



CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY

PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD

School of Geography
and Planning

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a Chynllunio

OUR RESEARCH

About the School

We are based in a research-intensive university, and we are renowned as a school for the excellence of our research. Cardiff University is ranked fifth in the UK for the quality of its research and as a school we are highly ranked by subject in the Research Excellence Framework. We are in the Top 100 in the World QS University ranking by subject. Our research makes the connections between human geography, urban designs and spatial planning. Research-led teaching bridges academic knowledge and real world situations.

Transforming places through critical thinking and public engagement

A transforming school

We offer our students a stimulating, supportive, and exciting environment in which to study and thrive.

From cases on paper, to places in practice, we enable our students and staff to actively transform the world.

An engaging school

We actively engage with a range of audiences and stakeholders, influencing the policy of international institutions, national government, local authorities, non-governmental and charity organisations. We regularly host a series of engaging events, where we showcase the impact of our research and build relationships with external stakeholders and partners.

A critical school

We address the grand challenges faced by human societies and places in the twenty-first century.

We apply critical thinking and practical knowledge in solving economic, environmental and social problems.

Welcome

Welcome to Cardiff University's School of Geography and Planning.

The School is an internationally recognised centre of excellence for research, teaching and impact in human geography, spatial planning and urban design. We critically engage with the relations between people, places and environments to provide academic understandings of, and policy and practical solutions to, the grand challenges of the 21st Century. Specialisms include economic development, environment and sustainability, international development, social and spatial inequalities, spatial planning and analysis, urban design and cultural geographies. We engage with local, regional, national and global scale issues, particularly focusing on the impact of these issues on regions, city-regions, cities and rural areas.

Our research guides our teaching and enriches the student learning experience. Our degrees take our students' interests in geography, planning and design' and apply them to real world contexts, helping students develop the critical and practical skills required to effectively transform their lives and the places around them in their future careers.

The research carried out here focuses upon the impacts of economic, social, political and cultural change and the built and natural environments. While geography provides the theoretical and analytical skills to understand both the nature of change and its impacts, planning translates this understanding into action to ensure a better quality of environment for present and future generations.

This brochure gives an insight into the breadth of research taking place in our School. Please get in touch with us to find out more.



Professor Paul Milbourne
Head of School
School of Geography and Planning

Our research



The School of Geography and Planning is a centre for research in the areas of human geography, planning, urban design and spatial analysis. We have a diverse portfolio of research covering economic, social, political and cultural change and the built and natural environments.

Our research activity has a high impact in shaping relevant policy debates and influencing international agendas. Through these research efforts we play an internationally leading role in research and academic inquiry associated with the development, management and sustainability of cities, regions and rural spaces. While many research projects focus on the UK, our staff also carry out research, consultancy and teaching in Europe, the USA, Canada, Australia, India, China, Malaysia, Japan, South Africa, the Middle East and elsewhere.

With projects funded by the EU, national bodies, government departments and other organisations, we work to deliver relevant, robust, high-quality research that supports legislation change and evidence-based policy making across the world. We have a strong track record of positive research impact, including policy development, public debate and innovative practice, in the areas of urban and regional development, strategic environmental planning, food, farming and rural policies. In recent years, we have played a prominent role in creating more inclusive urban environments, shaping regional policy-thinking towards innovation, connecting social and environmental objectives within the planning system and designing more sustainable food and farming strategies.

Research Excellence Assessment

Cardiff University is recognised as one of the UK's major research universities being a member of the Russell Group, the UK's leading 24 research intensive universities. The School of Geography and Planning is proud to be continuously recognised for its impact in research on a national and international level.

In the UK government's latest Research Excellence Framework exercise (REF) we were ranked 9th in the UK, with 85% of our research assessed as world leading or internationally excellent.

Cardiff University climbed 17 places to be the 5th best university in the UK in terms of research excellence, making it the fastest rising among the Russell Group.



Our four research groups undertake work that has a positive impact outside academia. Recent examples of our research impact include:

- Our **Social and Cultural Research Group** has: sparked legislative change in Wales that significantly improved accommodation outcomes for homeless people; helped protect the rights of religious minorities across English planning authorities; raised awareness amongst UK policy-makers about the challenges facing mothers as they seek to integrate breastfeeding into their daily lives; and re-oriented ways of thinking about the right to the city for marginalized groups.
- Researchers in the **Environment Research Group** have: raised the profile of urban food policies in UN debates; influenced European legislation on animal welfare; provided support to the Welsh National Food Policy and Rural Development Plan, the Scottish National Public Procurement Policy and DEFRA's management of animal disease and biosecurity.
- Research by members of the **Spatial Planning and Analysis in City Environments (SPACE) Research Group** has: re-framed UN debates on sustainable housing and the urban informal economy; improved outdoor education for children and young people in the UK; identified patterns of social vulnerability to climate change and flooding in Scotland and Wales; and led to the development of frameworks and models for measuring waterways' public benefits, land use, car and public transport, pedestrian and cycle behaviour.
- Members of the **Urban and Regional Governance Research Group** have: developed new metrics for measuring regional competitiveness; utilised resilience concepts to identify key principles that can help regions to prepare for future economic crises; played a prominent role in the development of regional innovation policy at the EU level; and are currently participating in the development of the Cardiff City Region.

