



CIB NEWS ARTICLE

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in Building and Construction

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From CIB Co-sponsored Events

Report of the 3rd Scottish Conference for Postgraduate Researchers of the Built & Natural Environment (PRoBE), November 2007, Glasgow, UK

by

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Introduction

The main purpose of this CIB Co-sponsored 3rd Scottish Conference for Postgraduate Researchers of the Built & Natural Environment (PRoBE), which took place in November 2007 in Glasgow, United Kingdom was to provide an avenue for postgraduate researchers in academic institutions in Scotland, and beyond, to share and exchange research information and knowledge in the areas of the built & natural environment.



Conference participants

It was also intended that the conference would help to enhance research and presentation skills for up and coming researchers. In addition, it provides a forum for postgraduate researchers to debate and exchange ideas and experiences on a broad range of issues related to the built and natural environments.

The event was organised by the School of Built & Natural Environment and the CIB endorsed Student Chapter at Glasgow Caledonian University.

Conference Themes

Of the eighty-five (85) papers initially submitted, forty-seven (47) papers were selected on the basis of the strict review of the International Scientific Committee members to ensure a good quality standard. The papers have come from many parts of the world, including Guyana, South Africa, Ghana, United Arab Emirates, Nigeria, Hong Kong, Canada, Australia, Mexico, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Denmark, Germany, Malaysia, Wales, England and Scotland.

Over 65 Delegates attended the conference.

Themes

The published papers were in the following themes:

- Research and education
- Human resources management and culture
- Planning, productivity and quality
- Cost and financial management
- Information and design management
- Management of the construction process
- Law and contracts
- Procurement, value and risk management
- Management of the firm
- Facilities and safety management
- Building Performance
- Strategic issues for the industry
- Real estate and property
- Housing
- Accessibility
- Building services
- Sustainability

- Air and water quality
- Waste management
- Environmental technology

There was a keynote presented from an eminent scholar in the field: *A Call for Methodological Pluralism in Built Environment Research*, by Prof. Andrew Dainty, Department of Civil and Building Engineering, Loughborough University.

Conference Sponsorship and Awards

There were many people and organisations, who have contributed to the success of the conference: authors, delegates, local organising committee and the international scientific committee. We are particularly thankful to the sponsors of the conference who have provided us with the funds and Prize Awards for Best Papers and Presentations were:

- International Council of Research in Building and Construction
- Association for Project Management
- Emerald Property Journals
- Journal of Engineering, Design and Technology
- Glasgow Caledonian University
- Lord Provost's Civic Reception in the Picture Gallery, City Chambers
- Scottish Enterprise, Glasgow



Charles Egbu, Janet Anderson (Conference Administrator) and Michael Tong

The following prizes were awarded:

- The Scottish Enterprise supported Prize Award for Best Paper – Hassin El-Sharif, Glasgow Caledonian University, Scotland.
- The Journal of Engineering, Design and Technology supported Runner-up prize for Best Paper - Agustin Chevez, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Australia.
- The International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB) supported Runner-up prize for Best Paper - Nadine Leufgens, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg.

- The School of Built & Natural Environment, Glasgow Caledonian University supported prize for Best Presentation - Christopher J. Willis, University of New Brunswick, Canada
- The Emerald Property Journals supported Runner-up prize for Best Presentation - Leentje Volker, University of Delft, Netherlands.

Further Information

Overall, the conference proved to be very successful. The overseas delegates were very impressed with the city of Glasgow. Delegates also received a warm reception at the City Chambers by the Office of the Lord Provost of Glasgow. The research students benefited enormously through networking with their peers, making presentations, gaining insights from the Keynote Speaker and their own colleagues; and gaining confidence in the art of presentation of research papers and in the asking and answering questions from the academic research community.

Finally, this conference is supported by Glasgow Caledonian University CIB Student Chapter. We are grateful to all the committee members of the Student Chapter for all their efforts in making the conference a success.

Proceedings

The PRoBE Conference Proceedings are available as a hard copy and on CD-ROM. An article about the proceedings will be announced via a separate CIB News article in a next Newsletter.

Additional Information

To receive additional information relating to the conference or the activities of the CIB Student Chapter at Glasgow Caledonian University, please send an email to:

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