



Promoting Excellence in Planning Education and Research

# Materials for the CoRep meeting

Lille, March 27, 2009



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# Agenda



## AESOP Council Meeting March 27th, 10:00 – 13:00 Lille, France

### *Supporting materials*

#### **10:00 Introduction**

Welcome, President's report, outline of key activities

W. Salet

*Pr Report*

Special project officers reports :

AESOP quality policy

M. Finka

*Quality milestones*

Eastern European Schools policy

B. Banachowicz

*Eastern Europe milestones*

#### **10:30 Organisation matters**

Secretary General's Report

A. Geppert

*SG Report*

Treasurer's report

A. Ge / A. Voigt

*Tr report*

Website

G. Cotella

Upcoming vacancies

A. Geppert

*List of vacancies*

#### **10:50 Planning education**

Excellence in teaching Prize

F. Lo Piccolo

*2009 Prize announcement*

AOB Planning Education

#### **11:00 Planning policy / links with other organisations**

GPEAN : world congress, *Dialogues*

A. Frank

Planning organisations : Isocarp, ECTP, UN Habitat

P.Ac, A.Ge, A.Fr

Planning journals : EPS, DisP, EJSD

P. Ache, A. Ge

*EJSD proposals*

#### **11:30**

#### **Coffee break**

**11:45 Planning research**

Best Published paper prize

P. Naess

*BPPP announcement*

Best Conference Paper Prize

K. Maier

*BCP announcement*

Thematic groups

B. Banachowicz

*TG report*

AOB planning research

**12:00 Young academics**

V. Novotny

*YA report*

**12:20 AESOP events**

Congresses : Liverpool 2009, Helsinki 2010

D.Shaw, P. Ache

Heads of Schools : Istanbul 2010, Tirana 2011

Z. Enlil, B. Aliaj

**13:00 Closure**

**Lunch on your own**

**15:00 Meeting for the study tour in Lille**

**18:00 Welcome reception (Lille townhall)**

# Secretary General's Report

By Anna Geppert

## 1. AESOP membership and AESOP people :

### ➤ A stable Membership showing that AESOP has reached maturity:

Since July 2008, AESOP membership has remained stable. We have no new members, but 3 schools have manifested interest and shall be providing the documentation in the next months. Also, we have no resignation, which confirms that the step of rising membership fees has been well understood and accepted by our members.

This keeps our membership at

- 116 full members,
- 43 associate members (of which some are actually affiliate),
- 42 individual members,
- 4 honorary members.

### ➤ An active new Council of Representatives :

Elections to our Council of representatives took place in May and June 2008. The mandate of the new representatives has started after the Chicago conference (and lasts until the 2010 congress).

The composition of the Council is renewed : several long-term representatives are leaving, new colleagues are entering, which we shall welcome at our next Council meeting in Spring 2009. The Council is also strengthened : Several countries made use of the possibility to designate substitutes. Substitutes are welcome to attend the meetings of the Council. In voting matters, a representative and his substitute together hold 1 vote.

Council members have shown to be very responsive each time they were addressed, and in particular :

- regarding the test-update of the schools database (Nov/Dec 2008)
- regarding the "Espon 2006-evaluation"(March 2009)
- and are expected as many as 40 at our meeting in Lille, which is a fair audience for our spring meeting.

### ➤ Upcoming ExCo vacancies :

Positions of highest importance to AESOP are to be renewed in July 2009 (Liverpool meeting) :

- Vice-President : the VP takes over the position of President in July 2010, for a mandate of 2 years)
- Treasurer : Andreas Voigt has served AESOP in position of treasurer for five years, and is now willing to step down.

Election process :

- ✓ April 2009 : the Council and School representatives will be addressed with a call for candidates ;
- ✓ By June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 : applications to be sent to the Secretary General :
  - Candidates : a CV letter explaining their motivation ;
  - AESOP Members (schools or individuals) : expressions of support (letter/e-mail) may be addressed to the SG
- ✓ Spring Council meeting : the election will take place according to AESOP usual voting rules. Candidates will be invited to express their motivation to the Council.

## 2. Towards professionalization of AESOP

### 2.1. Organisation matters:

#### ➤ A new assistant of the SG :

Our SG assistant Sébastien Piantoni having been promoted to a permanent position at the University of Reims, **Alexandra Marquigny** (Planning student at the University of Reims) has taken over in February 2009. I would like to express many thanks to Sébastien, who has been of great support in my first years in capacity of SG, and a warm welcome to Alexandra who has taken over with commitment and efficiency this complex function.