Research Groups

Our research is organised around four key groups: Environment; Social and Cultural Geography; Spatial Planning and Analysis in City Environments (SPACE); and Urban and Regional Governance.

ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH GROUP

The Environment Research Group is a large cluster of human geographers and planners interested in understanding and resolving contemporary global environmental challenges. Key concerns for group members range from climate change and food security, to renewable energy and green infrastructure, through to rural development, biosecurity and sustainable food systems and community growing.

Drawing on cutting-edge theoretical approaches from human geography, science and technology studies, and political ecology, research is conducted using a range of methodological approaches such as ethnographic and participatory methods, and ecological footprinting. Reflecting the global significance of environmental research, the group conducts research across the world, ranging from Wales, Europe and as far away as China and New Zealand. The group has strong links with the University's Sustainable Places Research Institute, as well as partnerships with other Universities in the UK and abroad.

Some group members:



Group Lead: Dr Kersty Hobson is a Senior Lecturer in Human Geography whose research focuses on issues of social and environmental transformation, particularly in the fields of sustainable production and consumption, and multi-level environmental governance.



Dr Andrea Collins is a Lecturer in Environmental Planning whose research focuses on assessing the environmental impacts of major events and festivals and ecological footprinting.



Professor Richard Cowell is Professor of Environmental Policy and Planning. Richard's research interests cover theoretical and political aspects of the relationship between public policy and sustainable development, with particular reference to land use planning, environmental knowledge and decision-making, policy integration and renewable energy.



Dr Gareth Enticott is a Reader in Human Geography. His research focuses on biosecurity and the management of animal health controversies in England, Wales and New Zealand.

If you are interested in learning more about the Environment Research Group in the School of Geography and Planning at Cardiff University, please contact Dr Kersty Hobson: hobsonk@cardiff.ac.uk



SOCIAL AND CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH GROUP

We have one of the largest groups of Social and Cultural Geographers in the UK, and these researchers are at the cutting-edge of international agendas focused on critical thinking such as feminist, Marxist, postcolonial, post-structural and 'more-than-representational' theory.

Our research considers diverse empirical topics including;

- breastfeeding • gentrification • housing and homelessness • drugs and alcohol • cycling
- food banks • Fairtrade • religion and spirituality • surfing • fashion • music • humour
- dance • animal-human interactions • allotments and community gardens.

Funded by organisations including the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the Economic and Social Research Council, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, The Leverhulme Trust, British Academy and The Wellcome Trust, we undertake research underpinned by ethnographic, innovative and participatory methods in case study locations around the world, including: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tanzania, UK and USA.

Some group members:



Group Lead: Professor Mark Jayne is Professor of Human Geography, and he is a social and cultural geographer whose research interests include consumption, the urban order, city cultures and cultural economy.



Professor Jon Anderson is Professor of Human Geography and his academic interest is oriented around the extraordinary sets of relations between people and places, and is focused on research into water worlds, surfing places and literary geographies.



embodiment.

Dr Kate Boyer is a Senior Lecturer in Human Geography and her research interests cover social, cultural and feminist geography. She is especially interested in how place and space come to have meaning, including the politics of how these processes intersect with understandings of gender, care and



homelessness, protest, advocacy and care.

Dr Andrew Williams is a Lecturer in Human Geography and his research focuses on the relationships between welfare, ethics and care, religion, and neoliberalism undertaken through a series of ethnographic engagements in particular spaces in the city - drug and alcohol treatment, food banks,

If you are interested in learning more about the Social and Cultural Geography Research Group in the School of Geography and Planning at Cardiff University, please contact Professor Mark Jayne: JayneM1@cardiff.ac.uk

SPATIAL PLANNING AND ANALYSIS IN CITY ENVIRONMENTS (SPACE) RESEARCH GROUP

The SPACE research group specialises in theoretical and applied research that actively engages with external audiences in the public, private and third sectors in the UK and international spheres. Our research covers a wide range of topics, including; housing and land markets, valuing built environment and infrastructure externalities, active travel and transport, spatial variations in social and health inequalities, accessibility and health outcomes, social capital and service provision, public participation, engagement and social justice in planning processes, urban design responses to social and natural problems, flood and wild fire risk and disaster planning, and urbanisation and urban poverty reduction in the developing world. Our research is funded by organisations including the Economic and Social Research Council, the National Environment Research Council, The Leverhulme Trust, and the Welsh and Scottish Governments.

