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## World Planning Schools Congress Site and Host for 2011 Announced

Today the Steering Committee of the Global Planning Association Education Network (GPEAN) announced the selection of The University of Western Australia as the host of the 3rd World Planning Schools Congress in July 2011. The gathering is the third such international event since 2001 and will include planning scholars from nine associations across the globe, representing Africa, the USA, Canada, Europe, Latin America, Brazil, Australia and New Zealand, Asia, and French-speaking nations. The purpose of these world congresses is to bring together planning scholars from around the world so that they may share their own work and learn what academics in other countries and on other continents are studying and teaching. "After nearly one decade of existence the international exchange of scholarship has increased remarkably," remarked Dr. Looye.

The proposed theme of the conference is "Planning's Future – Futures Planning: Planning in an Era of Global (Un)certainty and Transformation" and its planning will be a collaborative effort between the GPEAN Steering Committee and the Local Host Committee, headed by Dr. Paul J. Maginn, Senior Lecturer/Program Co-ordinator (Urban/Regional Planning) at The University of Western Australia, which is supported by his regional association, ANZAPS – the Australia and New Zealand Association of Planning Schools. In addition private and public support has been secured and further sponsorship is expected.

In addition to providing scholars an opportunity to exchange ideas about places they work in, the congress venue, to be held in the cities of Perth and Fremantle, as well as the greater Perth metropolitan region, "will serve as a meta-case study area for a number of proposed mobile workshops/field visits that will explore a range of physical, economic, social, environmental and political planning challenges and opportunities facing one of the fastest growing, spatially and demographically, city regions in Australia," according to Dr. Maginn.

The Steering Committee and the Local Host will begin detailed planning immediately. Planning scholars should set aside early July, 2011, for a trip to Perth, Australia, to join other in a now-growing tradition of sessions and roundtables that bring together members from several world associations at one time. Information will be distributed to each association simultaneously throughout the planning process.

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WPSC (World Planning School Congress, Steering Committee) <http://www.gpean.org/>