Dear PLPR members,

In PLPR’s third newsletter you’ll find the latest news and announcements of our association and its members.

Over the past few months the Dortmund local host committee has been working on the PLPR conference booklet, with summaries of most of the session, the materials from the opening and closing plenary, but also lots of pictures. Further a new website (www.plpr-association.org), and a new mailing list are under construction. You will find more information on these activities in this newsletter. Also, information is provided on our upcoming conference in Edmonton, 26-28th May 2011.

I am happy to present the 2012 venue of PLPR will be the University of Ulster in Belfast/Jordanstown. Belfast came up as first preference for the 2012 during the Dortmund General Assembly where we had received four bids for organizing a PLPR conference. We do realize that considering the share of European members present at the GA in Dortmund might have colored the outcome at bit. After Dortmund, we explored the options once again and decided that the University of Ulster, School of the Built Environment, will be PLPR’s sixth conference host in early spring 2012. We are drafting new conference host bidding procedures, which will be brought forward during the Edmonton general assembly.

www.plpr-association.org
Between the 7th and 10th of July, some of our members presented their work in the PLPR track at the AESOP conference in Helsinki. Participation in the PLPR track, organized by Rachelle Alterman and Kauko Viitanen, has provided the opportunity to meet or get to know better many of the members. Again, the presentations showed the range of scholarly work being conducted in relation to planning, law and property rights. 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. Also, you may post your publications on our web site, thus increasing both our collective knowledge base and your own “Citation Index” count.

Kind regards, also on behalf of the other ExCo members: Ben Davy (Vice President & Past Local Conference Chair), Thomas Hartmann (Secretary General), Michelle Oren (PhD Coordinator), Eran Kaplinsky (Edmonton Conference Chair), Dick Norton (North America Liaison) and John Sheehan (Pacific Rim Liaison),

*Leonie Janssen-Jansen*

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

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Elected PLPR Executive Committee 2010:

Left to right: Ben Davy (Vice President & Past Local Conference Chair), Michelle Oren (PhD Coordinator), Thomas Hartmann (Secretary General), Dick Norton (North America Liaison), John Sheehan (Pacific Rim Liaison), Eran Kaplinsky (Edmonton Conference Chair) and Leonie Janssen-Jansen (President).

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**PLPR has a new website address:**

As part of the initiatives of the new Executive committee and a special contribution of the Secretary General Thomas Hartmann, we are happy to announce we have a new website address. The website contents are currently being upgraded. You can find us now at: [www.plpr-association.org](http://www.plpr-association.org) or e-mail us at: [info@plpr-association.org](mailto:info@plpr-association.org)
Some 120 academics in the fields of planning, planning law, real estate and property rights gathered in Dortmund from 10 to 12 February 2010. Well-prepared for the snow, ice and cold after previous Planning, Law and Property Rights (PLPR) February conferences in Amsterdam, Warsaw and Aalborg, they not only took the opportunity to learn more about the latest research developments in their fields, but also to experience the city of Dortmund, in the Ruhr Area – a focus of the 2010 European Capital of Culture. About 93 papers were presented in 21 sessions. The conference’s book of abstracts can be consulted at:

While the papers focused on the relation between planning and law, some came from a legal perspective, others came from a planning perspective; all, however, had been approved in a double-blind review process. Presenters questioned established truisms, criticized legal procedures, evaluated new planning laws and also introduced new research questions. The different sessions included topics such as: ‘Planning & property markets’, ‘Land & the community’, ‘Land management’, ‘Regulatory practices’, ‘History & heritage’, ‘Planning & water’, ‘Theorizing planning & law’, ‘Land use control’, ‘Green property’, ‘Expropriation and compensation’, and ‘Planning law and the public’. Through these topics, the conference demonstrated the wide scope of PLPR and its members’ research. A detailed report of the conference can be found in the latest issue of Town Planning Review (81.4, pp. 473-478).

