

FOREWORD

INTRODUCTION

The topic of this 23rd Passive and Low Energy Architecture Conference (PLEA 2006), "*Clever Design and Affordable Comfort, a Challenge for Low Energy Architecture and Urban Planning*" is to emphasize the importance of considerations and experiences that favour the development of an intelligent, sustainable built environment, accessible to all.

The international town of Geneva, well-known for all the international organisations established in its walls, is happy to host this Conference and welcomes the authors and participants coming from more than 40 countries for this PLEA Event. The great number of nationalities attending the Conference allows and facilitates the exchange and the dissemination of the research and experiences in the field of low energy architecture, one of the main goals of PLEA.

Thanks to the reputation of PLEA, we received over 650 abstracts in answer to the first call for papers. After a first review, the authors were asked to send a final paper of 6 pages. Over 360 final paper proposals were submitted to the reviewers and the authors of more than 320 papers were invited to make either an oral or a poster presentation.

Following the experience of the last PLEA Conference in Beirut, the authors of posters have the possibility, as an additional contribution, to briefly present their poster orally.

The Conference Proceedings are structured into the themes proposed for this Conference:

- *Lessons from traditional architecture*
- *Design strategies and tools*
- *Comfort and well-being in indoor and outdoor spaces*
- *Research and technology transfer*
- *Strategies and tools for renovation*
- *Architectural education for sustainable design*
- *Examples of low energy design at urban scale*
- *Case studies*

In addition to a hard copy of the Conference Proceedings, the participants will receive a CD containing all papers in PDF format.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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My special thanks go to the Technical Executive Committee, chaired by Raphaël Compagnon, who carried out the paper selection and the peer review. The Committee's members are listed in alphabetic order on next page. Due to the large number of papers we also thank for their additional help in the review process:

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- Michel Gerber, Atelier-e, France
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- Simos Yannas, Architectural Association Graduate School, United Kingdom

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University of Geneva:

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- Carla Anderegg, Secretary
- Peter Gallinelli, Research Associate
- Peter Haefeli, Research Associate
- Sofield Künzi, Technical Assistant
- Bernard Lachal, Research Director

University of Applied Sciences of Western Switzerland:

- Joëlle Goyette-Pernot, Research Associate
- Sarah Gaffino, Technical Assistant

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I would also like to thank the sponsors of this Conference, who are listed in the final Program.

Although all of the above and the editors of these proceedings have made every effort to ensure that the work presented here is correct and absent of factual errors, the contents and opinions expressed in the papers are the sole responsibility of the authors. The editors' role was to collate appropriate contributions into a coherent document, and to structure it into a meaningful and informative sequence.

Willi Weber
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