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About

(/university/colleges/les/research-gallery/lauren-andres.aspx) Lauren Andres is an urban planner with substantive academic expertise in the field of urban and economic geography. Her fields of interest include the policies and governance process of urban and economic regeneration and broadly the understanding of the role of (temporary) creative uses and intermediaries in shaping spaces and making places. In addition she is also interesting in assessing the forms of persistent resilience of groups of individuals and communities in a context of disturbances and pressures, looking at their coping tactics and the role of informal networks in their everyday life and practices. From an initial interest in Western Europe she has recently enlarged her geographical focus to Russia.

Lauren is co-leading the first Institute for Advanced Studies Inaugural Theme “Regeneration Economies" with Prof. John Bryson.

She has hold different administrative responsabilities from Postgraduate Research Tutor for **SEE (Society, Economy & Environment) (/research/activity/hg/index.aspx)** and **CURS (Centre for Urban and Regional Studies) (/schools/gees/departments/curs/index.aspx)**, to Director of the MSc Urban and Regional Studies and Year Tutor.

Dr Andres publishes in leading international journals including *Environment and Planning A*, *Urban Studies,Regional Studies, European Planning Studies, International Planning Studies, International Journal of Cultural Policy, L'Espace Géographique, Espaces et Sociétés*

Qualifications

- PhD in Urban Planning – 2008
- M. Phil in Urban Planning - 2004
- MSc in Geography and Planning - 2003
- BSc in Geography and Planning - 2002

Biography

Lauren Andres joined the University of Birmingham as a lecturer in spatial planning in March 2009. She holds a PhD (2008), funded by the French Ministry of Research. In 2007 she was awarded the prize “Fritz Schumacher” from the City of Hamburg for her research on the built environment and in 2012 the Head of School's Award for Excellence in Teaching and Supporting Student Learning.

Prior to undertaking her lectureship position, Lauren was a post-doc researcher in the Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge. Previously, she was a lecturer at the Grenoble School of Planning (from 2004 to 2008) and a researcher in the Research Centre “UMR CNRS PACTE” (Policies, Collective Actions and Territories).

Lauren is the co-Chair of the AESOP French and British Planning Study Group. Since 2009 she has also been a Guest Researcher at the UMR Telemme (Aix en Provence - France) and a Guest Lecturer at the Grenoble School of Planning (France).

Teaching

MSc Urban and Regional Planning

- Sustainable Cities (module leader)
- The Planner in Contemporary Society (module leader)

In 2012 Dr Andres received the Head of School's Award for Excellence in Teaching and Supporting Student Learning.

Postgraduate supervision

Current Doctoral Researchers

- **Daniel Smith** (2009-) Planning for sustainable neighbourhoods in European cities (EPSRC Scholarship) (with Austin Barber)
- **Collins Adjei Mensah** (2012-) Sustaining urban green spaces in Africa: a case study of Kumasi metropolis, Ghana (Sponsored by Ghanaian Government) (with Mike Beazley)
- **Nuruljanna Zhaina Albidin** (2012-) Urban design and social sustainability in city-centre regeneration: the case of Kuala Lumpur (Sponsored by the Malaysian Government) (with Phil Jones)
- **Bin Lin** (2012-) Property rights and multiple accessibilities in institutional and spatial changes of chinese urban village’s regeneration (Li Siguang Scholarship) (with Phil Jones and Vlad Mykhnenko)

- **Chloe Billing** (2013-) Competitiveness and creative manufacturing industries: luxury, resilience, planning and post-recessionary adaptation (1+3 ESRC Studentship) (with John Bryson)
- **Deyala Altarawneh** (2013-) Therapeutic landscape & temporary uses in derelict spaces in Jordan (Sponsored by the University of Jordan) (with Phil Jones & Jessica Pykett)

Completed PhDs

- **Tihomir Topuzovski** (2009-2013) Territorialisation and geopolitics in the Western Balkans (School Studentship and Overseas College Studentship)
- **Pei-Ling Liao** (2009 - 2013) Cultural and creative clusters in Asian cities – the case of Taipei (Taiwan)
- **Daniel Smith** (2009-2014) Planning for sustainable neighbourhoods in European cities (EPSRC Scholarship) (with Austin Barber)

Potential students interested in the area of urban and cultural regeneration, sustainable development, creative cities and planning, can contact Dr. Andres directly, or visit her FindAPhD page for available opportunities.

