

Intrepid COST Action

Activity: Re-imagine urban curricula (a needs assessment)

Date: 5th-7th December, 2018

Venue: Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia (UIRS), Trnovski pristan 2, SI-1000, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Local contacts:

Matej Nikšič (matej.niksic@uirsi.si)

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Jade Poret (poret.jade@laposte.net)

Meeting Programme

DAY 1, Wednesday, Dec 5th: 9:00 – 17:30 // Meeting Room: *Sejna soba, Floor 1*, via the main staircase of UIRS (entrance to the staircase through *Mercator* passage parallel to Ljubljanica river)

Action members mainly. Morning: presenting the state of the art of the discussion on urban curricula. Afternoon: workshop on improving a survey on urban curricula as ID/TD mattered and general intro to Ljubljana case of Day 2.

9:00 - 9:30 Registration

9:30 - 11:00 Introductory Session

Welcome address by local host institution | Igor Bizjak, director of UIRS, and Matej Nikšič, local host at UIRS

Presentation of TD1403 and WG3: | Josefine Fokdal

State of art of Urban Curricula | Giulio Verdini

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:00 Session 2 : State of art of Urban Curricula - Brainstorming | Josefine and Giulio

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break (Restaurant Julija, Stari trg 9 - location TBC)

14:00 - 15:30 Session 3 – Work in groups; followed by Reporting back from the groups | Sabina Cioboata

16:00 - 16:30 Coffee Break

16:30 – 17:00 Lecture: Introduction to Day 2 case study - The general overview of the urban development of Ljubljana | Breda Mihelič, UIRS emeritus

DAY 2, Thursday, Dec 6th: 9:00 – 17:30

Action Members and invited local presenters. Early Morning: Guided tour around city centre. Later Morning: Invited speakers will present state of art of inter- and trans-disciplinarity in urban planning studies in Slovenia. Afternoon: Study visit to Vodnikova cesta to discuss approaches to participatory urban development and regeneration in practice. Lessons learnt will open a discussion on the innovation needed in urban curriculum to enhance the new generation of urban professionals in inter/trans-disciplinarity.

9:00 - 10:30 Guided tour: Plečnik and Ljubljana | Katarina Metelko, Museum of architecture and design (MAO); meeting point: in front of City Museum of Ljubljana, Gosposka ulica 15

10:30 - 11:00 Warming-up-coffee at UIRS // Meeting Room: *Library, Floor 0* (entrance through *Mercator* passage parallel to Ljubljanica river)

- 11:00 – 13:00 Urban Planning Curriculum - Slovenian Perspectives
Opening and moderation by Depart. of Urban Planning, Faculty of Architecture, Ljubljana | Alenka Fikfak
Presentation of »MEMUD« project (Middle European Joint Master for Urban Design) | Tadej Glažar, Ilka Čerpes and Vid de Gleria, Faculty of Architecture
Analogical Systems as a Pedagogical Tool in Urban Design | Tatjana Capuder Vidmar, Biotechnical Faculty, Department of Landscape Architecture
Student workshop as a successful method of project-based learning in higher education study programmes | Alma Zavodnik Lamovsek, Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering
Brownfields regeneration - Work between the Urban Planning Institute's interdisciplinary projects and Faculty's teaching activities | Boštjan Cotič, Urban Planning Institute of RS
Hands-on experimentation as a teaching approach in enabling participatory urban design | Matej Nikšič and Alenka Fikfak, Urban Planning Institute of RS and Faculty of Architecture
- 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch (Restaurant Manna, Eipprova ulica 1 - location TBC)
- 14:00 – 15:00 Introduction to the Case Study of *Vodnikova cesta* // Meeting Room: *Library, Floor 0* (entrance through *Mercator* passage parallel to Ljubljanica river)
Opening and moderation by Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia | Matej Nikšič
Marko Peterlin, IPoP, Institute for Spatial Policies and initiative *Uredimo Vodnikovo*
Klemen Milovanovič, LUZ, Urban Institute of Ljubljana
- 15:00 – 15:30 Transfer to case study area (public transport, organised by UIRS)
- 15:30 – 16:30 Guided tour
- 16:30 – 17:30 Reflection time (*Valentin Vodnik* Primary School, Adamičeva ulica 16 – location TBC)

Optional evening programme: Dinner (Restaurant Špajza, Gornji trg 28 - location TBC)

See the end of this programme for abstracts of Slovenian Perspectives session.

Case study short description: Vodnikova cesta is a historic road that led from the city centre of Ljubljana to the rural landscapes north-western to the city. It was historically aligned with rural architecture, while the growth of the city after WWII made it part of the urbanised inner city area. The wider district was built-up with the individual and collective housing as well as public institutions which generate more traffic in the area. The historic rural structures along the road remained and give the road a distinctive spatial character, as well as make the road corridor narrow, at some points too narrow to allow the flow of all types of traffic on the separate lanes. Different stakeholders try to address the issue and develop a new concept and design for Vodnikova cesta to better meet the needs of contemporary users and turn it into a decent open public space. Cooperation between disciplines as well as various stakeholders is needed in these endeavours, however it does not always go smoothly when it happens.

