



## Report on the Final Workshop of the RSA Research Network on Mega-Events Regional Development and Regeneration

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these workshops is acknowledged since it was instrumental in exchanging views and information with other contributors. The ultimate objective at this stage though is the continuation of relevant research activities through the potential renewal of this Research Network with the inclusion of new hosts and other collaborators who are keen about smart and green regional development.

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## REPORT ON THE FINAL WORKSHOP OF THE RSA RESEARCH NETWORK ON MEGA-EVENTS REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

17th June 2014, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, London, UK; Graeme Evans, Middlesex University, London



The final workshop in the Network series took the theme of “Mega Events & Culture: Arts/Artists engagement in event-based regeneration, resistance and research.” The workshop was held in the Timber Lodge located on the new Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, the post-event legacy from the London2012 Olympics undergoing further regeneration and

redevelopment. 30 participants benefited from a panel of six experts who were drawn from academics and practitioners in this field. Topics and case studies ranged from European Capital of Culture, World EXPOs and Olympics with a focus on the role of culture and the arts in mediating, interpreting and enhancing mega-events at all stages – from bid development, delivery/programming, to post-event legacy and regeneration of event sites. The presentations considered longer term regeneration effects, e.g. Lisbon’s 1998 EXPO; the impact from

‘failed’ bids (the majority of cases versus ‘successful’ host bids), e.g. Maastricht Euregion; to national Cultural Olympiad programmes and their evaluation. Artist interventions and installations were presented in the case of Beijing Olympics and London 2012 Olympics with reference to the changing landscape, socio-economic profile and images created from these mega-events, and their transnational nature.

The regional dimension was addressed in terms of regional identities, territorial politics, governance, impact methods and policy evaluation,



Beatriz Garcia talking on “An Evaluation of Cultural Olympiad Programmes.”

and city-regional economic development. The ‘culture’ and governance theme, it was concluded, is a rich theme for further research and development as a ‘fourth pillar’ in sustainable development and in regional identity.

## REGIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL ANNOUNCES NEW EARLY CAREER EDITOR



The Regional Studies Association has announced the appointment of a new Early Career Editor to the editorial board of the flagship Open Access journal *Regional Studies*,

*Regional Science*, launched in November 2013. The new editor is Dr Lee Pugalis, Northumbria University, Newcastle, and joins the existing team of Paul Benneworth, Paul Braidford, Sabrina Lai and Marijana Sumpor. *Regional Studies*, *Regional Science* offers a unique ‘mentored paper’ route for its early career members, where contributors

are assigned a named editor and work with the editor intensively to prepare the manuscript before it undergoes an editorial review process.

Lee joined Northumbria University in 2010, initially as a Senior Lecturer in Urban Theory & Practice before securing a Readership in 2013. He is the founding chair of the Research

group for Economic Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (REDIE) which comprises a multidisciplinary team of academics, entrepreneurs and policymakers from around the world. His primary research interests focus on state spatial strategies, territorial development and entrepreneurial governance. Preceding his move to