SSOA celebrates success at the REF 2014

The 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) has confirmed the School’s position as a world-class centre for architectural research.

We are proud to have achieved 4th place overall by subject. In a joint submission with our colleagues in the Department of Landscape and the Department of Town and Regional Planning in the subject area of Architecture, Built environment and Planning we scored 3.32 which was just 0.03 behind Cambridge.

48% of our research was assessed as 4*, representing world-leading quality and outstanding impact, and 37% was rated 3* (Internationally excellent).

Professor Fionn Stevenson, Head of School said:

“We can be very proud of what we have achieved as a School in this REF. These results reflect our reputation for world leading research and our commitment to research-led teaching.”

As a School we have consistently been rated in the top 5 for research in the UK.

Well done to everyone!
Architecture and Resilience on a Human Scale Conference, 10-12 September 2015

The Sheffield School of Architecture is pleased to announce a major international conference which will focus on research, strategies and projects that are testing how we can build local resilience in preparation for major societal challenges, such as global warming, scarcity of resources, increase in extreme weather events and shifts in demographics.

The conference will be organised around three strands:

**Local Resilience, Science and Technology**
Adaptation and Mitigation of Climate Change, SMART Neighbourhoods and the Internet of Things, Data and City Dashboards, Monitoring and Feedback Loops, New Forms of Making

**Local Resilience and Society**
Environmental Justice and Development, Intergenerational Justice, Collaborative Commons, New Forms of Governance, New Community Institutions, Asset Ownership

**Local Resilience, Pedagogy and Practice**

The call for papers is live with a deadline of 30 January. A call for workshops has now also been launched. On Friday 11 September we are looking to include in the programme six 90 minute Disruptive Workshops. By ‘disruption’ we mean ideas that bring challenging new perspectives on how to achieve resilience on a Human Scale. The deadline for the proposals is 31 March.

For further information visit our website www.sheffield.ac.uk/architecture/latest/events/resilienceconference

**Guerilla Tactics**

SSoA was the only architecture school represented at the RIBA Guerilla Tactics CPD conference this November. Irena Bauman talked about climate change, Sam Brown discussed self build and Flora Samuel ran two sessions, one on demonstrating value, the second on demystifying architectural research. The sessions were well attended and created a lot of interest. They add to SSoA's growing reputation as the School that is really engaged with future practice. Flora Samuel will take over from Murray Fraser as Chair of the RIBA Research and Innovation Group in September 2015.

**Publications**


**Peter Blundell Jones, Mark Meagher’s** edited book Architecture of Movement (Routledge) is out! This book, which is the outcome of the School Forum 2011, includes essays by Doina Petrescu, Flora Samuel, Renata Tyszczuck amongst others. There will be a book launch with invited speakers in the Arts Tower, 3 March, 2pm.

**Doina Petrescu** has published a chapter in the Grand Domestic Revolution book by CASCO (Utrecht Nederlands).

Research Grants

Nishat Awan was awarded a one year buyout from teaching grant by the Faculty of Social Science to develop a European Research Council bid on a Topological Atlas project.

Jian Kang won £25,000 funding from the EPSR Innovation and Impact Knowledge Exchange (IIKE) Collaborative Research and Development (CRD) fund for the project: Soundscape indicators and Sound Source Recognition and Propagation Technique for Freight Transportation and Delivery Noise.

Doina Petrescu, Urban Transformational Network funded by the AHRC and in partnership with University of Brighton.

Flora Samuel awarded £250,000 from the AHRC Leadership fund, with a project titled Evidencing and Communicating the Social Value of Architects.

Tatjana Schneider, UnBox, Boxing the mNAP (a mobile Noise Abatement Pod for raising awareness of the effects of noise pollution). The project is in partnership with Dr Michael Edwards at the University of Edinburgh.

Irena Bauman is (Co-I) as SME company in Co-production bid led by Leeds university for £15,000 grant from N9 / ESRC Research Programme: Realising the Potential of Co-production.

Francesco Aletta and Beatrice De Carli have been successful in applications for the Santander Mobility Awards. The awards, up to the value of £1,200, are for early career researchers and research students to encourage research collaborations with institutions in the Santander Universities Network.

Chengzhi Peng and Ranald Lawrence have been awarded funding from The Worldwide Universities Network, Research Development Fund 2014 for their project Transcultural Understanding of Designing with Climate Change.

