of state and institutional initiatives in promoting sustainable consumption. Its engagement with consumer disaffection with affluence has also been criticized for abstracting from the development needs of the more impoverished global communities. The intention, however, was never to deny the importance of 'top down' initiatives but rather to emphasise their reliance in modern democracies upon electoral support and their necessary interaction with the experiences of individuals. I shall here expand on these aspects of my argument, and also illustrate the ways in which subjective support for new forms of 'policing' of consumption is reinforced and extended through provision for the 'alternative hedonist' experience. The avant-garde of consumers who opt to 'self-police' their consumption in the interests of sustainability is likely to remain an ineffective minority unless swelled by proactive public policy that allows new structures of feeling to be actualized through the provision of alternative forms of experience. In its application to public policy, 'alternative hedonism' is not a theory that ascribes needs in the absence of any subjective cognition of them but a theory of the actualization of those needs through the provision that builds on their embryonic presence and potential for development. And although 'alternative hedonism' does indeed focus on individual disaffection with affluent consumption, and thus with an elitist first world response to consumerism, it does so in virtue of its possible leverage in bringing about a broader social movement. By revising conceptions of self-interest among affluent consumers, an 'alternative hedonist' politics can help to set off this relay of political pressures for a fairer global distribution of resources and more sustainable economic order.

Biography

Kate Soper is Emerita Professor of Philosophy at London Metropolitan University. She has published widely on environmental philosophy, ecocriticism, theory of needs and consumption, and cultural theory. More recent books include *What is Nature? Culture, Politics and the Non-Human* (Blackwell, 1995), *Citizenship and Consumption* (co-editor, Palgrave, 2007) and *The Politics and Pleasures of Consuming Differently* (co-editor, Palgrave, 2008). She has been a member of the editorial collectives of *Radical Philosophy* and *New Left Review* and a columnist for *Capitalism, Nature, Socialism*. Her study on 'Alternative hedonism and the theory and politics of consumption' was funded in the ESRC/AHRC 'Cultures of Consumption' Programme (www.consume.bbk.ac.uk). She has participated since in a number of research projects on climate change and sustainable consumption, most recently as a Visiting Fellow at the Pufendorf Institute, Lund University, Sweden.

If you have any queries please contact Katrina Farrugia on 0161 275 0189 or sci@manchester.ac.uk

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