



CITY SPACE +

GLOBALIZATION

An International Perspective

Editor
Hemalata C. Dandekar



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An International Perspective

Proceedings of an International Symposium
College of Architecture and Urban Planning
The University of Michigan
February 26–28, 1998

Hemalata C. Dandekar
Editor

College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

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Call for Papers

City, Space, and Globalization

February 26 - 28, 1998, College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan

SPONSORS: The International Institute, The Center for South and Southeast Asia, The College of Architecture and Urban Planning

Concentrated and growing cities, increasingly regional and international in economy, cultures, tastes and life-style, exist in the midst of a local space, a local economy, and a local culture. The synergy and the tensions, the inter-relationships and polarization that evolve between local and global forces on the tangible arena of local city space/place are the topics of this symposium. The discussion will be critical, theoretical, empirical, historical, and based on actual cases. The presentations will be organized under three themes which reflect the shaping of cities today and are germane to their planning and design.

I. Architectural Design, Physical Planning & Internationalization

This will include issues of technology and changing city form; of choice in local or global technology and skills; of fit or friction with local infrastructure and resources; of enhancement of, or discord with, culture and climate; of questions of sustainability of city form and function in the 21st century; and of the tensions between development and environment, economy and ecology.

II. Cultural Heritage, Revitalization and Development

This will include issues of renewal and transformation of the historic urban fabric; of urban reconstruction; of tourism and city growth; of engulfment of city core and transformation of city periphery; and of protecting the cultural specificity and textuality of place, and its friction with global culture and international rents.

III. Gender, Class, Ethnicity and Globalization

This will include issues of changing configuration of, and roles in, households and of the spatial implications of their different and unequal access to city shelter, services and amenity; of global trade and related work juxtaposed with microenterprise and local employment; of power and conflict over city space by local and global stakeholders and resources.

The explorations of the spatial and the tangible/physical manifestations in cities of the evolving local to global relationships may be examined at the scale of the local neighborhood; city-hinterland; regional or metropolitan; or at the national/international. It may include examination of the interrelationships within and between these scales. A multi-disciplinary, cross-cultural, and comparative perspective is suggested. Various current or potential actors in city-shaping activities including the State, the Private Sector, Non-Governmental Institutions and private Citizens and Community Groups may be scrutinized. Presentations may address either the technical, design and planning issues framed by the local, global tensions or reflect on the theoretical aspects of their formation.



PREFACE

We are facing the start of a century in which, it is projected, there will be more urban than rural dwellers in the world. This in itself has caused a revised interest in the city as an object of scrutiny. Furthermore, it is predicted that urban dwellers will be living in a world in which issues traditionally perceived to be of local concern—land use, jobs, shelter creation, and provision of cultural and social services and amenities—have become intrinsically interlinked with, and affected by, forces which are global in nature. This fact, in and of itself, raises questions about the future role of architects, urban and regional planners, and others in the planning and design professions who act predominantly on local space. What role might and will they play and how will they do this in professional and responsible ways? With this backdrop and these questions in mind, a symposium was held on February 28–March 1, 1998 at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. The call for papers, partially reproduced on the facing page articulated the problem and the invitation. It made the symposium's intent explicit: to capture the observations of architects, urban planners, and urbanists and thus help reveal the energies and the tensions, the interrelationships and polarization, that are evolving between local and global forces within the tangible arena of local city space and city place.

Held at the College of Architecture and Urban Planning, the symposium featured academics and practitioners from some 25 countries, including Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Egypt, India, South Korea, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Columbia. In the keynote presentation, internationally renowned planning theoretician John Friedmann used the metaphor of city-as-hotel to sketch out the consequences of a citizenry just "renting a room" in the city. His was a call, in the face of globalization, for active and engaged local citizenship and participation in the policy decisions that shape cityscape today and into the future. Four powerful political leaders, in local to national levels of government, all of them women, and deeply involved in issues of access to housing, jobs, training and the protection of the environment, clearly understood this call.¹ In their remarks at the symposium they reflected on how the concerns expressed by the gathered international experts are their concerns too as they represent their constituents in the heartland of the U.S. This was a glimpse of a new face of America for the foreign participants—politicians, planners, professors that they were. They commented that, until then, they had known only the American politicians who push trade agreements and globalization.