Conferences, lectures and presentations

AGENCY & the Children’s Architecture Unit (CAU) hosted Susanne Hofmann ‘Architecture is Participation’ on 21 January

Nishat Awan was a keynote speaker at the conference: Contemporary Architecture & Urbanism in the Mediterranean & the Middle East 2014, Faculty of Architecture, Design & Fine Arts, Girne American University, Cyprus (23-24 Oct 2014)

The Border Topologies Theory Forum took place on 26 November at the Showroom Cinema, attended by graduate school students and a number of high profile international speakers.

www.topologicalatlas.net/bordertopologies.html

Irena Bauman has organised a joint SUI and SSoA Building Local Resilience networking event on Neighbourhood Transformation on 22 Oct.

Doina Petrescu has given two lectures in November 2014: at Harvard Graduate School of Design and at Parsons New School of Design, New York.

CSCY has organised an International symposium at ICOSS, on 21 January

CSCY is also organising a Postgraduate Student Winter Warmer Event on 4 February 2-4pm at JW-SRo8 Jessop West, University of Sheffield.

Please send a title and a few sentences outlining the format and topic of your proposed contribution to Dawn Lessels at d.j.lessels@sheffield.ac.uk by Friday 16 January. Contributions can vary in length between 10 and 20 minutes with plenty of time for discussion.

Please indicate in your proposal roughly how long you expect your contribution to take so we can produce a timetable.
Exhibitions

Uneven Growth: Tactical Urbanisms for Expanding Megacities

Doina Petrescu’s work with her practice (AAA) is being exhibited at MOMA from 22 November 2014 - 10 May 2015.

This exhibition brings together six interdisciplinary teams of researchers and practitioners to examine new architectural possibilities for six global metropolises: Hong Kong, Istanbul, Lagos, Mumbai, New York and Rio de Janeiro. Exhibition curator Pedro Gandaho paired the teams with a local practice in the chosen city.

The teams had to consider how emergent forms of tactical urbanism can respond to alterations in the nature of public space, housing, mobility, spatial justice, environmental conditions, and other major issues in near-future urban contexts.

AAA worked together with the Turkish team Superpool on Istanbul, proposing tactics for post-urban development for the unsustainable TOKI mass housing complexes in Istanbul. The emerging middle class population living in these complexes consumerist lifestyles are often unsustainable in the context of the current environmental and social crisis.

“We imagine these complexes to be animated by an open-source, citizen-driven r-urban regeneration - KITO. The KITO agency works with different scales and levels of resilient action, conducting the coproduction of a number of retrofitted spaces, equipment, services and institutions.”
Hugo Häring model back on display

In 2002 a major exhibition of the work of the German Modernist Hugo Häring was held at the RIBA and subsequently at two other venues. It was curated by Professor Peter Blundell Jones and Nasser Golzari and included several large models constructed by Sheffield students. We retained the models until last year in the hope of presenting them again, but the cost of storage space made it necessary to offer them to the Hugo Häring society in Biberach, Southern Germany, Häring’s birthplace. The society has now put them on show in Biberach town hall, along with some of our original exhibition panels.

PhD News

**Sarah Joyce** 2nd Year PhD student completed her first year confirmation review in August 2014. Since then she has worked with two NHS trusts, Leeds and Bradford in West Yorkshire, to build up a working network of maternity and research staff and set up the data collection phase of her research.

**Andreas Lang** has presented a paper on Temporary Use at TPUD research workshop at the University of Sheffield on 14-15 January

**Julia Udall** is RA on the ‘Future Works’ strand of the Stories of Change AHRC funded Connected Communities Project, working with Renata Tyszczuk. She has also published *Locating and building knowledges outside of the academy: Approaches to ‘engaged’ teaching at the University of Sheffield* in Teaching in Higher Education (with David Forrest and Katie Stewart 2015).

**Helen Stratford** has attended the prestigious summer school at the university of Utrecht including presentation of research ideas, seminars sessions and tutorials with Professor Rosi Braidotti, Dr Iris Van der Tuin from the University of Utrecht and Maria Hlavajova from BAK, (Basis Voor Actuele Kunst) Utrecht. August 2014

She was also successful with Arts Council England and British Council funded Artists International Development grant for a three-week residency at the Center for Contemporary Arts, Celje, Slovenia, working with curator Maja Hodoscek towards developing working methods that explore a playfully critical approach to urbanism through visual, performance and live-art practices. September – October 2014.
Alumni News

Ana Holder has been successful with Marie Curie Post Doctoral fellowship at Aarhus University, Denmark.

Call for Papers

Making the World Matter – Transvaluation
21 - 22 May 2015
Department of Architecture, Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden.

International symposium searching for alternative making of values through and in research. Call for abstracts - www.chalmers.se/transvaluation

AHRA Research Students Symposium
11 – 13 June 2015
Plymouth School of Architecture.

