Workshop title
The “New Peripherality”: Scaled, Contested, and Relational

Date: 28-30 October 2013
Venue: Aalborg University, Denmark
Abstract submission and registration deadline: August 15, 2013
Paper submission deadline: September 15, 2013

For further information: helene@plan.aau.dk

Call for Papers
Following workshops and conferences in Rena/Norway, Paisley/Scotland and Ísafjörður/Iceland, we hereby invite researchers, students, practitioners and policy makers to the 5th meeting of the Peripherality, marginality and border issues in Northern Europe, Regional Studies Association Research Network. The 2013 meeting is chaired by Peter de Souza, Mike Danson and Anne Lorentzen and organised by Local and Regional Development research group of the Department of Development and Planning, Aalborg University, Denmark.

Main theme
We would like to invite participants to present on new theoretical insights within what could be termed “the new peripherality”. Peripherality has evolved into something different and something more within the Knowledge Economy. Within the context of the Industrial Society, peripherality was understood to be the outer perimeter of industrial production, the ‘spare areas’, so to speak, outside the geographical perimeter of industrial production sites. Centres were (industrial) production centres. In the context of the Knowledge Economy and in societies in transition, knowledge production sites are being re-defined and are much more spatially complex. Industrial-, knowledge- as well as cultural/creative- production sites co-exist and a cultural capital may be peripheral on other types of centres. Scales, in other words, are changing and definitions of scales are being de- and reconstructed. A given locality is no longer either centre or periphery, but may be central on one scale and peripheral on another scale. This calls for a nuancing of the concept of peripherality, a nuancing which may also benefit the debate about for example ‘Peripheral Denmark’. Re-defining peripherality also calls for or even demands re-imagining our conceptualisation of peripheral areas and regions – how do you imagine yourself and the value of your locality compared to how others view and conceptualise your locality, and how are those images affected by changing perceptions of peripherality?
Subthemes
We would like to invite the participants to contribute to a number of subthemes.

a. **Education and skills.** As knowledge is a main resource and also a product in the knowledge economy, the provision of education and skills becomes very important for localities to prosper. Centrality is an issue in the public provision of education, which disfavors small cities and rural areas. What is the situation of peripheries in relation to education and skills? Is the rural-urban gap widening in terms of educational levels? What individual and communal strategies to obtain skills can be identified? What organization and technology forms have been implemented to provide peripheries with education opportunities, and what are the outcomes?

b. **New work places, commuting and distant work.** As traditional workplaces disappear from small cities, a great challenge is to maintain employment and retain population. At least three strategies can be considered in this respect, namely the creation of jobs in new fields of the economy, to enable or ease commuting between home and more distant work places, or to connect employers and employees in virtual work spaces by new communication and information technologies and the internet. What is the extent and sustainability of these solutions to the job challenge of peripheral areas?

c. **Creative, culture and experience economy** have been discussed as feasible answers to peripheries in the global, knowledge economy, which has also a considerable symbolic and hedonistic dimension. What kind of activities is able to develop and prosper in peripheral areas, what are the policies enabling them, and what spatial (global or local) contexts and structures are part of their development?

d. **Small cities in hierarchies and networks.** One way of gaining a better future for small cities and peripheral places is to join forces in horizontal networks with other related places and to work across scales to get resources and form policies and images of periphery. Chance as well as deliberate efforts may change the destiny of places. What are the good examples of networks, and how can they be assessed?

Programme committee
Mike Danson
Professor of Enterprise Policy
School of Management and Languages
Heriot-Watt University Edinburg, EH14 4AS, Scotland
+44 (0)131 451 3840 t+44 (0)7948 276398
m.danson@hw.ac.uk
Peter de Souza  
Senior Research Fellow  
Economics Institute  
University College of Hedmark, ÖSIR  
Postboks 104  
NO-2451 Rena, Norway  
+47 62430511  
peter.desouza@hihm.no

Anne Lorentzen  
Prof in Geography  
Local and Regional Development  
Dept. of Development and Planning  
Aalborg University  
Skibbrogade 5, 1st floor  
9000 Aalborg  
+45 9940 8303  
al@plan.aau.dk

Dr Gary Bosworth  
Reader in Enterprise and Rural Economies  
Lincoln Business School  
University of Lincoln  
+44 (0)1522 835576

Local organiser and main contact for correspondence:  
Professor Anne Lorentzen al@plan.aau.dk  
Secretary Helene Ulrich Pedersen helene@plan.aau.dk

Research group Local and Regional Development http://www.lrd.aau.dk/

Department of Development and Regional Planning  
Aalborg University  
Denmark

Aims of the RSA-Pemabo Research Network  
Peripherality • Marginality • Border Issues

- To gather the scientists and regional actors around peripheral, marginal and border regional issues.  
- To define its own, more specific, agenda in a first workshop where a thematic approach will be covered and future themes defined.  
- To promote scientific discussions and contributions forwarding theoretical and methodological issues in relation to peripheral, marginal and border regional issues.
To develop this discussion directly and through the organisation of empirical studies creating a foundation for comparativity on a wide geographical scale.