Research

Current Research Projects

Regeneration Economies: Transforming People, Place and Production (2013-2014) –Institute for Advanced Studies (Inaugural Theme) – University of Birmingham (with John Bryson)

The economic crisis that commenced in 2007 is associated with calls to rebalance the economy. This reflects political interest in economic restructuring to enhance competitiveness through diversity combined with localism. Academics have developed disciplinary approaches to understanding regional problems that require interdisciplinary solutions. Existing approaches are no longer appropriate for understanding cities that are experiencing an on-going process of economic regeneration. It is thus timely to develop new ways of conceptualising regional economies by drawing upon a comparative analysis of two city regions – Birmingham and Chicago. This approach will develop new policy interventions and will allow further comparisons with other places in Europe, America or China.

The Regeneration Economies theme includes three interrelated strands of activity:

- The development of an integrated approach to understanding regional regeneration economies which will be more holistic or less partial than existing conceptualisations.
- Major developments in engineering will revolutionise production systems and will transform the functioning economic geography of regional economies and of the international economy in the near future. This strand will explore the consequences of these developments by developing a distinctive research dialogue between engineering and the social sciences.
- The competitiveness of regional economies is increasingly reliant on the availability and quality of skills as well as the anticipation of future skills and training needs. This third strand explores the relationship between firms, regional competitiveness, skills and training.

Regeneration Economies in an Age of Uncertainty: Transformation, Innovation and Economic Growth funded by IAS-University of Birmingham (2012)
With John Bryson

These two workshops will explore the development of a new thematic approach to understanding change and transformation in 'regeneration economies'. The economic downturn that commenced in 2008 is associated with a new focus on enhancing local economic development and on rebalancing local economies in an age of uncertainty. This notion of 'balance' reflects a new emphasis on manufacturing as a key driver of economic growth. The project's rationale is to explore the development of a new set of approaches to understanding the transformation of local and regional economies that have experienced considerable turbulence. The development of our new concept of 'regeneration economies' has the potential to act as a distinctive framework for researching and understanding economic transformation in places like the West Midlands, Chicago and Randstad. A feature of these workshops is to consider the interactions between a set of local and global processes as they are being played out in regeneration economies. Workshop 1 will develop a research approach to exploring places through the conceptual lens of 'regeneration economies' that will be tested in Workshop 2.

The role of 'persistent resilience' within everyday life: communities coping with marginality – a cross-college pilot project funded by the University of Birmingham (2010-2011)
With John Round, Oleg Golubchikov, Chris Barber, Charlotte Ross, Isabelle Szmigin, Andrew Quinn, Anthony Beech & Mark Ryan.

Practitioners in emergency planning state that "resiliency is the ability of a social unit to withstand external shocks to its infrastructure" (National Academy Press, 2009). However, inadequately explored is how communities develop resilience to more mundane, everyday pressures. To fill this lacuna this project argues that community resilience does not only relate to how communities anticipate, prevent, react to major shocks but also how communities (particularly those at the margins of society for various economic, social and ideological reasons) deal with ongoing economic, social, cultural, political contextual challenges/pressure placed upon them by adopting various coping tactics. These tactics might be built thanks to volunteerism, social networks, the emergence of local leaders or other 'bottom up' initiatives. They lead to distinct patterns of evolution and integration of these communities within the wider society. This project argues that such resilience has been drawn upon for generations. Therefore, by exploring how communities develop persistent resilience the project will to demonstrate how such networks and tactics can be strengthened.