The symposium will particularly focus on contributions that deal with Critical Cultures, Identity and Alternative Forms of Practice; Peripheral and Spatial Theories and Practice; and Urban Theories and Methodologies and the Rights to Cities. The intention is that these themes will be organised as separate tracks within the main symposium.

Papers will be 15 minutes long. The symposium will also include a number of round-table workshops, allowing research students to discuss their research methodologies and issues arising from their work in a collegiate and friendly environment.

Deadline for submitting a proposal for papers of 500 words abstract (in PDF format) is February 13 at 5.00pm GMT. Notifications of acceptance will likely to be at the end of March 2015. Proposals should be sent by e-mail to: AHRA12th@gmail.com.

Reflections on Social Change:
Metamorphosis or Transformation?
15-16 May 2015
Graduate Conference 2015, Birkbeck, University of London, UK

Architecture of Alterity
14-16 May 2015
ESALA, University of Edinburgh, UK.

Please submit both a 400-word abstract (in PDF format) and short-bio or resume in English by email to: ArchitectureofAlterity@gmail.com by 15 February. Notifications of acceptance with peer-review comments will be returned after 15 March.

Events

Right to Nature : Art and Ecologies in the Americas
24 January - 15 March
Nottingham Contemporary

North and South America, in particular, are sites of intense activity, linking ecologically-concerned artists, political activists and indigenous people to new legal initiatives. Recent philosophical developments are also rethinking the relationship between human and non-human life. Rights of Nature is a journey across the Americas, through the work of twenty artists, across all four of Nottingham Contemporary’s galleries. The Amazon, the Andes, the Artic and the Gulf of Mexico are among the ecological regions explored.

Artists: Allora & Calzadilla, Eduardo Abaroa, Ala Plástica, Darren Almond, Marcos Ávila Forero, Amy Balkin, Subhankar Banerjee, Mabe Bethônico, Ursula Biemann & Paulo Tavares, Center for Land Use Interpretation, Minerva Cuevas, Jimmie Durham, Harun Farocki, GIAP: Grupo de Investigación en Arte y Política (with Beatriz Aurora), Paulo Nazareth, The Otolith Group, Fernando Palma Rodríguez, Claire Pentecost, Abel Rodríguez, Miguel Angel Rojas, Walter Solón Romero.

www.nottinghamcontemporary.org/art/rights-nature
Research Opportunities

Independent Social Research Foundation (ISRF): Early Career Research Fellowship
The Independent Social Research Foundation (ISRF) wishes to support independent-minded researchers from different disciplines who wish to work together towards conceptual innovation in social science. Such work would be unlikely to be funded by existing funding bodies. The Foundation intends to make a small number of awards to support original interdisciplinary research, across the range of the social sciences, to be held from a start date no later than the end of December 2016.

Eligibility: The applicant should normally hold a salaried position at an institution of higher education and research, and be within 10 years of PhD award. Career breaks may be taken into account. Applications may be made by those whose sole or principal post is a part-time equivalent.

Funding available: The award is intended to enable a scholar at the early career stage to pursue his/her research full-time, for a period of up to 12 months. The amount will be offered to buy out the costs of replacing all teaching and associated administration in the applicant’s home institution, and will be considered to a maximum of £50,000 per successful applicant. Within that sum, reasonable support for research expenses may be considered on a matched-funding basis with the host institution.

Closing date: 20 February 2014

Newton International Fellowship Scheme
The Newton International Fellowships aim to attract the most promising early-career post-doctoral researchers from overseas in the fields of the natural sciences, physical sciences, medical sciences, social sciences, and humanities from around the world. The Fellowships enable researchers to work for two years at a UK research institution with the aim of fostering long-term international collaborations. From 2015 additional Fellowships will be supported through the Newton Fund specifically for applicants from Newton Fund partner countries; this new initiative aims to develop long-term sustainable growth and welfare of partner countries through building research and innovation capacity, and forms part of the UK’s Official Development Assistance commitment. Newton Fund countries include Brazil, China, Mexico, South Africa, and Turkey.

Eligibility: Applicants must have a PhD, or be in the final stages of their PhD and should have no more than seven years of active full time postdoctoral experience at the time of application. Additionally, applicants must be working outside the UK and not hold UK citizenship.

Funding available: Newton Fellows will receive an allowance of £24,000 (tax exempt) to cover subsistence and up to £8,000 to cover research expenses in each year of the Fellowship. A one-off relocation allowance of up to £2,000 is also available. Applicants may also be eligible to receive follow on alumni funding following the tenure of their Fellowship to support networking activities with UK-based researchers.

