



# C-MUS

## Brown Bag seminars

C-MUS Brown Bag seminars offer opportunities to spend your lunch hour in company with various researchers who will feed your brain with new ideas in Urban and Mobilities research at C-MUS (<http://www.c-mus.aau.dk/>).

### Program Spring 2017

#### February 14 (Valentines Day): Sidewalk Interruptions

**Speaker:** Associate Professor Shelley Smith, Department of Architecture, Design & Media Technology  
[ssmi@create.aau.dk](mailto:ssmi@create.aau.dk)

**Abstract:** We take them for granted. Sidewalks. We notice them when we don't have them, when they inhibit movement, when we are forced off them; our flow interrupted and our mindlessness to place, to now, to here – snapped into attention mode through annoyance. But what is the space of the sidewalk that we take for granted? And what hidden potentials are to be found in them for aesthetic experience? This talk takes its point of departure in a recent research trip to Mexico and the ensuing challenges, musings and discovered potentials in acts of - or interruptions in - daily walking.

**Place and time:** Venue TBA, February 14, 12:00-13:00

#### March 1: Mobility products and their underpinning logic

**Speaker:** Associate professor, Louise Møller, Department of Architecture, Design & Media Technology, [lmni@create.aau.dk](mailto:lmni@create.aau.dk)

**Abstract:** This study is in its very early stage and probably premature. Still, I would like to start the discussion of mobility products – What does this term cover? What characterize mobility products compared to other products? And over time: How do we design these? The discussion will start from my present research in design driven innovation, product framing and meaning innovation - I will give examples of mobile products that hinder mobility, products that enhance mobility and flow as well as typically immobile products that improve mobility. I will look forward to hear your perspectives and hope for a critical discussion on this.

**Place and time:** Venue TBA, March 1, 12.00-13.00

#### April 21: Airport Design

**Speaker:** Professor Ole B. Jensen, Department of Architecture, Design & Media Technology  
[obje@create.aau.dk](mailto:obje@create.aau.dk)

**Abstract:** This seminar takes point of departure in the research project Airport City Futures (AirCiF) which started in C-MUS earlier this year. The discussion at this seminar explore the work package titled 'Becoming a Passenger' and contains a discussion about the methodic mix of observation, interviews, cameras and eye-tracking as used in our empirical study in Copenhagen Airport. The seminar will not be able to present many finished results but will focus more on the methodic design. At the end of the BB seminar issues around physical design of interior airport spaces will be addressed. These questions are subject to exploration in a following research seminar organized immediately after the BB seminar by the C-MUS Mobilities Design Group (MDG). Participants are most welcome to join for both events, as well as attending only the BB is a legitimate option.

**Place and time:** Rendsburggade 14, room 2.449, April 21, 12.00-13.00 and 13.00-16.00,



## May 17: What's in a name? On materiality in mobilities research

**Speaker:** Assistant professor, Martin Trandberg Jensen, Department of Culture and Global Studies, [trandberg@cgs.aau.dk](mailto:trandberg@cgs.aau.dk)

**Abstract:** Passports, airplanes, smartphones, tickets and souvenirs. Indeed a gushing wave of things has informed mobilities research in recent years. Led by theorists inspired by relational materialism, actor-network-theory, alien phenomenology and nonrepresentational theories, to mention but a few, these eclectic waves of thinking explore the effects caused by everyday 'objects', 'materialities', 'stuff' or 'non-human actors'. These 'thingy' agents go by many names, and in this presentation I seek to do some conceptual ground-clearing to get to the nub of how we may conceptually deal with the material, and how a more considerate use of concepts may inform future material studies.

**Place and time:** Rendsburggade 14, room 4.411, May 17, 12:00-13:00

## June 13: From Smart Cities to Smart Placemaking - materialisations of the Smart City in small and human scale

**Speakers:** Assistant Professor Simon Wind & Andrea Hernandez, Department of Architecture, Design & Media Technology, [swin@create.aau.dk](mailto:swin@create.aau.dk)

**Abstract:** As an ambiguous umbrella term, Smart City predominantly annotates the usage of technologies and data in creating solutions to grand challenges that contemporary societies face (i.e. climate change, congestion, pollution, aging populations). Visions and realisations of Smart City revolve around technology, ubiquitous computing and radical interconnectedness and promise to empower city managers through urban operations systems, high-precision control centres, energy grids and sentient sensor environments. However, such top-down and managerial approaches to Smart City are often critiqued for being overly focused on optimisation, security and economic growth, and not on creating living environments foremost for the people that inhabit them (Greenfield 2013, Townsend 2014, Sassen 2012, Foth 2014, Koolhaas 2015). In this Brown Bag we review two empirical cases and explore how ICT, media technologies and data materialise in 'smart placemaking'. In the Utzon Center in Aalborg (DK), the first case illustrates how Minecraft, LEGO and VR are used to create urban utopias and facilitate new spatial experiences, ownership and interaction. The second case, in Copenhagen (DK), addresses *TREE.0*, an installation designed by the Interactive Spaces Lab at the Alexandra Institute, situated in Copenhagen Street Lab, and demonstrates how media technologies and data might improve urban space and city life. From this, we call for an alternative Smart City perspective that lies closer to professions of urban design and architecture. This, we argue, allows us to also emphasize smart technologies and data as tools for placemaking at the smaller and more human scale in the Smart City rhetoric and discussions. These questions are subject to exploration in a following research seminar organized immediately after the BB seminar by the C-MUS Mobilities Design Group (MDG). Participants are most welcome to join for both events, as well as attending only the BB is a legitimate option.

**Place and time:** Rendsburggade 14, room 4.411, June 8, 12:00-13:00 and 13.00-16.00

Please note that the speaker is responsible for booking the venue and in those cases where venue information is missing ('Venue TBA') this info will be issued at the C-MUS e-mail list by the speakers themselves in due course and well before the event!

The seminars are open to everyone with interest in Mobilities and Urban studies. Pre-registration is not needed. Please bring your own lunch.

*Looking forward to see you at the C-MUS Brown Bag Seminars!*

Kind Regards

Professor Ole B. Jensen

C-MUS Brown Bag Seminar Coordinator