Overlapping research themes of the group include:

- Data Integration, Mapping and Visualization
- Networks, Connectivity and Accessibility
- Valuing Infrastructure and the Built Environment
- Engagement, Regulation and Planning Practice
- Global Development Challenges

Some group members:



Group Lead: Dr Brian Webb, Lecturer in Spatial Planning
Brian's research interests stem from his desire to develop an improved understanding of the multi-scalar socio-economic impacts of strategic planning policies.



Professor Alison Brown, Professor of Urban Planning & International Development
Alison's research focuses on urbanisation and development, urban informal economies, and post-conflict cities, and she has research and practice experience in 22 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East.



Dr Neil Harris, Senior Lecturer in Statutory Planning
Neil's research explores the operation of formal or statutory planning systems, focusing on regulations for the use and development of land.



Dr Scott Orford, Reader in Spatial Analysis and GIS
Scott's research is in quantitative social geography, with an emphasis on modelling socio-economic spatial processes such as housing market dynamics and voting behaviour.

If you are interested in learning more about the Spatial Planning and Analysis in City Environments Group in the School of Geography and Planning at Cardiff University, please contact Dr Brian Web: WebbB1@cardiff.ac.uk

URBAN AND REGIONAL GOVERNANCE RESEARCH GROUP

The Urban and Regional Governance Research Group (URG) specialises in the study of the nature of urban, regional and city-regional spaces, and how they are shaped and transformed by various social, political, economic and environmental actors and processes. Group members have contributed considerably to various theoretical debates and empirical understandings, critically engaging with discussions concerning why such spaces are configured in particular ways. In particular, they have a common concern with the 'governance' of urban, regional and city-regional areas as particular geographical spaces. This recognises that governance is an element of the political, economic and social 'worlds' of urban, regional and city-regional areas, with heterogeneous actors and practices constituting such governing arenas.

URG has two interconnected research sub-groupings:

Urban governance, society and power:

This broad grouping examines a range of social, political, economic and environmental actors, practices and processes occurring within, through and between urban spaces.

Regional political economies:

The Group focuses on various aspects of economic geography research, including:

- Spaces of Innovation Systems and Spatial Policies
- Economic Development and Regional Competitiveness
- Regional Resilience
- Sustainable Food Systems and Re-localisation
- Regional Culture, Well-being and Economic Development

Some group members:



Group Lead: Dr Crispian Fuller specialises in urban and economic geography, with his research focusing on urban governance and the geographies of multinational corporations.



Professor Gillian Bristow specialises in Economic Geography, focusing on issues of regional economic resilience; local and regional competitiveness; and regional policy, including the co-ordination of Cardiff University's 'City Region Exchange'.



Dr Oleg Golubchikov is a Senior Lecturer in Human Geography, with research interests concerning urban political geography, critical and post-socialist studies, energy geography, and sustainable cities.



Professor Rob Huggins is an internationally renowned expert in regional economic development. His research is concerned with innovation, competitiveness, entrepreneurship, and inter-organisational networks.

If you are interested in learning more about the Urban and Regional Governance Research Group in the School of Geography and Planning at Cardiff University, please contact Dr Crispian Fuller: fullerc2@cardiff.ac.uk

Research Centres

Our Research Centres provide a platform for significant programmes of cross-disciplinary research, combining the interests of several research groups and connecting with other Schools in the University.

CITIES RESEARCH CENTRE

The Cities Research Centre brings together scholars from across the School of Geography and Planning as well as other departments at Cardiff University concerned with the changing nature of cities as environmental, economic and socio-cultural systems. This Centre develops our cities research through a number of cross-cutting themes and specific urban challenges.

These themes include:

- social and spatial justice
- alternative urbanisms (alternative social and economic practices in the city)
- urban metabolism and environmental change
- pluralism and urban life
- comparative urbanism
- advancing urban theory and urban 'thought'.

Specific urban challenges include initiatives on social/material infrastructure change; south Wales metro; the post-welfare city; urban ecosystem management and climate change; informality and fragile cities. The Centre's work contributes to understanding the evolving nature of cities across the realms of academic research, policy, and practice.

If you are interested in learning more about the Cities Research Centre, please contact Professor Gary Bridge: bridgeg@cardiff.ac.uk

CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY

The Centre for Economic Geography is a research centre focused on advanced studies in the field of economic geography. The Centre works in collaboration with other national and internationally renowned research centres and institutions.

The Centre aims to achieve research excellence and has a particular focus on the following areas of study:

- Competitiveness and Economic Growth
- Economic Resilience
- Networks and Knowledge
- Innovation and Smart Specialisation
- Culture, Well-Being and Economic Development

If you are interested in learning more about the Centre for Economic Geography, please contact Professor Robert Huggins: hugginsr@cardiff.ac.uk



CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON ENVIRONMENT, SOCIETY AND SPACE

The Centre for Research on Environment, Society and Space brings together environmental and social research themes. In particular, it seeks to make connections between natural, social, cultural, economic and political processes within rural spaces.

