Are we moving towards Smart, Inclusive and Sustainable Cities?

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Are we moving towards Smart, Inclusive and Sustainable Cities? Examining the relationships between scholarship and practice in planning

The City and Regional Planning faculty at Ohio State invite scholars to submit abstracts that advance the conversation on “smart” initiatives across the world. During the symposium, we hope to contextualize “smart” initiatives through the lens of social inclusion and sustainability. We invite submissions from those who both advance and critically examine the notion that “smart” initiatives are sufficient or necessary to achieve inclusion or sustainability goals. Participants are encouraged to examine case studies involving practitioner or community efforts, propose relevant theoretical and historical narratives, advance urban design, and/or conduct data and modeling analysis. Regardless of methodological preference, we seek submissions that push the academy to consider the ways in which planning academics are responding to and informing the role of technology across the broader planning discipline. Ultimately, do we understand relationships between socio-technical systems and urban outcomes in this era of digital engagement?

Why have this conversation in Columbus, Ohio?

Cities around the world, including Columbus, have focused their branding and planning interventions around innovative technologies that promise to change the scale and manner in which urban users access resources. In June 2016, the US Department of Transportation announced Columbus as the winner of the Smart City Challenge. From the initial $40 million federal award, city leadership have parlayed that amount into $500 million in investment from the private sector and local partners. Since then, Columbus has deployed the first phase of self-driving shuttles on downtown streets and proposed plans to design transit kiosks that will allow transit-dependent mothers to communicate with their prenatal health care providers. As Columbus advances their deliverables to function as a living lab for smart mobility, Ohio State’s faculty are tasked with the challenge of keeping pace with this dynamic environment in their research, teaching, and broader community engagement. This, our thematic focus and central question is inspired by a need to better understand the role of technological change and innovation on today’s planning discipline.

Opportunities to participate

Panel Session Presenter (Submit an abstract and white paper)
Discussant (Ohio State will invite internal and external scholars)
Attendee (Scholars and practitioners welcome)
Submission timeline

01/01/2019 | Abstract submission due
01/15/2019 | Abstract decision from Ohio State
01/30/2019 | If abstract accepted, travel funding request due
02/15/2019 | Travel funding notification from Ohio State
02/15/2019 | Final symposium schedule from Ohio State
03/01/2019 | White papers due

Abstract submission instructions

All abstracts must be received by January 1st, 2019 11:59PM EST. Email submissions to Dr. Tijs Van Maasakkers at vanmaasakkers.1@osu.edu with the subject line "OSU CRP Symposium Submission." Submissions should be formatted as a single Word document attachment with title, author(s), affiliation(s), corresponding author contact information, and the abstract (300-word maximum). Up to three footnote references are permitted and will not count against the abstract word limit.

Travel and accommodations

Hotel recommendation (TBD)
Funds are available for reimbursement of travel costs when need is demonstrated
John Glenn International Airport (~20 minute drive to Ohio State's Columbus Campus)