



CIB NEWS ARTICLE

International Council for Research and Innovation
in Building and Construction

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November 2005

CIB Student Chapter

Report on the 5th International Postgraduate Research Conference in the Built and Human Environment held in April 2005, Salford, UK



by

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Introduction

The 5th International Postgraduate Research Conference in the Built and Human Environment was held on 11th – 15th April 2005 as part of the Salford Research Week. The event was organized by the Research Institute for the Built and Human Environment (BuHu), the Centre for Research and Innovation (SCRI) and the CIB Endorsed Student Chapter at the University of Salford, UK.



Conference venue- The Lowry, Salford Quays, UK. and participants at welcome reception

The conference provided a stimulating and supportive environment for built environment postgraduates to present their research and meet other researchers working in similar fields. This is the largest international postgraduate conference in the built environment discipline. The content of the papers reflected different aspects of research being

undertaken by a researcher at any stage of his/her study.

Conference Topics

A scientific committee reviewed papers and all successful papers were published in the conference proceedings. The conference had 98 papers presented representing 38 different countries, on the following themes:

- Management and Economics
- Visualisation, Communication and E-Learning
- Design and Accessibility
- Real Estate
- Research Methodology
- Procurement and Partnering
- Technology Transfer and Innovation
- Knowledge Management and Learning
- Performance Management
- Sustainability and Urban Regeneration
- Acoustics
- Facilities Management

The following keynote papers from leading academics and industrialists were presented:

- 'Construction and poverty reduction' – Professor David Langford, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK;

- 'Satellite remote sensing maps of our changing environment' – Professor Mark Danson, The University of Salford, UK;
- 'A CIB Vision for Construction' – Professor Peter Barrett, The University of Salford UK;
- 'A New FM Industry for a New World?' – Professor John Hinks, The Royal Bank of Scotland, Scotland.

Research Workshops

A number of workshops gave the opportunity to discuss research methodological issues and the challenges posed at different stages of postgraduate study. Three parallel sessions were held to help Postgraduate researchers based on their phase of study:

- THEME A (Early Stage) – "Managing your supervisor". Facilitator: Dr Richard Haigh
- THEME B (Middle Stage) – "Publishing your research". Facilitator: Prof Karen Holland
- THEME C (Late Stage) – "Structuring the thesis and its preparation". Facilitator: Dr Dilanthi Amaratunga

Two other sessions were held providing an overall view of research methodologies and the PhD experience:

- A session on "Research Methodology" chaired by Dr Richard Haigh; and
- A session on "The PhD Experience" by Dr Bingu Ingirige.

Conference Awards

The following prizes were awarded to researchers at different stages of postgraduate study:

- The (BuHu) Prize for the Best Paper (Initial stage) - Michael Dickinson, University of Salford
- Balckwells Prize for the Best Presentation (Initial stage) - Wafaa Nadim, University of Salford
- RICS prize for the Best Paper (Middle stage) - S. Mahdiputra, Northumbria University
- ARCOM Prize for the Best Presentation (Middle stage) - Kaushal Keraminiyage, University of Salford
- CIB Prize for the Best Paper (Final Stage) - K. Tzoulas, University of Salford
- CIB Prize for the Best Presentation (Final Stage) - Claire Churchill, The University of Salford
- SCRI Award for the Best Paper which demonstrates the "most innovative idea in Postgraduate Research in the Built and Human Environment - Jose Solis, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA



Patrice Godonou, Assistant Secretary General of CIB presents the Best Presentation Award (Final Phase) to Claire Churchill



Professor Ghassan Aouad, Head of School of Construction and Property Management, University of Salford, presents the SCRI Award for the Best Paper which demonstrates the "most innovative idea in Postgraduate Research in the Built and Human Environment to Jose Solis

Next Conference

Feedback received on the conference was positive and participants commented on the conference organisation and management and the workshops in particular. These comments will be taken into account during the preparation of the next conference, the 6th International Postgraduate Conference in the Built and Human Environment. The event will be held as part of the 3rd International Research Week organised by University of Salford in collaboration with Delft University of Technology and TNO, in Delft, Netherlands on 6th – 7th April 2006.

Additional Information

To get additional information on the International Postgraduate Conference organized by Salford or the activities of the CIB Endorsed Student Chapters, please go to www.irw.buhu.salford.ac.uk or send an e-mail to one of the following:

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