



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.

September 2007

Forthcoming Meeting

W092 – Procurement Systems

International Conference: BUILDING ACROSS BORDERS

Interdisciplinarity and Multidisciplinary Intersections in Built Environment Procurement



23-26 September 2007, New Castle, Australia

by

Dr. Kerry London

Introduction

To understand policy, process and practice procurement issues researchers are crossing disciplinary boundaries. Procurement is underpinned by the organisational strategy which brings together multidisciplinary teams at all levels in the supply chain.

This conference seeks to explore research and practice intersections between the traditional internal built environment disciplines (architecture, construction management, construction economics, property, facilities management) and the external traditional humanities disciplines (economics, business, sociology, law, design, linguistics, management).

Researchers tend to borrow, hybridise and develop new common ground. Disciplines carry images of being static, controlled, rigorous, conservative and well grounded but can also be too specialised, lack real

world applicability, simplistic, rigid and lacking in innovation. Interdisciplinarity carries connotations of and is valued as being dynamic, flexible, liberal and innovative and yet can be vague, lacking in 'discipline' and rigor.

How do we develop greater insights and capacity to understand procurement issues through interdisciplinary practice and multidisciplinary problems?

Conference Themes

- Interdisciplinary context and discourse
- Interdisciplinary patterns of study: borrowing, hybridisation and common ground
- Interdisciplinary intersections: ontology, epistemology, methodology, modelling and methods



Topics

Policy, process and practice problems within:

- Targetted procurement and public private partnerships
- Project delivery: working across space, time, organizational, cultural, professional and physical boundaries
- Supply chain procurement: projects crystallise various supply chains linking diverse firm types

Keynote Speakers

- Professor Roger Flanagan, Reading University
- Professor Steven Kellman, Harvard University

Additional Information

Conference Chair: Dr Kerry London
Associate Professor
Director: CIBER, Centre for Interdisciplinary
Built Environment Research
Postgraduate director
School of Architecture & Built Environment
University of Newcastle
AUSTRALIA
Tel: + 61 2 4921 5778
Email: Kerry.London@newcastle.edu.au