



# THE CLEAR REPORT



## Cutting-edge research at the intersection of behavioural sciences and urban studies

Prof Guy Robinson (Emeritus Editor of *Land Use*) was one of two keynote speakers at the recent **Cambridge International Behavioural Sciences and Urban Studies Symposium** hosted by CRERC and the Dept of Land Economy at Newnham College.

A wide range of behavioural topics were covered including: loss aversion, endowment effect, framing, mental accounting, herding, and social preferences. These behavioural tools are applied in land use policy, development and planning problems, urban regeneration, neighbourhood conservation and urban design, immigration and internal labour migration, liability and quality of life, greening, sustainable cities, among others.

Colin Lizieri gave the opening speech, while the other keynote speech was given by Prof Pengjun Zhao (Editor of *Cities*).

## TOP OF THE LEAGUE—again!

Cambridge’s Land Economy degree has again topped the Guardian’s University League Table for their “Building and Town & Country Planning” subject area.

More details can be found [here](#)



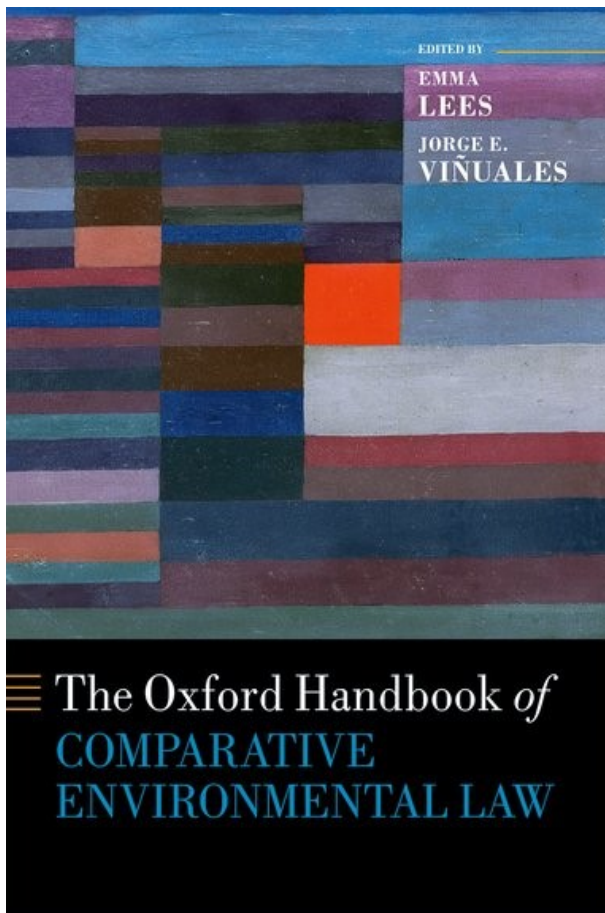
## And a record number of MPhil applications

For the 2019/2020 MPhil recruitment cycle we experienced a dramatic increase in applications: at 30 April 2019 we had received 789 applications for the 100 places on offer, an increase of 90% on the previous year. Academic standards are very high amongst these applicants with the vast majority of offers being to students with achieved or predicted firsts (or equivalent). While a large proportion of the increase has come from China, it is geographically diverse. It is possible that this is a one-off spike from currency movements and the political situation – other faculties have reported increases, although not to this scale. PhD applications are slightly higher than last year but it is not easy to assess how this translates into new entrants since funding is critical.

**Hello, Goodbye...** The Department warmly welcomes two new lecturers Dr Christina Li (Temporary Lecturer in Real Estate Finance and Economics) and Dr Li Wan (Chinese Urban Development Lecturer), and sadly says goodbye to Professor Ian Hodge of Rural Economy who is retiring after 32 years service.

Cambridge Land Economy Advisory Board has been providing support and advice to the Department of Land Economy since 2012; engaging senior industry professionals with current academic initiatives and the fresh ideas of our students.

“A pioneering industry-academic partnership”



## The first comprehensive account of comparative environmental law

Dr Emma Lees and Prof Jorge E Viñuales from C-EENRG have just published a new Oxford Handbook, which brings together over 50 authors from around the world, including some of the most prominent authorities on different countries and topics, to analyse environmental law as a key technology to tackle the daunting environmental challenges the world faces today. It is the first comprehensive statement of comparative environmental law which has been produced. It combines conceptual and legal analysis proper of over 50 countries, with 16 in-depth country/jurisdiction studies, hundreds of laws, regulations and judicial decisions, and a transversal comparative analysis of 10 key environmental problems (atmospheric pollution, water, biodiversity, energy and climate change, chemicals, waste, etc.) and 10 policy intervention instruments (from command-and-control, to information, to market mechanisms, to liability systems).

The Handbook can be found [here](#)

## From “Big Data” to Derivatives

CRERC, the University of Florida, and the National University of Singapore are pleased to announce their joint **2019 Real Estate Finance and Investment Symposium** will be held in Cambridge this September.

The symposium will feature longer, more in-depth paper presentations and will allow ample time for discussion among presenters, assigned discussants, and other participants. The event will be held in a relaxed yet focussed setting aiming to inspire a critical mass of leading academics in the field to create new thoughts and insights on general finance, real estate finance and investments topics.

