

CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY

PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD

School of Geography
and Planning

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TRANSFORMING PLACES THROUGH CRITICAL THINKING AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



Welcome

Our collaborative work with academic partners across the world produces research with real impact that can tackle global challenges. The University has a long-standing relationship with China, with 49 formal academic links and strategic partnership agreements with universities across the country for both research collaboration and student exchange. These partnerships provide a means of exchanging knowledge and experience; the School of Geography and Planning's work on sustainable cities examines how we can enhance the quality of life and ecologies of cities in China and the UK in the context of urban growth.



Professor Colin Riordan
Vice Chancellor of Cardiff University

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Working with you

The School of Geography and Planning is an internationally recognised centre of excellence for teaching, research and engagement 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 scales and issues; we also focus on regions, city regions, cities and rural areas.

We make connections between human geography and spatial planning, which means that our students gain an understanding of theories of space, place and environment as well as the ways in which our worlds are shaped by policy, planning and everyday practice. Making extensive use of case studies and work placements, we actively encourage our students to connect academic knowledge and analytical skills received in lectures and seminars to a variety of real world situations in Europe and Asia. This means that our courses are truly international in both content and delivery. We encourage our students to spend time abroad during their courses through our field study visits to Amsterdam, Jakarta, Tanzania, Hong Kong, Los Angeles and New York.

The high quality of our research is fed into our teaching. Indeed, we pride ourselves on our research-led teaching, offering students engagement with cutting-edge research themes and involvement in live research projects during their studies. Our research not only results in high quality academic publications and articles but also impacts on a variety of user groups in the worlds of policy, planning and practice. We regularly host a public lecture series that reaches out to different audiences.



Professor Paul Milbourne
Head of School

More reasons to work with us

We consistently receive excellent student satisfaction scores. Overall satisfaction of final year undergraduate students in the School of Geography and Planning has ranged between 91% and 100% in the last three National Student Surveys (NSS). We maintained this high performance in the 2016 NSS with a score of 92%.

Our students are highly employable. The latest survey of our most recent graduates reveals that 97% were in employment or further study within six months of graduation. Several of our undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses are also accredited by the Royal Town Planning Institute and the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors.

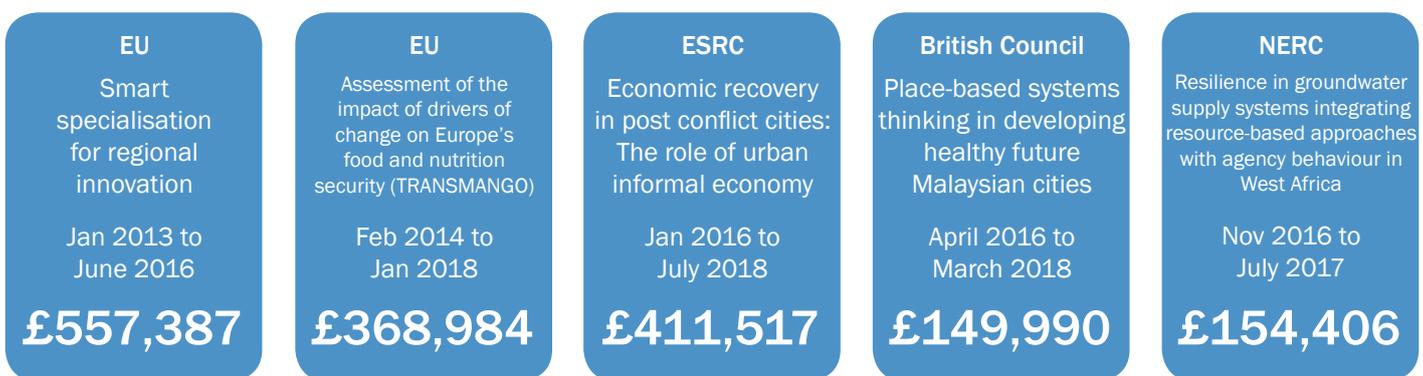
We value an international education. Cardiff University provides support and funding for international study through its Global Opportunities Centre and Languages for All scheme, which provides free provision of language teaching to undergraduate students across six languages.

