questions?

International Conference Cluj-Napoca Romania Architecture, Technology and the City

venue:
Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning
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OCTOBER 25 - 26. 2018
Dear Colleagues,

We gladly continue our QUESTIONS series, this time in the format of an International Conference, again organized by the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning of the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca. Our aim is to create a place for professional exchanges and debates that would foster quality research and innovative teaching methods in architectural higher education and in interdisciplinary areas like design, engineering, social sciences, including cultural anthropology and geography.

This edition will take place between the 25th and 26th of October, 2018.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Our society has lately turned to technology with almost religious expectations for solving all our environmental, economic and social issues. In the era of sustainable development, technology is called for to analyze and answer most of the problems our ever growing cities are faced with, from overcrowding, traffic issues, hierarchies and resource allotment to aspects of quality of life, equity of space distribution and daily interactions and activities. Smart cities have become synonymous with data collection and interpretation on a never before encountered massive scale.

Architecture has always been somewhat less eager to adopt new technologies prior to their full acceptance by society but current tendencies in smart materials and nanotechnology promise to overturn this trend. Clearly building sustainability can no longer be ignored as buildings are found to be responsible for almost half the entire greenhouse gas emissions of humanity during the last few decades.

In this context, architectural education and awareness has got to keep pace with the latest aspects of architectural practice worldwide. Our discussion raises the issues of the impact of technology in urban planning and urban life as well as new trends in architecture and engineering. The way we look at cultural heritage is also a key aspect into our understanding of how technology can have a positive impact on our future, without erasing the values of the past and their place in our collective memory and identity. It is in this particular context that interdisciplinary research is most vital for comprehending a larger perspective on how technology plays a crucial role in the way we shape our built environment and the way it ultimately shapes us.

Proposals from academics, professionals and PhD students/candidates in any area of the architectural humanities or engineering, as well as from researchers in urban planning, arts and social studies are most welcome. Proposed papers should consider subscribing to one of the following four sections:
1. Sustainability, design & technology
Sustainable architecture and urban planning. Learning from nature’s designs on small and large scales. Emerging technologies of sustainability.

2. Smart cities: urban practices and policies
Adapting to current demands. Urban mobility and quality of life in contemporary conurbations.

3. The new and the old: technology’s impact on culture & heritage
From art objects to museums and ultimately to historical sites. Three layers of cultural products that leave their print on the collective identity and memory.

4. Education and technology in architectural schools
Current worldwide tendencies in student centered architectural education and research.

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IMPORTANT DATES
Submission of abstracts: 15th of March 2018
Notification of acceptance: 20th of April 2018
Full paper submission for peer review: 20th of July 2018
Acceptance of papers in final form for publication: 15th of September 2018
Conference days: 25th & 26th of October 2018

Abstracts of papers, not exceeding 300 words, should be sent to questions@arch.utcluj.ro before the 15th of March 2018. A brief author(s)’ presentation of about 100 words, as well as the author(s)’ affiliation and contact information should be included. The language should be English or French. Following review of the Scientific Committee, notifications of acceptance will be sent before the 20th of April. Participation to the conference is free for all authors.

Following a peer-review process, the extended papers will be published in a Special Issue of the journal Acta Technica Napocensis: Civil Engineering & Architecture ISSN 1221-5848 (international indexed journal). In order to submit a scientific paper, please follow the Guide for authors and Paper template. Please refer to the Journal homepage: http://constructii.utcluj.ro/ActaCivilEng/. The paper submission deadline for the Special Issue is the 20th of July 2018 and the final form (after peer reviews) is the 15th of September 2018.