

Newsletter, Volume 1, no. 1, October 2009

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Letter from the President and EXCO

Dear PLPR members,

We are pleased to present the first edition of the PLPR Newsletter. As our association is growing this newsletter seems to be an important addition to our website, the list-serve and the emails. We are planning to distribute this newsletter on a regular basis, about three times a year. Please feel free to submit relevant items for the newsletter, such as announcements of your important new publications, prizes and events. We will include them in our Members' News section, which is currently very rudimentary.

In July, during the AESOP conference we held a meeting of the AESOP Thematic Group that has evolved into PLPR. You will find a short report below. You will also find information on upcoming events, like the conferences in Dortmund and Edmonton.

We are proud to say that the number of members has grown to almost 200 members and the Dortmund conference promises to draw still more participants. We would like to encourage all members to subscribe (and use) our List-serve (see our website: <http://planning-law.socsci.uva.nl>). Those who have recently started to use it, have found it very useful for their research. Also, you may post your publications on our web site, thus increasing both our collective knowledge base and your own "Citation Index" count.

A note on elections:

An important event during the General Assembly in Dortmund will be the elections of new officeholders. Our Statutes say that there are four elected ExCo positions (the other positions are appointed or derived from hosting the annual conferences). There are: President, Vice President, Secretary General and Ph.D. Coordinator.

After working for 9 years toward the establishment of PLPR and after serving as its President for the past two years, I decided that it is time for another person to take the helm. For me, this will mark the maturity of the Association. I will of course continue to be an active member of PLPR. Mirosław Gdesz too has requested to end his role as Secretary-Treasurer. Because Leonie Janssen-Jansen and Thomas Hartmann have both decided to run for new office, it so happens that all four elected ExCo positions will be open for election during the Dortmund conference.

Kind regards, also on behalf of the other ExCo members: Leonie Janssen-Jansen (Vice President), Mirek Gdesz (Secretary Treasurer), Thomas Hartmann (PhD, Coordinator), Michael Sorensen (Past Local Conference Chair), Ben Davy (Dortmund Conference Chair), Dick Norton (North America Liaison) and John Sheehan (Pacific Rim Liaison),

Rachelle Alterman

President - International Academic Association on Planning, Law and Property Rights

Reports on Past Activities

Theme Group Meeting during the 23rd AESOP Conference in Liverpool

20 participants were present during the theme group meeting of the AESOP track on Planning and Law. During this meeting, but also during the full Liverpool conference the Organizing Academic Committee of Dortmund presented itself in various ways (call for papers). The preliminary dates for the Edmonton conference were also announced (more info see the next section). During the meeting we discussed on publications, possible special session and theme issues. Although journal boards are not necessarily keen on theme issues, they seem to endorse some coordinated submission.

At the end of the meeting we discussed options for having a journal on planning and law. Rachelle Alterman reported on her preliminary contacts with Taylor and Francis two years ago. She also distributed leaflets of the new International Journal of Law in the Built Environment where she serves as a member of the Editorial Advisory Board. . Other journals - Planning Theory and Practice and Town Planning Review - have expressed a general interest in papers on themes related to planning, law and property rights.

Information on Upcoming Activities

Fourth Conference, Dortmund, Germany, 10-12 February 2010: Abstract submission has been extended till October 23rd!

The organization of Dortmund conference is in full swing. Over 90 abstracts have been submitted and the review process has started. It is still possible to submit an abstract. Please check the conference website (<http://www.plpr2010.tu-dortmund.de/>). The local organizing committee, Ben Davy, Thomas Hartmann, Gabi Zimmermann and Katharina Schmidt can be contacted by email: plpr2010@tu-dortmund.de.

<http://planning-law.socsci.uva.nl/>

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7-10 July 2010, Group meeting during the 24th AESOP Congress, Helsinki, Finland.

Fifth Conference, Edmonton, Canada, 25-27 May 2011

The fifth PLPR conference will be held at the Faculty of Law, University of Alberta. More information (including the call for papers) will follow soon. Russell Brown and Eran Kaplinsky will be our hosts.

Call for Office Holders (Dortmund Elections)

According to our Association Statutes approved during the Aalborg conference, the election of new ExCo-members will take place during the General Assembly at the 2010 Conference to be held in Dortmund. As announced in the 'Letter from ExCo' in this newsletter all four positions of the ExCo of PLPR will be open for election - President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasury, and PhD coordinator.

We would like to invite our members to candidate themselves before November 30th by sending an email to Rachelle Alterman (alterman@technion.ac.il). All candidates will be asked to compose a statement in which he or she elaborates on their thoughts about their potential contribution to our Association. These statements will be distributed among all members after approval of the Chair of the Election Committee. As outgoing President, Rachelle Alterman will coordinate the nominations. She will also be able to give more information on the tasks and responsibilities of the office holders. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Call for hosting the 6th PLPR-Conference

Our Association has already had three successful congresses: The inaugural one in Amsterdam (2007), the second in Warsaw (2008), the third in (2009). Next February the 4th congress will be held in Dortmund. ExCo has already decided on the venue of the 2011 conference in Edmonton.

Following the approval of our Association Statutes at the General Assembly meeting in Aalborg, the selection of the following congress venues will be made through an open Call. We would like to invite our members to apply to host the 2012 congress. The preferred time of year is February 2012, but ExCo will consider other dates as well.

If you and your university (or other relevant academic institution) is interested in hosting the 2012 conference, please send a message to Leonie Janssen-Jansen (l.b.janssen-jansen@uva.nl) before November 30th 2009. Please include preliminary information about the location and the conference facilities. Please also suggest the members of the local organizing committee, the general time of year (month or even week), and type of support that your university would be willing to provide

ExCo will consider the proposals and may decide to recommend one or more venues. ExCo will bring the full set of proposals for a vote during the General Assembly in Dortmund, on February 12th 2009, along with its recommendation (if any).

We look forward to your proposal!

Members' news

[This section is still in embryonic format, and includes only events and items that happened to come to our attention; a Call follows for the forthcoming Newsletters].

- Rachelle Alterman received the Landau National Academic Prize – one of the highest honors available to academics in Israel. Congratulations!
- Menno van der Veen obtained his PhD on May 20th at the TU Delft. Congratulations!
- Thomas Hartmann obtained his PhD on July 30th 2009 at the TU Dortmund. Congratulations!
- Miroslaw Gdesz has been nominated a for judge position by the President of Poland early September. Congratulations!

Announcements of New Books by Members

- Book edited by Leonie Janssen-Jansen, Marjolein Spaans and Menno van der Veen, *New Instruments in Spatial Planning: An International Perspective on Non-Financial Compensation*, was published by IOS Press and released early 2009.
- Rachelle Alterman's new book *Takings International: A Comparative Perspective on Land Use Regulations and Compensation Rights* will be released in December 2009 in Chicago by the American Bar Association Publications.

PLPR members are encouraged to send us announcements of major new publications and events!