KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

PROF. DR. MAJID FATHI

UNIVERSITY OF SIEGEN, GERMANY

Prof. Fathi has established the Institute of KBS &KM at the University of Siegen in Germany. He has been graduated with the degree of masters in computer science in 1986, followed by PhD in Mechanical Engineering in 1991 and habilitation (above PhD) in computer science and automation in 1998 in Germany, he also substituted Software Engineering Institute till 2000. Since then he was a visiting professor in US till he got to Siegen.

PAPER AND PRESENTATION TITLE: Design and Sustainable Development of Knowledge City

DR. MEHRAN MADANI

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT, BEIRUT, LEBANON

Mehran Madani holds a doctoral degree in interdisciplinary design with specializations in social characteristics of urban landscape, socio-spatial concerns of healthy community design for aging population, current theories in landscape architecture, innovative 2D and 3D visual communication and GIS data models. He is recently teaching at the Department of Landscape Architecture and Ecosystem Management, American University of Beirut.

PAPER AND PRESENTATION TITLE: Urban Environment

PROF. DR. HANS GEBHARDT

HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY, GERMANY

Hans Gebhardt is professor for Human Geography at the Heidelberg University since 1996. Between 1990 and 1996 he had a position as Professor for Human Geography/Regional Studies of South-West Germany at the University of Tübingen. Research interests focus on different research areas. Traditionally urban research and political geography are dominant, regionally the Middle East, South East Asia and China.

PAPER AND PRESENTATION TITLE: Global Urban Development – Connectivity, Cohesion, Digitalization
FRANS-ANTON VERMAST

VISITING SPEAKER AT LEIDEN UNIVERSITY & RADBOUD UNIVERSITY NIJMEGEN, NETHERLAND

GUEST LECTURER AT THE UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES OF THE HAGUE AND HAN

Frans-Anton Vermast is the Senior Strategy Advisor for Low Carbon and Connected Urban Planning at Amsterdam Smart City since 2008. He is an expert in searching for the opportunities of novel appliances and services based on the combination of electricity and (broadband) connectivity. Furthermore, he specializes in the holistic approach of Smart Work, Smart Grids, Smart Living, Smart City and Electrical Vehicles, which aim to reduce CO₂ emissions to create a more sustainable and livable environment and boost social and economic benefits.

Instructor of Smart City workshop
GARY GRANT

GREENING CITIES, BUILDING RESILIENCE, RESTORING BIODIVERSITY

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CONSULTANCY LTD  UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM - LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

Chartered Environmentalist, Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Fellow of Leeds Sustainability Institute. Supervisor of Y5 architecture theses at the Bartlett, UCL. Visiting lecturer at University of Sheffield Dept. of Landscape. Three decades of experience involving several hundred projects of ecological survey and assessment, environmental design and planning, biodiversity action planning, habitat creation, wetland restoration, green infrastructure planning, site design and management planning. Expert on green roofs and living walls (Green Roofs & Facades published by BRE Press 2005, contributor to the London Plan Policy on Living Roofs and Walls and the Green Roof Guidance for Greater Manchester). Projects include London Bridge and Bankside Green Infrastructure Audits, the English Schools Climate Change Adaptation Study, Whitehill-Bordon Eco Town, NW Bicester Eco-town, Lendlease London HQ roof garden, Masdar HQ roof garden, Rubens at The Palace Hotel living wall, London Olympic Park Biodiversity Action Plan, the Natural History Museum Wildlife Garden, the SE Wales Networked Environmental Region, Bedford River Valley Park Framework, Deep Bay Link in Hong Kong, the National Stadium Singapore, 24km rail corridor cycle path, Singapore, Saadiyat Island masterplan Abu Dhabi, Education City Qatar and resorts in Sanya, Hainan, China, Zavidovo and Anapa, Russia and CostaTerra, Portugal. Author of Ecosystem Services Come to Town: Greening Cities by Working with Nature (Wiley 2012) and The Water Sensitive City (Wiley 2016).

Specialties: Retrofit, living walls, green roofs, rain gardens, green infrastructure planning, water sensitive cities, ecosystem approach, ecosystem services, urban biodiversity, GIS, ecological restoration, ecological networks, master planning, climate change adaptation.

Instructor of Smart City workshop