To establish different fora where this discussion will be undertaken on the net and face-to-face.

To liaise with complementary networks and associations of academics, policymakers and practitioners in peripheral Europe, including but not exclusively the Centre for Island Studies and the Nordic-Scottish Network.

To ensure that the results will be continuously presented electronically and gathered in specific edited variants.

Finally, to establish structured and long term cooperation in this field.

http://www.pemabo.net/

Venue: Skibbrogade 5.1. room C2/12
Map: http://www.aaumap.portal.aau.dk/?location=skb5

Workshop purpose
The aim of the workshop is to exchange and develop research within the topics of the workshop. This also entails the sharing of insights from practitioners working in local and regional development. We aim to communicate the results of the workshop in a journal special issue or an edited volume of an international publisher. In a broader perspective the workshop might be the starting point to the setting up of a wider research programme at the European level.

Public Targeted
The workshop is open to all researchers, young and experienced, PhD students, practitioners and policymakers with an interest in local and regional development and more specifically in the above mentioned topics.

Submission of abstracts
We invite all participants to submit a paper proposal in English of up to 2500 characters no later than August 15, 2013. The abstracts will be needed for the preparation of the workshop programme. The abstracts should be uploaded here.

Submission of full papers
We invite all participants to submit full papers based on their abstracts no later than September 15, 2013. The full papers will be needed for the consideration of possible publications. Full papers should be uploaded here.

Registration
Registration form here

Registration fee: DKK 1500 (approx. 200 Euros). The amount includes proceedings, 3 lunches, morning & afternoon teas, welcome dinner and conference dinner.
For PhD fellows with full paper, the registration fee is DKK 750 (approx. 100 Euros).
The payment and registration has to be made before August 15, 2013.
Please pay to the following account:
Bank: Danske Bank, Algade 53, 9000 Aalborg
Account No: 3201-9189629
IBAN No: DK6730000009189629
SWIFT CODE: DABADKKK
Payment to Aalborg University, Skibbrogade 5, DK-9000 Aalborg
Reference: Your name/10-64329-762003-76024

Travel grants
Thanks to RSA support, a limited number of bursaries of up to 250 Euro will be made available to graduate, postgraduate students, young researchers and other participants with financial difficulties, with full papers.

If you are interested in receiving a bursary, please send a short notification to m.danson@hw.ac.uk at the same time as you submit your abstract explaining how this workshop is relevant for your own work and what possible co-financing from your own university you can get. Bursaries will be awarded on the basis of justification of each demand. Furthermore, bursaries will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis. Priority will be given to RSA members.

Location and accommodation
Aalborg has its own airport with frequent flight connections to Copenhagen and Amsterdam. The transfer from Copenhagen takes about 45 minutes. The train from Copenhagen airport to Aalborg takes 5 hours. The university is easily accessible in the downtown of Aalborg. Bus no 2 takes you from the Airport to the down town in 10-15 minutes.

We recommend one of the following hotels which are all quite close to the venue at Skibbrogade 5. The prices vary from 545 DKK to 850 DKK (prices at booking.com). You are most welcome to contact secretary, Helene Ulrich Pedersen helene@plan.aau.dk who will be helpful with the booking.

Hotel Aalborg
Østerbro 27
9000 Aalborg
Phone + 45 98 12 00
http://www.hotel-aalborg.com/

First Hotel Aalborg
Rendsburggade 5
9000 Aalborg
Phone + 45 98 10 14 00
http://www.firsthotels.dk/Vore-Hoteller/Hoteller-i-Danmark/Alborg/First-Slotshotel-Aalborg/?gclid=CJ-n_pjp6rUCFYhf3god4gcAIQ

Cabinn Aalborg
Fjordgade 20
9000 Aalborg
Phone +45 96 20 30 00
https://www.cabinn.com/