The Centre aims to develop significant programmes of research and international collaborative working, as well as PhD and Master's courses around rural and environmental themes. We have a multi-disciplinary focus, with researchers drawn from human geography, planning, sociology and landscape ecology.

Expertise is provided across a broad range of research themes, including:

- rural society and culture
- rural economy
- the sustainability of rural environments
- rural and environmental governance
- environmental justice and rural welfare
- rural housing and services
- agri-food systems
- ethical consumption

If you are interested in learning more about the Centre for Research on Environment, Society and Space, please contact Professor Paul Milbourne: milbournep@cardiff.ac.uk

INFORMAL ECONOMY RESEARCH OBSERVATORY

The Informal Economy Research Observatory brings together academics working to understand and develop solutions for the informal economy. From street traders, to construction workers and cleaners, the informal economy is the life blood of 21st century cities. Yet workers face limited rights and dire working conditions, and city governments need expertise to protect and empower vulnerable workers and to profit from this dynamic economy.

The Informal Economy Research Observatory plays an important role in shaping the research surrounding the 'Inclusive Growth: Improving Microfinance Regulation to support Growth and Innovation in Micro-enterprise'.

If you are interested in learning more about the Informal Economy Research Observatory, please contact Professor Alison Brown: BrownAM@cardiff.ac.uk



RESEARCH CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN AND REGIONAL FOOD

The Research Centre for Sustainable Urban and Regional Food carries out world-class research into the emerging role of cities and regions in the geography and polity of food. It builds on the interdisciplinary expertise of our long-established food research community both at the School and the Sustainable Places Research Institute to promote research, teaching and post-graduate training in the area of sustainable urban and regional food systems.

If you are interested in learning more about the Research Centre for Sustainable Urban and Regional Food, please contact Professor Roberta Sonnino: SonninoR@cardiff.ac.uk

CHINA-UK RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ECO-CITIES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The China-UK Research Centre for Eco-Cities and Sustainable Development builds on the School's reputation for high-quality research and partnership working on cities and ecological development. The Centre pursues an innovative research agenda on the development, management and sustainability of cities. It provides research facilities and an opportunity for collaboration within the fields of climate change; and in the context of Chinese urbanisation green and low carbon development, material re-use and recycling; and ecological modernisation

The principal aims are:

- To promote theoretically innovative and empirically grounded research on eco-cities and sustainable development.
- To contribute to policy debates on sustainable urban futures.
- To support the training and career development postgraduate researchers.
- To enable research staff to gain funding on Centre research themes.

If you are interested in learning more about the China-UK Research Centre for Eco-Cities and Sustainable Development, please contact Dr Li Yu: yul@cardiff.ac.uk



WALES INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH, DATA AND METHODS

The Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research, Data and Methods was established in 2008. The Institute is a collaborative venture between the Universities of Aberystwyth, Bangor, Cardiff, South Wales and Swansea.

The principal aims are:

- To develop the quality and quantity of social science research in Wales, particularly through externally-funded research projects
- To promote collaborative research activity across the participating universities and across disciplines and sectors
- To develop the social science research infrastructure in Wales
- To strengthen the impact of social science research on the development of policy in the public, private and third sectors through a focus on knowledge exchange and engagement.

The centre has secured major funding in excess of £7 million from the Economic and Social Research Council for Civil Society Research.

For more information please visit: www.wiserd.ac.uk

SUSTAINABLE PLACES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Sustainable Places Research Institute provides a new basis for sustainability science, pushing the boundaries of traditional sustainability research and finding solutions to the challenges of diminishing resources and a changing climate.

The Institute operates across all three Colleges of Cardiff University. The Institute acts as a hub across a number of academic disciplines and institutions. Bringing together over 100 researchers, it is finding solutions to real problems, in the real world. Working with stakeholders, including local community groups, public bodies and academic partners, the Institute supports methodological innovation for research into sustainable place making.

The Institute has a distinct research profile recognised both locally and globally. Developing place-based responses and solutions to issues including climate change and resource depletion – this is being undertaken by addressing specific requirements of individual places. Research focuses on the complex and dynamic interrelations between ecosystems, society and economy at different spatial scales.

Find more information at: www.cardiff.ac.uk/research/sustainable-places

Research Projects

Our Research Groups and Centres undertake a diverse portfolio of activity and the following highlights a selection of current and recent projects.

A NEW LITERARY GEOGRAPHY: ESTABLISHING A DIGITAL LITERARY ATLAS OF WALES AND ITS BORDERLANDS

This project explores the relationships between real and fictional places, and developed from the monograph *'Page and Place: Ongoing Compositions of Plot'* (published by Rodopi in 2014). 'A New Literary Geography' is an interdisciplinary demonstration of the power of literary geography to offer insight into the vital connections between people, literature and land. The project will create and evaluate an interactive website populated by innovative mapping of twelve classic and contemporary fictions set in Wales.