What became clear at the symposium, and is captured in these collected papers, is that there are things of concern in the local life space of cities and their citizens around the world as ubiquitous as the macro, integrating phenomena posited in the theoretical literature on globalization. The conversations at the symposium encompassed what was happening in some

forty cities around the world. These papers suggest why and how planners and design professionals need to be protective and watchful as globally integrating forces affect their local communities and local space.

About three hundred people were formally registered for the symposium. Many others in the university and local professional community accepted the invitation to drop in more casually on selected sessions. Some sixty papers were formally presented and an additional twenty were exhibited in poster form. A book fair displayed some one hundred and fifty current books on the city. Some thirty documentaries and films featuring the city were shown, with discussion sessions scheduled so as to stimulate critique. A formal exhibition entitled *The City*, curated by Lisa Iwamoto and Craig Scott, two members of the architectural faculty, provided a stunning visual rendition of the emerging form of the future city. The simultaneous activities at the symposium were rich and varied. Even those attending the duration of the conference could participate only in parts of the program.

The papers presented in the symposium served both to augment ideas in the existing literature and to introduce new observations in the ongoing discourse on globalization. The major impetus for this book, therefore, was to establish a record of this gathering and to make accessible to a larger audience a selection of the papers and ideas emanating from this event. Toward this end, and to keep intact the authenticity of the perspective offered, the editor has maintained the voice of each contributor to the maximum extent possible. The collection is being published expeditiously in hopes that it will be useful to the design and planning professions as they

face the urban realities emerging in the twenty-first century. As editor of this book, it has been my honor and privilege to be the first to read these contributions as a collection. The vantage point has been illuminating and provided an opportunity to see the globalization and city space connection with broadened vision. I hope the book will make a useful contribution to furthering the discourse about the city, and sharpen the design professionals' perspective of the implications of globalization for the local, grounded space of cities in the twenty-first century.

Hemalata C. Dandekar

Chair, City, Space and Globalization Symposium

Notes

- ¹ Leaders who graciously addressed the symposium were Ingrid Sheldon, Mayor of Ann Arbor, Liz Brater, Representative, State of Michigan, U.S. Congresswoman Lynn Rivers and environmental activist and former State Senator Lana Pollack. The organizers of this conference are most grateful to these leaders for their time, energy, and thoughtful rendition of issues that affect their terrain.
- ² The overall format of submissions has been standardized for visual cohesiveness. However, the editor has minimized her interventions in the stylistic rendition of the narratives presented and left intact choices made by authors in matters such as the style of referencing work, English versus American spelling, grammar and sentence structure, and regionalisms in use of language.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Publication of these proceedings and the City, Space and Globalization Symposium itself, held at the College of Architecture and Urban Planning of the University of Michigan, were made possible by the generous support provided by several units at the University. The International Institute provided significant initial and sustained funding through various phases of a project entitled *City, Space and International Development*, which included the creation of a cross-campus, multi-disciplinary course on the role of cities in development. The substantive interest in this area of the Institute's Director David W. Cohen, and then Associate Director, John Godfrey served as a catalyst for this work. The Center for South and Southeast Asia (CSSEAS) provided major and sustained staffing and office support through the preplanning, organization, and smooth execution of the symposium. I would like to thank all the CSSEAS staff, and in particular, Dorathea Dootz, Senior Administrator, for her strong oversight and organization, Jodi Forrester for shouldering travel arrangements, and Francis Garcia, Program Coordinator, for extensive and ongoing work on designing

and updating the conference web page. The energy and good-humored efforts of CSSEAS staff made the symposium a reality and rendered the venue pleasant and supportive. Funding for this effort came from a grant to CSSEAS from the U.S. Department of Education National Resource Center Grant for South Asia. This supported the participation of several academics and researchers working on South Asian cities. Grants from the Office of Multicultural Affairs and from the Institute for Research on Women and Gender enabled the organizers to include an expanded set of perspectives and sessions. The Korean Studies Program and the Center for Russian and East European Studies each brought to the table one participant from their regions of the world.

