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### **School welcomes all students**

The School would like to welcome all new and returning students to Newcastle and wish them all the best for the coming academic year. We are delighted that our cohorts this year are some of our most diverse yet, with students coming to study with us from over 30 different countries.

This year we are developing new masters courses which will be recruiting in September 2012: 'Future Landscape Imaginaries', 'Architectural Theory and Criticism', 'Architectural Design Research' and 'Sustainable Buildings and Environments', details can be found on our [course pages](#). There are further improvements to the School with the development of a social space for the Planning students and a new foyer for the Architecture Building.

The School has also launched a new series for architecture students, '[Conversations with Practice](#)' which invites architects, some alumni of the School, to talk about their practice to the students. It has proved extremely popular and we hope to implement a similar series in Planning very soon.

Our [Public Lecture Series](#) returns this year with an interesting and inspiring list of speakers. Writer and journalist Anna Minton kicked off the series with her lecture on the privatisation of public space and received extremely good feedback. We look forward to welcoming Professor David Schlosberg on 23 November to talk about climate justice.



Architecture students creating paper interventions around campus, their first project this year.

### **Engaging Young People in the Local Development Framework Process**

Financed through the School's Engagement Fund, this research has begun to uncover some of the valuable work that Local Planning Authorities are doing to engage young people in strategy making. The final report comprises four distinct sections: an assimilation of the reasons why planning should engage with young people – from a statutory, ethical and human rights standpoint; what local planning authorities are currently doing in the Northern Region to engage with this hard-to-reach group; identifying the key skills to work effectively with young people on matters relating to the environment; and assessing whether town planners can learn or develop these skills through their initial education and/or ongoing experience.

The report is a resource for anyone looking for ideas on how to involve young people in research, regeneration or broader environmental activities. It also highlights the skills that may need to be addressed to allow such projects to be as effective as possible. Perhaps more fundamentally than this though, the research indicates that there is a strong and purposeful reason for involving young people in the plan making process, that this part of the community is interested in being involved in town planning decision making and, that town planners are generally well placed to facilitate this dialogue. Areas for further skill development in initial and subsequent training for planners are also highlighted in the concluding section of the report.

The report can be read in full at our [engagement pages](#). For further information please contact Teresa Strachan ([teresa.strachan@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:teresa.strachan@ncl.ac.uk))

For more information about how the School supports engagement please contact either [R.C.Gilroy@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:R.C.Gilroy@ncl.ac.uk) or [Anne.Fry@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:Anne.Fry@ncl.ac.uk)



## Journal News

### Journal of Environmental Planning and Management Anniversary

The Editors of the Journal of Environmental Planning and Management (JEPM) are hosting a [drinks reception](#) to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Journal in its current format.

The reception will be held on Tuesday 22 November at 4pm in the Devonshire Building. Please RSVP with [anne.fry@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:anne.fry@ncl.ac.uk)

### Landscape Research Special Issue: Reassessing Landscape Drivers and the Globalist Environmental Agenda

(Guest Editors: Tomas Germundsson, Peter Howard & Kenneth Olwig)

Influenced by *Cop 15*, the United Nation's *Climate Change Conference* held in Copenhagen, Denmark in December 2009, and coming out of a Council of Europe conference on *Landscape and Driving Forces*, the authors in this latest special issue from *Landscape Research* have reassessed landscape drivers from a wide international spectrum in the light of what has been termed a globalist environmental agenda, from Europe to New Zealand and Palestine.

Papers explore issues including resilience, the global moral economy of energy, climate change mitigation and landscape conservation agendas, and landscape democracy. The authors have all had their own take on both the drivers and the notion of a globalist environmental agenda, but taken together they make clear that landscape cannot be subsumed as the local in a global local binary. Landscape Research can and does contribute both to an understanding of the issues often identified with globalism, such as climate change and global economic challenges, but it also, these articles suggest, can provide an independent agenda founded upon the rights and heritage of the people, both locals and non-locals, who have shaped and appreciated the landscape, and for whom it has not just environmental significance, but social and cultural meaning.

Free-access download of the Editorial and links to all articles available at [www.tandfonline.com/toc/clar20/36/4](http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/clar20/36/4)

## Student News

### University Scholarship Award

We are delighted to announce that Paola Ramirez Figueroa (MSc Digital Architecture) has been awarded the University's Latin American Scholarship. The award will be presented by Professor Ella Ritchie (Deputy Vice-Chancellor) at a ceremony on 10 November.

### PhD Successes

The following students have successfully completed their PhD studies and passed their viva voce. Congratulations to:

Zahed Shafiei *Urban Governance in Iran*  
Will Schrimshaw *A Sound Takes Place*



## Staff News

A new book, edited by [Professor Andrew Ballantyne](#) and Associate Professor Chris Smith has been published by Taylor and Francis. [Architecture in the Space of Flows](#) looks at the idea of flows, which connects things together and moves between things. The essays gathered present a collection of exploratory ideas and offer an understanding of buildings, people and settlements through concepts of flow.

[Steve Graham](#), Professor of Cities and Society, has appeared in a hour long TV documentary which was broadcast in primetime Germany and Swiss public TV to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. 'Fear has a thousand eyes' explores how the threat of terrorism has changed urban life. Remembering 9/11, the film looks forward to changes that are bound to come to our cities, and emphasises the fragile balance between our need for security and our longing for freedom.

Professor Graham is also launching the paperback version of his book 'Cities Under Siege' in New York 7pm on 17th November. Details can be found on the [Verso Books website](#).

[Can the government turn local people into planners?](#) (BBC online) [Professor Mark Shucksmith](#) comments on the government's neighbourhood planning idea which is part of the Localism bill.

[Professor Simin Davoudi](#) gave the opening keynote speech at the annual UK and Ireland Planning Research Conference, Birmingham, 12-14 September 2011. Her speech addressed the theme of the conference which was on 'Planning Resilient Communities in Challenging Times' to an audience of 200 planning academics and practitioners from different parts of the world.

[Professor Patsy Healey](#) gave the first RTPI Nathaniel Lichfield Annual Lecture in October. Her lecture, 'Civic Capacity, Progressive Localism and the Role of Planning' is available to download as text or podcast from the [RTPI website](#).

[Professor Mark Dorrian's](#) research design atelier *Metis* had its first venture into Newcastle with [Culture Lab onsite](#). *Metis* was founded by Mark Dorrian and Adrian Hawker and its work focuses on the city and the complex ways in which it is imagined, inhabited, and representationally encoded.

The installation, playing upon the precedent of the 'writing cell', inscribes and makes visible the oscillations of the railway viaduct within the space, through an interplay of light, camera and projection.

For comments or enquiries relating to the newsletter please contact [anne.fry@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:anne.fry@ncl.ac.uk)