Link:
http://liverpool.metapress.com/content/7462360t126783m3/?p=77e7a0adcc7841e1a374903ad550861d&pi=8

An illustrated booklet with the highlights of the conference was published by Ben Davy, Thomas Hartmann, Gabi Zimmermann, Heinz Kobs and Kathrina Schmidt, in cooperation with session chairs, key note speakers, and ExCo members. Booklet can be downloaded at the following link:
30 papers were presented between the 7th and 10th of July, during the 24th AESOP annual conference in Helsinki, Finland, alongside a special session on property rights and land use regulation around the globe. The track, chaired by Rachelle Alterman and Kauko Viitanen, was well visited. Among others, we discussed national planning laws and their challenges and reform, elaborated on the dilemma of certainty versus flexibility in plan-making, the changing roles of private developers and property markets, housing rights and social exclusion etc. We decided not to organize a PLPR theme group meeting in Helsinki as it could not be scheduled without competing with one of the Planning, Law, and Property Rights paper sessions.

Information on Upcoming Activities

**Fifth Conference, Edmonton, Canada, 26-28 May 2011**

Abstract submission will close on December 15th 2010!

PLPR invites you to join our next conference at the Faculty of Law, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. The conference sessions will provide an exciting opportunity for scholars from around the world to present innovative research and engage in interdisciplinary exchange related to the theme of the Association – the study of the connections, in the broadest sense, between planning and law. We invite papers on all topics related to law and planning, including all legal aspects of urban, regional, and rural planning; land use regulation; property rights, expropriation and compensation; housing; and public-private cooperation. We encourage submissions from researchers working in such areas as GIS, real estate, economics, and natural resources. PhD students are particularly welcome! A special roundtable will be organized for PhD students researching in the field. All abstracts will be peer-reviewed.

Local organizing committee: Eran Kaplinsky and Russell Brown.

For more information visit the Conference website: [www.law.ualberta.ca/plpr/2011](http://www.law.ualberta.ca/plpr/2011). Conference email: plpr2011@law.ualberta.ca


Sixth Conference, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 2012, early spring

The sixth PLPR conference will be held at the School of the Built Environment, University of Ulster, Belfast/Jordanstown. More information (including the call for papers) will follow soon. **Greg Lloyd** and **Deborah Peel** will be our hosts.

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Members’ news

- **Richard Norton** has been appointed as Chair of the Urban & Regional Planning Program at the University of Michigan.

- **Thomas Hartmann** will leave TU Dortmund and start a Post-doc at the Faculty for Geosciences at the University of Utrecht in September 2010.

- **Hamish Rennie** has passed his ITTF International Umpire exams and would appreciate it if planning law conferences could be scheduled to link with significant table tennis tournaments. **Hamish Rennie** reports: NZ Local Government Elections Abrogated and Elected Regional Councilors Fired! For information see: [http://www.ourwaterourvote.org.nz/](http://www.ourwaterourvote.org.nz/) Water is the major environmental planning issue in New Zealand at present and has led recently to Central Government controversially sacking all the elected Canterbury Regional Council politicians and the abrogation of the elections for the Canterbury Regional Council until 2013 (the next elections were due this year). Seven commissioners have been appointed by central government to run the regional council, the largest in New Zealand. This has been due primarily to the non-completion of water plans for the region and the competition for water rights primarily for irrigation.


- **Harvey M. Jacobs** of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA, was the invited plenary speaker at the first national Canadian conference on “Private Property, Planning and the Public Interest,” sponsored by the Faculty of Law, University of Windsor (Ontario) in March; his talk was titled “Private Property in Historical and Contemporary Global Context.” In May Prof. Jacobs continued his decade-plus participation in the activities of the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training of Taiwan by teaching a one week short course as part of their 113th Regular Session on Land Policy for Sustainable Rural Development; his students were 25 mid-career professionals from 25 countries globally. While in Taiwan he was also invited to deliver a lecture at the Department of Land Economics of National Chengchi University, and to facilitate a faculty roundtable on comparative research at the University’s College of Social Science. In June Prof. Jacobs was a featured speaker at the biennial meeting of the International Center for Research on Environmental Issues held in Aix-en-Provence, France. This year’s conference focused on biodiversity. Prof. Jacobs chaired the opening plenary session, and in a later session presented a paper on “Non-

Announcements of New Books and Articles by Members

Alterman Rachelle et al, 2010. Takings International: A Comparative Perspective on Land Use Regulations and Compensation Rights. Chicago: American Bar Association Publications. (book). The first three chapters (90pp written by RA) present a comparative analysis of the 13 countries included in this book. The other chapters are dedicated to each country and written by a team of country experts, edited by RA.


*(For pre-publication copies of any of these papers please contact Rachelle at: alterman@technion.ac.il Some are also available on her home page: http://alterman.technion.ac.il)


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