



CIB NEWS ARTICLE

International Council for Research and Innovation
in Building and Construction

Providing a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research and innovation in building and construction, in support of an improved building process and of improved performance of the built environment.

February 2007

Around the Task Groups and Working Commissions

W112 – Culture in Construction

Report of the 1st Commission Meeting held in Dubai, UAE in November 2006

by

Dr. Richard Fellows, Joint Coordinator W112

Background

The launch meeting of CIB W112 took place during the Joint International Conference on Construction Culture, Innovation and Management which was held at the British University in Dubai. Our thanks to the host, BUID, the conference organisers, chaired by Dr Mohammed Dulaimi, and the sponsors, Slavenburg, WT/Consult and The University of Hong Kong.

In early 2006, the programme committee of CIB agreed to convert Task Group 23 (TG23) into a full working commission (W112) to pursue research into Culture in Construction world-wide. This development will enable research to include studies using longitudinal methods, which are often more appropriate to researching culture, as well as the cross sectional approaches. The studies using the OCAI instrument are continuing towards the assembly of an International Inventory of Culture in Construction – a number of papers presented at the conference (and available in the proceedings) report findings of individual research projects in that context.

Dr Wilco Tijhuis (w.tijhuis@utwente.nl) and Professor Richard Fellows (fellows@hkucc.hku.hk) are continuing as joint coordinators of W112. The scope of research of W112 includes national culture, organisational culture, organisational climate, behaviour modification, ethics, corporate social responsibility, and organisational citizenship.

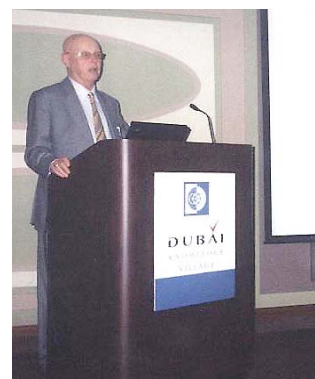
Clearly, close links with other CIB groups will be maintained and extended – notably, with W055, W065, W092, W107 and TG59. A particular activity is the participation of W112 in the Revaluing Construction

initiative led by W065 – W112 has agreed to produce a paper on “Enabling Project Team Culture” for the forthcoming publication.

The meeting in Dubai was chaired by Richard Fellows. Wilco Tijhuis was unable to attend but sent a message of greeting to the delegates. The great news is that Joke, Wilco’s wife, gave birth to a daughter, Jade, a few days after the meeting – our warmest congratulations to the Tijhuis family!

Culture in Construction Research Agenda

The highlight of the meeting was the presentation by Professor Geert Hofstede (also a keynotes speaker at the conference) which was designed to introduce ideas for fostering a research agenda. Geert, kindly ran the presentation as a workshop session in which much lively debate was stimulated, great interest was shown, and valuable insights gained.



Professor Geert Hofstede

Next Meeting

The next W112 event will be held:

- Commission Meeting on Culture in Construction, in conjunction with the CIB World Building Congress on 13 May 2007 Cape Town, South Africa
- late 2006 – early 2007; the locations suggest are China or Turkey – more news as events unfold!

Additional Information

For additional information about the CIB W112 meetings please contact the Coordinators:

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You can find more information on the activities of CIB W112 at www.cibworld.nl. Search under Databases/CIB Commissions. Click on Commissions and type W112 in the search field.