Research

The School of Geography and Planning is based in a long established research-intensive university. Cardiff University was established in 1883 and has developed into one of the UK's top universities, as measured by research and teaching quality. We are a member of the Russell Group of UK universities, which represents the top 24 research-intensive universities in the UK. Cardiff University was ranked fifth for the quality of its research and second for the wider impact of this research out of all UK universities in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework.

As a School, we currently have a thriving postgraduate research student community studying for PhD degrees linked to our four research groups: environment, society and space; social and cultural geography; spatial analysis in city environments, and; urban and regional governance.

Research income



The School maintains a high performance in the National Student Surveys
NSS score 92% in 2016. Geography at Cardiff is in the top 50 in the World in the 2016 QS world university subject rankings

Research case study

Smart eco-cities for a green economy: a comparative study of Europe and China



Dr Li Yu and Dr Andrew Flynn
Co-Investigators

The aim of this 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.

The research addresses key issues: a.) how experimental cities have fared in terms of promoting successful transitions to a green economy in Europe and China since 2000; b.) how to evaluate success in smart eco-city initiatives; c.) what are the main obstacles to successful projects d.) what generalizable lessons can be drawn from successful smart eco-cities, in socio-economic and policy terms; e.) how knowledge can be effectively shared across the context of European and Chinese urban-economic policymaking for smart eco-cities.

Current research themes

We have a strong track record of delivering policy development, public debate and innovative practice in the fields of geography and planning. With projects funded by the EU, national bodies, government departments and other organisations, our staff work to deliver relevant, robust, high-quality research that supports legislation change and evidence-based policy making across the UK and internationally.

Strategic environmental planning

One of our research specialisms connects the social and the environmental, using impact assessment, modelling and mapping techniques. Positive impacts that have recently been achieved in this area include the identification of patterns of social vulnerability to climate change and flooding and the development of frameworks and models for measuring waterways' public benefits, land use, car and public transport, pedestrian and cycle behaviour.



Dr Brian Webb
Lecturer in
Spatial Planning

Inclusive cities

Our research has a strong emphasis on social, spatial and economic inclusion, particularly in urban environments. Globally, work on this topic has shaped UN debates on sustainable housing and the urban informal economy. In the UK, our research findings have directly led to changes in legislation, particularly in housing. Of wider international relevance is the research on the protection of minority groups.



Dr Peter Mackie
Senior Lecturer

Food and farming policies

We have a longstanding history of research on food and farming policies. Research on this theme has recently informed national food policy and rural development plans, public procurement policy and the management of animal disease and biosecurity. At the global level, this research has influenced European legislation on animal welfare; it has provided support to the development of urban food policies; and it has raised the profile of urban food policies in UN debates.



Professor Roberta Sonnino
Professor of Environmental
Policy and Planning

Urban and regional development

Our researchers have played a very prominent role in shaping regional policy-thinking towards innovation and endogenous development, especially at a European Union level. In recent years, members of this group have developed new metrics for measuring regional competitiveness, have used resilience concepts to identify key principles for regions to prepare for future economic crises, and are currently participating in the development of the Cardiff City Region.



Professor Kevin Morgan
Professor of Governance
and Development



Staff in the School regularly publish in the following academic journals

Antipode • Environment and Planning • Geoforum • Planning Practice and Research
Progress in Human Geography • Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers

Teaching

We offer four exciting undergraduate geography and planning courses that build on a shared model of research-led teaching.

- **Human Geography**
- **Human Geography and Planning**
- **Urban Planning and Development**
- **Urban Planning and Development (with placement year)**

We also run specialist masters courses that relate to our key research specialisms and address contemporary policy and research issues.

- **Eco-Cities (MSc)**
- **European Spatial Planning and Environmental Policy (MSc)**
- **Food, Space and Society (MSc)**
- **International Planning and Development (MSc)**
- **Spatial Planning and Development (MSc)**
- **Sustainability, Planning and Environmental Policy (MSc)**
- **Transport and Planning (MSc)**
- **Urban and Regional Development (MSc)**
- **Urban Design (MA) jointly delivered with the Welsh School of Architecture**
- **City Futures (MSc) New for 2017**

Honorary members of the School



Dr. Qiu Baoxing is a former Vice Minister of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of P. R. China, and is a Counsellor of the State Council, China. He is also the President of the Chinese Society for Urban Studies, the President of the Urban Planning Society of China, and the Chairman of

IWA China Committee. He holds a PhD in Economics and a PhD in Urban Planning. He is a senior urban planner. He holds a number of academic positions, including visiting professor, adjunct professor or PhD supervisor at various universities, such as the Chinese Academy of Social Science, Tongji University, Tsinghua University and Cardiff University. His key publications include “Coping with Opportunities and Challenges: Main Problems and Solutions in Strategic Research of China Urbanization”, and “Reform of Urban Planning during the Course of China’s Urbanization”.



