



RTPI

mediation of space · making of place

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Network news

RTPI Awards for Research Excellence for 2015 – Inviting entries

The RTPI Awards for Research Excellence are now open for entries of exemplary planning research from all RTPI accredited planning schools. The Awards recognise and promote quality, impactful spatial planning research from RTPI accredited planning schools in the UK, the Republic of Ireland and internationally.

The Awards, formerly the RTPI Education and Lifelong Learning Awards, have been refreshed with a renewed focus on research excellence which highlights the implications of academic research for policy and practice and to promote planning research.

In recognition of his life's work to promote the art and science of town and country planning, the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) has named one of its new RTPI Awards for Research Excellence in memory of Sir Peter Hall. The Sir Peter Hall Award for Wider Engagement will recognise the very best work of academics which contribute significantly to a stronger policy and public understanding of planning.



The Awards comprise four categories:

- Excellence in Spatial Planning Research: Academic Award;
 - Excellence in Spatial Planning Research: Early Career Researcher Award;
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- Excellence in Spatial Planning Research: Student Award;
 - Excellence in Spatial Planning Research: The Sir Peter Hall Award for Wider Engagement.

Entries for the Awards close on Sunday 31 May 2015.

The RTPI also invites RTPI accredited planning schools to nominate one judge for the Awards. The nomination needs to be received by Friday 15 May 2015.

For more information please visit:
<http://www.rtpi.org.uk/knowledge/research/rtpi-awards-for-research-excellence/>

RTPI Blog: Read the latest Centenary Blog entries, including: [Time to think anew about the role of place in inequality and social mobility](#), [Nepal after the earthquake – and why planning will be critical](#) and [Critical perspectives on devolved governance](#). New blogs are added every week, and if you would like to submit a blog, please contact the RTPI research team.

RTPI research on place-based initiatives, inequality and poverty: The question of patterns of poverty and inequality and their spatial distribution and/whether this has been shaped by policy interventions or absences remains a relevant one. The RTPI is starting a research project on place-based initiatives to tackle inequality and poverty in 2015. If you would like to contribute to this research, please email victoria.pinoncely@rtpi.org.uk. We welcome suggestions, including proposals for partnerships and collaborations.

RTPI Value of Planning Research: The RTPI has commissioned further research on the value of planning for 2015.

- A SPIRe project on 'Putting a price on planning? A cross-national investigation into the behavioural economics of managed development' will be conducted for the RTPI by Dr Alex Lord, supported by Dr Olivier Sykes and Dr John Sturzaker from the University of Liverpool.
- A SPIRe project on 'Planning and Growth: International Evidence from China' will be conducted for the RTPI by Professor Fulong Wu and Dr Fangzhu Zhang, Bartlett School of Planning, University College London.
- The RTPI is also continuing its collaboration with the Universities of Glasgow and Sheffield on a follow-up paper on 'Realising the Value of Planning'.

RTPI National and regional research projects: The RTPI is engaged in research that addresses policy and practice issues relevant to specific nations

and regions of the UK and Ireland, but which may have broader applicability to other countries and areas, as following:

- RTPI South West region - The Potential of Local Enterprise Partnerships in the Planning Process ([invitation to tender open](#));
- RTPI Planning Aid England West Midlands region - Support for Community-led Planning ([invitation to tender open](#));
- RTPI North West region - Public Sector Resources and Positive Planning;
- RTPI South East region - The Role of Planning Cultures and Legacies in Delivering Growth in the South East; and
- RTPI Ireland - The Planning Research Agenda in Ireland.

Visit <http://www.rtpi.org.uk/knowledge/research/projects/national-and-regional-research-projects/> for more information.

Call for Papers

Call for Papers – UK-Ireland Planning Research Conference: The annual UK-Ireland Planning Research Conference will take place at London South Bank University in 2015. The theme of the 2015 UK-Ireland Planning Research Conference, 'Future Planning, Future Cities' focuses on both the practice of planning, at different scales and by different actors, and the cities and other places that alternate forms of planning seek to shape. The deadline for [submission of abstracts](#) is Friday 1 June 2015.