This will be undertaken in order to fulfil three objectives:

- 1) encourage the critical and active reading of fictional narratives;
- 2) promote an understanding of how literature can help strengthen individual and community identity;
- and 3) enhance cultural tourism.

The first phase of the project will create a Digital Literary Atlas website, the second phase will evaluate this resource, whilst the third phase will communicate the project's insights through exhibitions, international festivals, and academic publications.

Contact Professor Jon Anderson: andersonj@cardiff.ac.uk

SCHOOL CHOICE AND EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY: AN INTERNATIONAL INTEGRATIVE REVIEW

Nuffield Foundation (£29,340) Dr Deborah Wilson, University of Bristol (PI); Gary Bridge, Cardiff University (Co-I); Llorenc O'Prey, University of Bristol (Co-I)

The primary and secondary schools that pupils attend have a significant impact on their subsequent educational experience and academic performance. Parental choice as a means of allocating pupils to schools has become the focus of much recent policy implementation and debate across the globe. This project seeks to explore the role of school choice in mediating and shaping transitions into schools in terms of the potential (in)equality of opportunity that results. The key aim is to systematically analyse research that contributes to our understanding of the relationships between choice-based admissions policies, the ways in which families exercise choice, and the final school destinations that result. The review encompasses both the theoretical and empirical literature in order to analyse the relationships between different conceptual approaches and empirical evidence on the effects of school choice on access to schools, across both different national and institutional contexts and different family types, including social class and ethnicity.

Contact Professor Gary Bridge: bridgeg@cardiff.ac.uk



RESILIENCE IN GROUNDWATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS: INTEGRATING RESOURCE-BASED APPROACHES WITH AGENCY, BEHAVIOUR AND CHOICE IN WEST AFRICA (RIGSS)

This project is supported by NERC (the Natural Environment Research Council) as part of the Global Challenges Research Fund.

The project, led by Professor Gillian Bristow, aims to explore the water choices made by households and communities in Nigeria, and how they influence the resilience of communities to future environmental shocks.

The focus is on groundwater reserves, which play an increasingly important role in supplying households with their water supplies but which are under increasing pressure owing to the rapid expansion in the numbers and scale of privately-developed wells and boreholes. Choices being made now in the siting of wells, the quality and form of their construction and the levels of abstraction, have long-term impacts on the quality of the groundwater resource (locally and more widely), the quantity available for abstraction, the accessibility of supplies to different social groups and the vulnerability of the resource to future shocks. Yet the nature and drivers of these choices are poorly understood.

Contact Professor Gillian Bristow:
bristowg1@cardiff.ac.uk

POST-CONFLICT URBAN LIVELIHOODS

This research is funded under the DFID-ESRC Joint Fund Poverty Alleviation Research, and focuses on urban livelihoods in post-civil war settings, and in cities affected by protest or on-going turf wars.

The research explores the complex drivers of conflict and links to the informal economy, examines the structural and individual factors that support or inhibit its growth, and analyses the role of local government in post-conflict economic recovery.

The hypothesis of the research is that in fragile and conflict-affected situations, the urban informal economy plays a pivotal role as a source of livelihoods and a platform for medium-term poverty-reduction, peace-building, and economic recovery, and that effective recognition of the informal economy by emergent local government and the international relief community is essential for this role to be realised.

The research adopts a mixed methods approach underpinned by the pathways from a poverty framework and rights-based approach, and focuses on four case study cities - Cairo, Hargeisa, Kathmandu, and Karachi - in order to explore the changing informal economy practices and operations in post-conflict and crisis settings.

Contact Professor Alison Brown:
brownam@cardiff.ac.uk

Research Projects

SAPHIR

SAPHIR is an EU funded research project that aims to develop innovative, safe, affordable and effective vaccine strategies effective against endemic pathogens responsible for high economic losses in livestock. The aim of the project is to generate vaccine strategies for pathogens in pigs, poultry and ruminants to aid in strengthening the profitability of food animal systems, and improve animal welfare.

The project is led by the National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA) in France, and brings together expertise from fourteen academic institutes across Europe including a Chinese partner, five SMEs, one pharmaceutical company and a forum of animal breeders.