#### ➤ Schools directory update

The new directory form provided by Andrea Franck and Andreas Voigt, has been tested in Nov/Dec 2008 with CoRep members. Many thanks to all our respondents for support.

The update of our Schools directory of other member schools will be run between April and June 2009. **It is a matter of highest importance** for AESOP, as a wide part of the informations are no longer accurate. Together with the renovation of our website, it will provide AESOP a safe database for the knowledge of its members.

#### ➤ AESOP Heads of Schools meeting

An attendance of over 60 colleagues is expected,

#### ➤ AESOP Website :

The Austrian company *Identum* has resigned from the task. A new partner has to be found. Giancarlo Cotella is in charge of the process.

### 2.2 Communication and publications:

#### ➤ AESOP News

The number of announcements made by AESOP and by our members has increased strongly in 2008/2009. To avoid overload of the mailboxes of our 2500 relations. Our membership seems happy with the current format of the newsletter. The future website will help this function by providing the possibility of generating half-automatically such newsletter.

#### ➤ AESOP Yearbook 2007 & 2008

The yearbook 2007 & 2008 is edited, for the first time by the secretariat. It confirms to be cost-saving (2006 yearbook costed 5274 € ; 2007 & 2008 Yearbook has costed ca. 2000€, shipping costs included).



# *The Treasurer's Report for 2008*

By Andreas Voigt

## *Income*

The annual income for 2008 was € 85.569. This sum was realised through membership fee payments € 66.985, conference contributions (€ 13.300 Naples and € 5.000 YA-Meeting Vienna) and a decreasing income from advertisement business (€ 284). Several members did not fulfil their financial obligations in due time.

## *Expenses*

During 2008 € 63.545 were spent. For details please see the table attached.

## *Balance*

This year's balance shows a surplus of € 22.023. This is primarily the result of lower than expected expenditures for some items and a pleasing increase of income from membership fees.

## *Conclusion & remarks*

The aim of AESOP treasury policy is to achieve a balanced annual budget (annual expenditure should not exceed income). Given the spending praxis of the last few years it has proved possible to achieve this aim. Membership fees and congress contributions remain AESOP's main sources of income.

The standard of AESOP-services (e.g. organizing and co-organizing conferences, workshops and meetings, provision of reports and information via website and e-mail, job advertisements) and strategic activities (e.g. young academics, communication, thematic groups, quality assurance) has been raised continuously over the last few years, which has necessitated additional budgets. Additional costs have been claimed by the Secretary General for 2007ff. New strategic activities (e.g. the further integration of databases and web) need specific consideration and will incur additional costs. What is very positive therefore was the decision made by the Council of Representatives in Naples to raise the membership fee from 2008 and to provide a full secretarial support to the Secretary General.

In order to maintain the quality of current services and improve them still further additional income sources and the revision of some budget items have to be discussed.

March 2009 / Andreas Voigt, AESOP Treasurer



## AESOP BUDGET 2009

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<b>INCOME</b>		<b>budget 2009</b>
A	Membership Fees	67.000
B	Congress Contributions to AESOP	7.000
	Joint Conferences (WPSC/ACSP)	32.500
C	Income out of Advertisement Business	2.000
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>108.500</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		<b>budget 2009</b>
1	Publishing & Printing	1.110
2	Yearbook (incl. Planning Education & surveys)	5.000
3	Websites, Databases	35.000
4	SG: Secretariate Costs	25.000
5	Exco Business Meetings	13.000
6	Exco: Additional Business Trips	4.000
7	StaCo: Standing Committee for Congresses	2.200
8	CoRep seminars / HoS	2.500
9	YA: Young Academic's Working Group	3.500
10	Thematic Groups	2.500
11	AESOP Joint Seminars / YA-meeting	2.200
12	GPEAN (incl. business trips)	1.000
13	«AESOP Prize Paper» award	500
13	«AESOP Prizes» additional, AESOP-bursary	1.750
14	«AESOP Best Conference Paper» award	500
15	«AESOP Excellence in Teaching for Practice» award	1.000
16	AESOP PhD Workshop Grant:	2.500
17	Hardship Support	2.000
18	Unforeseen/Miscellaneous	2.000
19	Bank & VISA Charges	1.500
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>108.760</b>
	<i>Difference Income/Expenses</i>	<b>-260</b>