The symposium hosted by Dr Thies Lindenthal will take place at St John’s College.



## Living on the edge—research rooted in reality

Entitled 'Life coaching for those in need', ITV Anglia's recent report showed the real life impact that the New Horizons Building Better Opportunities programme is having on Cambridgeshire residents who are furthest from the labour market .

CCHPR (funded by the European Social Fund and the National Lottery) has been evaluating New Horizons, which combines elements of financial and digital inclusion and employability delivered from hubs in Peterborough, Wisbech, Kings Lynn and Cambridge with rural outreach.

The ITV show can be viewed [here](#)

## Real Estate Lending—Long Term Valuations Study

The global financial crisis highlighted the adverse impact of excessive commercial real estate lending on the UK economy, which had developed to a scale where it had become a systemic risk. Over subsequent years, the Property Industry Alliance Debt Group (PIA DG) has worked to understand these risks, resulting in the 2014 Vision For Real Estate Finance report. This put forward a number of recommendations, a key one of which was the use of long-term value measures to help lenders and regulators make more prudent decisions.

The IPF Research Programme (2015-2018) has commissioned the University of Cambridge, led by Professor Colin Lizieri and Nick Mansley, to review earlier work of the PIA DG Long Term Value group and to explore alternative measures of long-term value and other indicators of a potential downturn in real estate capital values.

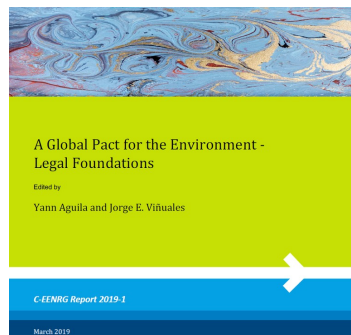
The research findings will be published later in 2019.

Read more [here](#)



## A new C-EENRG Report gathers

compilations from some of the main authorities in international environmental law from around the World. The project leading to this compilation of studies has two purposes. The first is to leave a record of the intellectual discussions underpinning the project of a Global Pact for the Environment, with its many sources, views and debates. The second is to contribute to the discussions of the ad hoc open-ended working group established by UN General Assembly A/72/L.51. The report includes a preface from Laurent Fabius, former President of the COP21.



The report can be downloaded [here](#)

## C-EENRG go to Athens

In May, researchers Prof Laura Diaz Anadon, Dr Cristina Peñasco and Dr Jing Meng travelled to the Greek capital to present and participate in a stakeholder event with investors entitled, “Decarbonizing our energy system: low-carbon transition and innovation pathways towards a climate-neutral EU by mid-century”



## CULS Golf Day

This year’s CULS Golf Society Day will again take place at Burhill Golf Club in Surrey on Wednesday 4th September from 12 noon. All members are welcome. For further details please contact [David Mortimer](#)

## Record interest in the Mst

CRERC has received a record number of enquiries and applications for its MSt in Real Estate 2019, with a total of 51 applications for the 20 places available, and 17 nations represented among the enquirers. There was also a significant increase in female applications.

**Professor Franz Fuerst** was one of four invited speakers at a recent panel discussion convened as part of the 2019 Built Environment 150 celebration at the University of Melbourne, where he discussed his current research

exploring the economics of green buildings and outlined a series of challenges likely to face the property industry into the future.



## This year's Cambridge Real Estate

**Research Club** was held in May, when Heads of Research/CIOs from across the industry shared and discussed investment issues and new research ideas in the relaxed environment of Trinity Hall.

**Presentations** from members of CRERC included: Place-making, Inclusivity and Town Centre/Retail in the Future by Dr Ozge Oner, New Data Sources and New Methods by Thies Lindenthal, Behavioural Insights by Dr Helen Bao, Policy Uncertainty & Real Estate Development by Dr Christina Li and Wellness and Sustainability by Prof Franz Fuerst.

## The latest Cambridge Centre for Housing and Planning research update is now available

To request your copy or to sign up to the CCHPR mailing list, please email [Pam Lee](mailto:pam.lee@cchpr.cam.ac.uk), the Centre Administrator.



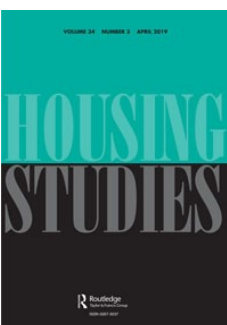
## Nuancing the international debate on social mix: evidence from Copenhagen

A paper by CCHPR's Dr Sonia Alves has been published online by the Housing Studies Journal.

The paper looks at how and why Copenhagen planners have used strategies of social mix to deal progressively with shortages in affordable housing in an urban context.

It can be viewed [here](#)

And see [here](#) for more information on the PLANAFFHO project



**The Window at Silver Street** is again home to a new pop-up micro gallery curated by [Art, Language Location](#)

Working at the intersection between art, text and place, the latest installation, STEERTS YTIC, by American artist Timothy Furstnau, asks viewers to take a moment to notice our surroundings, be receptive to unexpected encounters and examine closer the everyday wonders of city streets.



**A tour of the new Simon Sainsbury Centre** at the Judge Business School is being offered to members of the Cambridge University Land Society (CULS) at 2pm on Tuesday 9th July.

There will also be a talk by the Architects, Stanton Williams, followed by refreshments.

To book a place click [here](#)