

Call for Papers

Contact: Prof. Dr. Dirk Schubert, HafenCity University Hamburg,
Winterhuder Weg 29, 22085 Hamburg, Tel. +49-4042827-4513
dirk.schubert@hcu-hamburg.de

“Queen Jane Jacobs” - Jane Jacobs and paradigm shifts in urban planning and urban redevelopment

Dates / Venue: May 12/13, 2011 Location: Hamburg: hamburgmuseum Holstenwall 24

Language: English

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 15th March 2011

In cooperation with:

Working group Planning History in GSU,
GSU – Gesellschaft für Stadt- und Urbanisierungsforschung e.V.
<http://www.gsu.tu-darmstadt.de/>

International Planning History Society: <http://www.planninghistory.org/>

BDA Hamburg: <http://www.bda-hamburg.de/h/>

The HafenCity University Hamburg supported by the organizations mentioned above is organizing a conference sponsored by the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung. We'll organize a two-day academic conference in Hamburg to discuss the work and influence of Jane Jacobs. We have already secured the participation of several leading scholars from all over the world for the conference.

1. Scholarly and scientific goals

In 1961 Jane Jacobs's famous book “Death and Life of Great American Cities” was published. With this radical approach Jane Jacobs challenged the discipline of urban planning. In 2011 we will celebrate this famous book's 50th anniversary. Ever since her first book was published there has been discussion on whether she should be called “urban hero” or “trouble maker”.

The myth that grew around her was based on her book as well as her work in the grassroots movements of New York City where she (and others) fought against slum clearances and Robert Moses' highway construction projects that were planned to cut through urban neighbourhoods. In 1968, as this approach to urban renewal was slowly beginning to change in New York City she and her family moved to Toronto to avoid her two sons being drafted into the Vietnam War. On her arrival in Canada she was celebrated as “our Jane” and soon accepted as *the* expert on urban issues and urban renewal.

Today many theorists and practitioners are thinking about a new paradigm shift in the current period of rapid globalisation and neoliberal as well as deregulated approaches to planning. In

this context it is useful to reflect on the background and context of paradigm shifts and their chief players and theoreticians.

2. Topics of the conference

The discussions to be held during this conference will not be limited to the North American perspective. Not only did Jane Jacobs's ideas and influence cross the Atlantic and reach Europe, they also influenced urban planning and urban renewal worldwide. For this reason we want the conference to open up a transnational as well as transdisciplinary discussion of Jane Jacobs's work.

3. Topics for papers

The conference programme will be based on the following topics and in response to the call for papers:

- The paradigm of the "bulldozer approach" – slum clearance and modernism
- Biographical background and influences on Jane Jacobs
- Shifting paradigms towards participation and conservation
- Impacts on urban politics worldwide
- Jane Jacobs's work: methodical, interdisciplinary, theoretical and gender relevant
- Jane Jacobs influence on economic theory and urban economics
- Impact of Jane Jacobs's books in Europe
- New approaches to urban renewal and urban rehabilitation
- Gentrification and/or preservation
- A new paradigm shift beginning in 2000?

4. Conference program

The conference program will be organized around the dimensions mentioned above. Each session will have three or four paper presentations of fifteen to twenty minutes each. Following the presentations, time will be devoted to questions and discussion. Several keynote speakers will be invited.

5. Travel Expenses

We established a budget for travel costs, and expect to reimburse presenters for reasonable travel and hotel expenses.

6. Deadlines

Paper titles and abstracts of no more than 250 words must be submitted by 4th March 2011 to: dirk.schubert@hcu-hamburg.de

Notification of accepted papers will be made by 15th of March.

7. Publication

The conference papers will serve as a basis for a publication, which will be of interest to the broad academic community as well as planners working in the field of urban renewal and urban regeneration.