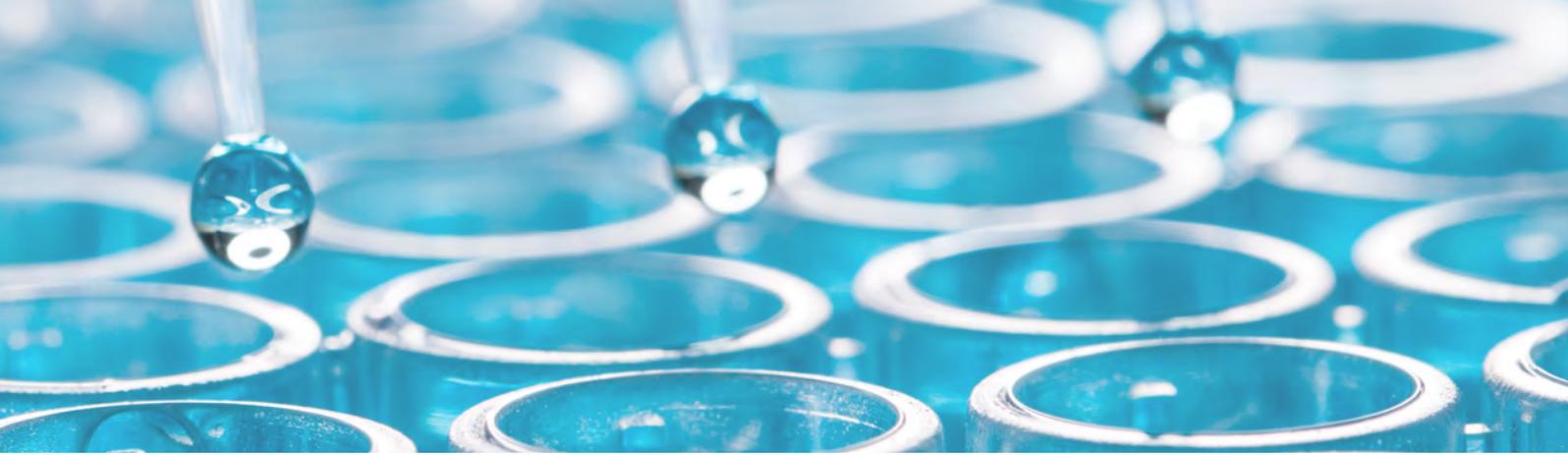
Pillar 1 of the project is investigating the social and economic impacts of the SAPHIR pathogens, and is led by Dr Gareth Enticott at Cardiff University. The aim of this research is to understand farmers' motivations for using vaccines, the reasons why they may use other control methods, and the influence of social and economic factors upon their decision making. The research is based in five European countries (UK, Ireland, Finland, Spain and France) and China and draws on data from biographical interviews with farmers.

Contact Dr. Gareth Enticott:
enticottg@cardiff.ac.uk

NOVEL APPROACHES OF EMPLOYING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE (GI) TO ENHANCE URBAN SUSTAINABILITY

'Novel approaches of employing green infrastructure (GI) to enhance urban sustainability' is an interdisciplinary, international project funded jointly by the British Council in the UK and the Institute of International Education (IIE) in the USA as part of the Global Innovation Initiative. It brings together three institutions (University of Florida, Cardiff University and Universitas Indonesia) with complementary expertise in sustainable, green (low-carbon) construction, modelling of resource use in buildings and the environment, urban design and planning. The objective of the project is to develop GI approaches that are context sensitive, and which respect and build on local culture and knowledge while also benefitting from the cross-fertilisation of international policy and practice transfer. The research team, which comprises urban planners, architects and engineers, have conducted a series of workshops with local community stakeholders and practitioners to explore technical feasibility as well as culturally conducive approaches to employing green infrastructure for water management, reducing air pollution and improving urban sustainability in general.

Contact Dr Andrea Frank:
franka@cardiff.ac.uk



THE POWER OF FAIRTRADE: RESILIENCE, ETHICAL DEVELOPMENT AND WINE NETWORKS

While the role of Fairtrade in promoting development globally has increasingly been asserted, there remains a need for in-depth research on how power relations shape alternative production networks, and the actual social impacts on producer communities. This research addresses these gaps through a multi-scalar and multi-sited analysis of the Fairtrade wine sector. It is grounded in extended fieldwork in South Africa, Argentina and Chile, which are the key Fairtrade wine production spaces, alongside representatives of Fairtrade-International (Bonn, Germany) and the national Fairtrade organisations in the UK, Germany, Finland and Sweden.

Initial findings highlight the socio-economic challenges of achieving and maintaining Fairtrade certification, the increasing spread of competitor systems and the uneven power relations within Fairtrade networks. Therefore, Fairtrade's capacity to develop empowerment or resilience is constrained by the limited market opportunities and producer power within, and knowledge of, Fairtrade systems.

Contact Dr Agatha Herman: hermana@cardiff.ac.uk

CLOSED LOOP EMOTIONALLY VALUABLE E-WASTE RECOVERY (CLEVER)

Closed Loop Emotionally Valuable E-waste Recovery (CLEVER) is a 3-year project funded by the Engineering and Physical Science Research Council as part of their Resource Efficiency funding stream. It focuses on the field of consumer electronics due to their increased global consumption, and the rise of disposal methods (e.g. landfill) that fail to recover valuable metals, thus contributing to an array of negative environmental and social consequences.