## Status reminders :




### Association of European Schools Of Planning



List date: 12.2.2009

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Contact				
1	<b>I-061-01</b> Individual member I Griffith University School of Environmental Planning Mrs. Wendy Steele  Griffith University - Brisbane, Qld Australia	Reminder Status: 2  Individual member	GDP _ per capita Region: 2007 est. Australia 	\$37,500
2	<b>F-033-04</b> Full member F University de Nantes DESS Villes et Territoires, UFR de Droit, de Geographie UFR de Droit, de Géographie et Aménagement et Ecole d'Architecture Co-Directeur Bernard Fritsch  Chemin de la Censive-du-Tertre – BP 81307 F-44312 Nantes CEDEX 03	Reminder Status: 2  Full member Directory Member	GDP _ per capita Region: 2007 est. France 	\$33,800
3	<b>F-033-044</b> Full member F Université de Paris I Magistère d'Aménagement et Master d'Aménagement et Urbaniste Directeur Prof. Francis Beaucire  13 rue du Four F-75006 Paris France	Reminder Status: 2  Full member Directory Member	GDP _ per capita Region: 2007 est. France 	\$33,800
4	<b>F-036-01</b> Full member F Centre for Regional Studies Centre for Regional Studies Mrs. Gyula Horvath  Kulich Gy. 22, P.O. Box 199 HUN-7601 Pecs Hungary	Reminder Status: 2  NUTS2 Full member Directory Member	GDP _ per capita Region: Dél-Dunántúl 2007 est. Hungary 	\$19,500
5	<b>A-039-02</b> Associate member A University of Napoli Department of Planning and Regional Science Dipartimento di Pianificazione e Scienza del Territorio Prof. Elvira Petroncelli  Piazzale Tecchio 80 I-80125 Napoli Italy	Reminder Status: 2  NUTS2 Associate member Directory Member	GDP _ per capita Region: Campania 2007 est. Italy 	\$31,000
6	<b>I-040-02</b> Individual member li Stephan the Great University Department of Geography Viorel Chirita  University 13 RO- Suceava Romania	Reminder Status: 2  NUTS2 Individual member 1	GDP _ per capita Region: 2007 est. Romania 	\$11,100
7	<b>F-090-06</b> Full member Ff Izmir Institute of Technology Department of City and Regional Planning Urla Gülbahçeköyü  TR-35430 Izmir Turkey	Reminder Status: 2  Full member Directory Member	GDP _ per capita Region: 2007 est. Turkey 	\$9,400

Contact					
8	▶ <b>A-044-06</b>	Associate member A	Reminder Status: 2	GDP _ per capita 2007 est. <b>Region:</b> Eastern Scotland	\$35,300
	University of Strathclyde Glasgow UDSU – Urban Design Studies Unit Dept. of Architecture and Building Science Dr Hildebrand Frey		Associate member Directory Member	United Kingdom	
	131 Rottenrow Glasgow G4 0NG United Kingdom				
9	▶ <b>I-044-02</b>	Individual member I	Reminder Status: 2	GDP _ per capita 2007 est. <b>Region:</b> Inner London	\$35,300
	Planning and Environment Cushman & Wakefield Planning and Environment Mr. Thomas Clarke		Individual member Directory Member	United Kingdom	
	43/45 Portman Square London W1A 3BG United Kingdom				
10	▶ <b>A-001-01</b>	Associate member A	Reminder Status: 2	GDP _ per capita 2007 est. <b>Region:</b>	\$46,000
	University of Southern California School of Policy, Planning and Development Prof. Senior Associate Elizabeth Dean		Associate member Directory Member	United States	
	RGL 301-B, University Park, Child's Way Los Angeles 90089-0626 United States				




## Association of European Schools Of Planning



List date: 12.2.2009

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Contact					
1	▶ <b>F-033-03</b>	Full member F	Reminder Status: 3	GDP _ per capita 2007 est. <b>Region:</b>	\$33,800
	Universite de Paris VIII Institut Francais d'Urbanisme (IFU) Directeur Prof. Alain Bourdin		Full member Directory Member	France	
	4, rue Nobel, Cité Descartes F-77420 Champs-sur-Marne France				
2	▶ <b>I-092-01</b>	Individual member I	Reminder Status: 3	GDP _ per capita 2007 est. <b>Region:</b>	\$42,000
	Mr. Arif Yasin Chohan		Individual member Directory Member	Hong Kong	
	Room No 2, 7th Floor, Rear Block, 408 Des Voeux Road West HK- Hong Kong Island Hong Kong				
3	▶ <b>I-081-02</b>	Individual member I	Reminder Status: 3	GDP _ per capita 2007 est. <b>Region:</b>	\$33,800
	Chiba University of Commerce Graduate School of Environmental Planning Prof. Yoshinobu Kumata		Individual member Directory Member	Japan	
	1-3-1, Konodai JAP- Ichikawa, Chiba Japan				
4	▶ <b>I-001-11</b>	Individual member I	Reminder Status: 3	GDP _ per capita 2007 est. <b>Region:</b>	\$46,000
	Massachusetts Institute of Technology MIT Dept of Urban Studies and Planning Mrs. Lorlene Hoyt		Individual member Directory Member	United States	
	77 Massachusetts Ave Cambridge MA 02134307 United States				

