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## Fifth Conference of the Portuguese-language Network of Urban Morphology, Guimarães, Portugal, 15–16 July 2016.

This Fifth PNUM Conference was organized by the University of Minho and co-ordinated by Jorge Correia and Miguel Bandeira. Its theme was 'The spaces of urban morphology in research, teaching and practice'. There were nine sub-themes: History of urban form; Patrimonial inheritances and urban regeneration; Theory of urban morphology; From city to territory; Didactic practices and experiments; Methods and techniques; Agents and transformation processes; From plan to project; and Public space and recent transformations. The proceedings have been published as an e-book (<http://193.136.14.37/Atas%20PNUM%202016.pdf>).

The first keynote address was given by Renato Leão Rego (State University of Maringá, Brazil) on 'The new cities of the Transamazônica and urban morphology'. In analysing urban-rural planning in Brazil in the 1970s with the implementation of 'agrovilas' along the 'Transamazônica' federal highway, he questioned a supposed analogy between this and projects for new cities in the northern part of Paraná state, in the south of Brazil. In analysing the project in detail, Rego pointed out that one of the reasons for its failure was the attempt to depart from the logic of the North Brazilian way of life being related to a river by the introduction of a road. He drew attention to the isolation of the region and the difficulties for settlers. In addition to conveying knowledge about an unusual urban-rural reality, Rego's address allowed us to experience an urban morphology exercise, drawing on the work of Conzen and Kropf, covering several geographical scales.

The other keynote address, by Teresa Valsassina Heitor (Instituto Superior Técnico, Portugal),

focused on two aspects. The first concerned the concepts of the city according to Ascher. The second, directed especially at teachers and students, concerned the reading of contemporary urban form. Heitor pointed out the importance of including examination of the landscape, layout, exterior spaces, built space, uses, metabolism, and performance, referring to a series of authors well-known in urban morphology. Based on the demonstrated contemporary urban complexity, she pointed out the need for the scale of approach to be local and global, referring to Moudon. In discussing didactic possibilities for teaching urban form, she presented simulations of reality through digital games that were especially attractive for young students.

There was a stimulating study visit on foot within Guimarães, guided by Maria Manuel Oliveira (University of Minho). As author and co-ordinator of the requalification project developed by the University of Minho Studies Centre of the Architectural School, Oliveira shared with participants the details of the project and its exquisite execution. Studies of the urban form of the project area were highlighted as fundamental to the foundation of several decisions on projects.

Building on the achievements of this conference, the Sixth PNUM Conference will be held at the Federal University of Espírito Santo in Vitória, Brazil 24–5 August 2017 (<http://pnum2017.wixsite.com/pnum2017>).

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