The project combines social science and design approaches with materials development and materials engineering to explore the development of consumer electronic devices that invoke an emotional attachment from the customer. This attachment could potentially encourage the consumer to retain the product (changing the product lifetime) and return it to the manufacturer for replacement of the hardware, providing opportunities for recycling and retaining the valuable metals in the manufacturing loop. The project has developed educational and outreach materials, including an 'Operation' game for mobile phones, which was taken to several events and festivals, and proved popular with children and adults alike.

Contact Dr Kersty Hobson: hobsonk@cardiff.ac.uk



URBAN RIOTS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF STOCKHOLM AND LONDON

Research team: Prof. Ilda Lourenco-Lindell (PI, Stockholm University), Dr. Anthony Ince (Co-I, Cardiff University), Dr. Thomas Borén (Co-I, Stockholm University)

Urban societies are experiencing intensified social frictions which often manifest in the form of riots. The failures of 'participatory' planning, a loss of faith in available channels for participation and in civil society organisations may contribute to such violent political expressions. Urban riots are often treated as ephemeral outbursts with little political consequence for broader issues of urban citizenship and democracy. However, this project, funded by the Swedish research council FORMAS (value: £228,000, 3 years), studies riots as phenomena of political import and investigates the under-researched longer-term political effects beyond the event itself. This includes examining the extent to which affected marginalised neighbourhoods are able to catalyse new forms of participation in the aftermath of riots. The study will also explore the poorly understood linkages between riots/rioters and everyday public life and organisation (e.g. community groups, gangs, kinship). The project takes the form of a comparative study of the 2013 Stockholm and 2011 London riots, whereby differences between the two cities will enrich our understanding of both contexts.

Contact Dr Anthony Ince: incea@cardiff.ac.uk

SMART-ECO-CITIES FOR A GREEN ECONOMY: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF EUROPE AND CHINA

This is a three-year project (2015-2018) funded by five research councils from five different countries (£473,288 from ESRC). The aim of the project is to provide the first systematic comparative analysis of green economy-focused eco-city projects in China and Europe. This will inform the identification of opportunities and pathways for shaping national and collaborative international urban and economic policy responses, engaging the state, the business sector and communities in delivering 'smart eco-city' projects that can promote the growth of the green economy. In order to address these crucial issues of smart eco-cities and green economic development, the research team is undertaking international, interdisciplinary multi-method research which will include a total of eight in-depth smart eco-city case studies in China, the UK, Germany, the Netherlands, and France. This will involve documentary research as well as interviews with European and Chinese policy makers, business people, financiers, local communities and other stakeholders. The project has also involved research aimed at building the first qualitative-quantitative database of smart eco-city projects. This will form the backbone of the policy toolkit and will be a state-of-the-art contribution to current knowledge on smart- and eco-city planning and policy.

Contact Dr Li Yu: yul@cardiff.ac.uk



GOOD FOOD NATION

Funded by the Scottish Government, the research, which represents a key element for the implementation of the Good Food Nation policy, aims to enhance the daily provision of healthy food to nearly 3 million school children and tens of thousands of patients across 278 NHS hospitals in Scotland.

Research methods employed to achieve this ambitious goal include: a systematic literature review to develop a robust synthesis of the case for healthy and sustainable menus; semi-structured interviews with policy-makers, food procurement officials and heads of catering to identify exemplar menus and operational supports needs for their effective implementation; and cost analysis of at least 25 menu cycles to address the barrier of perceived costs of providing healthy and sustainable menus.

Outputs from this project include: a Final Report including case studies and other supporting data and a Toolkit to assist procurement officers and caterers to shift current practice across the public sector in Scotland.

Contact Professor Roberta Sonnino:
sonnino@cardiff.ac.uk

TRANSMANGO

TRANSMANGO is an interdisciplinary research project that focuses on the vulnerability and resilience of European food systems in the context of socio-economic, behavioural, technological, institutional and agro-ecological change.

The project aims to obtain a comprehensive picture of the effects of the global drivers of change (climate, economic concentration and market structure, financial power, and property rules and consumption matters) on European and global food demand, raw material production and, consequently, on food flows. The project will identify directions for European policies that aim to tackle these multiple challenges.

The focus of TRANSMANGO is on the structures and dynamics that will likely characterise the food system in the future. These will be identified through the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders and the adoption of a systematic approach to examining food systems. This project is granted by the EU 7th Framework Programme under the theme 'Assessment of the impact of global drivers of change on Europe's food security'.

Contact Professor Roberta Sonnino:
sonnino@cardiff.ac.uk

Research Degrees

Our international reputation attracts high quality PhD students from around the world. This is reflected in our current cohort of students, who come from across Europe, Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and all parts of the UK.

