

The establishment of an annual conference and a biannual journal are two major elements for the consolidation and development of our network. Perhaps the major achievement of our second year of activities has been the development of a sound linkage between the Portuguese and Brazilian communities of urban morphologists. It is my strong belief that the third year of activities will firmly establish PNUM within the world network of urban morphology.

Reference

Whitehand, J. W. R. (2012) 'Issues in urban morphology', *Urban Morphology* 16, 55-65.

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Second conference of the Portuguese Network of Urban Morphology, Lisbon, Portugal, 5-6 July 2012

PNUM 2012 was held in Lisbon in early summer. Organized by Teresa Marat-Mendes, Mafalda Samapayo, Paula André, Rosália Guerreiro, and Maria João de Oliveira, it took place at the Instituto Universitário de Lisboa (ISCTE). Focusing on 'Urban morphology in Portuguese speaking countries', the conference covered a broader academic arena than the first PNUM conference which concentrated on Portugal.

Authors from eight countries in four continents (Europe, America, Africa and Asia) presented 96 papers. Most of the Portuguese-speaking countries, namely Portugal, Brazil, Mozambique, Macau, Cape Verde, São Tomé and Príncipe, Guinea-Bissau, and East Timor featured in the presentations. Portugal provided the largest group of authors, followed closely by Brazil. Nearly 130 researchers, academics, practitioners, and students attended, by no means all of them having taken part in previous ISUF events.

At the start of the proceedings, the Director of the Departamento de Arquitectura e Urbanismo, the President of PNUM, and the Organizing Committee welcomed the participants. The ensuing programme consisted of a series of parallel sessions, each session comprising six presentations followed by a closing debate. There were also keynote presentations on 'Brasília – modern city, eternal city'; 'Continuities and discontinuities of the Portuguese urban culture – eighteenth to twentieth century'; and 'Urban morphology and the social condition: urban public space'. A 'round table', to which a number of eminent architects contributed, concluded the conference.

The relationships between urban morphology and space syntax, town planning history, sociology and professional practice were all considered at

some point in the programme. Disciplines to which connections with urban morphology were explored included history, art history, law, architecture and town planning. There was a broad conspectus of urban morphological research that is in progress within the Portuguese-speaking community, including coverage of the contemporary city, colonial towns, new towns, medieval towns and capital cities. Abstracts and full papers can be accessed at <http://repositorio-iul.iscte.pt/handle/10071/3633>.

In the course of the conference, participants had the opportunity to hear the mother language through varied accents. The *Porto de Honra* cocktail was also an opportunity for social intercourse. The participants who attended the visit to Lisbon Castle enjoyed exceptional vistas.

During the conference the President of PNUM, Vítor Oliveira, announced the launch of the *Revista de Morfologia Urbana (Portuguese Journal of Urban Morphology)*, which will be published online, biannually, in July and December, by PNUM. The first number is due to be published in December 2013. With a format similar to that of *Urban Morphology*, this new journal will be in Portuguese.

This conference clearly reflected the growing interest of Portuguese-speaking researchers in the field of urban morphology. Participants left Lisbon looking forward to the next PNUM encounter, which will be next year in Coimbra.

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