Dr Wang Kai is a senior urban planner and Vice President of the China Academy of Urban Planning and Design. He is part of a team of experts advising the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, a member of the council of the Chinese Urban Planning Society and Visiting Professor

at Cardiff University, UK. Dr Wang is involved in a number of research projects, including the Urban System Plan of China (2005–2020) and the Comprehensive Plan of Beijing (2004–2020).

Distinguished staff members



Professor Robert Huggins is Chair of Economic Geography at Cardiff University and Director of its Centre for Economic Geography. Professor Huggins's areas of interest highlight regional economic development, in particular the study of clusters and competitiveness, knowledge flows, entrepreneurship, innovation, and inter-organisational networks. Research projects focus on regional competitiveness; inward investment; the knowledge economy and high-technology industry; the culture of entrepreneurship and business development; and the development and mobilisation of knowledge and skills. He is the originator of the European Competitiveness Index, the UK Competitiveness Index and co-founder of the World Knowledge Competitiveness Index.



Dr Scott Orford's research interests are in GIS and quantitative human geography, particularly modelling socio-economic processes using techniques that are sensitive to spatial context. He has worked on projects in a variety of social science areas such as health, population studies and electoral studies, all within a GIS and spatial modelling framework, and he has a special interest in housing and housing markets. Dr Orford is currently working on aspects relating to meta-data and data integration in the social sciences and has a growing interest in Qualitative GIS and the use of administrative data in research. He is widely published in a variety of books, policy reports and international academic journals. He has undertaken joint policy research with the Government and has expertise in using principal socio-economic data sets for the UK.



Dr Andrea Frank is involved in a number of cutting-edge research projects which explore the potential of green infrastructure in urban environments around the world in Europe, the USA and SE Asia. Her work draws upon the growing scientific evidence that urban green spaces such as parks and garden, tree lined boulevards, naturalised riparian corridors, and green roofs and walls are contributing not only to the attractiveness of cities but also - if planned strategically - can reduce flood risk, reduce air pollution and mitigate effects of global warming. The systematic integration of nature in cities can in turn contribute to creating healthier and more liveable urban environments.



Dr Dimitris Potoglou is a Lecturer in Transport and Applied Choice Analysis. He has worked as a Research Policy-Analyst at the not-for-profit research institute RAND Europe, and post-doctoral fellow at Delft University of Technology. His research interests include travel behaviour, active travel, transport and land-use interactions, car ownership, vehicle type-choice decisions and demand for cleaner vehicles. Dr Potoglou specialises in the design and analysis of stated preference discrete choice and best-worst scaling experiments and related surveys. He develops and contributes to research projects on the use of stated preference data to model the willingness to pay for improvements in water services, the value the outcomes of social and health care, and estimate the demand for postal services under changed service offerings and the relative valuations of biomedical research-impact.

Our alumni



Zhen Yang
Studied PhD Planning
and Urban Design

Current job: Associate Professor,
Faculty of Architecture and Urban
Planning, Chongqing University,
P.R China.

What inspired you most while you were at Cardiff University?

My supervisor offered great help with my PhD. He was intellectually illuminating and supportive. And the School of Geography and Planning provided efficient and effective administrative support to the PhD community, which helped me complete my studies.



Miao Xu
Studied PhD Planning
and Urban Design

Current job: Associate Professor,
Faculty of Architecture and Urban
Planning, Chongqing University,
P.R China.

What one thing would you tell someone about the School of Geography and Planning at Cardiff University?

You can get both intellectual and social improvements here. In wide cooperation with a lot of institutions in many countries, the School has been performing well internationally. Studying there will help you establish useful contacts in your field.

Cardiff University and City life: a city centre location with a campus feel

We are 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 of Geography and Planning occupies an iconic Grade I listed building that is positioned in the beautiful 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