

ISUF Postgraduate Bursaries

In support of the ISUF Task Force on the application of urban morphology in practice, the Council of ISUF has agreed offer four bursaries each of £500 to postgraduate students to undertake programmes of supervised research which evaluate applications of urban morphology in practice. For examples of urban morphology applicable in practice, see Gauthier and Gilliland (2006). The projects should have been in operation over sufficient time to make an evaluation feasible.

Each study would make a direct contribution to the third recommendation of the Task Force “The good practice catalogue: how, where and why is urban morphology being used successfully?” The complete Task Force Interim Report can be accessed under projects on the ISUF web site:

http://www.urbanform.org/pdf/Interim_report_on_research_and_practice.pdf

Within the limited number of studies it is hoped to capture both as wide range as possible of the contexts where urban morphology is being used and the variety of instruments through which it has been applied. The nature of these instruments will of course vary with the contexts within which they were prepared and could include plans at different scales, design codes, briefs and frameworks and heritage management schemes.

The intention is not to undertake evaluations of the broad success or otherwise of the relevant instruments since this will be subject to a range of factors outside the scope of urban morphology. The studies must focus clearly on the way urban morphology has been used, the extent to which it has facilitated the operation of the instrument concerned and should include any problems as well as successes which have emerged in the application of these methods.

The funds would be managed directly by the Treasurer of ISUF. Half of each bursary would be made available on award of the bursary with the balance on completion and submission of the work to ISUF.

Application procedure

Queries and proposals should be submitted to the Chair of the Task Force, Ivor Samuels (ivor.samuels@googlemail.com). They will be reviewed by Ivor Samuels, Michael Barke (Treasurer of ISUF) Kai Gu (Secretary-General of ISUF) and two other members of the Council of ISUF.

In addition to the nature and scope of the project being proposed for evaluation and the timetable for the work, each submission must include the details of the postgraduate applicant, the course of study being pursued and identify the supervisor(s). The supervisor(s) must be able to demonstrate a familiarity with both the context and type of project being proposed.

Timetable

While ISUF is anxious to receive the results of the studies as early as possible, it is understood that because of the diverse timetables of academic programmes different starting dates will need to be accommodated.

Applications for the limited number of awards should be made as soon as possible. While it would be desirable to have progress reports available for the ISUF Conference in July 2013 this may be difficult. Proposals must be made no later than 1 October 2013 with a view to reporting to the Conference in July 2014.

Criteria for assessment of proposals

It is the intention of the Task Force to receive work from as wide a range of contexts as possible, but as a minimum, proposals should take account of the following criteria:

- the significance of the project being evaluated in terms of the range of urban morphology techniques used
- the project must be available for access by the membership of ISUF
- the possibilities of access to the stakeholders of the instrument including authors, operating agencies, communities
- the extent to which the proposal meets the Task Force aims, which can be found on the ISUF website.

Reference

Gauthier, P. and Gilliland, J. (2006) 'Mapping urban morphology: a clarification scheme for interpreting contributions to the study of urban form', *Urban Morphology* 10, 41-50.