DAY 3, Friday, Dec 7th: 9:30 – 15:30 // Meeting Room: *Faculty of architecture, Main building, Floor 2, Plečnik Room*

- 9:30 - 10:00 Lessons learned from day 1 and 2 (Hans Thor Andersen/Prue Chiles/Nikki Brand)
- 10:00 - 11:30 Further steps (Giulio Verdini and Josefine Fokdal)
- Survey modifications
 - Final INTREPID conference
 - EU application on capacity building in HE
- 11:30-12:00 Faculty of architecture Tour, led by Alenka Fikfak, local host at FA
- 12:00-13:00 Brainstorming on EU Application and establish a first roadmap

THE ABSTRACTS OF DAY 2 SESSION „Urban Planning Curriculum - Slovenian Perspectives“

Title:

Presentation of »MEMUD« project (Middle European Joint Master for Urban Design)

Authors:

Prof. Tadej Glažar, Dr. Ilka Čerpes, Assist. Vid de Gleria
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Abstract:

MEMUD is a project of transnational cooperation in the field of higher education and research with a focus on the central European region. Its main focus lies on the exchange, integration and mediation of knowledge, so as on forming highly skilled urban designer who are able to propose new solutions to the challenges of tomorrow's cities. It tackles the following issues: the exchange and internationalization of knowledge, the specification and diversification of education in the field, innovation in teaching and social dimension of higher education. The programme seeks to establish a structure that allows the long-term exchange of knowledge, not to be limited to universities, but to be open to entire urban sphere.

Title:

Analogical Systems as a Pedagogical Tool in Urban Design

Author:

Assoc. Prof. Tatjana Capuder Vidmar
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Abstract:

According to the contemporary science about space developed by mathematicians and proved by physics models produced by economists, sociologists, psychologists, and urban planners – if and when they have tried to introduce strictness and rigour into research of different systems changing in time – have been in general caricatures of reality (Gleick, J., 1987).

Urban space is a complex and one of seemingly chaotic systems. It has many characteristics (qualities) changing in time while one is stable. Such non-linear systems are self-similar in different scales and universality is inherent in them. These facts proved by the contemporary science can be the core issue for understanding urban spaces and reasons why 2D and 3D urban models (usually) do not work in reality.

At the Department of Landscape Architecture we have introduced the new perspectives on space at the Urban Planning subject. We use self-similarity and universality of non-linear systems as a pedagogical tool in urban design. By comparison between characteristics of an urban space and an analogical system which is observable in a small scale and in a short time students are able to grasp more than three dimensions of a space. Consequently they are able to think beyond 2D plan and 3D visualization and create urban spaces with the awareness of their complexity.

Title:

Student workshop as a successful method of project-based learning in higher education study programmes

Author:

Doc. Dr. Alma Zavodnik Lamovsek
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Abstract:

Project-based learning (PBL) is becoming an increasingly important teaching approach at technical faculties. The purpose of this paper is to discuss the key elements of PBL from the theoretical perspective, and then show its significance and practical application in the higher education study process. The analysis of student workshops, which have been held as part of various courses in the field of spatial planning over the past 15 years, showed that PBL has more advantages than disadvantages for both teachers and students. On the basis of good experience with PBL, we introduced project-based work into the curricula of the second-cycle study programmes of Spatial Planning, Geodesy and Geoinformatics, and Civil Engineering at the Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering of the University of Ljubljana (UL FGG). Every year, we include additional activities that help to motivate students to study at UL FGG.

Title:

Brownfields regeneration - Work between the Urban Planning Institute's interdisciplinary projects and Faculty's teaching activities

Author:

Assist. Boštjan Cotič
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Abstract:

Brownfields regeneration is a complex process, which includes participation of several disciplines to achieve sustainable development. Urban planning is considered just one of these disciplines. However Urban planning itself is a discipline or a process that involves several disciplines, from architecture and land use planning to transportation and many others. It is not easy to master the complexity of this type of processes since nobody can be excellent in all required topics. Therefore there is a strong need for management of knowledge, people and processes. Another challenge is how to give this knowledge to students in a way, that they will easily comprehend and remember it.

Title:

Hands-on experimentation as a teaching approach in enabling participatory urban design

Authors:

Assist. dr. Matej Nikšič and Assoc. prof. dr. Alenka Fikfak

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Human Cities is a European project that has been running in several European cities from 2008 on. It was set up under European Commission's Creative Europe 2007-2013 programme seeking new cultural-sector-based approaches to better urban life. One of its main activities implemented in 11 European cities were experiments in the field of the participatory improvements of urban public spaces. The presentation will shortly describe the context of the regeneration of the public spaces in the city of Ljubljana and put light on the discrepancy in attention given to central and suburban public spaces of the city. On the example of *Ruski car* (Russian Tsar) neighbourhood at the northern outskirts of the city it will illustrate how Human Cities experiments became a testing bed for not only developing bottom-up approaches to urban design, but also developing new teaching methods to enable future professionals and potential active citizens to cooperate for a better local public space.