List date: 12.2.2009



## Contact

1	▶	<b>I-852-01</b>	Individual member I	Reminder Status: 4	GDP _ per capita	\$42,000
		University of Hong Kong Mr. Muhammad Shahid Mughal			2007 est.	
		408 Des voex road West, 7th floor, room no-2 HK- Hong Kong Hong Kong	Individual member Directory Member		Region:	Hong Kong
2	▶	<b>I-098-01</b>	Individual member li	Reminder Status: 4	GDP _ per capita	\$12,300
		Teheran Teacher Training University Dr. Hassan Afrakhteh			2007 est.	
		49 Shahid Mofatteh Avenue IR- Tehran Iran	Individual member Directory Member		Region:	Iran 
3	▶	<b>A-039-04</b>	Associate member A	Reminder Status: 4	GDP _ per capita	\$31,000
		University of Catania Faculty of Architecture PhD Programme in Urban and Regional Planning and Management Paola La Greca / Francesco Martinico	Nuts2 Associate member Directory Member		2007 est.	Region: Sicilia
		Viale Andrea Doria 6 I-95125 Catania Italy				Italy 
4	▶	<b>F-039-11</b>	Full member F	Reminder Status: 4	GDP _ per capita	\$31,000
		University of Genoa, School of Architecture Polis department Dr. Roberto Bobbio			2007 est.	Region: Liguria
		Stradone de Sant'Agostino 37 I-16123 Genoa Italy	Full member Directory Member			Italy 
5	▶	<b>I-039-05</b>	Individual member I	Reminder Status: 4	GDP _ per capita	\$31,000
		Professore Vittorio Borachia			2007 est.	Region: Lombardia
		Polytechnico di Milano Facolta di Architettura Via Bonardi 3 I-210 33 Milano Italy	Individual member Directory Member			Italy 
6	▶	<b>F-377-01</b>	Full member Ff	Reminder Status: 4	GDP _ per capita	\$964
		University of Prishtina Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture Department of Architecture Dipl.Ing. Arch. Ilir Gjinolli			2006 est.	Region:
		Nazim Gafurri nr 31 KOS- Prishtina Kosovo UNMIK	Full member Directory Member			Kosovo, UNMIK
7	▶	<b>F-034-01</b>	Full member F	Reminder Status: 4	GDP _ per capita	\$33,700
		Autonomous university of Barcelona Institute of Metropolitan Studies of Barcelona Institut d'Estudis Regionals i Metropolitans de Barcelona Director Josep Maria Vegara-Carrio			2007 est.	Region: Cataluna
		Campus de Bellaterra. Cerdanyola del vallès E-08193 Barcelona Spain	Full member Directory Member			Spain 

# *Call for Application for the creation of a new Website for AESOP State of the Art and future steps*

By Giancarlo Cotella

**Lille, March 26<sup>th</sup> 2009**

The most crucial of AESOP communication techniques is the website. AESOP currently operates a web site ([www.aesop-planning.com](http://www.aesop-planning.com)) which provides basic functionality (news, downloads, general information) to the public, mainly through static pages which are maintained using web design tools, such as Microsoft Frontpage, Macromedia Dreamweaver etc. While such a website at the moment is fulfilling the unidirectional role it was designed for, technological improvements could make this role much easier to fulfill and expand it into a more interactive tool.

Enhanced interactivity is considered to be absolutely crucial for AESOP to move to a more client based approach focused on service provision. In order to further enhance its connection to current members as well as the public, AESOP launched a call in February 2008, in order to individuate potentials web-design companies to perform the task. AESOP commitment to the project notwithstanding, after several moments of reciprocal interaction with the selected company, the process has been interrupted in November 2009.

Therefore, AESOP intends to re-launch the call for the development of its website, aiming at introducing a new website to the public during 2009 with a view to operating certain key features by December 2009.

In order to re-launch the process as soon as possible, the Call for application has been re-worked according to latest development, and attached to the ExCo material.

Follows the proposed future steps:

1. In Lille, the state of the art will be presented to ExCo and CoRep, i.e. the fact that our cooperation with Identum has been interrupted and that we will relaunch the call (budget, technical features and parameters are already agreed, and will be recalled upon request).

It is important to stress the need to reach as many companies as possible with the new Call for applications. Therefore, ExCos, CoReps and HoSs will be invited to suggest to the webteam potential candidates.