We place considerable value on the quality of our training for, and supervision of, research students. Each research student is allocated two supervisors with expertise in their relevant topic, and is linked to one of our Research Groups. A bespoke package of methods training is designed for all first year PhD students. A regular PhD research seminar series and two PhD away days per year provide students with an opportunity to present their research in a supportive and constructive environment.

We are eligible for ESRC funded PhD research and are happy to support the applications of promising candidates in our fields of expertise. First year PhD students are expected to undertake some or all of the MSc in Social Science Research Methods. Distinct routes through the course in planning, housing, sustainability, transport and regeneration are available.

Recent PhD topics have included:

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH GROUP

The production and consumption of physical bookshops: Exploring the consuming geographies of Eslite bookstores in Taiwan.

Moving Beyond Physical Mobility: Blogging about Cycling and Urban Transport Policy

ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH GROUP

European Struggles and American Resistance: Inclusion of Aviation into the EU ETS

Understanding knowledge production and dissemination in the field of urban planning:
The case of business consulting and sustainability assessment.

Accounting for the Social Impacts of Animal Disease: The Case of Bovine Tuberculosis

SPATIAL PLANNING AND ANALYSIS IN CITY ENVIRONMENTS RESEARCH GROUP

Informal Land Controls: A Case of Karachi-Pakistan

Street Trader Displacements and the Role of the Right to the City Concept in a Rapidly Urbanising African City: Lagos, Nigeria

Integration approaches in local planning processes to achieve more environmentally friendly mobility

URBAN AND REGIONAL GOVERNANCE RESEARCH GROUP

Towards a dignified food security? Discourses of dignity, development and culture in New York City and Bogota

Universities, knowledge networks, and regional competitiveness: Perspectives from the UK

Regional innovation policy and economic development: The case of Wales

For PhD admission enquiries please email: gandpenquiries@cardiff.ac.uk or call +44 (0)29 2087 4022



Visiting scholars

As part of our research agenda, we are interested in attracting high calibre visiting scholars who can make a strong and significant contribution to the School through collaborative and cooperative research opportunities, particularly in the form of accessing research funding and publishing high quality outputs.

As a highly research intensive school, we seek scholars who can also make a broader contribution to the School through contributions to teaching and innovation and engagement activities. Furthermore, we are keen to attract scholars that will act as ambassadors for the School both during and after their visit.

The Visiting scholars programme allows academics and research students to study within the School for up to one year.

Visiting scholars have the opportunity to:

- Collaborate with their mentor / nominated member of staff to produce a paper or develop a research bid;
- Participate in a relevant Research Group;
- Contribute to teaching.

Visiting scholars will receive:

- A dedicated network email address and designated print / photocopying allowance;
- Access to Cardiff University IT and library systems;
- Regular meetings with their mentor;
- The ability to 'sit-in' on lectures, and attend School seminars and events.

Scholars we have had the privilege to welcome in recent years:

Bin Qi from Renmin University of China, working with Dr Li Yu on collaborative planning in rural development in China.

Zhao Ziling from the South China University of Technology, working with Dr Li Yu on the symbiosis between traditional buildings and environment in rural townships in the process of urbanization.

Mie Birk Jensen from Aarhus University, Denmark, working with Professor Mark Jayne on the societal meanings of the intoxicated body: perceptions of gendered bodies and drunkenness.

Waleed Abdulaal from King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia, working with Professor Rob Huggins on regional competitiveness in Saudi Arabia.

Jae Young Lee from South Korea, working with Dr Julian Brigstocke on cultural geographies of architecture, cultural landscapes, the historical urban avant-garde and ecological aesthetics.

Renata Costa de Miranda from the University of Rome Tor Vergata, Rome, working with Professor Roberta Sonnino on school food systems and children's body compositions.

Jose Luis Serranto Montes from the University of Granada, Spain, working with Professor Mara Miele on development, management and sustainability of rural spaces: the analysis of the projects of rewinding and their related processes of public participation.

Further information for Visiting Scholars can be found by contacting:
gandpenquiries@cardiff.ac.uk

Cardiff: the University

Cardiff University is an ambitious and innovative university with a bold and strategic vision located in a magnificent and thriving capital city. Our world-leading research was ranked 5th amongst UK universities in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework for quality and 2nd for impact. We provide an educationally outstanding experience for our students.

Driven by creativity and curiosity, we strive to fulfil our social, cultural and economic obligations to Cardiff, Wales, and the world.

The School is based in a beautiful building on a green campus in the heart of a capital city. Cardiff offers all the cultural, retail and sporting facilities that you expect of a capital city. It is also a compact city, which means that travelling between halls of residence, the university and the city centre involves relatively short distances. The School occupies an iconic Grade II listed building that is positioned in the charming civic centre of Cardiff and surrounded by attractive public parks and gardens.



Cardiff University's Glamorgan Building



Principality Stadium



Cardiff Castle



Cardiff Central Library



Mermaid Quay, Cardiff Bay

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