AUM2017 in conjunction with CSIC Emerging Connections Workshop

**22 – 23 June 2017, Robinson College, Cambridge, UK**

Announcement & Call for Presentations (Version 1.0e for web launch)

AUM2017 is the sixth in a planned series of annual symposia on applied urban simulation models that offer insights into urban change and the realisation of practical policy initiatives. Since the launch of the AUM series in 2011, the symposia have attracted delegates from diverse disciplines, universities, professional institutions and government agencies in many countries.[[1]](#footnote-1)

During the Roundtable session of the preceding symposium AUM2015, it was agreed that AUM2017 would be held as a focused event on major case studies on applied models, given the blossoming of a number of integrated urban models around the world. It was also recognised that the policy-cogent nature of the major applied urban models would provide a natural opportunity to engage with those academics and practitioners in infrastructure planning and the assessment of societal impacts from an expanded range of perspectives. This broadening of outlook is likely to be beneficial for enhancing the roles of the applied urban models in the rapidly changing urban scene.

This year a CSIC workshop on Emerging Connections: tomorrow’s cities and their infrastructure will comprise the second day of AUM2017. This workshop is hosted by Cambridge Centre for Smart Infrastructure and Construction (CSIC) and is part of CSIC’s 'Transitioning Cities' programme sponsored by the Ove Arup Foundation.

The 2017 symposium takes place over 2 days as follows.

**Day 1:**  **Major model applications**   
On this day we extend, in particular, an invitation for developers and users of major urban models to present novel ways to design, build and apply their models in the new context of development, finance and governance. It is hoped that their experience and lessons will inspire not only those who are working on major urban modelling applications, but also those who are initiating novel model theories, designs, methods and apps as niche instruments.

Like all previous years, AUM2017 will welcome other presentation proposals that are novel and ground breaking. Along with the focused themed sessions, a new type of engaging and dedicated poster session will be included, exploiting a brand new symposium venue at Robinson College (see below).

The symposium will continue with the simple format of AUM that allocates ample time for presentation and discussion, and provides opportunities to develop an in-depth understanding of the state of the art across a wide range of different model types and styles. We hope to continue with the inclusion of high quality presentations from final year PhD candidates and young postdocs, along with those from world leading model theorists, developers, users and practitioners.

**Day 2: CSIC Emerging Connections Workshop**This workshop will discuss the challenges of integrating the diversity of approaches endemic to the wide range of disciplines and professions involved in managing and designing our cities and urban spaces. In a world where big data is becoming ubiquitous, our traditional professional and academic silos are not appropriate to address the challenges of designing interventions that meet the needs of diverse urban citizens. We approach these challenges of through a small number of focussed workshop sessions, each including 2-3 presentations and ample time for discussion and participation.

There will be presentations from multiple speakers including

* Mark Bew MBE, Chairman HM Government BIM Working Group;
* Volker Buscher, Director in Arup’s Consulting practice and leader of the Information and Communications Technology business;
* Prof Gillian Rose, Fellow of British Academy at the Open University;
* Dr. Navil Shetty, Director and Network Chair in Atkin’s Strategic Asset Management;
* Dr Andrea Silberman, Senior Economic Adviser, UK National Infrastructure Commission.

We explicitly encourage debate across the social and physical sciences, recognising that the language and concepts employed differ, but the focus on cities, urban spaces and citizens is shared across the related fields.

**Information and proposal deadlines for Day 1 presentations**

The deadline for presentation proposals is **31 May 2017.** Decisions on the abstracts will be made by **6 June 2017.** As was the case previously, authors can upload their papers and presentations before the symposium in an online repository (see below) to share with prospective delegates, but this is not obligatory – they can, if necessary, bring the presentation to the symposium and upload the presentations and papers afterwards. Where required, we will facilitate the communication between speakers and their respective discussants and chairs.

We invite proposals of 500-1000 words with a working title and 50-100 words of headline summary. Please email the proposals to Xihe Jiao at [xj226@cam.ac.uk](mailto:xj226@cam.ac.uk).

For AUM2017 we propose to continue the dissemination strategy through peer reviewed publications, supplemented by an AUM website with public and delegate-only repositories.

For further particulars, see below.

Authors  
We wish to engage with a wide group of authors, including leading scholars, decision-makers and practitioners, post-docs and PhD students close to completing their dissertations. Those working at the sharp-end of applied urban modelling and its use in investment decision-making are particularly welcome. We look forward to hearing from authors from the developing countries in Asia, Latin America and Africa, as well as the developed countries.

The symposium is open to all model types and styles. It welcomes particularly papers that assess tangible pathways towards achieving practical solutions. We also welcome papers that report innovations in related disciplines.

Expected audience and dissemination  
Because of its direct policy relevance we expect a wide audience ranging from academics, professionals, decision-makers, policy analysts and local communities. We expect to attract a wide and policy–cogent audience. For this reason, the authors are encouraged to report their theories, methods and findings in a non-specialist language.

The Symposium papers are expected to be at the leading edge of policy research and modelling practice and in the usual way they will be disseminated through journals with a rigorous refereeing process. Key city region case studies are likely to be disseminated in conjunction with city region or local authority partners through online publication and social media to feed into the policy debate in a direct and accessible manner.

Registration, Venue and Logistics

**Expenses and possible financial assistance**The fees for AUM2017 and CSIC Emerging Connections Workshop are provided in the table below. The fees cover access to symposium papers and presentations, lunches, refreshments, conference reception and buffet supper on 22 June. Participants are generally expected to pay for their own travel to and from Cambridge and accommodation in Cambridge. This arrangement is dictated by the symposium funding structure.

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|  | **Full Rate** | **Concessions \*** |
| **Day 1:AUM2017 22 June including Reception and Supper** | £                   160 | £                       90 |
| **Day 2:CSIC Emerging Connections Workshop 23 June** | £                   100 | £                       60 |
| **Attending both days** | £                   225 | £                     125 |

\* please contact symposium staff for eligibility under the funding rules.

En-suite conference accommodation at Westminster College have been reserved at an additional cost and are bookable on a first come first served basis. The booking website will be launched shortly and we will circulate the weblink accordingly. Because of the tightness of accommodation this year, we would encourage delegates to book early. If any delegates would have issues booking early, please contact us and we would be happy to assist as far as we can.

Symposium delegates will have full on-line access to papers and presentations via the AUM2017 website.

We have a modest fund to assist those authors who do not have funding for symposium registration, travel or accommodation. Those who would require financial assistance or have other queries please contact Dr Ying Jin (yj242@cam.ac.uk).

**Venue**

Both days of the symposium will be held in the new Crausaz Wordsworth Building in the grounds of Robinson College, Cambridge. The venue offers a fabulous meeting and socialising space for symposia of this size. For details see <http://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/conferences/meet/crausaz-wordsworth-building>.

**Symposium organisation**

The AUM2017 is hosted by the Martin Centre for Architectural and Urban Studies, Cambridge University (<http://www.martincentre.arct.cam.ac.uk/>). The CSIC Emerging Connections Workshop is hosted by Cambridge Centre for Smart Infrastructure and Construction (CSIC <http://www-smartinfrastructure.eng.cam.ac.uk/>) and sponsored by the Ove Arup Foundation.

The Scientific Committee for AUM2017 consists of Prof Marcial Echenique, Prof Mike Batty, and Prof Michael Wegener. The Organising Committee of AUM2017 is led by Ying Jin, Steve Denman and Xihe Jiao.

1. See <http://www.martincentre.arct.cam.ac.uk/conferences/AUM>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)