The goal is to put together a short database of webdesign companies recommended by our members, in order to address them directly with the new call.

2. After Lille, ExCos, CoReps and HoSs will be contacted again by email on the above issue. Potential candidates have to be indicated by April the 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

3. The idea is to officially re-launch the Call for application on April the 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

The call will be launched in a twofold way.

On the one hand, it will be circulated to the general public through AESOP ordinary informative channels (publication on Aesop & YA websites, AESOP and YA massmails systems, circulation through forums & scientific mailing lists, etc...)

On the other hand, all the companies that were indicated us will be addressed individually.

4. Much work has already been done during our cooperation with Identum. In order not to start again from scratch, it would be good to allow for more interaction during the preparation of the application and to inform potential applicants of the material already produced.

In this concern, we warmly invite potential applicants to contact us, so that we can exchange the information we already have, and help them to prepare more coherent and detailed applications (This may also help to avoid to lose time later on, and to shorten the period between the selection of the winner and the signature of the contract, one of the reason of the failure of our cooperation with Identum).

In order to achieve this, interested companies will be asked to contact us to “confirm their interest”, so that we can immediately keep in touch.

5. The new deadline for submission may reasonably be May the 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

6. Once the applications are received and the Call is closed, we may decide to ask for technical advice during the selection process.

7. Unless differently agreed during Lille ExCo meeting, the final decision will be taken during Liverpool ExCo meeting, July 2009.

Once a decision is taken, the winning company should be contacted as soon as possible in order to reach a signed agreement and start the cooperation.

In absence of delays, a new website operating certain key features should be running by December 2009.

Giancarlo Cotella  
AESOP Website Officer  
[quancarlos@libero.it](mailto:quancarlos@libero.it)



# *Announcement of Excellence in Teaching Prize 2009*

F. Lo Piccolo

## **AIM OF THE PRIZE**

Teaching in the broad field of planning is one of the main activities of our member schools. To highlight this AESOP 2002 introduced a new prize in order to recognise and encourage Excellence in Teaching. Through this award, AESOP would like to celebrate and disseminate the good practice in teaching to be found in our member schools. The aim of the award is to stimulate the development of planning courses or groups of courses in order to better prepare students for their forthcoming practice and also to further educate practitioners.

The award's purpose is to promote and encourage planning schools to apply new pedagogy, theories and/ or technologies/ techniques in ways that enhance the theories, knowledge and skills necessary for planning. The award will provide an important opportunity to disseminate effective practice and teaching quality, for it also aims to promote the development of courses for those who have already been in practice for some years. Hopefully it will encourage such persons to return to school to exchange ideas about new theories and methods.

## **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

Planning is seen in a wide perspective. We expect that nominations will be a critical and constructive contribution of teaching. They will inspire and foster curiosity, rigor, creativity, critical thinking, and the building of lifelong learning habits.

Planning courses, or modules, or an integrated series of course or modules, of maximum length of two semesters can be nominated - BUT NOT A WHOLE PROGRAMME IN ANY ONE YEAR OF THE COURSE OF STUDY. The nominated course should:

1. Define the course perspective of the concept of planning
2. Be taught in a creative and high quality pedagogical way, which engages the students in dealing innovatively with planning problems;
3. Prepare students to be excellent theorists and practitioners.

## **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Only AESOP member schools can be nominated for this prize. The course must have been successfully implemented for at least one year. Applicants can either be:

- ⊕ A planning school;
- ⊕ A planning department within a university; or
- ⊕ A group of teaching staff or an individual belonging to an AESOP Member school.

**Young academics are warmly encouraged to apply.**

## HOW TO APPLY

Use the electronic application form available from the AESOP web site. All material must be submitted electronically to the chair of the jury, Francesco Lo Piccolo.

**Applications must be received by 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2009. Please send the nomination electronically to <fpiccolo@unipa.it>**

Applications must include a full description of the course or module, specifying:

- The content of the course;
- The context/ instructional setting (country, educational system, institution, etc);
- The learners (type, members on course, stage in education);
- Justification of why this course/pedagogy/technique is important for planning;
- Learning objectives for the students;
- The perspective of the concept of 'planning' in the actual course;
- Explanation of why the approach is creative and of high quality;
- How any difficulties were overcome;
- How the successful elements of the course can be reproduced and applied at other institutions;

## THE JURY

A panel of six academics will judge the nominees. The panel will consist of AESOP members, a Young Academics representative included.