Closing date: 25 February 2015

ESRC-AHRC-CASS International Centre Partnerships 2014
The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) are pleased to announce a call to support China-UK International Centre Partnerships with the following aims:

• Enable excellent international research
• collaboration between centres of excellence
• in the UK and China
• Support the development of ambitious joint
• research agendas and stimulate the
• development of international and
• interdisciplinary collaborative research
• proposals
• Promote mobility and develop capacity, thus
• contributing to the development of an
• internationally networked cohort of researchers
• who have the skills to work globally
• Enhance pathways to international impact
The ESRC, AHRC and CASS therefore invite applications for partnerships pursuing these aims between major UK research centres and groups already in receipt of support by ESRC, AHRC and CASS addressing the following broad thematic areas:

- Urban transformations
- Economic development and welfare reform
- Global governance
- Humanities contributing to development
- Creative industries

The objective of this scheme is to strengthen research in the social sciences and arts and humanities between the UK and China by providing additional funding for joint activities between internationally excellent researchers in the areas identified above. Successful proposals will involve existing groups, possibly with some already established connections and joint collaboration, who wish to enhance their collaborative activities over the next three years by working closely with other leading or potentially leading players globally.

**Funding available:** Each proposal may request up to £160,000 at 80 per cent fEC over three years (ie £53,000 pa) on the UK side and up to RMB 360,000 (ie RMB 120,000 pa) over three years on the Chinese side.

**Closing date:** 5 March 2015.

**COST**

COST brings together European researchers, engineers and scholars from different COST countries to jointly develop their own ideas and new initiatives across all science and technology fields through trans-European cooperation. COST encourages and fosters trans-, multi- and interdisciplinary approaches by integrating researchers, engineers and scholars from different fields and horizons such as universities, research centers, companies, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as other relevant actors.

COST does NOT fund research itself, but supports networking by the means of different tools such as meetings, short term scientific missions, training schools and dissemination activities through COST Actions.

COST invites proposals for Actions aiming at contributing to the scientific, technological, economic, cultural or societal knowledge advancement and development of Europe to close the gap between science, policy makers and society throughout Europe and beyond.

Proposals should reflect the main characteristics of COST Actions, namely providing for knowledge share, knowledge creation and application, being open and output oriented while aiming at strengthening the scientific and technological basis of the proposed topic(s).

**Closing date:** Proposals can be submitted at any time, with spring and autumn Collection Dates, when all submitted proposals and gathered and evaluated. The next collection date is 24 March 2015.

**About the Centres**

The Leverhulme Research Centres will not only conduct research of outstanding originality but also aspire to achieve a significant step-change in scholarship. The aim is to encourage new approaches and ‘disruptive thinking’ which may establish or reshape a field of study and which will transform our understanding of a topic of significance to contemporary societies. To achieve this, the expectation is that Centres will draw upon a range of disciplinary perspectives and expertise, perhaps bringing new disciplinary mixes to bear on an emerging topic of societal significance. They should have the capacity to become internationally-recognised ‘centres of research excellence’ in the chosen area. The Trust has a reputation for encouraging research which is often fundamental or curiosity-driven (so-called ‘blue skies’), multi-disciplinary, and perhaps somewhat higher risk. Applicants are therefore invited to be bold in compiling their bids.
Completed PhDs

**Yiying Hao**  
Effects of Urban Morphology on Urban Sound Environment from the Perspective of Masking Effects

**Adam Park**  
An examination of the role of site specific performance practice as a methodology to map and/or reimagine sites of urban regeneration

**Nicholas Holmes**  
The work of the architect Emmanuel Vincent Harris (1876-1971) has been neglected by historians and critics since his death and this thesis investigates the case for reviving his reputation

**Hui Ju Chang**  
Victorian Japan in Taiwan: Transmission and impact of the ‘Modern’ upon the Architecture of Japanese Authority, 1853-1919

**Biao Yang**  
Optimising Lighting to Enhance Interpersonal Judgements for Pedestrians in Residential Roads

**Shen Xu**  
Energy Evaluation and Optimal Design of Semi transparent Photovoltaic Façade for Office Buildings in Central China

**Lakshmi Priya Rajendran**  
A Socio-spatial approach towards understanding identity construction in multicultural urban spaces in Sheffield, United Kingdom

**Jian Xu (visiting student)**

**Chomchon Fusinpaiboon**  
The Development of Modern Architecture in Thailand

**Hassan Khalifehei**  
Developing strategies for a sustainable future in Isfahaw

**Noushin Zand Vosoughi**  
Using Traditional Iranian town squares as a model for Sustainable Urban Design

**Bing Jiang**  
Economic factors in the architectural and urban history and conservation

**Sara Mahdizadeh**  
Values of Garden Conservation in Iran

**Anna Holder**  
Initiating Architecture: Emerging Ethics of Socially Entrepreneurial Praxis