



## Editorial

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This double issue has the themes of networks and movements and the patterns of urban morphology and place, in quite different places in the world. It is as rich in the differences of its common concerns as different places and different people should be.

In their paper, Ali Soltani and colleagues explore the relationship between patterns of suburban development in metropolitan Adelaide, Australia and their relationships with the patterns of travel behaviours of residents. They conclude that well-connected streets and the close proximity of homes and workplace are a key influence on people's use of non-motorised travel, but that perhaps surprisingly, the level of public transport available had little effect in this particular setting. I am sure that many will find the behavioural modelling approach of this study interesting and useful. Let's hope that we can see some comparative studies later that explore the role of high-quality public transport in other locations in Australia and beyond.

Stuart Echols and Hala Nassar give us a delightful presentation of the impact of Cairo's relationship to water over time and the impact on the city's urban form. We must agree the loss of the canals filled in in the 19th century resulting in a significant loss of 'Cairo's urban pleasures of spending nights on or near waterways....with feast and fireworks [that] can only be imagined by current city dwellers.'

Sidh Sintusingha faces up to the challenges of sustainability and urban sprawl by offering alternative scenarios for a 'Bangkok Superblock'. He concludes that his design-based exploration demonstrates that by putting the 'generic tenets of

"sustainability"' at the fore, one can achieve a significant improvement in the quality and diversity of the urban environment. Many will find his approach to the achievement of a 'loose grid' in the context of Bangkok's complexity particularly interesting.

In their paper, Vitor Oliveira and Paulo Pinho present a comparative analysis of the two Portuguese cities of Lisbon and Oporto. Their work is grounded in the study of urban morphology and they have employed a Geographical Information System-based methodology. Their analysis has allowed them to present the main 'morphological periods' exhibited over time of the development of both cities.

In the concluding paper of this issue, Donia Zhang makes the case for the 'New courtyard houses of Beijing' as a humane and culturally significant contribution to high-density housing in China. Her conclusions are modest in terms of acknowledging the further work to be done to promulgate the form successfully. It is good to see a younger researcher drawing on an aspect of the work of an eminent member of our Editorial Board: Professor Wu Liangyong of Tsinghua University.

This is almost certainly my last editorial, some 11 years after Sue McGlynn and I wrote the first in 1996. The good news is that Sue will be returning to a lead role in the editorial team in co-editorship with Mike Biddulph of University of Cardiff. I hope to continue to contribute but from the sidelines!

Richard Hayward