The panel of judges will select and evaluate the applications, according to the following points:

- In what ways is the pedagogy creative and of high quality?
- Why and how is the nominated course/module and/or pedagogy important for planning practice?
- How is theory and practice integrated in the course/module or in the pedagogy?
- How are students prepared for a life of "reflective practice"?
- What difficulties were met in developing the course and/or pedagogy and how were they overcome?
- How can the successful elements of the course be reproduced and applied at other institutions?

## AWARDING THE PRIZE

A prize of 1000 EUROS will be presented to a representative of the winning programme during the annual AESOP congress. The winner will be expected to make an audio-visual presentation of the programme at the subsequent year's congress. He/she/they will also be expected to allow the programme to be presented on AESOP's website.

CEBE Transactions (<http://www.cebe.heacademy.ac.uk/transactions/>) will publish an article on the issue/contents/pedagogical approach of the winning module(s) from the AESOP Excellence in Teaching Prize on an annual basis.

# *EJSD proposals : Preliminary note*

By Anna Geppert

## **Meeting Katarine Pettersson (Nordregio, co-editor EJSD) and Anna Geppert (SG of AESOP)**

**Stockholm, Nordregio, Feb 12, 2009.**

### **Context :**

EJSD is willing to strengthen its collaboration with AESOP in order to increase its audience and to find contributors to its issues.

Note : EJSD is :

- co-edited by Nordregio (Katarina Pettersson) and TU Delft (OTB, Wil Zonneveld)
- peer-reviewed (but not listed on web of science) ; there is also a non-refereed section
- 100% electronic and free of charge
- 1 paper = 1 issue
- the papers benefit of a language wash and EJSD has an open copyright, which means that authors keep all rights on their papers (so they can be easily reprinted in – for instance – books and readers).

EJSD will make use of AESOP services, which are free of charge as both institutions are AESOP members, in order to announce on AESOP website + newsletter :

- the calls for papers
- its new issues

Furthermore, other collaborative interests have been addressed during the meeting.

**1. EJSD proposes to establish a common policy aiming to encourage publishing AESOP-initiated papers.** As an example, in addition to the overall call for proposals leading to the classical peer-review and addressing individuals, special issues could present papers coming from specific target groups such as :

1. AESOP young researchers : special issues could present papers resulting of the PhD workshops or from the YA conferences.
2. AESOP thematic groups/ congress tracks
3. AESOP's best conference paper

**2. EJSD will be reconstructing its editorial board in 2009/2010.** Currently, the editorial board integrates people from the AESOP-sphere (Andreas Faludi, Tore Sager...) The possibilities of integrating more colleagues from AESOP (individuals) and/or a representative from AESOP will be discussed further.

### **3. Mutual support in communication :**

In addition to the announcement services, additional means of support may be considered :

- inserting the weblinks on both websites
- allowing EJSD to insert its documentation (a bookmark) in AESOP congresses, for instance as part of the conference package
- present EJSD in the annual meeting (General Assembly)?
- Invite EJSD to support the best conference paper prize, if its winner is to be published in EJSD.

### **Conclusion and next steps :**

If further collaboration is to be established, a memorandum of understanding shall be signed between EJSD and AESOP.

Anna Geppert will present these collaboration possibilities to AESOP's next ExCo (March 2009), in order to define AESOP's position regarding the proposal and, if need be, provide a draft for a memorandum of understanding.

#### **Annex : EJSD self-presentation (bookmark) :**

The European Journal of Spatial development is a refereed journal, distributed online free of charge. The aim of those on the Editorial Board is to offer a high-quality scientific journal on spatial development i.e. spatial analyses and planning, regional development, policy making and governance. Contributions taking a comparative or European perspective are particularly welcome.

Publication policy is geared to the provision of a rapid publication channel, with new contributions being made available online as soon as they are cleared by the peer review process.

# *AESOP Young Academics Network Reports*

By Vojtech Novotny



*A creative and open-minded network of young researchers, academics and students from all over the world, developing and disseminating their ideas and research results, supported by AESOP.*

## I Structure of YAN

The AESOP Young Academics Network consists of regular individual members, whose networking and activities are supported by Young Academics Network Coordination Team. Coordination Team comprises 5 elected Regular Members one Senior Advisor and 2 non elected Co-opted Members.

There are five portfolios within the CT, and each CT Member is responsible for one portfolio, together with one or two “Friends” (who act as non-executive assistants).

## II Who we are?

**Vojtech Novotny** ([novotnyvoj@fzp.czu.cz](mailto:novotnyvoj@fzp.czu.cz)) PhD student and lecturer at the University of Life Sciences Prague (Czech Republic), is interested in the interrelationship between physical planning and environment in its broader sense. He has recently been participating in the British Council’s “Low Carbon Europe” activity. For him each kind of communication offers a challenging environment for overcoming borders between people.