Call for Papers – Tackling spatial inequalities: the prospects for economic development and regeneration: [Papers](#) are invited for a one-day conference that explores the potential for economic development and urban regeneration to tackle spatial inequalities across the UK and beyond. The conference is organised by [People, Place and Policy](#). Abstracts of 200 words should be submitted to Emma Smith (e.smith@shu.ac.uk) by Friday 29 May 2015.

Publications

Planning Theory and Practice (Volume 16, Issue 1) The latest edition of [Planning Theory and Practice](#) is out. Many of the articles reflect a recurring theme of the importance of dialogue and collaboration if we are to respond effectively to today's challenges. In the journal editorial (free to access), Luca Bertolini reflects on Hong Kong's 'Umbrella Movement' and considers the implications for cities regarding democracy and citizen engagement. Continuing the theme, Patsy Healey examines how civil society initiatives are playing an expanding role in the provision of services and local development. This edition's Interface section (free to access) focuses on sustainability in planning policy, and suggests we need a shared agenda for sustainable development that recognises the tensions with contemporary markets.

RTPI Strategic Planning paper: The [Strategic Planning](#) policy paper was published in January 2015 and focuses on strengthening strategic planning. The paper was developed through stakeholder workshops and background research into all five nations to see how we can respond to the challenge of marrying local concerns and wider issues across city-regions and other areas.

Reconsidering Localism, edited by Simin Davoudi and Ali Madanipour, 2015, Routledge

'Localism' has been deployed in recent debates over planning law as an anodyne, grassroots way to shape communities into sustainable, human-scale neighbourhoods. But 'local' is a moving category, with contradictory, nuanced dimensions. *Reconsidering Localism* brings together new scholarship from leading academics in Europe and North America to develop a theoretically-grounded critique and definition of the new localism, and how it has come to shape urban governance and urban planning. Moving beyond the UK, this book examines localism and similar shifts in planning policy throughout Europe, and features essays on localism and place-making, sustainability, social cohesion, and citizen participation in community institutions. It explores how debates over localism and citizen control play out at the neighbourhood, institutional and city level, and have come to effect the urban landscape throughout Europe.

The Evolution of National Urban Policies: A Global Overview – UN Habitat and Cities Alliance

This [UN Habitat- Cities Alliance publication](#) provides an overview of urban policies and how they have been developed in selected countries from different regions. Specific problems and how they have been dealt with are illustrated and the promising ways of dealing with some specific issues are drawn from the examples. From this review, some important principles and lessons emerge that can be applied in many contexts. Being aware of them could mean the difference between vast amounts of money and time being lost and having a national urban policy that paves the way to sustainable, stable and dynamic cities.

This is crucial in the context of the elaboration of a New Urban Agenda as an outcome of the third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in 2016, as national urban policies are key opportunities to establish a connection between the dynamics of urbanisation and the overall process of national development for the next 20 years.

Planning for Growth: Urban and Regional Planning in China, Fulong Wu, 2015, Routledge

Planning for Growth: Urban and Regional Planning in China provides an overview of the changes in China's planning system, policy, and practices using concrete examples and informative details in a language that is accessible enough for the undergraduate but thoroughly grounded in a wealth of research and academic experience to support academics. It is the first accessible text on changing urban and regional planning in China under the process of transition from a centrally planned socialist economy to an emerging market in the world.

The Craft of Collaborative Planning: People working together to shape creative and sustainable places, Jeff Bishop, 2015, Routledge

The Craft of Collaborative Planning provides a detailed guide to designing and managing all aspects of the collaborative process, advocating for making collaborative work the norm. Beginning with a discussion of the political and legal context of collaborative practice in UK land use planning systems, *The Craft of Collaborative Planning* tracks a path through the challenging task of process design and working with various groups and individuals. Taking into account the great need for coherent organisational approaches, Bishop outlines evaluation and learning from the collaborative process for the future.

Upcoming RTPI Events: Check out the [RTPI Events](#) webpage to find out more about upcoming events near you.

If you have an item which you would like to highlight in the next PERN bulletin, please do email research@rtpi.org.uk. You can also now follow us on [Twitter](#).

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