Internationalising higher education: urban development in Russia
(British Council) with John Round, Oleg Golubchikov & Irina Kuznetsova-Morenko

Given the high levels of urban growth, combined with mega events such as the Olympics and World Cup, there is a very high demand for the modernisation of urban development teaching in Russia. According to government officials, members of industry and academics, professionals in urban development in Russia urgently need training in the skills they currently lack, such as, for example, how to ensure broader industry, public participation and stakeholders' involvement, prevent socio-spatial polarization, control urban sprawl, deliver sustainable and low-carbon built environments and overall create meaningful and well-integrated places, at the neighbourhood, city, and regional levels. Currently urban development teaching in Russia is spread across degrees and faculties and there is not an integrated approach. The project is based on a two way exchange of ideas, concepts, and best practice between the Russian (Kazan) and British (Birmingham) partners.

Mega-Events and Regional Development
Co Regional Studies Research Network with Graeme Evans and Bas Van Heur

The aim of the research network is to situate mega-event led regeneration within regional studies and both to theorise the concept and transfer accumulating knowledge and develop methods of planning, impact evaluation and measurement of their effects over time. The network will also compare and contrast the ambitions and impacts of mega-events as regards to previous well assessed events (Barcelona 1992, Glasgow 1990 for example) and identify the different current patterns addressing such perspectives of regeneration and regional development (e.g. traditional challenges of deindustrialisation recovery for crisis cities / territories; desire to foster and sustain the growth strategy of a world city etc). The first seminar will consider mega-event led regeneration within regional studies in terms of renewed concepts, new theories and measurement at micro, meso and macro scales. The second seminar will look at policies and particularly assess mega-event led regeneration & planning and regional policies. The final seminar will draw some lessons from 25 years of mega-event regeneration and legacies and identify the new challenges for policy & practice and regional studies research.

Past Research Projects

Renouveler et recomposer les quartiers – a two year research project sponsored by the French ministry of planning – PUCA / Ministère de l'équipement

Développement urbain durable – Sustainable urban development – a series of international seminars sponsored by the UMR PACTE during three years

Alarm procedures and hazard mitigation in urban areas: linking hazard mitigation to sustainable development – a one year project undertaken in the UMR PACTE

Other activities

Lauren is the co-chair of the **French & British Planning Study (http://www.aesop-planning.eu/blogs/en_GB/french-and-british-planning-studies)** . She is a member of the Regional Studies Association and the School contact point for AESOP.

She was the principal organizer of the 2011 UK-Ireland Planning Research Conference. Prior to that she was also the principal organizer of the 4th International conference on territorial planning (Grenoble-2007). Lauren currently acts as a member of the international scientific committee for the European Urban Research Association (EURA)_Urban Affairs Association (UAA) third Joint Conference on City Futures, Paris, 18-20 June 2014.

Dr Andres regularly provides international expertise. This included in 2011-2012 her input to the programme POPSU Europe - La ville des créateurs for the cities of Lausanne and Birmingham and her participation to the *Made in Kazan Event* in September 2012

Lauren acts as an academic reviewer for several Research Councils across Europe (ESRC, ANR, DFG, Swiss National Science Foundation, Leverhulme Trust); she is regularly invited to review papers in various international journals (European Planning Studies, the Journal of Public Administration, International Journal of Urban and Regional Research, Journal of Urban Regeneration and Renewal, Geografiska Annaler B: Human Geography, The International Journal of Cultural Policy).

Dr Andres is a member of the international editorial board of “Espaces et Sociétés”.

Publications

ANDRES, L. & ROUND, J. The role of ‘persistent resilience’ within everyday life: households coping with marginality, **Environment and Planning A** (in press)

ANDRES, L. & CHAPAIN, C. Creative systems, in Bryson J.R and Daniels P.W (dd. Dir) **The Handbook of Service Business**, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham (in press)

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