**Paul Benneworth** ([paul.benneworth@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:paul.benneworth@ncl.ac.uk)), research fellow at Newcastle University (UK), is keen to foster the relationship between planning theory and practice. He edits the Regional Studies Association magazine "Regions" and is interested in assisting young scholars to get their voices heard.

**Beatrix Haselsberger** ([haselsberger@email.archlab.tuwien.ac.at](mailto:haselsberger@email.archlab.tuwien.ac.at)), project assistant at the Vienna University of Technology (Austria) and guest researcher at the University of Udine (Italy), is interested in the influence of territorial identities in planning issues, in particular in a trans-national context. She likes bringing people together and creating platforms for communication and networking.

**Ajith Kaliyath** ([ajithkaliyath@yahoo.co.in](mailto:ajithkaliyath@yahoo.co.in)), is a first year PhD student at Queens University Belfast, working on Sustainable Cities. He worked with Government of India and multiple international agencies (as is German Technical Cooperation, InWEnt etc.). In his

**Ceren Sezer** ([c.sezer@tudelft.nl](mailto:c.sezer@tudelft.nl)), is a PhD student at the Delft University of Technology. She has following the events of the YAN from the very beginning of the network and is keen to help intensification of contact between the individual members of the YA besides the top-down organized activities such as meetings and workshops.

**Mendel Giezen** ([m.giezen@uva.nl](mailto:m.giezen@uva.nl)), is a second year PhD student at AMIDSt at the University of Amsterdam. He is keen on helping the members to develop skills they will need in their future research careers, such as writing skills. He wants to start up a digital planning peer reviewed journal for young academics.

**Amy Yue Tang** ([amy.yue.tang@googlemail.com](mailto:amy.yue.tang@googlemail.com)), is a lecturer at School of the Built Environment, University of Nottingham. She is keen to engage the YAN with others organizations. Amy is a co-opted member of the YA CT

**Gavan Rafferty** ([g.p.rafferty@qub.ac.uk](mailto:g.p.rafferty@qub.ac.uk)), is a PhD student and lecturer in the School of Planning, Architecture and Civil Engineering at Queens University Belfast. He focuses on sustainability issues of spatial and community planning. Gavan is a co-opted member of the YA CT.

### III What we want / What we stand for

*Our main goal is to foster creative interaction among young planning scholars and to support them in their early stage of career in getting their voices heard within the scientific community.*

### IV Current YA Activities

#### **Regular YA Meeting**

This specific small-scale conference (limited to around 30 participants), established in 2007, has become one of the focal points of the YA network, due to its overwhelming success. The past conferences have attracted high-quality papers from young planning academics, and have provided a

dedicated forum for peer mentoring and support activities. The YA Meetings (free of charge to participants) are able to operate only through strong support from the host university, and each year a co-organiser from the host university is co-opted onto the YA CT.

**2007: Bratislava (Slovakia);** Slovak University of Technology, Central European Research and Training Centre in Spatial Planning (co-organised with Prof. Maros Finka); February 7-10, 2007; Topic: *“Central and Eastern European Engagement”*.

**2008: St. Petersburg (Russia);** North-West Academy of Public Administration (co-organised with Natalia Razumeyko and Rector Alexander S. Gorshov); February 6–8, 2008; Topic: *“Looking Beyond One’s Nose. Planning, Policies and Institutions for Integration”*.

AESOP ExCo meeting - Lodz, March 27 & 28, 2008 8

**2009: Vienna (Austria);** Vienna University of Technology (co-organised with Petra Hirschler and Prof. Gerhard Schimak); February 2009; Topic: *“Planning as Rear View Mirror or Crystal Ball? Diversities of Planning Cultures, Traditions, Identities”*.

**2010: Prague (Czechia);** University of Life Sciences Prague, Faculty of Environmental Sciences (co-organised with Dean Petr Sklenicka and Prof. Karel Maier); February 2010; Topic: *“Landscapes of Planning”*.

We already have three applications from possible future host universities (Delft, Belfast, Brookes). We have not yet finished the “White book” but we are working on it.

## YA Special Session

This Special Session within the annual AESOP conference is dedicated to the needs of young planning scholars. It is structured in a “how to ...” format, where established academics and researchers present their personal experiences and provide advice for young planning scholars.