The College of Architecture and Urban Planning (CAUP), in addition to making a substantial financial commitment, was the host unit for the symposium. CAUP thus contributed a large variety of "in-kind" resources which made the intellectual discourse so successful and these proceedings possible. The CAUP community, consisting of faculty, administrators, students, and staff, far too numerous to list here, enthusiastically welcomed the symposium participants on their territory. They cheerfully shared college space, equipment, and services in the middle of an academic term. I would like especially to thank William Manspeaker, CAUP's computer system's specialist, who provided essential oversight and hands-on audio visual support for all four days of the symposium. Bill was the first to arrive and the last to leave. He made the technical aspects of the flow of communication seem effortless. His assistance has continued through the creation of this publication as he has provided us with needed computers, equipment, and expertise.

Michigan students, particularly from the doctoral program in Architecture and the master's and doctoral programs in Urban and Regional Planning, were enthusiastic participants in the intellectual give-and-take. They provided person power as needed for the smooth operation of the event. Two doctoral planning students, Catalina Velasco-Campuzano and Thana Chirapiwat, initiated and made real a stimulating exhibit of poster papers which facilitated the inclusion of work of emerging scholars and researchers. Trisha Miller, with assistance from Kenneth Lo, prepared an exciting book exhibit featuring some one hundred and fifty recent books on the city (for a partial listing of titles displayed, see pp. 390–391) and organized a film festival of thirty-five documentaries and feature films (see program and listing on pp. 388–389). These contributed greatly to the intellectual vitality of the conversations. With design guidance from Brian Carter, Chair of the Department of Architecture, the students installed a visually attractive exhibit of posters and books which provided a stimulating backdrop to discussions over coffee and at breaks.

The substantive intellectual underpinnings of this symposium and these proceedings were made robust not only by student energy, which was considerable, but by faculty colleagues within CAUP and across the University. In the organization phase faculty and students helped shape the thematic boundaries. In this effort I am grateful to the then Chair of

the Urban Planning Program, Robert Marans, and the current chair, Margaret Dewar, for their vision of emerging issues facing cities of the future. Faculty guided and stimulated the intellectual exchange in the various panels through exercising a strong role as moderators and discussants. Their input was critical in stimulating and energizing the discussions. Their names and affiliations are noted in the program (pp. 378–386). Most important in this exchange was the contribution of over sixty panelists (see program, pp. 378–386) whose thoughtful and carefully crafted presentations were pivotal. I would like to thank all the panelists for their presence and their intellectual contributions. Forty-five papers which emanated from the symposium and poster submissions are featured in these proceedings. I would like to thank the authors for their work and for their cooperation in responding promptly to my request for materials and clarifications.

A number of individuals have collaborated closely in compiling this book. I would like particularly to recognize Thana Chirapiwat, who was responsible for the book design and composition, and for the design and execution of the book cover. Thana also provided graphic support for the symposium. This effort has required a great ability to work under pressure. It has involved tasks such as designing a logo or a program overnight so that the order for buttons or printing could go out at dawn. In addition to rising to this challenge, Thana provided key computer support which enabled us to accept documents in many disk formats received from all over the world. I would also like to thank Vivienne Armentrout, who provided detailed and careful editorial help with great sensitivity to the intent of this publication, to expeditiously produce a record of *the City, Space and Globalization Symposium*. Thana and Vivienne contributed long and unpredictably scheduled hours which have enabled us to produce this volume quickly but carefully. Rudolf B. Schmerl, friend and editor, Karin Klinkajorn, urban planning student, and Dixie Farquharson, academic secretary in CAUP, helped in this task at critical junctures. Sandra Patton, Business Manager, CAUP, provided strong financial guidance and support, and Maureen Perdomo, Director of Communications, CAUP, good technical advice during production. Finally, I would like to thank Dean Douglas S. Kelbaugh, CAUP, for good advice on cover design and for supporting the overall endeavor. It is very clear that this project would not have been completed as quickly, or as well, without all their considerable efforts.

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