**2007: Naples: AESOP Conference;** Topic: *“How to Publish a PhD Thesis”*; Guest speakers: Prof. Patsy Healey (Newcastle University), Ginny Smith (Editor: Taylor & Francis), Dymphna Evans (Editor: Ashgate), Chris Pringle (Elsevier Publisher), Bruce Stiftel (former Editor: *Journal of Planning Education and Research*) and Jean Hillier (Newcastle University and Editor: *Planning Theory*);

**2008: Chicago: ACSP/AESOP Conference;** Topic: *“How to Get the Most Out of a Conference. Principles for a Paper Presentation in a Conference”*; Guest speakers: Sigmund Asmervik (Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway), Michael Hebbert (Manchester University, UK), Petra Hirschler (Vienna University of Technology, Austria), David Prosperi (Florida Atlantic University, USA), David Shaw (University of Liverpool, UK), Roelof Verhage (University of Lyon 2, France), Jochem de Vries (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands).

**2009: Liverpool: AESOP Conference;** Topic: *"Finding Research Funding as a Young Academic"*. The rationale behind the session is that it is important for young academics to get funding at an early stage in their career and build up expertise in writing bids. But there are all kinds of pressures, the pressure to write up papers from the Ph.D., and the risk of chasing all kinds of diverse funding that pulls you in many directions at once. The paper takes a mix of mid-career and experienced researchers who have been successful in winning funding, and they can talk honestly about what to do and what not to do in taking the next step in the career.

## **YA Drinks**

This informal event, organised in a convivial atmosphere, promotes social interactions between young planning scholars. The idea is to provide an occasion at a wider event such as a conference for young people to meet, offering them some drinks, informing them about the YA network and get them communicating.

**2007:** Bratislava (YA Meeting); Naples (AESOP Conference);

**2008:** St. Petersburg (YA Meeting); Norway (Ph.D. Workshop); Chicago (ACSP/AESOP Conference);

**2009:** Vienna (YA Meeting); Liverpool (AESOP Conference);

## **Publications**

Starting with the Special Issue of the quarterly "Regions" Magazine from the Regional Studies Association that has been printed in June 2008 (right in time to bring along to the ACSP/AESOP Conference in Chicago) YA continues to support young scholars in publishing.

Our most recent achievement is the YA Meeting Best Paper Award organised together with Town Planning Review Journal, represented by Dr. David Massey, which offered to publish the best paper in conference. The Jury has unexpectedly selected papers of two authors, Diane Hopkins and Frank Othengrafen, who were invited to edit their papers for a publication in TPR. The collaboration with "Regions" Magazine continues successfully and there is a special issue to be printed in 2009. The proceedings of the YA Meeting have also been printed as a regular book of abstracts with full-paper CD.

## **Further Activities**

The YA network organises a range of activities which support the overall network mission of helping young planning scholars to better communicate excellent scientific research and participate more effectively in existing planning networks, particularly those associated with AESOP.

- YA offer a bursary award to help young scholars presenting papers meet the travel and registration costs associated with attendance at the annual AESOP PhD Workshop. Thanks to resources provided by the AESOP ExCo, YA have been able to support five young academics to join the workshop.



- YA also help to support a number of AESOP activities that provide services directly to young planners. YA are involved in the AESOP Ph.D. Workshop Organisational Committee and provide an input to the AESOP Teaching Excellence Prize.
- YA are currently seeking other networks in the field of spatial planning to develop links to support the overall mission of helping our members to become more senior planning academics. We are developing linkages with the student network of AESOP's sister organisation, ACSP, and are discussing key issues with them such as conference organisation. To better link Young Academics to AESOP we are developing an associate status, "Friend of YA", to acknowledge the contributions made by more senior academics to our various activities; this status will also be made available in the future to network members who find full academic employment in AESOP member institutions.

## V Planned Activities

Facing relatively low activity of the membership in the meantime between the regular activities of both YA and AESOP, current YA CT decided to start up with providing infrastructure that would help networking between the members which do not attend the regular YA Activities. The goal of these plans that are to be launched through the year 2009 is to make the network more participatory and bottom-up platform for dissemination of thoughts.

**YA Nests** are planned to be locally or thematically based groups of young researchers, which will be given space and hand by the YA CT. The idea of establishing a semi-official self organising groups within the YA reacts on frequent calls for hosting a YA activity. The CT finds the concept of YA Nests to be a proper mean to overcome the limited capacity of the YA CT.

**YA Times** is a new format of the YA Newsletter. We attempt to establish an electronic newsletter which carries real content of use to our membership, the young academics. We produced a prototype before Christmas, which demonstrated that it is technically possible, but its success will ultimately be dependent on the quality of material which we publish to attract a readership.

Further information is available via the AESOP YA website <http://www.aesop-youngacademics.net>

Vojtech Novotny, University of Life Science Prague,  
19th March 2009

